

Salisbury Township Environmental Advisory Committee
2900 South Pike Ave.
Allentown, PA 18103

January 8, 2013

Salisbury Township Board of Commissioners
Mr. Randy Soriano, Township Manager
2900 South Pike Ave.
Allentown, PA 18103

RE: Salisbury Township Environmental Advisory Committee
Annual Report for the Year 2012

Dear Board of Commissioners and Township Manager:

The Members of the Salisbury Township Environmental Advisory Committee would like to take this opportunity of presenting our Annual Report for the year of 2012, as referenced below:

ACTIVITIES

1. The EAC maintained monthly meetings during 2012 on the third Wednesday of each month with two exceptions: the August and November meetings were canceled. Among the topics covered at the meetings have been discussions for potential projects such as
 - Naturalizing the yard for an eco-friendly lawn
 - Composting to help alleviate tonnage to landfills
 - E-cycling (electronic waste) and recycling
 - Review the Comprehensive Plan Environmental Portion
 - Rain Barrel workshop
 - Educational workshops at Township parks
 - Planting memorial trees in Township park
 - Value of utilization of native species as plantings
 - Educating public on invasive plants
 - Household hazardous waste
 - Lindberg Park Master Plan
 - Designation of the Township as a Bird town USA location to acknowledge our critical position as a habitat for local and migratory birds in the region

2. The EAC members have attended various meetings, workshops and conferences related to topics that affect Salisbury Township including:
 - Lehigh Valley Watershed Conference October 2012
 - Philadelphia Clean Water Documentary Program
 - Birdtown Lehigh Valley presentation hosted by Wildlands Conservancy in June 2012
 - Renew Lehigh Valley Workshop

3. EAC members participated in community clean up efforts in Walking Purchase Park on 4/28/2012; and Emmaus/Upper Milford EAC Earth Day clean up on 4/21/2012.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1. The EAC was instrumental in assisting with the review of the Comprehensive Plan for Salisbury Township. The focus of the review was concentrated on the environmental component of the plan which was originally prepared by Kent Baird of Wildlands Conservancy. A copy of this section of the plan was submitted to the STEAC for review and comment. The Committee recognized some omissions in the DRAFT report of the Comprehensive Plan and made the recommendation to both Planning Commission and Board of Commissioners to reinstate information prepared by Mr. Baird. An errata sheet was provided to the consultant for inclusion in the Final Comprehensive Plan.
2. The Committee was a strong advocate for the recommendations of the Natural Resources Inventory to be integrated into the Comprehensive Plan to guide future development and zoning within Salisbury Township.
3. Several representatives of the Committee met with Superintendent Gross to work toward a collaborative effort in support of environmental educational projects. One such project considered would incorporate storm water Best Management Practices which would target schools that have stream frontage. Advancement of this project was hindered due to the untimely passing of Superintendent Gross.
4. The Committee hosted several presentations during the year of 2012:
 - a. Hosted a presentation by Mr. John Rodgers regarding Birdtown Lehigh Valley
 - b. Hosted a presentation by Richard Smith, Greenstar representative regarding recycling.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

1. To establish communication with the Salisbury Township School District to discuss potential environmental awareness projects on school property and/or involving district students
2. To continue environmental awareness efforts to educate Township residents
3. To raise the profile of Salisbury Township as a critical ecosystem for the well being of the Lehigh Valley, particularly related to wildlife habitat, air quality, water quality and our watershed

GOING FORWARD

1. The EAC thanks the Board of Commissioners for its continued support and welcomes the opportunity to discuss any environmental issues for which the Commissioners seek information

2. We are committed to clearly outlining any proposed costs of upcoming projects for review and discussion by the Board of Commissioners as we seek their approval to proceed
3. We also seek their assistance to add new members to serve on the Task Force for key issues of concern, as well as to promptly fill any vacancies that may arise on the EAC during the upcoming year

Respectfully Submitted

Salisbury Township EAC Members:

Mr. Glenn Miller, Chair Person

Mary Anne Stinner, Vice Chair

Jane Benning

Kreg Ulery (nominated in March 2012)

Sandra Thomas (nominated in December 2012)

Mr. Lou Cinquino (resigned February 2012)

Bruce Burchard (resigned October 2012)

Joseph Hebelka, Planning Commission Representative

JoAnne Ackerman, Board of Commissioner Representative