

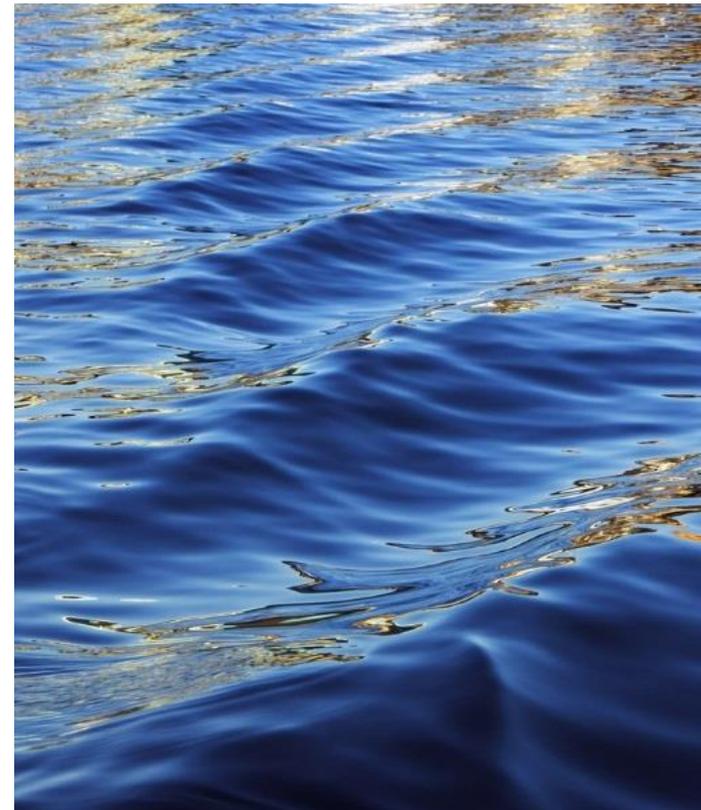


Evesham Environmental Commission

End-of-Year Presentation to Council
for 2021

January 12, 2022

FINAL



Evesham Environmental Commission (EEC) 2021

Chair: Ila Vassallo

Vice-Chair: Mike Jacob

Secretary: Terri Bracchi

Craig Higginbotham
Mike Staff

David Lieberman
Hilary Trotman

Janet Rolnick
Doug Wallner

Council Liaison: Councilwoman Pat Hansen

EEC Accomplishments 2021

Policy

- Helped to write enhanced regulations for the township's Stormwater Control Ordinance (non-Pinelands); these were adopted by the township
- Reviewed and commented on the Stormwater Management Plan element of the township's Master Plan
- Submitted draft changes to the township's recommended tree list, modified to remove invasive and non-native trees
- Performed some preliminary research into the recent NJ law that requires the land use plan element of a municipal Master Plan to include a climate change-related hazard vulnerability assessment

EEC Accomplishments 2021

Open Space: Croft Farm



Figure 3 – Croft Farm Site Plan View with Concept Plan Annotations



Monitor birds on east side



Eastern Meadowlark – Special Concern



Savannah Sparrow - Threatened

Photo credits: Conserve Wildlife Foundation of NJ website, Steve Byland

45 species of birds reported by local birders in October and highlights included:

- Eastern Meadowlark in the east field*
- Pipit overhead
- 1 Rusty Blackbird: high flyover, calling*
- 1 American Kestrel*
- 7 Savannah Sparrow in the east field*
- 7 Field Sparrow
- 3 Blackpoll Warbler
- 60 Yellow-rumped Warbler

*NOTES:

Eastern Meadowlark is species number 144 for Croft Farm.

Eastern Meadowlark is a **Special Concern (breeding)** on the NJ Endangered and Threatened Species Field Guide.

Savannah Sparrow is **Threatened (breeding)** on the NJ Endangered and Threatened Species Field Guide.

American Kestrel is **Threatened** on the NJ Endangered and Threatened Species Field Guide.

Rusty Blackbird is described as "...one of North America's most rapidly declining species." by the Cornell Lab

EEC Accomplishments 2021

Open Space: New Road Trail, Pollinator Garden, MUA Rain Gardens, BRP



EEC Accomplishments 2021

Open Space: Beagle Club and OSRP

- Beagle Club - took full advantage of the various ways the township offered to comment on, question, and understand the design alternatives proposed for the Beagle Club by E&LP
- Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP) – drafted updated recommendations for open space acquisition

EEC Accomplishments 2021

Site Plans

- Reviewed and commented on four site plans associated with PB and ZB applications; attended those meetings when possible
- Developed a standard feedback template for planting lists on Landscaping Plans

EEC Accomplishments 2021

Site Plans: Standard Feedback Template for Planting Lists

Table - Comments for Landscape Plan, Sheet 8, Planting List

Category	Qty	Common Name	Botanical Name	Native	Recommended Alternative	Plants Native	Species Native
Deciduous Tree	14	Red Maple	Acer rubrum	YES		14	1
	16	Littleleaf Linden	Tilia cordata	NO	Urban tolerance	0	0
Shrubs	14	Red Cedar	Juniperis Virginiana	YES		14	1
	23	Arborvitae	Thuja occidentalis	YES		23	1
	35	Inkberry Holly	Ilex glabra	YES		35	1
Groundcover	35	Big Blue Liriope	Liriope muscari	NO	Carex plantaginea, Carex laxiculmis	0	0
	140	Blue Pacific Juniper	Juniperus Conferta	NO	Juniperus horizontalis	0	0
	277					86	4
						31.05%	57.14%

EEC Accomplishments 2021

- Councilwoman Hansen received an ANJEC award for exceptional environmental stewardship by a township official
- Organized and ran the Tree Give Away at Laurel Oak
- Worked with Rutgers on the planned rain garden behind the Blue Barn
- Kept apprised of the Ellis Site clean up and the Owens Corning Berlin site
- Grants
 - Completed the ANJEC Open Space grant and submitted final report
 - Supported the submission of the ACE Sustainable Communities grant for 2021; township received the grant
- With the guidance and support of our Watershed Ambassador, completed three stream assessments
- Provided informational posts for township's social media
- Submitted a 2022 budget

Evesham Environmental Commission Plans for 2022

- **Priority:** Education and outreach
 - Make the community more aware of the Evesham Environmental Commission and its importance
 - Community-wide EcoChallenge
 - Recognize eco-friendly practices
 - Recognize sustainable businesses
- Monitor and advocate for open space
- Work with the township to update sections of the OSRP
- Review site plans
- Support ordinance updates, as applicable
- Work with our Watershed Ambassador

Evesham Environmental Commission Meetings

- 1st Monday of the Month (unless a holiday, then 2nd Monday)
- 6:30 pm
- 2nd Floor, Conference Room B of the municipal building
- Dates are on the township's website