

Bordentown City Environmental Commission

NEWSLETTER

Issue #20

www.bcec.us

Winter 2009

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 "GREEN TOWN" AWARD

New Jersey towns are often rated for the wealthiest or the most liveable, and now for the greenest. A yearly award program for "Green Town, U.S.A" encourages towns to be responsible for the environment in New Jersey. In November Bordentown City received the **2008 Green Town Award** from the NJ Environmental Lobby (NJEL). The City was recognized for the high level of environmental planning, projects, and outreach/education that it has accomplished in the last several years. Bordentown City met most of the requirements for the award, including having the following: environmental commission, shade tree commission, open space plan, environmental resource inventory, conservation element, bicycle & pedestrian plan, stormwater management plan, wastewater plan, and a tree-planting program. "The City of Bordentown worked persistently to update its master plan to ensure a sustainable future and to protect the natural resources of this historic town," said Anne Poole, president of the NJEL.



Anne Poole (left) and Brenda Holzinger (center) presenting Green Town award to Mayor Bill Collom

The City was also recognized for its efforts to reach out to residents about local environmental issues. According to Anne Poole, "The Review Committee was particularly impressed by the active Environmental Commission, its outreach to residents, and the variety of environmental programs and experiences that are offered to the public. It is interesting that many of these programs and events highlight the relationship between the city's ecology and its history."

Upcoming Events/Ongoing Programs

BCEC Earth Talk: Screening of *Garbage* - Tuesday, February 24, 7:00 p.m.

Garbage: The Revolution Starts at Home follows a family of five who agrees to save their garbage for three months and also shows what happens to your throwaway materials. Following the film, a speaker will further elaborate on how Burlington County treats your garbage. FREE. *Carslake Community Center*.

BCEC Earth Talk: Screening of *Where Do the Children Play?* - Tuesday, March 24, 7:00 p.m.

This one-hour documentary for public television examines how restrictive patterns of sprawl, congestion, and endless suburban development across America are impacting children's mental and physical health and development. Speaker: TBA. FREE. *Carslake Community Center*.

Arbor Day Tree Planting - Saturday, April 18, 9:00 a.m.

Help plant shade trees throughout Bordentown City. Bring a shovel and gloves. Sponsored by the Bordentown City Shade Tree Committee. *Meet at City Hall, 324 Farnsworth Avenue*

BCEC 7th Annual Earth Day Celebration Event - Saturday, April 25, 9:30 a.m. Details: TBA

BCEC Earth Talk: Screening of *The Greening of Southie* - Tuesday, April 28, 7:00 p.m.

A film about Boston's first LEED-certified residential green building. With its sloping grass roof and recycled materials, The Macallen Building seemed an odd addition to South Boston - "Southie" - a traditionally working-class neighborhood. Yet The Macallen not only won high marks for its sustainable design ideas and offered its diverse residents luxury features, its creation also spurred construction workers and environmentalists to think about the city of the future. FREE. *Carslake Community Center*.

Bordentown Street Fair - Saturday/Sunday, May 16 & 17, 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Stop by the BCEC table for up to date information about local environmental issues and events. Also, enter our free raffle for a compost bin and other green prizes.

LOCAL ECO-NEWS

Project Porchlight Brightens the Holidays of Bordentown City residents

On December 14, more than 25 volunteers delivered a holiday present to each household in Bordentown City: a free energy-saving compact fluorescent light (CFL) bulb. This event, co-sponsored by the BCEC and Project Porchlight, sought to communicate residents the benefits of energy conservation, including reduced energy costs, reduced pollution and reduced climate-changing carbon emissions. More than 1500 13 watt (equivalent to 60 watt incandescent) CFLs were distributed. For more information about energy conservation and renewable energy in NJ, check out www.njcleanenergy.com



Volunteer Stephanie Neuhaus delivering a CFL

RECYCLING - Bulbs, Bins and E-Waste

Many people in the City use the CFL BULBS (the curly kind), which last about seven years. But when they do burn out, it is important that they be disposed of properly because they contain a minute amount of mercury. Do not toss them into the trash. Instead, take them to Home Depot, which has a collection box (usually near the customer service area) or the County recycling facility. We hope to have a collection site in the City in the near future.

The first two RECYCLING BINS for collection of bottles and cans have been placed on Farnsworth Avenue in areas that seem to have the most foot traffic. One is near Marcello's, 206 Farnsworth, and the other near Personables, 150 Farnsworth. Bottles and cans recycled in these bins will be picked up by the City, sent on to the County, and then sold. Recycling pays!

E-WASTE: Electronic Equipment (computers, monitors, printers, televisions) should be

taken to Bordentown City's recycling center behind Gilder Part, open Saturday mornings from 7 to noon. Bringing your equipment there will save you a trip to the County recycling facility. It is important that electronic material is not put out with garbage, thus making its way into landfills.

Delaware Valley College Students Envision the Blacks Creek Greenway

Students from the Environmental Design department spent the Fall 2008 semester working on landscape architecture and sustainable design visions for three areas along the Blacks Creek Greenway in Bordentown City: Oliver Street, Blacks Creek Overlook, and Lime Kiln Alley. Each of these areas were targeted by the City's Open Space Plan for acquisition, and the D&R Greenway negotiated the purchase of many of the parcels thus far. The students, led by Professor Eve Minson, presented their visions at a public meeting in Bordentown City in December. The presentations will help enhance the City's planning efforts to develop accessible parkland and trails along the local waterways. The presentations are available on the BCEC homepage (www.bcec.us)



Delaware Valley College students presenting a vision for Lime Kiln Alley

Featured Website

Green Politics New Jersey Environmental-Prosperity Movement

Extensive Green Calendar, Links,
Updates, News Stories

www.GreenPoliticsNJ.com

Environmental Calendar

Wednesday, February 4

Bordentown City Planning Board
City Hall, 7p.m.

Wednesday, February 11

Bordentown City Environmental Commission

Carslake Community Ctr., 7p.m.

Tuesday, February 24

Earth Talk: Film: Garbage

Carslake Community Ctr., 7 p.m.

Wednesday, March 4

Bordentown City Planning Board
City Hall, 7p.m.

Wednesday, March 11

Bordentown City Environmental Commission

Carslake Community Ctr., 7p.m.

Tuesday, March 24

Earth Talk: Film: Where Do the Children Play?

Carslake Community Ctr., 7 p.m.

Wednesday, April 1

Bordentown City Planning Board
City Hall, 7p.m.

Wednesday, April 8

Bordentown City Environmental Commission

Carslake Community Ctr., 7p.m.

Saturday, April 18

Arbor Day Tree Planting

City Hall, 9:00a.m.

Saturday, April 25

Earth Day Celebration Event

Details: TBA, 9:30a.m.

Tuesday, April 28

Earth Talk: Film: The Greening of Southie

Carslake Community Ctr., 7 p.m.

Wednesday, May 6

Bordentown City Planning Board
City Hall, 7p.m.

Wednesday, May 13

Bordentown City Environmental Commission

Carslake Community Ctr., 7p.m.

To receive the BCEC Newsletter by email, send a request to bcec@mail.com