

Bordentown City Environmental Commission NEWSLETTER

Issue 5, Winter 2004



BCEC CONTACT INFORMATION

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

Meetings are held at the Carlslake Community Center at 7:00PM.

Check out the BCEC website at WWW.BCEC.US

Email may be sent to the BCEC at: mail@bcec.us

Mail may be sent to BCEC c/o Bordentown City Hall 324 Farnsworth Avenue Bordentown, NJ 08505

BORDENTONIANS PITCH IN TO CLEAN UP CITY'S HIDDEN GREENWAY

On Saturday, October 18, 2003 more than thirty people, ranging in age from 7 to 70, gathered to help improve the environment in Bordentown City. They spent three hours cleaning up the

stream corridor along Thorntown Creek, a waterway that originates in Chesterfield Township, flows through Bordentown Township (and underneath Rt. 206), bisects Bordentown City, and empties into Crosswicks Creek on the Divine Word Missionaries property. This is a little known green corridor within the City, but it is a vital resource for fish and wildlife habitat, as well as potential recreational opportunities for local residents. BCEC organized the cleanup and is actively involved in protecting this unique resource for City residents.

The results of our cleanup included: 38 garbage bags full of trash, 45 automobile tires, 1 toilet, 2 sinks, 2 bed frames, 1 lawnmower, 1 garden

hose, 2.5 oil barrels, and several piles of miscellaneous refuse.

Many thanks are due to the local volunteers who gave of their time and energy, especially the members of Boy Scout Troop #13. Thanks also to the local businesses who supported this effort, including App's Hardware; Wirth Lumberama; the Farnsworth Pastry Shop; Oliver: A Bistro; and Paint Island Canoe & Kayak. Thanks also to Mayor Bill Collom, Director of Public Works Bob Erickson and the Public Works Department.

The Thorntown Creek greenway project is part of a more comprehensive BCEC effort to establish greenways throughout the City (see related article), preserving open space, protecting wildlife habitat and water quality, and enhancing the overall quality of life in Bordentown City.

BCEC will be holding an Earth Day Clean Up on Saturday, April 24, 2004. Check out our website (www.bcec.us) for more information. See you there!



River Line Debuts In Bordentown City



What? Light rail service with 20 stations along the 34-mile corridor between Trenton and Camden, connecting to Amtrak, PATCO, and SEPTA.

When? Debuts March 14.

Where? The station at the end of Park Street in Bordentown City.

How often? Every 30 minutes.

How long? 65 minutes from Trenton to Camden, 12 minutes from Bordentown to Trenton.

How much? \$1.10 one-way.

Why? It's inexpensive, hassle-free, and good for the environment!

Black's Creek To Be Studied

During summer 2004, Black's Creek will be the focus of a study undertaken by the Delaware River Greenway Partnership, in cooperation with the Bordentown City Environmental Commission and Bordentown Township Open Space Advisory Committee. The Delaware River Greenway Partnership is a non-profit organization concerned with protection of the natural and cultural resources of the Delaware River.

The Black's Creek area to be studied will include the estuarine or tidal segment of the creek, along with its floodplain and adjacent open space. The study will include surveys of the creek's plants, animals, and water resources, as well as show the relationship between the living resources with the geological resources, such as the Bordentown Bluffs. In geologic terminology, Bordentown is part of the Inner Coastal Plain Physiographic Province, and the cliffs making up the Bordentown Bluffs are unique to the



Earth Day Grocery Bags Project

Bordentown area school kids will decorate grocery bags on Earth Day for distribution to shoppers, raising local awareness of environmental issues.

See www.bcec.us for details
Earth Day is April 22, 2004!

region, found in few other parts of the Delaware River Estuary.

The study will take about one year, and when completed, provide information that will be helpful to both municipalities in developing strategies for protection of sensitive natural resources. It will also provide the foundation for developing a listing of special places that can be visited along the creek, such as on a nature walk or by a canoe trip.

Bordentown City Cats battles the cold

Bordentown City Cats is redoubling its efforts to help stray and feral cats. With the dual problem of cold and hunger that these cats face, caution is the word. Mating season is a few months away and it is more important than ever that as many cats as possible are fixed and inoculated. However, the extreme cold hampers the volunteers' efforts. Shaving females, as is necessary for the operation, puts them at a serious disadvantage for survival in this cold. Also, as hungry as they are, drawing the cats to a trap with food can also put them in danger of freezing before volunteers can revisit the site.

Bordentown City Cats wants to thank the kind Fathers at Divine Word for allowing them to enter their property, and the wonderful humanity they have shown toward the feral and stray population. If there are any questions or if anyone wants to join this effort, please contact Mak Kieffer at 609-324-3896.



Community Calendar

Feb. 23

Friends of the Marsh Meeting
7pm
Bowhill Mansion on Jeremiah Ave.
Group organized to protect the Hamilton-Trenton-Bordentown marsh
friendsofthemarsh.org

Mar. 27

New Jersey's 8th Annual Land Conservation Rally
9AM-5PM
Marriott Hotel, Trenton
Presentations & Exhibits
Contact S. Monahan at stephanie@njconservation.org
(908)234-1225

Apr. 22

Earth Day!
Help promote a healthy environment and a peaceful, just, sustainable world. Ordinary people, acting together, can achieve extraordinary things.

April 24

BCEC Earth Day Clean Up!
Help us clean up Bordentown's green spaces!
mail@bcec.us