

Bordentown City Environmental Commission

NEWSLETTER

Issue #24

www.bcec.us

Spring 2011

BCEC Contact Information



BCEC meetings are held on the **2nd Wednesday** of every month and are open to the public.

Meetings are held at the **Carslake Community Center**, 209 Crosswicks Street, at 7:00pm.

Mail may be sent to BCEC at:
Bordentown City Environmental Commission,
City Hall,
324 Farnsworth Ave.,
Bordentown, NJ 08505

Email:
bcec@mail.com
(Send an email to join the BCEC email list)

Website:
www.bcec.us

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BORDENTOWN CITY RECEIVES SUSTAINABLE JERSEY CERTIFICATION & AWARD

Bordentown City was awarded Bronze-level certification in the prestigious Sustainable Jersey program at the annual League of Municipalities Conference in November 2010. The City submitted evidence for the completion of a variety of Actions totalling 220 points (150 points were required in the certification process). The City also received the 2010 Sustainability Champions Award in the Small Communities category for obtaining the most points of any New Jersey municipality with less than 5,000 residents. The City was one of only 38 towns certified in 2010, and is one of only two certified towns in Burlington County.



Actions that contributed to Bordentown City's certification included forming a volunteer Green Team, having an Environmental Commission, hosting a Farmers Market, maintaining a Recycling Depot, and adopting a variety of planning documents, including an Open Space Plan, Environmental Resource Inventory, and a Shade Tree Master Plan. Other Actions that were completed by the Green Team in 2010 included initiating a municipal Energy Audit; hosting a Green Fair; creating a vegetable garden at the Clara Barton School; and creating a Community Asset Map.

Sustainable Jersey-certified communities are eligible for technical and financial assistance from a variety of sources, and receive extra credit in rankings with respect to aid from various state programs.

Go to www.sustainablejersey.com for more information about this program and www.bcec.us for information about Bordentown City's efforts to become a more sustainable community.

Spring 2011 Events/Programs

BCEC Earth Talk -- Film: GASLAND - Tuesday, March 22, 7:00 p.m.

Screening of the Academy-Award nominated documentary that focuses on communities across the US (including PA) negatively impacted by drilling for natural gas, using a technique called hydraulic fracturing, or "fracking". Natural gas drilling has begun in the Delaware River Basin in PA. Discussion to follow film. FREE. *Carslake Community Center.*

Annual Arbor Day Tree Planting, Saturday, April 16, 9:00 a.m.

Bring a shovel & gloves and help plant trees! Meet at City Hall. *Sponsored by the Bordentown City Shade Tree Committee.*

Earth Day Ramble - D&R Canal Towpath, Saturday, April 23, 10:00 a.m.

Join us for a ramble along the newly created section of the towpath through the Marsh. Meet at I-295 scenic overpass.

BCEC Earth Talk -- Wild New Jersey Presentation & Author Signing - Tuesday, April 26, 7:00 p.m.

Speaker Michael Skelly, Bordentown Heritage, Executive Director and Bordentown City, Historic Preservation, Vice-Chairman, will speak about making your home more energy efficient. FREE. *Carslake Community Center.*

Bordentown Street Fair, Saturday & Sunday, May 21 & 22

Stop by the BCEC exhibit to learn more about local environmental and planning issues. Enter a FREE Raffle for cool prizes! *Farnsworth Avenue.*

BCEC Earth Talk -- DIRT! The Movie - Tuesday, May 24, 7:00 p.m.

DIRT! The Movie, narrated by Jaime Lee Curtis, takes you inside the wonders of the soil and brings to life the environmental, economic, social and political impact that the soil has. It shares the stories of experts from all over the world who study and are able to harness the beauty and power of a respectful and mutually beneficial relationship with soil. Discussion to follow film. FREE. *Carslake Community Center. Earth Talks are sponsored by the Bordentown City Environmental Commission.*

LOCAL ECO-NEWS

What's New in Recycling?

The State of New Jersey, Burlington County and Bordentown City are offering more and more options for us to recycle, rather than dump everything in our over-burdened landfills. Here are a few new, important examples. For a complete guide check out the BCEC website at www.bcec.us.

Start recycling all your Paper Food Cartons now. You can place your paper-based, "gable-top" milk, juice, soup, wine, etc. cartons right in the recycling bucket with your bottles and cans. (*NOTE: Do not put them with your paper and cardboard.*)

As of January 1, 2011 the State has banned Computer Equipment and TV disposal in the regular trash. Bordentown City, in conjunction with Goodwill Industries, now has a collection point at the Gilder Field Complex (209 Crosswicks Street). All your old/unused TVs, Computers, Laptops, Monitors, cabling, other electronic devices can be dropped off there.

You will also soon see a used clothing collection area near the Gilder Field location for your convenience.

Thanks for your continued cooperation in keeping Bordentown City Clean & Green!

Bordentown City Farmers' Market

The Bordentown City Farmers' Market will open on June 8 and be held regularly on Wednesday afternoons from 4 pm until dusk (8:30ish). The market is located in the City parking lot next to the Farnsworth House restaurant. The market will run through September/October 2011. Vendors will include local Jersey Fresh farmers selling seasonal fruits and vegetables, some organic, meats, fresh eggs and locally made products such as honey, pies, breads, and jams. Music and other entertainment is regularly scheduled. Lower your carbon footprint by walking or biking to the market and supporting local food and local farmers.

Bordentown City Recognized for Various Efforts to Go Green

In addition to the recent Sustainable Jersey certification, the City has been recognized in other ways for its efforts to become a greener community:



Thanks to the efforts of the Bordentown City Shade Tree Committee, the City has been a *Tree City USA* for more than 10 years.



Bordentown City was named a *Green Town USA* in 2008 by the New Jersey Environmental Lobby.

Featured Website

Delaware Riverkeeper

www.delawareriverkeeper.org

Grounded in the power of the River and the community, the Delaware Riverkeeper, backed by the Delaware Riverkeeper Network, staunchly champions the needs of the Delaware river and in so doing ensures its unfettered ability to protect and provide for all the human and nonhuman communities that love, appreciate and depend upon it.

The Delaware is the longest undammed river east of the Mississippi, flowing freely for 330 miles as it travels from New York state, through Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Delaware to the Atlantic Ocean.

Environmental Calendar

Tuesday, March 22

BCEC Earth Talk: Screening of GASLAND

Carslake Community Ctr., 7p.m.

Monday, April 4

Bordentown City Planning Board

Carslake Community Ctr., 7p.m.

Wednesday, April 13

Bordentown City Environmental Commission

Carslake Community Ctr., 7p.m.

Saturday, April 16

Arbor Day Tree Planting

Meet at City Hall, 9 a.m.

Saturday, April 23

Earth Day Hike: D&R Canal Towpath

Meet at I-295 scenic overpass, 10am

Tuesday, April 26

BCEC Earth Talk: Wild New Jersey Presentation/Author Signing

Carslake Community Ctr., 7p.m.

Monday, May 2

Bordentown City Planning Board

Carslake Community Ctr., 7p.m.

Wednesday, May 11

Bordentown City Environmental Commission

Carslake Community Ctr., 7p.m.

Saturday/Sunday, May 21-22

Bordentown Street Fair

Stop by the BCEC booth.

Tuesday, May 24

BCEC Earth Talk: DIRT! The Movie

Carslake Community Ctr., 7p.m.

Monday, June 6

Bordentown City Planning Board

Carslake Community Ctr., 7p.m.

Wednesday, June 8

Bordentown City Environmental Commission

Carslake Community Ctr., 7p.m.