



EWING GREEN TEAM

*Promoting People, the Planet, and Prosperity in
Ewing*



Ewing Green Team Meeting via Zoom

February 28, 2024

ATTENDANCE

Joanne Mullowney

Karen Kissel

Heidi Furman

Joe Mirabella

Dave Schroth, Council

Liaison

Ryan Rollero, Public Works

Director

Evan Crumiller

Nick Benedetti, School Rep

Daniel Bowen

Madison Nickles (TCNJ
student)

Brandon Downing

Jonathan Cloyd

Caroline Steward

Mark Wetherbee

Both October and December 2023 minutes were passed.

SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER BIO

Susan Bristol, from The Watershed, Stormwater Water Policy, joined The Watershed Institute in 2023 where she serves as the Municipal Policy Specialist. Prior to that, she worked as a Professional Architect and Planner at her own practice, SPB Architecture LLC. Susan has worked at NJIT in Newark as an educator in the School of Architecture where she created the award-winning Garden State Studios. Susan is passionate about the environment, is an avid reader and loves being on or in the water. She has a B.S. Arch. and an M. Arch degree from the University of Virginia where, in addition to her Architecture major, she studied Landscape & Urban Design. Susan is a NJ licensed Architect and Planner and a certified LEED AP in green design. When not at the Watershed, Susan can be found serving her municipality of Rocky Hill as councilwoman and volunteer.

Susan came to update the EGT and guests on stormwater policies, regulations, and groundbreaking legislation. Ewing needs an updated storm water ordinance by July. Our last update was in 2020, but the NJDEP has updated its requirements since that time and the ordinance needs to be revisited.

A separate storm sewer system is any conveyance that transports storm runoff directly to a receiving stream. In addition to the inlets and pipes we associate with storm sewers, it also includes curbing, swales, ditches, channels, etc. With current regulations we have more opportunities to work regionally, i.e. we could join efforts with Lawrence or Hopewell and increase our impact. Mercer County also has a great planning department and may be a helpful resource for working regionally rather than just individual municipalities. Problems reported

Ewinggreenteam.org

Meetings: 4th Wednesdays, 7 p.m. Ewing Senior and Community Center, 999 Lower Ferry Rd., Ewing

Contact us: ewinggreenteam@gmail.com



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from outside Ewing – comes from other towns that affect our jurisdiction. Like Ewing's filters down to Trenton.

As per the new NJDEP regs, all NJ municipalities are required to not only regulate the activities of developers, but to manage their own stormwater systems in such a way as not to pollute our streams. The updated Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) regulations also require an active public participation and education component in the program.

MS4 areas have their own plans which need to redefine major developments, address small developments, address redevelopment, low impact design, and incorporate water quality. The Watershed Institute can help with guidance and monitoring.

Susan Bristol recommended reaching out to Michael Pisauero, the Policy Director, at the Watershed. She suggested that Dave Schroth, our Council member attending this meeting, reach out for guidance for Ewing's officials moving forward. We also need to consider updating our zoning and master plans to incorporate the new changes.

There is webpage on the Ewing Township's website on Stormwater Management. It offers very helpful background on many of the subjects we heard about tonight.

GREEN TEAM BUSINESS

ANJEC MEMBERSHIP

The Environmental Commission has been a paying member of the Association for New Jersey Environmental Commissions (ANJEC) for many years and this year the Township paid for a subsidiary membership for the Green Team. ANJEC has an extensive educational component to its activities and regularly offers webinars and in-person training and education for members commissions and green teams. The next course offering is 'Building Cleaner Community through Stormwater Education.' It's a lunchtime webinar that any of us can take. If anyone is interested in taking the course, please let Joanne know. Suggest working through our Public Works department for outreach. Ryan Rollero, Manager of our PW Department, is a good contact.

RESTAURANT WEEK

Restaurant Week will be April 13th -21st. A mailing was sent out to local restaurants by the Township for the Green Team. An email invitation was also sent from our list of restaurants from



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the Health Department. It would be helpful if we all helped by going to each restaurant with a flyer. DPW will print (15) yard signs to be displayed around Ewing publicity.

ARBOR DAY

Evan will once again help organize our Arbor Day celebration where we will once again donate a tree to the Township and plant it at Watson Park. Arbor Day is Friday, April 26th and our celebration would be Saturday morning, the 27th. We would ask anyone interested in donating \$20 to help purchase the tree.

Notes – one of the trees planted at the Benjamin Temple House on the right side is missing the orange mesh (protection against deer)

2024 SHRED DAYS

Saturday, May 4th and Saturday, Oct 12. Green Team volunteers are needed for(2) – 2-hour shifts; 9-11 am and 11-1:00 pm. Each shift needs 2 people. A Sign-up Genius will be sent out for volunteers.

NJ SALT WATCH UPDATE (THRU THE WATERSHED)

We once again selected 2 local sites in Ewing, (behind Hollowbrook and the other along canal) for our stream salt testing. Our goal is to collect a water sample from each site before and after a snow or bad weather event (ice). Test results will be entered into the NJ Watershed Watch Network. (Joanne, Mark, Karen, and Evan volunteered.) Evan has the instructions and can coordinate with Karen before and after rain/snow event. The data collection needs to be completed by the end of April.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45pm.

Submitted by

L.K. Feldman 3/25/24