



Chatham Township Environmental Commission
Meeting Agenda
Wednesday May 7, 2025, 7:15pm
58 Meyersville Rd. Chatham NJ 07928

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT: The meeting schedule for 2025 and January 2026 is posted on the main bulletin board at the Township municipal building, in two newspapers and on the Chatham Township Environmental Commission website at <https://www.chathamtownship-nj.gov/environmental>. The public is cordially invited to attend all meetings, join the discussions and participate in projects.

CTEC'S PURPOSE: To undertake projects and make recommendations concerning the protection or use of natural resources, including water resources and air quality, located within or directly affecting Chatham Township.

The Chatham Township Environmental Commission's goal is to provide a responsible environmental viewpoint to Township committees and boards and to undertake projects with a strong educational component in order to inform officials and residents about constructive actions that can be taken to preserve the environment.

DATES FOR CTEC AND GREEN TEAM FOR 2025 AND JANUARY 2026

The first or second Wednesday depending on the month:

January 8, February 5, March 5, April 9, May 7, June 4, July 9, August NO MEETING, September 10, October 1, November 12, December 3, 2025 and January 14, 2026.

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. Roll Call of CTEC Members: Marty McHugh (Township Committee liaison), Jessica Romeo (Chair), Cara Pacifico Feeser, Amy Mason, Jim Connelly, Celeste Fondaco, Lisa McHugh (Vice Chair), Mike Neibert (Planning Board), Pat Wells (alternate 1), Steve Gesell (alternate 2)
2. Public Meeting Statement (see above)
3. Approve Meeting Minutes of April 9, 2025
4. Green Team updates – Activities that CTEC manages are all part of the Green Team, including Sustainable Jersey.
5. Adopt-A-Drain: we have renewed for 2025 and added 25 Welcome packets for new participants. Discuss/finalize plans for Summer 2025 promotion of the program, including Citizen Scientist, button design contest, etc.
6. Township [NRI](#) - Sustainable Jersey/PGEG technical assistance grant application submitted on Feb 13, 2025 with letters of support from Mayor Choi, Planning Board, DPW. Notifications of funding decisions expected **late April**.
7. Earth Day/Month 2025 recap – 4/26: tree seedling giveaway, Shunpike clean up, trails day via Open Space Committee. 5/3: native plant sale plant distribution and remaining free trees given away. 75 tree seedlings were handed out, 1 bag of trash was collected at Shunpike by some young children.
8. Tri-town yard sale recap – Saturday 5/3 in partnership with GSWA, Madison and Chatham Borough. There were 106 signups (close to the record of 114), generating \$1,060 for the GSWA.

9. Ma 21 at 5pm, save the date for a ribbon cutting at the Shunpike Oak Grove.
10. Fenske property off of Southern Blvd. – anything to add to our April discussion?
11. Tree Ordinance – CTEC to review and propose updates to the Township Committee by **July 2025**. Next steps: merge a draft Lisa is working on with a Fall 2024 draft Jessica has.
12. Leaf Blowers – CTEC is working with CBEC to address noise, environmental and health issues. Aim to present model ordinance and findings to the Township Committee in June/July.
13. New ideas / New business – open discussion.
14. **2025 events (running list, not complete): Assign 2025 events/programs to commissioners**
 - Host at least two educational seminars (*Jessica*) 2/24/25, Electrify Your Home Webinar w/ LWV and CBEC
 - EV Expo with Madison and Chatham Borough – 4/26/25 (*Amy*)
 - Spring yard sale tri-town yard sale w/ Great Swamp Watershed Association – 5/3/25 (rain date 5/4) (*Jessica*)
 - Spring Tree seeding giveaway (*Lisa*) – Lisa to host a tree seedling giveaway 4/26/25,
 - Completion of ANJEC Open Space Grant / installation of signs and ribbon cutting 5/21/25 (*Jessica*)
 - Plant sale w Great Swamp Watershed Association. Sale dates; April 1-18. Distribution date: May 3 (*Jessica*)
 - *seminar 1; Jan 29
 - *seminar 2, Feb 27
 - *seminar 3, March 19
 - *seminar 4, March 31
 - Fall Sustainability Fair + tree seedling giveaway and info display; September 20th, 9am-2pm (*Celeste and Pat*)
 - Fall cleanup event / Trail workday with info on invasive species and how they impact the ecosystem + Township Fall Festival
 - Fall yard sale with Madison, Chatham Borough, Great Swamp Watershed Association (10/18/25) (*Jessica*)
15. Reports:
 - a. Township Committee – Marty McHugh
 - b. Planning Board – Mike Neibert
 - c. Open Space – Jim Connelly
 - d. Education and Outreach –
 - e. Invasive Species – Jessica Romeo
 - f. Social Media – Jessica Romeo
 - g. Website –
 - h. Pollinator / Native Gardens – Jessica Romeo
 - i. Grants – Jim Connelly

APPLICATION/ENVIRONMENTAL PERMIT REVIEW – Lisa has been doing a great job, attending site visits and preparing comments for Board of Adjustment and Planning Board applications.

ONLINE RESOURCES

- Good NJDEP website for maps, parcels and environmental information at NJ-GeoWeb, <http://www.state.nj.us/dep/gis/geoweb splash.htm> - use Internet Explorer.
- Very good Morris County mapping utility at <https://morrisgisapps.co.morris.nj.us/apps/parcelsearcher/> , hit Map and use the i tool. Gives information about each parcel and has aerials layer. Search for more detailed information about a parcel at <https://mcweb1.co.morris.nj.us/MCTaxBoard/>.
- View open space and Green Acres properties at <https://www.state.nj.us/dep/greenacres/ga50/docs/roslite.pdf> and <https://www.state.nj.us/dep/greenacres/openspace.html>.