

BORDENTOWN CITY ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

2011 & 2012 Annual Report



Lime Kiln Alley Preserve's newly planted butterfly garden.

I. ADMINISTRATIVE

As of 2013, BCEC regular members are:

Joel Dowshen, Vice Chairman; Leah Ingalsbe-Ducey, Secretary; Mike Lahr, Planning Board Representative; Brooke McMinn; Andy Richardson; Don Stein; Ralph Tolomeo, Chairman; Rev. Matt Tucker; Mike Tunney.

Continued BCEC membership in the Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissions (ANJEC) each year.

Conducted 12 regular monthly meetings at Carslake Community Center each year.

II. OUTREACH & EDUCATION

Received input from, and addressed concerns of, Bordentown City residents at regular monthly meetings.

Communicated with residents via regular monthly BCEC meetings; email inquiries; mail alerts to BCEC resident data base; and articles and letters to the editor of the Register News regarding pertinent local issues and public meetings.

Published 3 editions of the BCEC newsletter containing articles and information designed to inform and educate City and area residents about local environmental issues. Distributed newsletters at the annual Street Fairs, Green Fairs and Cranberry Festivals. Newsletter also posted on City Hall bulletin board and distributed to local businesses and via email to BCEC mailing list.

Staffed exhibit table at the Bordentown Street Fairs, Green Fairs and Cranberry Festivals. Distributed Environmental education materials and created and Presented educational exhibits regarding local environmental issues. Gathered names/email addresses for data base of volunteers. Conducted free raffle of Eco-friendly rain barrel . Also distributed information about rain barrel workshops.

Maintained and updated content and photos on the BCEC website. The website contains BCEC newsletters, links to local organizations, photos of BCEC activities and events and topics of local interest. The website helps keep City residents informed and reduces printing and mailing costs.

Responded to residents' inquiries regarding various Issues and concerns.

Distributed "Top 10 Ways to Keep Bordentown City Green" T-shirts and brochures of interest throughout the City.

Maintained 6 pet waste bag dispensers at various locations throughout the City.

Publicized the opening the D & R Towpath that extends from Bordentown City to Trenton.



III. PUBLIC EVENTS & PROGRAMS

The BCEC organized, promoted, facilitated and/or conducted the following events in 2011 and 2012.



Earth Day event—Conducted Rain Barrel Workshops (see photo above) in cooperation with Rutgers University Extension Service; over 20 people attended and went home with a rain barrel.

Arbor Day Tree Planting: Assisted Shade Tree Commission with promotion of event and recruitment of volunteers.

Lime Kiln Alley Trail Building Day: Organized and directed volunteers to remove trail debris and clear pathway with the assistance of the Bordentown Regional Kiwanis Club.

Sponsored 3 Earth Talks throughout the years.

Worked with City Commissioners to organize and Publicize the Bordentown City Farm Market. Staffed an outreach table at the Farm Market.

Purchased portable recycling bins for City events to collect glass and plastic cans and bottles which were previously thrown in general trash cans.

Continued relationships with local and regional Organizations with regard to issues relating to Bordentown City. These organizations are:

*“It’s not easy being green.”
-- Kermit the Frog*

Bordentown City Historical Society, Bordentown City Shade Tree Committee, Bordentown City Economic Development Advisory Committee, Downtown Bordentown Association, Bordentown City Cats, Bordentown Township Environmental Commission, Bordentown Public Library, D & R Greenway, NJDEP and NJDOT.

IV. SITE PLAN REVIEW

Reviewed development proposals and offered comments to Planning Board through our BCEC representative at regular Planning Board Meetings.

V. LAND USE PLANNING

Participated in ongoing Bordentown City Master Plan Review Process. Provided input regarding environmental issues and Researched environmental zoning ordinances.

Convened several open space planning meetings with Representatives from D&R Greenway, the BCEC and City Commissioners and Public Works representatives.



VI. PROPOSED 2013 PROJECTS

- + Earth Talk Speaker/Film Series
- + Tables at Street Fair (May), Green Fair (June) and Cranberry Festival (October).
- + Eco-Walks and Rambles of open space and trails—
Lime Kiln Alley Preserve
D&R Canal Towpath
- + Lime Kiln Alley Preserve/Oliver Street Trail and area development and maintenance.
- + Earth Day project—Rain Barrel Workshop
- + Additional Plantings at native plant garden at rear of Bordentown Library.
- + Coordination of ongoing sustainable initiative with Green Team and City.
- + Collaborate with the Green Team and City on the 3rd Annual Green Fair (June).