



Union Township Environmental Commission

Newsletter

Spring 2019

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COMMISSIONERS' WELCOME

GREETINGS from the Union Township Environmental Commission. As an official arm of the local government, the Environmental Commission was formed to protect the environment and conserve natural resources. Our main objective is to make recommendations on all development plans brought before the Planning Board, as they affect Union Township's environment and natural resources. Our secondary objective is to provide education for all township members on the environment and its resources. We look forward to sharing the latest information on these topics with you through this newsletter and encourage your participation.

Sincerely,

The Union Township Environmental Commission

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UTEC
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Union Township Environmental Day 2019

Saturday, May 4th, 2019 @ 9:00 am - Noon | Finn Road Park Pavilion - 36 Finn Rd,
Pittstown, NJ 08867 (weather permitting)



Above photo: Environmental Day 2018 presentations by The Native Plant Society and NJ Beekeepers Association; children created make-and-take plant seed pots.

On May 4th, 2019 the Union Township Environmental Commission will host an Environmental Day at Finn Road Park Pavilion. This event includes well water testing with the Raritan Headwaters Association (announcement below) and presentations by a variety of environmental organizations. Experts will be available to answer questions and participants will have many opportunities for the whole family to learn about a range of topics, from plants and animals to water resources. Last year's event hosted presentations by the NJ Beekeepers Association, the New Jersey Water Supply Authority, the NJDEP Watershed Ambassador Program, the Hunterdon Chapter of the Native Plant Society of New Jersey, the Rutgers Master Gardeners of Hunterdon County, and the Union Forge Heritage Association. Participants learned about beekeeping, rain barrels, and how to assess the health of a body of water based on the creatures found in it. They were also able learn about and purchase local native plants. Children were offered the chance to plant a bean seed to add to their garden at home. We had a great turnout from Union Township residents. Check out our Facebook page for updates on Environmental Day 2019.

[facebook.com/utec.hc](https://www.facebook.com/utec.hc)



Raritan Headwaters Well Water Testing

Saturday, May 4th, 2019 @ 9:00 am - Noon | Finn Road Park Pavilion - 36 Finn Rd,
Pittstown, NJ 08867 (weather permitting)



On May 4th, 2019 the Union Township Environmental Commission will offer well water testing during Environmental Day at Finn Road Park Pavilion. If your household water comes from a private well, it is not tested by any state or local authority. Well water tests can be expensive, but Union residents may have their drinking water tested for coliform bacteria and nitrates for \$60. Additional testing options will also be available. Mara Tippet, RHA Well Testing Program Manager, will be on site to answer any questions about well water testing. Test kits will be returned to the Town Hall for pickup on Monday, May 6th from 9 am to noon. More information is available at:

www.testmywell.org



Raritan Headwaters Well Water Testing: Results Presentation and Discussion

Tuesday, October 9th, 2019 @ 7:00 pm | 140 Perryville Road, Hampton, NJ

The Union Township Environmental Commission will host a water quality discussion with Raritan Headwaters' Well Testing Program manager, Mara Tippett. A report on the results from the May 2019 Community Well Testing will be presented. Please join us to learn more about the health of our groundwater and ways that you can help protect this valuable resource. A question and answer period will follow. RSVP to UTEC@uniontwp-hcnj.org or on our Facebook page, facebook.com/utec.hc

COMMUNITY NEWS

Raritan Headwaters Streamside Cleanup

April 13th, 2019 @ 9:00 am - 2:00 pm | Various Locations

Raritan Headwaters will be holding their 29th annual Streamside Cleanup at various locations in Hunterdon County. Volunteers of all ages are wanted for the cleanup to be held rain or shine. To view an interactive map of the 50 designated sites and to register, go to www.raritanheadwaters.org/streamclean

NJ Free Fishing Days & Fishing Buddy License

June 8th and October 19th, 2019 | NJ Public Waters

New Jersey's Free Fishing Days for 2019 are June 8th and October 19th. On these days fishing is allowed on the Garden State's public waters without a license or Trout Stamp. The New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife is offering a NJ Fishing Buddy License for only \$11.75 by purchasing a license with another person who has not had a license since 2010. You will save almost 50% of the cost of a 2019 license. Buddy licenses cannot be purchased online. Additional information can be found at www.njfishandwildlife.com



Native Plant Society of NJ, Hunterdon Chapter

Ongoing @ 7:00 pm | North County Branch Library - 65 Halstead Street, Clinton, NJ

Launched in September of 2015, the Hunterdon Chapter joins eight other county and regional chapters of the Native Plant Society of New Jersey. You don't have to be a plant professional to get involved, and the Society attracts all kinds of native plant enthusiasts. An interest in and desire to learn more about native plants has been seen in Hunterdon County by the growing number of people attending our meetings and outdoor events. Meetings are free and open to anyone, member or not. The Society also owns and maintains the Krajci Preserve, a 1 acre property where they are working to make a native woodland demonstration area with trail system and educational opportunities. Email hunterdon@npsnj.org or visit www.npsnj.org for more information.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Presenter</u>
May 21	Gardening in the Shade	Hollace Hoffman
June 18	Butterfly Nectar Plants	Sharon Wanderer
Sept 17	Meadows	Jared Rosenbaum
Oct 15	Wildflowers in the Smokies	Hubert Ling
November 19	Holiday Containers with Natives	Tim Ghiselli

Natural Resource Education Programs

Ongoing | Spruce Run Recreation Area - 68 Van Syckles Rd, Clinton, NJ

Spruce Run Recreation Area located in Union Township offers a variety of family nature programs throughout the year. Programs are typically held outdoors with topics related to the current season. Free and low-cost programs include nature walks, a campfire, and a variety of crafts, such as animal tracks, fish printing, build a bluebird house, and easy winter bird feeders. All programs require pre-registration. For more information, e-mail sprucerun@dep.nj.gov, call (908) 638-8572, or visit the website at www.state.nj.us/dep/parksandforests/parks/spruce.html



Union Forge Heritage Association

1st and 3rd Saturdays of Each Month, beginning in May @ 2:00 - 4:00 pm |
117 Van Syckles Rd, Hampton, NJ | www.unionforgeheritage.org

UFHA operates and manages the Solitude Heritage Museum at the historic 1760 Joseph Turner House in Union Township. The museum collection includes artifacts from the Iron Works as well as pieces of local interest. The Turner House has served as the venue for a variety of events and lectures with a focus on history. UFHA is also committed to improving the environment around the museum and has started work on the creation of a pollinator meadow. The goal of the Meadow Project is improve the land and offer visitors an opportunity to stroll down pathways to the Spring House and then connect to the existing trail system. USFA also plans to expand the Kitchen Garden including expanding the garden and adding several more raised beds of Colonial herbs. The Union Forge Heritage Association is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt non-profit corporation, and the Historic 1760 Joseph Turner House is on the national register of historic places.

RESOURCES & REMINDERS

Stormwater Pollution Prevention

Spring 2019 | cleanwaternj.org





Electronic Waste Cleanup Day

June 8th and September 14th, 2019 | 314 State Route 12, Flemington, NJ

The Hunterdon County Complex will host a special collection day from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on March 23, June 8, and September 14, 2019. For more information visit <http://www.co.hunterdon.nj.us/recycling/electronics.html>

Single Stream Recycling

Ongoing | 140 Perryville Road, Hampton, NJ

Single stream recycling continues to be available to all residents every Saturday (except holiday weekends and inclement weather) from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. behind the Municipal Building with assistance from Union Township recycling staff. In an effort to make recycling more convenient and on a trial basis, residents who do not need assistance are welcome to deposit single stream materials in the dedicated containers during business hours (7:30 am to 4:00 pm, M-F) and non-inclement weather conditions.

Dumpster Permits

1st and 3rd Saturdays of Each Month | 140 Perryville Road, Hampton, NJ

Use of the Union Township Community Dumpster is available on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of each month from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (noon), or until the dumpster is full, and except during holiday weekends and inclement weather. Community Cleanup Dumpster Permits are mailed each year with your tax bill in July or early August. If you are renting, obtain the Dumpster Permit from the property owner/tax payer. Please show your Dumpster Permit to the dumpster attendant and follow the directions of the attendant or person in charge. Download http://uniontwp-hcnj.gov/notices/Community_Cleanup_Days.pdf for details.



Union Township
Environmental Commission
140 Perryville Road,
Hampton,
Hunterdon County, NJ 08827

PRSR MKTG
POSTAGE & FEES PAID
FLEMINGTON, NJ
Permit No. 258

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www.uniontwp-hcnj.gov/EC/index.html



utec@uniontwp-hcnj.org



(908) 735-8027



Union Township Municipal Building
140 Perryville Road
Hampton, NJ 08827



Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm.



140 Perryville Road, Hampton, NJ 08827
www.uniontwp-hcnj.gov/recycling.html