

Stillwater Township Environmental Commission

2018 Annual Report

During the course of 2018, the Stillwater Township Environmental Commission (EC) engaged in the following activities:

Published meeting dates for the coming year.

Members met each month at the Municipal Building.

Member resignations were accepted and new members were appointed to the Commission. (Eric Svendsen, Earl Nause)

Mr. Branagan was appointed Commission Chair with Mr. Dvorsky as Vice-Chair.

Monofilament fishing lines were collected monthly from various locations around the township and recycled.

A budget sheet was drawn-up and adopted.

Water testing was completed on all waterbodies that enter the township.

The Commission is working on recommendations to revise the recycling ordinance.

Sightings of threatened and endangered species were recorded on a monthly basis.

Outstanding volunteers were recognized on a monthly basis.

An amphibian crossing survey was completed.

An information board was planned and constructed at the Recycling Center.

Commission members walked application properties and reported their findings to the Planning Board.

ANJEC annual membership was maintained.

The Commission is working with the Recycling Center to design new signage.

A rain barrel was constructed by a Commission member and installed at the Municipal Building.

Members attended Coalition of Lakes Association (COLA) meetings.

Members attended the Paulins Kill Watershed Group meeting in April.

The Commission is working on having bat houses constructed and installed at Veterans Memorial Park (VMP).

An Open Space Stewardship Grant was obtained and used to construct a large sign which was placed on the bridge in VMP. Signs were also designed and constructed and have been placed in VMP along the trail on the passive side. Signage provides information regarding turtles and dragonflies. Funding was in conjunction with Clean Communities.

A final progress report, photos and billing information was provided to ANJEC to finalize the Open Space Stewardship grant funding. ANJEC commended the Commission on the project.

Ed Szabo obtained cedar for signage.

The Commission received a request from a Township resident to have the Master Plan updated with respect to Camp Towadena with regard to the chestnut tree restoration and preservation of four stone chimneys.

A tri-fold holder was constructed and installed at the Recycling Center to contain current information regarding recycling rules.

Members provided copies of newspaper and magazine articles which would be of interest to the Commission on a monthly basis.

The Commission Chair will build six tree swallow birdhouses to be installed in the spring at Veterans Memorial Park.

The Commission informed the public by updating the Recycling Center information board indicating FREE Styrofoam disposal is available at SCMUA.

William Gettler of Wantage, formerly of Stillwater, attended the December EC meeting to provide a presentation on farmland assessment with respect to soil types.