

LAMBERTVILLE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Mission Statement

The Lambertville Environmental Commission (LEC) is dedicated to creating environmental awareness, understanding and appreciation in order to protect and sustain our city's natural resources. Our mission is to actively advocate for the long-term protection of Lambertville's natural resources and to be an environmental education source for all of its citizens. Our objective is to meet this mission by 1) advising City Council, the Planning Board and Zoning Board about open-space preservation and sustainable municipal policies and practices, 2) educating residents about environmental issues, and 3) working with neighboring commissions and other organizations to meet these goals.

About the Lambertville Environmental Commission

The LEC is a municipal advisory body, whose members are appointed by the Mayor and City Council. It consists of seven members, one of whom must also be a member of the Planning Board. All members must be residents of Lambertville. The current members of the LEC are:

Piper Trelstad, Chair
Gaye Greenwald
Robert Mason
Julia Taylor
Vince Uhl
Amy Wells
(Vacancy)

The Commission is empowered to:

- Make environmental policy and land use recommendations to the Planning Board
- Advise the City with regard to water resource management, pollution control, solid waste management, noise control, soil and landscape protection, environmental appearance, protection of flora and fauna, and other issues of an environmentally sensitive nature.
- Educate and inform residents about ways to help protect the environment

The LEC has a number of ongoing responsibilities. Under the U. S. Mayor's Climate Protection Plan, the LEC is responsible for creating a plan to reduce the City government's carbon footprint, promoting clean, sustainable energy initiatives to residents and the business community, and the overall advocacy of initiatives which address global warming issues. Under the Stormwater Management Plan, the LEC is charged with providing information to Lambertville's citizens on protecting and minimizing stormwater runoff. Also, in accordance with requirements of the City's Master Plan, approximately every 10 years the LEC is responsible for updating the Environmental Resource Inventory (ERI), a report which catalogues the City's significant environmental resources.

In addition to working with other Lambertville municipal entities, the LEC also works with a number of other regional groups including neighboring environmental commissions and the Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissions.

Our website is under construction, but drop in to www.lambertvillenj.org/content/761/default.aspx as the site is built. You may contact the LEC at environment@lambertvillenj.org or through City Hall, 18 York Street, 609-397-0110. The LEC meets the third Wednesday of each month at 7:30 in City Hall. Meetings are open to the public, and public participation is welcomed and encouraged.

Projects

Past projects include:

1. Completed the first Environmental Resource Inventory in the mid-1990s and released an updated version in May 2008
2. LEC members are members of the Lambertville Recycling Committee, which is actively pursuing the implementation of single stream recycling in Lambertville (to include glass, paper, metals, plastics and cardboard). Implementation is expected to occur in 2008.
3. LEC members are actively involved in the research and advocacy of an enhanced county-wide recycling program.
4. Established the Lambertville Nature Trail and supported a BSA Eagle Scout in building the trail
5. Established an LEC website
6. LEC members were active members in the Lambertville Storm Water Commission, which was the first in the State to adopt a formal storm water management plan.
7. Produced and mailed to all Lambertville residents a "Clean Water" flyer in connection with New Jersey Storm Water regulations, organized the marking of storm drains by local youth groups and handle other ongoing requirements of storm water management plan.
8. Distribute environmentally pertinent information during Lambertville's Shad Festival
9. Maintain a seat on the Lambertville Planning Board
10. Consulted with PSE&G regarding clear cutting of properties within Lambertville's boundaries
11. Developed collection of environmental reference materials
12. Instituted an arsenic well-testing program in 2004 for residents with wells
13. Worked with officials of Orleans Homebuilders regarding environmental issues in connection with building the Lambert's Hill development
14. Participated in activities of Sourland Mountain conservation groups

