



The Cape May Point Environmental Commission

Since its inception in 1969, The Environmental Commission has been working on our behalf to restore, preserve, and develop the natural resources located in Cape May Point. The Environmental Commission is an advisory group for the Borough on all environmental matters, including the management of public lands. Work behind the scenes, such as updating the Environmental Resources Inventory, often goes unnoticed by the general public, but it is an important part of all public projects initiated by the Borough. In the last few years, the Environmental Commission has taken on several projects that have made dramatic visual impacts.

Education is a focal point for the EC. Through the borough email blast and posters around town, articles are distributed to the residents of the Point. More information about the Environmental Commission and current members can be found on the Cape May Point website, by selecting Environmental Commission under the Government Tab or Our Environment under the Community Tab.

The Environmental Commission has supported countless projects to improve the environment at CMP, such as preserving Lake Lily, the dunes, and Triangle Park, as well as planting a rain garden at Borough Hall. For the second year in a row, the EC has participated, with Mayor Moffatt's support, in the National Wildlife's Mayors' Monarch Pledge. Communities in this program are "committing to create habitat for the monarch butterfly and pollinators, and to educate residents about how they can make a difference at home and in their community."



Municipal Building Rain Garden



Lake Lilly landscaping

In 2016 the Borough decided that the bulkhead at the south end of Lake Lily needed repair. Under the leadership of Catherine Busch, the Environmental Commission was tapped to advise the Commissioners as to landscaping that would complement this project. The result is a visually stunning, relaxing, and environmentally friendly park area at the south end of the lake. A specially crafted permeable walkway meanders through the plantings, complemented with benches for viewing the many native plantings that were selected, such as Echinacea, Rudbeckia, Butterfly Weed, and Winterberry. The project was also designed to be accessible for persons with disabilities.



Horseshoe bed refurbishment

Currently the Environmental Commission, under the leadership of Barb Bassett, has taken on the project of clearing out the huge berm horseshoe bed in front of the sewage pump station in The Circle. This bed has been painstakingly cleared of the many invasive plants without the use of herbicides. Members of the Commission have worked with Public Works and many community volunteers on Monday mornings for the past year, removing the invasive plants and identifying native plants to keep. This group of committed volunteers is beginning to plant new environmentally friendly, native plants and will continue to do so through the fall. Oak-leaf Hydrangeas were purchased with the EC budget. Lyre-leaf Sage, Snakeroot, Boneset, Seaside Goldenrod, Woodland Sunflower, Cut-leaf Sunflower, and Monarda have also been added through donations from CMP gardens. These plantings will be labeled, so that the new bed will be educational in addition to supporting the wildlife.

Thank you to all the wonderful volunteers who have served on the Environmental Commission over the years! It is truly a team effort.