

BORDENTOWN CITY ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION



2018 Annual Report

I. ADMINISTRATIVE

In 2018, the BCEC membership was expanded from 7 to 9 members and 2 alternates, a total of 11 City residents appointed by the Mayor. The members are:

- Kimberly Carr; Joel Dowshen, Vice Chairman; Becky Free; Katherine Nosker; Dan Preston; B. Lynn Robinson; Katherine Sereduk; Ralph Simon; Zigmont Targonski; Ralph Tolomeo, Chairman; Mike Tunney, Planning Board Rep.
- We continued our membership in the Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissions (ANJEC).
- We conducted 12 regular commission meetings on the second Wednesday of each month at Carslake Community Center.

II. OUTREACH & EDUCATION

- We received input from, and addressed concerns of, Bordentown City residents during our regular monthly meetings.
- We communicated with residents via regular monthly BCEC meetings; email to over 600 subscribers; mail alerts to BCEC resident data base; articles and notices of events to the editor of local media regarding pertinent local issues and public meetings.
- We published 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 Fair,

Green Fair and Cranberry Festival. Newsletter also posted on City Hall bulletin board and distributed to local businesses and via email to BCEC mailing list.

- We staffed exhibit tables at the Bordentown Street Fair, Green Fair and Cranberry Festival. 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 and composter. Also distributed information about rain barrel workshops and a lecture on composting.
- We maintained and completely updated content and photos on the BCEC website (bcec.us). The website contains BCEC newsletters, links to local environmentally oriented 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. Residents can register for the BCEC mail list and to receive notices of upcoming events.
- We responded to residents' inquiries regarding various issues and concerns.
- We distributed "Top 10 Ways to Keep Bordentown City Green" T-shirts and brochures of interest throughout the City.
- We maintained 10 pet waste bag dispensers at various locations throughout the City.
- We continued to promote the drug drop-off site at the City Police Station. 118 lbs.

of prescription drugs were collected in 2018.



III. PUBLIC EVENTS & PROGRAMS

The BCEC organized, promoted, facilitated and/or conducted the following events in 2015:

- Earth Day event—Conducted a Rain Barrel Workshop in cooperation with Rutgers University; 12 more rain barrels are now in use in our City.
- Arbor Day Tree Planting: Assisted the Shade Tree Commission with promotion of event and recruitment of volunteers. 15 new trees were planted.
- Lime Kiln Alley Butterfly Garden and area maintenance/cleanup was organized. Volunteers were recruited to cut back and thin the garden area with assistance of the City's Department of Public Works.



- Sponsored Earth Talks throughout the year:

- Sustainable Energy.
- Elcon: Update on the continuing effort to deny Elcon approval to build a hazardous waste facility in Falls Township, PA, directly across the Delaware River from Bordentown City. Over 100 people attended.

- Worked with City Commissioners to organize and publicize the Bordentown City Farm Market.
- Continued to improve and promote the City's Community Garden. Over 40 residents have garden plots.



- Hosted two Paper Shredding Events for local residents. The first on April 14th (City only) – 2,950 lbs. collected. The second on October 13th in cooperation with Bordentown Township – over 5,000 lbs. collected.
- Continued promoting awareness of “Single Stream Recycling” to City residents.
- Ongoing maintenance and care of the Native Plant Garden on the grounds of the Bordentown City library.



- Coordinated with the Green Team and City on the 9th annual Green Fair in June.
- Presented the “Sustainability Award to local business Bordentown Home for Funerals – Robert Pecht, Proprietor who provides sustainable arrangements with tree planting.
- Conducted outreach programs encouraging use of LED lighting replacement, non-plastic and paper shopping bags, and toilet water loss testing kits.
- Continued relationships with local and regional organizations with regard to issues relating to Bordentown City. These organizations are: 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.

VI. PROPOSED 2019 PROJECTS

- Community Garden spring opening
- Earth Talk Speaker 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/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 the Green Team and City, to include recycling, dog waste bags, electronic equipment, tree planting, drug disposal, reusable shopping bags and food containers in lieu of paper and plastic, sustainable energy uses (EV charging station, and native plant species benefits.



- Collaborate with the Green Team and City on the 10th Annual Green Fair (June).
- Collaborate with City officials, City Planning Board and City residents in review and revision of the City Master Plan.

THANK YOU!

This report and the many events and activities of the BCEC would not be possible without the “all in” attitude of the following: Many thanks to Mayor James Lynch, Deputy Mayor John Brodowski, Commissioner Joe Myers, Bob Erickson and the City’s Public Works Department, Fred Miller, Chief of the City Police Department, the City Hall Administrative staff of Grace Archer, Pat McGowan, Jennifer Smith and Margaret Peak. A special “atta girl” to Cathy Eliot Shaw, Chair of the Green Team, and its members, who continue to bring Sustainable Awards recognition to the City. And, to Sruti Desai who revitalized the Creative Team.