



MEET THE EEC

Evesham Environmental Commission

About Us

The Evesham Environmental Commission:

- Created by the Township Council in 1978 for the protection, development, or use of natural resources within Evesham Township.
- Comprised of seven regular and two alternate members, who are appointed by the mayor.
- Provides recommendations to the Township Council concerning open space, water resources, air pollution control, solid waste management, soil and landscape protection, and protection of flora and fauna.
- Advisory to the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Adjustment in the case of development applications and land use.
- Conducts research into the use and possible use of the open land areas of the municipality and maintains an index of all open spaces.
- Develops / updates a Shade Tree Master Plan for the care, preservation, pruning, planting, replanting, removal or disposition of trees and shrubs along the streets, in parks and in other public places.
- Provides an annual report to the governing body.

Learn More

EEC's Webpage:

evesham-nj.org/boards/environmental

EEC's Code: ecode360.com/11961895

"When one tugs at a single thing in nature, he finds it attached to the rest of the world." -John Muir

Around Town

Successful Initiatives of the EEC:

- Providing recommendations for Evesham's Township Council, Planning Board, and Zoning Board to ensure the preservation and care of Evesham's environment
- Rain garden, bird box, and/or pollinator garden installations at the Blue Barn, Elmwood MUA, Croft Farm, Evesboro Downs, Evesham Municipal Building, and Van Zant Open Space Area
- Free Tree Giveaways, providing over 1,000 saplings (and counting) for local residents, courtesy of the NJ DEP
- Partnerships with other organizations, such as the Friends of the Black Run Preserve, Pinelands Preservation Alliance, local Girl Scouts, and others

Enjoy Evesham's Environment

Spend time outdoors in our beautiful town by visiting our more than 30 parks, open spaces, and hiking trails, including the Black Run Preserve and New Road Trail. The EEC aims to ensure these areas remain in pristine condition for the benefit of people, plants, and wildlife alike.

8 Easy, Effective, and Enjoyable Ways to Improve Evesham's Environment in Your Yard

Your yard, regardless of size, can serve as an oasis to the variety of wildlife that the State of New Jersey is so fortunate to enjoy. In fact, according to NJ.gov, "New Jersey lies at the southern edge of the range of many 'northern' species and the northern edge of the range of many 'southern' species. That, combined with hundreds of miles of coastline and five physiographic regions and the Pine Barrens area combine to support a diverse and abundant wildlife resource." But guess what? With New Jersey's high population density, we need YOU to help maintain wildlife diversity!

Here are some great ways you can help in your yard:

1. **Go Native with Plants:** Your yard can blossom from spring to fall with a mix of native plants and wildflowers that are acclimated to our region. A great resource to learn more is jerseyyards.org.
2. **Reimagine (Some of) Your Lawn:** Grass has very little benefit to wildlife. By setting aside islands, borders, and containers filled with native plants, you'll attract wildlife like butterflies and birds. Plus, kids will get a kick out of the creatures that visit!
3. **Rethink Lawn Maintenance:** Watering your lawn draws down a vital resource, and fertilizing your lawn creates problems in streams and lakes since when the pellets wash away. Consider incorporating clover or other groundcovers into your yard to cut back on high-maintenance grass, and, when mowing, mulch down your grass clippings to return nutrients to the soil.
4. **Plant Shade Trees:** By strategically growing shade trees in your yard, you may increase your property value, reduce your energy bills, attract beneficial wildlife, reduce runoff, and more.
5. **Start Composting:** Combine your apple cores, coffee grounds, and other kitchen scraps along with dead leaves in a compost pile that will break down and create healthy soil for your garden.
6. **Leave the Leaves:** Try letting some dead leaves lay in place over winter and using the rest for compost or as a mulch in planting beds for important nutrients and wildlife attractant.
7. **Postpone Pruning:** Browned, dead plants are home to beneficial insects, and their unique structure pair perfectly with crisp, white snow! Wait to prune back these plants until early spring and your yard will attract birds and other wildlife that eat the seeds over winter.
8. **Grow Your Own Food:** Blueberries, beach plums, pawpaws, persimmons, and many other native plants produce delicious edibles that you can enjoy, year after year. Plus, these plants can require less maintenance than many others that you find at "big box" stores.

Bonus! Attend our monthly meetings (generally the first Monday of every month) to learn more about environmental issues and share your concerns.

Bottom Line: By enacting some or all of these practices, you can make Evesham a welcoming place for the natural beauty that thrives here.