

2019 Annual Report

Commissioners

- Elizabeth Peer
- Kelly Kappler
- Gina Fischetti
- Cyndy Jahn
- Mark Donlon
- Dann Connelly (beginning July 2019)
- Kate Milsaps (beginning May 2019)
- Matthew Nogier (until March 2019)
- Lauren Kovacs (until July 2019)

Grant Funding

Sustainable Jersey Grants Program and the PSEG Foundation

\$20,000

Ditching Disposables Initiative

ANJEC

\$1,500

In partnership with the Rec Commission & LGW for a Wildlife Garden at the North Union Street Park.

*Lower Delaware Wild and Scenic River Management Council**

\$1,700

In partnership with the Rec Commission for the planting of a riparian buffer at Cavallo Park.

Awards

September 2019

GoHunterdon Recognized the City of Lamebrtville for their Sustainable Jersey Silver Status and work on the Ditching Disposables Initiative.

Conferences

The EC has been invited to share about our work at the following conferences and events:

- Solebury EAC Summit
- ANJEC Regional Plastics Forum
- ANJEC Congress
- Coalition for the Delaware River Watershed Conference

Training

ANJEC

March 2019

The EC invited Jen Coffey and Dini Cheko to give us an in depth look at the roles and responsibilities of an Environmental Commission.

Programs

Ditching Disposables

It is a priority for the City of Lambertville to partner with residents and local businesses to improve sustainability practices in our City. On September 17, 2018 the City of Lambertville passed a comprehensive plastics ordinance that banned the use of plastic straws, plastic bags, polystyrene and styrofoam containers by businesses in the City. This ordinance was the catalyst for the Ditching Disposables Initiative which will fuel a culture shift in our community away from the use of single use plastics by utilizing the following methods.

1. Educating the community about the harmful effects of single-use plastics on our environment and health.
2. Providing residents and businesses with a range of easy-to-adopt actions that can help them make a successful transition away from single use plastics.
3. Reinforcing and celebrating positive changes.

Repurpose a T-Shirt Workshop “T-Shirts to Totes”

June 24th at the Lambertville Public School Gymnasium

In June the City of Lambertville Environmental Commission hosted T-Shirts to Totes at the Lambertville Public School Gymnasium. The public was invited to join in on an evening of up-cycling old t-shirts into reusable shopping bags. T-Shirts to Totes featured up-cycling sewing demonstrations and opportunities to join in on the crafts. Attendees made their own reusable bags in numerous styles to take home or donate to Lambertville Food Pantries. Attendees of all ages attended, which made for a fun evening for the entire family! T-Shirts to Totes was a wonderful opportunity to craft as a community, talk about sustainability, and support the transition away from disposable bags. Nearly 50 upcycled shopping bags were donated to local food pantries.

Press Coverage

https://www.nj.com/hunterdon-county-democrat/2019/06/lambertville-plans-to-transform-t-shirts-into-totes.html?fbclid=IwAR33KbP5M8nKIwQGTCJ3_latKwRXFKMWUHLcSQz_N4IvpFsKw8YvuobMP

Sustainable Business Forum

July 31, 2019 at the Lambertville Justice Center/ACME Screening Room

In July 2019 the Environmental Commission hosted the Sustainable Business Forum to work with businesses to prepare for the plastics ordinance that went into effect on January 1, 2020 and make the transition to a more sustainable business model. The forum was well attended and provided businesses the opportunity to learn about the upcoming plastic ordinance, network, meet distributors of eco-friendly plastic alternatives and brainstorm about ways the

business community can continue to work with the City towards a more sustainable community.

Press Coverage

https://www.nj.com/hunterdon-county-democrat/2019/07/lambertville-hosts-sustainable-business-forum-on-july-31.html?fbclid=IwAR2oXDxoNjLnVLgGX1doVyUo-ly_ZYvtzYDRauNGpld5FckpG90-MuGxbV8

https://patch.com/pennsylvania/newhope-lambertville/learn-lambertvilles-plastic-bag-ban-upcoming-forum?fbclid=IwAR2rXBvV8PBsAjGBQBB4DEEj_IYGtCyQja-vI4pOU5IF-INgINYIArytRbk

<https://www.pbs.org/video/aron-lambertville-1564583281/>

Sustainable Business Award

In September 2019 the Environmental Commission sought nominations and votes for the first Sustainable Business Award, the Green Innovator Award. Homestead Market was the winner. Their award is being designed and will be presented in 2020.

Press Coverage

https://www.nj.com/hunterdon-county-democrat/2019/09/lambertville-environmental-commission-seeks-nominations-for-green-innovator-award.html?fbclid=IwAR3_nWQucBhMNYPmMWMHE5WGf1Lyb0HjlpFFDc-uzwEWrUEI3JjHjy56F6A

https://patch.com/pennsylvania/newhope-lambertville/lambertville-announces-green-innovator-award?utm_term=article-slot-1&utm_source=newsletter-daily&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=newsletter&fbclid=IwAR14L5tXCOE06sPHv1XUawOg-ifktZ3GZaxEh3Jg800whX-z0y8Fe3qLsws

Community Canvassing Day

November 10, 2019

In November of 2019 nearly 30 volunteers joined the Environmental Commission to knock on every door in the City of Lambertville to hand out reusable shopping bags made out of recycled cotton and talk about the upcoming plastic ordinance. Anecdotal data showed that a vast majority of the residents we spoke to knew about the ordinance and Community Canvassing Day. We even spoke to a handful of residents that were so excited about Community Canvassing Day that they stayed home so they could receive their shopping bags that day! Residents who were not home were left a door hanger that gave information about the ordinance and where they can pick up their bag.

Press Coverage

<https://www.nj.com/news/2019/11/lambertvilles-ditching-disposables-day-is-about-getting-people-ready-for-the-coming-plastics-ban.html>

<https://www.lehighvalleylive.com/news/2019/11/lambertvilles-ditching-disposables-day-is-about-getting-people-ready-for-the-coming-plastics-ban.html>

Sustainability Lecture

December 16, 2019 at the Lambertville Justice Center/ACME Screening Room

In December The Lambertville Environmental Commission welcomed Mindy Mutterperl, author and communications consultant, who spoke on the topic of Sustainability at the Lambertville Justice Center/Acme Screening Room. Mutterperl's work focuses on making sustainable lifestyle choices that can benefit individuals, communities, and the planet. At the lecture, attendees learned useful tactics that will help individuals move toward a zero-waste lifestyle, from overall consumption, to consumption choices, to recycling tips and tricks. Liz Magill, Chair of the Lambertville Environmental Commission, interviewed Mutterperl, followed by an audience Q&A.

https://www.wlvt.org/blogs/hunterdon/going-green/?fbclid=IwAR06v34GhPolRymFzVBK8akSpIAJHKQ0Ki_SV2uBa9xrqbTtAxnqclhQBY

<https://www.nj.com/hunterdon/2019/05/lambertville-awarded-20k-grant-for-its-ditching-disposables-program.html>

Make Your Own Rain Barrel Night

March 2019 at Lambertville Public School

Residents and members of the Easton Environmental Commission joined the Lambertville Environmental Commission to repurpose 55 gallon drums into rain barrels that they were able to take home.

Partners

- Lambertville goes wild
- AmeriCorps NJ Watershed Ambassadors Program
- Indivisible Lambertville/New Hope

Sustainability Storytime

March 2019

We read "One Plastic Bag" to Ms. Gardner's class, discussed the importance of bringing your reusable shopping bag to the store and designed our own to take home.

Partners

- Lambertville Public School

South Hunterdon Regional School District Green Committee

April 2019-

The Environmental Commission has served as a member of the SHRSDGC, Supporting the schools and the district in their efforts to achieve a Sustainable Jersey for Schools certification.

Partners

- South Hunterdon Regional School District

Bag It Screening

April 2019

Screening of bag it and discussion of the ditching disposables initiative.

Partners

- ACME Screening room
- ANJEC

Groundswell Rising Screening

April 2019

Screening of groundswell rising followed by a discussion with Tracy Carluccio from the Delaware Riverkeeper Network.

Partners

- ACME Screening room

Native Plant Sale

June (and September) 2019

In partnership with Lambertville goes wild residents were offered the opportunity to learn about and purchase native plants.

Partners

- Lambertville Goes Wild

Community Wildlife Habitat Designation - LGW

July 2019

Through The efforts of Lambertville Goes Wild the National Wildlife Federation gave Lambertville the prestigious designation of a community wildlife habitat.

Trex Initiative

July 2019

The EC has been working with the City to implement the very popular Trex initiative. Collection containers are available at city hall and the Lambertville free public library.

NJ Clean Communities 2nd Annual Delaware River Cleanup

September 2019

Volunteers collected litter along the river from Holcombe Jimison farm to the boat club.

Partners

- Delaware River Greenway Partnership
- Delaware Canal State Park

- New Jersey State Parks, Forests & Historic Sites
- Delaware & Raritan Canal State Park
- Lower Delaware Wild & Scenic River

Wildlife Friendly Riparian Buffer Planting

September 2019

The EC supported Lambertville Goes Wild and the Recreation Commission by supporting the grant application process and spreading the word about planting day.

Partners

- Lambertville Goes Wild
- Lambertville Recreation Commission

Cherry Street Planting Day

September 2019

The EC supported Lambertville Goes Wild and the Recreation Commission by supporting the grant application process and spreading the word about planting day.

Partners

- Lambertville Goes Wild
- Lambertville Recreation Commission