

Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
June 25, 2025

Attendees: Dan Dehner, Bill Silverstein, Paul Nuschke

Ad-hoc Members and Guest Attendees: Janelle Cooney

Regrets: Karen Shinkle, Krikor Panossian, Michael Krauss, Christopher Mano, Jenny Ashbrook, Shaina Barnes, Cory Salmon

Next Steps / Identified Action Items:

Date Identified	Responsible Person	Description	Due Date	Date Completed
2025-06-25	All Members	Which night of the month should we meet? Think of at least 2 nights and be prepared to discuss in our next meeting.	2025-07-23	
2025-06-25	Bill	Review the next couple Recycling invoices and the back up to it	2025-07-23	
2025-06-25	Chris	Regarding Food Initiative/Recovery Program; look into some type of advertising to inform folks of the planned dates, times, and location.	2025-07-23	
2025-06-25	Dan	Regarding Rain Garden: Paul and Jenny want to be involved.	2025-07-11	
2025-06-25	Dan	Talk to Maureen about which areas in NPT have drain water issues	2025-07-23	
2025-06-25	Dan	Community Garden: Provide Jenny with Shaina's contact information	2025-07-04	
2025-06-25	Dan	Regarding Recycling: Stickers; Circle Back with Shaina for an update on where this is	2025-07-11	
2025-06-25	Dan	Regarding Balloon Awareness; Ask Shaina when this was an EAC topic?	2025-07-11	

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Date Identified	Responsible Person	Description	Due Date	Date Completed
2025-06-25	Dan	Regarding The township comprehensive plan: get hold of Bob Lynn	2025-07-11	
2025-06-25	Dan	Regarding The township comprehensive plan: provide PDF version to Member attendees	2025-07-04	
2025-06-25	Paul	Regarding Downed Trees: reach out to Shade Tree Committee - Maybe a township program to get rid of dead trees, a possible discount	2025-07-23	
2025-06-25	Jenny	Regarding Electric cars and their charging; review which grants available	2025-07-23	
2025-06-25	Dan	Provide Approved PDF version on May minutes to Maureen	2025-07-11	

Agenda:

1. Approve Minutes:

i. Next Steps:

1. Dan to provide Approved PDF version on May minutes to Maureen

2. EAC Charter:

i. Identifying environmental problems.:

1. Recycling

1. From Chris:

- a. Bill's analysis is useful and will be used to convince commissioners of cost benefits.
- b. From our last meeting, Chris encourages EAC members to talk with their individual commissioners in their ward about recycling practices.
- c. EAC members can engage residents regarding their experiences with recycling in their ward.

2. From Bill

- a. Did get the results of the audit

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- i. Recycling was 20% trash - Bill thought that was counterproductive
 - ii. Bill thinks we are saving 30%
 - 3. Next Steps
 - a. Bill to review the next couple invoices and the back up to it
- ii. Recommending plans and programs for the promotion and conservation of the natural resources and for the protection and improvement of the quality of the environment within the area of this township:
 - 1. Food Initiative/Recovery Program
 - 1. Chris Mano:
 - a. Chris will be coordinating with Joy of Lifewerks for the next food recovery drive on July 26 or August 9 from 8-10 am.
 - b. Drives will be held every 3 months.
 - c. EAC Volunteers are welcome to help with events.
 - d. Chris will also contact Director Louis Morse of the Salvation Army Chester Corps.
 - 2. Next Steps
 - a. Look into some type of advertising
 - 2. Rain Garden
 - 1. Project Plan updates are ongoing
 - a. 1st site will be behind the Township Bldg.
 - i. Need to work through more items before we can initiate
 - 1. Need permission to dig
 - 2. Need Township to do the heavy lifting on digging
 - 3. Need to meet with Township diggers to find out what they need
 - 2. Right now it is a one-man-band
 - a. Welcome others who are interested in this program
 - b. Think about a pollinator garden
 - c. Master Gardener has a plant sale every year
 - 3. Next Steps
 - a. Paul and Jenny want to get involved
- 3. A public education campaign on pesticides or the MS4 program
 - 1. From Chris:
 - a. Carly Lare provided Chris with blurbs on pesticide use that the EAC can use and recommend to include in the Fall/Winter 2025 newsletter.
 - i. See [CRC Watershed Association](#)
 - ii. **NOTE** on Fall/Winter Newsletter
 - 1. Nether Providence has no plans for another Newsletter in 2025

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2. There may be a chance for an e-Newsletter, however that has not been finalized
2. Last meeting: Thinking that we do an event/demonstration on this within the next year. Can work with the school district to do a presentation and a community tour.
 - a. Who is spearheading an "Event/Demonstration"?
 - b. Has anyone reached out to the school district to do a presentation?
 - c. What is "A Community Tour"?
 - d. Bill: This has to do with CRC
3. Next Steps:
 - a. Talk to Maureen about which areas in NPT have drain water issues
4. Community Garden Program (Jenny)
 1. Identify solutions and conduct research
 - a. Need Shaina to identify township properties
 - b. Dan to send Jenny Shaina's information
 - c. Looking at local garden clubs
 - d. Paul reached out to Parks commission
 2. Discuss Sites
 3. Discuss intentions at those sites
 4. What community groups are interested?
 5. How will this be monitored?
5. Added because it was missed in the last meeting:
 1. Recycling: Stickers
 - a. Public education regarding recycling
 - b. EAC will check Bill's information/e-mail to present cost-savings to commissioners
 - i. Need more definition around this. Which e-mail is this referring?
 - c. Next Steps: Circle Back with Shaina
6. Balloon Awareness
 1. Balloon Awareness was identified as an EAC update in the June 12th Commissioner's meeting
 - a. When was "Balloon Awareness" discussed?
 2. Next Steps: Ask Shaina when this was an EAC topic?
- iii. Making recommendations as to the possible use of open land areas of this township
 1. See section "iv" below
- iv. Keeping an index of all open areas, publicly or privately owned, including but not limited to flood-prone areas, swamps and other unique natural areas
 1. The township comprehensive plan
 1. Website: [FINAL REPORT - September 2018.pdf](#)

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- a. **Focus on "Chapter 8" for measurable results.**
 - a. I downloaded, Bookmarked the document, and Hyperlinked the TOC
 - i. Demonstrate:
 - b. Bookmarked and Hyperlinked PDF is available upon request (Request to Dan)
 - c. Bill: There should be an individual Township plan
 - i. Bill thinks NPT is working on the plan - Possibly tabled until the Fall
 - 1. Bob Lynn is the contact person on this - he is on the planning commission
 - 2. Next Steps:
 - 1. Dan to provide PDF version to Member attendees
2. The report is almost 7 years old
3. The report needs to be updated
4. The updated report has stalled due to several factors:
 - a. The size
 - b. The number of hours needed to update
 - c. The current staff are overworked and cannot take this on
5. Question:
 - a. Can someone from the EAC make this effort?
 - b. What metrics are being used to ensure the plan is being followed?
 - c. Who is capturing those metrics?
6. Next Steps:
 - a. Dan, get hold of Bob Lynn
- v. Undertaking such additional duties as requested by the Township Commissioners
 - 1. No items to discuss

3. Administrative:

- i. **"Thank You"** to Chris Mano
 - 1. For stepping up with little notice and hosting both the April and May meetings, as well as providing his comprehensive notes
- 2. Job Well Done!**
- ii. Participation in Events
 - 1. Dan:
 - 1. Darby Creek Valley Association (DCVA)
 - a. Clean-up day on June 21st
 - b. Interesting website: [Event Registration and Ticket Purchase](#)
 - 2. The Rise of Vape Shops and Tobacco Outlets in Delaware County
 - a. Delaware County Wellness Center in Yeadon

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- b. Discussed the rise in vape Shops and the use of Vape by children

4. New Business:

i. Discussion:

- 1. On what night of the month should we meet?
 - 1. Current night, 4th Wed of the month, doesn't work for everyone
 - a. Also, the 4th Wed sometimes falls "After" The commissioner's meeting
 - b. I am looking for recommendations on which night of the month would work best -
 - 2. Next Steps:
 - a. Looking for 2 recommendations from all Full Members
 - b. Dan to discuss with Maureen which nights of the month are not available

ii. Paul

- 1. Contact information for Rose Valley - Al to Paul
- 2. Need to reach out to Mona - there is no notice
- 3. Paul's question: There are a lot of downed trees - what are the plans as a community about trees
 - 1. Next Steps:
 - a. Paul to reach out to Shade Tree Committee
 - b. Maybe a township program to get rid of dead trees, a possible discount
- 4. Paul: Electric cars and their charging
 - 1. Bill: discussed grants which may be available - which parts of it are there grants for?
 - 2. Next Steps: Need to review which grants available - Jenny

iii. Straw Bale Piles

- 1. From Chris:
 - 1. Joy of Lifewerks was grateful for the EAC's discussion on straw bale piles.
 - 2. Follow up with Shaina regarding local laws or ordinances regarding this topic.

5. Calendar Review:

i. Next Steps:

- 1. If anyone knows they will be away, would you kindly let me know and I will include that in the Calendar for planning purposes

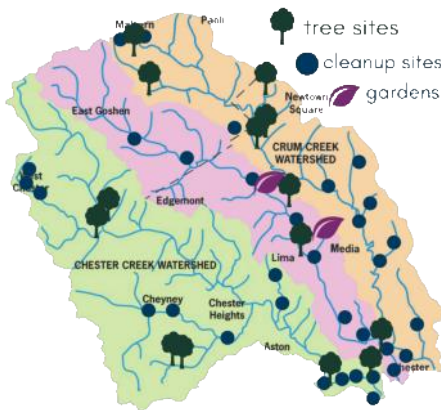
6. Adjourn:

- i. 8:17 PM

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7. Next Meeting:

- i. Wednesday, July 23, 2025, at 7:00 PM at the Township Building:
 - 1. Chris Mano will host the meeting



When rain falls, it flows downhill carrying harmful pollution into our streams. This is not just nature's water supply, it is the foundation of our water supply as well.

Our watersheds include 132 square miles of land. To protect our creeks, we must protect not only the land next to our creeks, but all of the land in our watersheds.

What is Stormwater?

Water coming from precipitation that doesn't get absorbed into the ground. Runoff becomes more severe with more impervious surface (pavement, concrete, and buildings...).



Why Does it Matter?



Pollution When runoff flows over the land, it picks up harmful pollutants such as litter, chemicals, and sediment, and deposits the pollutants into waterways.

Flooding Impervious surfaces act as a fast lane for stormwater. During/after a storm, water rushes into creeks, causing water levels to become "flashy," often resulting in flooding.

Erosion Large quantities of water entering our waterways carve away stream banks, increasing sediment pollution and potentially damaging development near the waterway.

Local Impact

Nearly 80% of streams in Chester County and 95% in Delaware County are designated as impaired by the PA



DEP, largely due to urban runoff and storm sewers. In response, CRC volunteers have removed over 850,000 pounds of trash from local streams and planted more than 12,000 native trees along waterways to reduce pollution and erosion.



Spotlight: Ridley Creek in Newtown Square

CRC staff regularly monitors Ridley Creek at Okehocking Preserve in Newtown Square.

During storms, rising water levels and faster flow cause erosion, turning the creek brown with sediment, as shown in the photo.



Just downstream, significant erosion has created a steep stream bank.

In the photo, CRC Restoration Specialist Danni Scott and volunteers are live staking—driving propagated native plant cuttings into the bank. These cuttings are expected to take root, absorb water, and help stabilize the bank to prevent further erosion.

[More on Live Staking](#)

What You Can Do

There are plenty of ways that homeowners can slow the flow of water, and pollution, from your property.

Rain Gardens in slight depressions in the ground trap rainfall from a roof or driveway and prevent it from adding to the polluted runoff that damages streams. Trapped rain water is allowed to slowly sink into the ground while supporting beautiful plants that attract birds and butterflies.

Rain Barrels: Collect and recycle stormwater coming from downspouts using a rain barrel.

Reduce Natural & Chemical Additives to Your Property Reduce pollution picked up by cleaning up after your pets and practicing responsible use of fertilizer and de-icers.



Funding for this project was awarded through the “Protect Your Drinking Water” grant program, administered by the **Pennsylvania Environmental Council** with funding from **Aqua, an Essential Utilities company**.



[Learn More](#) [Donate Today](#)

Helpful Links:

- <https://www.epa.gov/sourcewaterprotection/urbanization-and-stormwater-runoff>
- <https://www.pa.gov/agencies/dep/programs-and-services/water/clean-water/water-quality/integrated-water-report/integrated-water-quality-report-2024.html>
- <https://streamsmarthousecalls.org/>

Images:

- 1: "Slowing the Flow; Managing Our Water & Why It Matters" with image of storm drain
- 2: Map of Chester, Ridley, and Crum Creek Watersheds
- 3: Image of stormwater outflow into a creek
- 4: Image of streambank erosion
- 5: Image of storm flow in the Ridley Creek
- 6: Image of eroded stream bank in the Ridley Creek
- 7: Image of 2 volunteers at CRC's 2025 Streams Cleanup
- 8: Aqua, An Essential Utilities Company Logo & PEC (Pennsylvania Environmental Council) Logo
- 9: Collage of volunteers



Chester Ridley Crum Watersheds Association
PO Box 1355
Edgemont, PA 19028
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