

May 2016, Volume 45, Issue 3

NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2016

Working Since 1972 to Save the Environment of Moorestown

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed people can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."
— Margaret Mead

In This Issue

Annual Plant Sale

A Note From the President's Desk

Annual Meeting Report

STEM Steering Committee 2016-17

Arbor Day 2016

Burlington County Bird Quest

2016 NAC Schedule of Conservation Projects

April NAC at Wigmore Acres

Environmental Scholarship Award

Diane & the Detention Basin

Clean Energy March

"Nature in Moorestown" Photo Contest

Update on Strawbridge Lake

STEM Membership Form—Renew!

STEM Picnic Invitation

Area Events of Interest

STEM's ANNUAL PLANT SALE on Moorestown Day—Saturday, June 4th

A warm April and a wet, cool May may have us confused, but it's a sure thing that the STEM Plant Sale on Moorestown Day will attract a crowd looking to add color and more importantly, wildlife-friendly native plants to their gardens and landscape beds this year. The Main Street event runs from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., but stop by early to catch the best selection. In addition to native plants, including milkweed, herbs will also be for sale.

STEM's booth, located in front of the First Baptist Church (next to Carl's Shoes), will also seek to educate the public on current plant-related environmental topics. Handouts and informative literature will be available, as well as knowledgeable volunteers ready to answer gardening questions.

As in previous years, local donated varieties will be available—an inexpensive way to add diversity to your yard. On the flip side, if you have extra plants that need a new home, we welcome plant donations for the sale. Drop off all donations next to the church on Saturday before 8:00 a.m., or call Betsy Schnorr at 856-235-6348 with any questions and/or information about donation pick-ups.



*While adding color to your gardens, planting natives creates a food source for visiting wildlife—adding another reason to enjoy the outdoors. From left, black-eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia hirta*) and trumpet vine (*Campsis radicans*). When buying natives, ask for them by their binomial name to ensure you are purchasing a true native—the best for our animal friends.*

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Saturday, June 4

Annual Plant Sale
Moorestown Day—Main Street
9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

Saturday, June 18

NAC Conservation Project
Pompeston Park Upstream
of New Albany Road
9:30-11:30 a.m.

Wednesday, June 15

STEM Steering Committee Mtg.
7:00 p.m.

Sunday, June 26

STEM Annual Picnic
LoPresti Residence
4:00 p.m.

Saturday, July 9

NAC Conservation Project
Little Woods on the Rancocas
Creek Road@Laurel Creek Blvd.
8:30-10:30 a.m.

Wednesday, July 20

STEM Steering Committee Mtg.
7:00 p.m.

Saturday, August 20

NAC Conservation Project
Waterworks Woods
Kings Highway@Waterworks
8:30-10:30 a.m.

A Note From the President's Desk

As the new STEM President, I am honored to be in this position and look forward to advancing the mission and annual goals of the organization.

One of the things that impresses me most is the number—not to mention the quality—of Moorestown's natural areas where STEM has played a role in maintaining and/or preserving open space. Eleven parks in all, these range from Boundary Creek Natural Resource Area on the east end of town to Waterworks Woods, a hidden treasure behind the water treatment plant on Kings Highway near Lenola Road. You can find descriptions and locations of the sites on STEM's website, www.stemonline.org, under the tab "Preserved Open Spaces."

For many of us, a walk in the woods is a great stress reliever—medical evidence confirms this—and a terrific way to spend an hour or so. If you're familiar with Moorestown's preserved sites, introduce a friend or neighbor to your favorite.

If you'd like to become more involved, an easy way is to give us a hand with Natural Area Care (NAC). A schedule of the two-hour sessions appears on page 4 of this newsletter and is also on the STEM website. Other volunteer opportunities are listed on the membership form on page 7.

— Joe Ponessa

STEM's Annual Meeting Report—Go Native!

We welcome Joe Ponessa as STEM President for the 2016-17 year. Joe was elected to serve as president for the remaining year of Elizabeth Endres's two-year term. Elizabeth will finish Joe's term as vice-president. The full slate of elected officers and directors is printed below.

For the Annual Meeting presentation, pollination and the ongoing plight of pollinators took center stage at the Burlington County Community Agricultural Center on April 7.

Diane Miskowski's eye-opening PowerPoint presentation on insect pollinators alerted us to the challenges these creatures face. More than 50% of natural habitats have been lost to development and farming. Over the years, urban sprawl, non-native grass lawns, and mono-culture farms have replaced native meadows and prairies, eliminating the native nectar plants and leading to a decline in the population of every type of pollinator—insect, bird, butterfly, and bat.

Why does that matter? Plants are our primary producers and all animals, including humans, depend on plants one way or another as a food source. The survival of plants depends on pollination—over 75% of earth's plants rely on pollinators for fertilization. There is a link among native plants,

pollinators, wildlife, and humans. This intertwined relationship forms a complex food web which supports life as we know it.

"Native plant" is a term misunderstood by many. Native plants are those that have evolved over many thousands of years along with the animal and insect life in a particular geographic/climatic region. Non-native plants are not an integral part of the food web, as they have little nutritive value and are not consumed or used by local and migrating wildlife. If a plant's fruits and berries are still on a plant at the end of winter, the plant is most likely non-native.

But these non-native plants will use local resources, i.e. sun, water, soil, minerals, and space, often outcompeting what occurs naturally. This alters the balance of the environment, stressing local populations.

We can all help pollinators and wildlife by including native plants in our yards. A typical yard consist of vast areas of non-native grasses bordered by non-native flowers and bushes. Consider creating an oasis of white clover in your lawn. Instead of putting mulch around the

base of trees and shrubs, use native ground covers like violets or native ferns, instead of commonly seen English ivy or vinca. Include a bed of native flowers, and replace non-native trees and shrubs with native varieties.

In addition to native plants, pollinators need nesting sites. All of our native, non-stinging bees (much more effective pollinators than their European-introduced cousin honey bees) nest in dead, hollow native plant stems, dead trees, and holes in the ground, so it's good not to clean up too thoroughly. In autumn, keep fallen leaves in an area separate from your lawn for overwintering insects to hibernate and wintering birds to pick through to find food.

One last suggestion—plant milkweed. Monarch butterflies are just one very visible example of dramatic insect decline—it has been reported that their populations have declined by over 90% since the 1970s. These distinctive butterflies must have milkweed on which to lay their eggs. When the eggs hatch into larvae (caterpillars), milkweed is the only food they can eat. As milkweed disappears from the landscape due to development, herbicides, and farming practices, these butterflies have declined in number as well. To counteract this trend, STEM will be selling milkweed and other plants native to our area at the Moorestown Day festivities on June 4—stop by.

—Margo Foster & Diane Miskowski



Photos above: top, Purple Coneflower (*Echinacea purpurea*) and bottom, Cardinal flower (*Lobelia cardinalis*) are native plants that attract a variety of pollinators.

Arbor Day 2016

Arbor Day 2016 was celebrated at the William Allen Middle School on April 29. Five trees, donated by Flagg's Nursery, the Comegno Law Group, and Garrison Architects, were planted. The welcome introduction was given by Lisa Madara, Moorestown Garden Club President. David Schill, MIA President, talked about the history of Arbor Day, and Mayor Phil Harwood presented a proclamation proclaiming April 29, 2016 Arbor Day in Moorestown. The William Allen Middle School Honors Chorus entertained the assembled group with three songs, and the school's Garden Club presented birdhouses and feeders they had made to be hung in the trees on school grounds.

Next up, the Appearance Committee presented an award to the Moorestown Field House for the beautification of their property. The program concluded with a ceremonial tree planting, and afterwards 200 bare-root seedlings were passed out to attendees.

—Sandy Daniels

THANK YOU FOR SERVING STEM STEERING COMMITTEE for 2016-2017

President: Joe Ponessa

Vice-president: Elizabeth Endres Hines

Treasurer: Mark Pensiero

Secretary: Paula Horton

Directors:

Claire Rollin Adair

Susan Buffalino (Newsletter Editor)

Jean Fox

Kathy Huffman

Diane Miskowski

Joan Ponessa

Betsy Schnorr

MHSEC Representative

2016-17 Nominating Committee:

Kathy Huffman (Steering Committee Member)

Claire Rollin Adair (Steering Committee Member)

Barb Rich (Non-Steering Committee Member)

Burlington County Bird Quest 2016

The “Moorestown Merlins” (Betsy Schnorr, Bill Creekmore, my wife Molly, and I) participated in the annual Burlington County Bird Quest on May 7. This five-hour event, sponsored by Palmyra Cove Nature Center, challenges teams to see as many species as they can within the confines of Burlington County.

Consistent with the last few years, spring has been a bit slow in settling in. We had some great weather in April, but May has proven to be cold and cloudy. The lack of strong warm fronts has slowed the arrival of our southern visitors—those birds who travel north to breed in the northern hemisphere. Some of these birds stay to nest in our area, but many others stop here only to rest and feed as they continue further north to their preferred breeding grounds.

Like last year, we decided to focus our efforts in Moorestown. While this would certainly reduce the number of birds we’d see, I thought it would be fun to see how many species we could tally within the confines of our Township. We started the day in my backyard where I had a pair of male Rose-breasted Grosbeaks. These are beautiful birds, and a bird that I have only seen in my yard only one other time. It seems that this was a good year for Rose-breasted Grosbeaks; I had them hanging on my feeder for several days prior to the event. In addition to the grosbeaks, we had many of the usual yard birds including Song Sparrows, Tufted Titmouse, Blue Jay, American Robin, and Downy Woodpecker.

The next stop was a quick loop around Strawbridge Lake. We had Orchard and Baltimore Orioles, along with multiple Yellow Warblers, Blue-gray Gnatcatchers and Warbling Vireos. We also had great looks at a pair of Rough-winged Swallows who were standing on a branch that was somehow stuck in the mud of the lake bottom. We also had nice looks at a Green Heron,



but surprisingly we saw no Great Blue Herons, Great Egrets, or Cormorants at the lake.

From Strawbridge Lake we headed over to Swede Run Fields, where we did see multiple Savannah Sparrows—a great looking bird that is relatively uncommon, at least around here. I had been to Swede Run earlier in the week and I had seen



Spotted Sandpiper, Common Snipe, and Prairie Warbler. These are all great birds, but unfortunately I couldn’t find any of them on the day that counted. Last year we had all three of these birds, but were totally shut out this year.

Welcome New STEM Members
**Kevin Callahan &
Patricia Hurley**

Our final Moorestown stop was at Boundary Creek Natural Resource Area, where we had a couple of new species including Great Crested Flycatcher, Field Sparrow, and Belted Kingfisher. And we finally got a Great Blue Heron, but we finally got one overflying Route 130 as we were heading over to Palmyra Cove. We also had Wild Turkey and Osprey at the Cove.

It was another great day participating in Bird Quest. For the 3rd year in a row our day was focused on Moorestown. We tallied 57 species, the same as last year. Of those 57 species, all but three were seen in Moorestown. It just goes to show you that you don’t need to travel far to see some great birds! The winning team had 71 species, and overall the cumulative species count was 101.

—Mark Pensiero

Save The Environment of Moorestown,
P.O. Box 704, Moorestown, NJ 08057
Visit us online at www.stemonline.org.
Our newsletter looks great in color!

Image credits:

Top right: Great Blue Heron;
Center row: male Baltimore Oriole, female Baltimore Oriole, and Orchard Oriole. All images courtesy of Stokes Field Guide to Birds, Eastern Region, Donald & Lillian Stokes, Little Brown.
Bottom row: Rose-breasted Grosbeak, image courtesy of www.howardsview.com.

NATURAL AREA CARE —Caring for the Environment



Looking forward to
seeing you at one of the
NAC Projects

Tackling Non-natives and Protecting Diversity

As more and more people become aware of the negative impact of non-native plant species on the environment, the hope is that we can have an ongoing positive effect on the health of our open spaces and in turn, the success of our resident and migrating wildlife. To accomplish this we need your help.

On the second Saturday of each month from March to November, plus a scattering of weekday project days, volunteers and STEM members tackle the management of Moorestown's preserved open spaces. Take the stewardship challenge and join one of these projects—see the calendar on the right. A variety of tasks are planned for each session. Although two hours are set aside on each of the mornings, volunteers are welcome to stay for as much or as little time as they can.

Dress appropriately. Light refreshments, maintenance supplies, and equipment are provided. Please contact NAC Chairperson Jean Fox 856-642-7864 or foxjean62@gmail.com for details or additional information.

Upcoming Dates—

June 18, Pompeston Park Upstream of New Albany Road
July 9, Little Woods on the Rancocas
August 20, Waterworks Woods



**Photos from the
Wigmore Acres Project,
Saturday, April 9, 2016**

Photos taken during the April NAC project capture committed and enthusiastic volunteers. They withstood the wet weather and soaked ground to assist with trail maintenance and a general clean-up of Swede Run. The Butterfly Garden area was evaluated and a plan for going forward was discussed. Volunteers pictured include, clockwise from top left, Gerry Huffman; Susan Buffalino, Kathy Huffman, Elizabeth Endres Hines, and Jean Fox; and Walt Fox, Gerry Huffman, and Walt Fox, Jr.



2016 NAC Calendar

Volunteers Always Welcome

Saturday, March 12

9:30-11:30 am

**Susan Stevens Halbe Preserve
Creek Road**

Saturday, April 9

9:30-11:30 am

**Wigmore Acres
Westfield Road**

Saturday, May 14

9:30-11:30 am

**Esther Yanai Preserve
Garwood Road@Swede Run**

Tuesday, May 17

9:30-11:30 am

**Little Woods on the Rancocas
Creek Road@Laurel Creek Blvd.**

Saturday, June 18

9:30-11:30 am

**Pompeston Park Upstream
of New Albany Road**

Saturday, July 9

8:30-10:30 am

**Little Woods on the Rancocas
Creek Road@Laurel Creek Blvd.**

Saturday, August 20

8:30-10:30 am

**Waterworks Woods
Kings Highway@Waterworks**

Saturday, September 10

9:30-11:30 am

**Pompeston Park Downstream
of New Albany Road**

Tuesday, September 20

9:30-11:30 am

**South Valley Woods
Behind South Valley School**

Saturday, October 8

8:30-10:30 am

**Pompeston Park Downstream
of Fernwood Drive**

Saturday, November 12

9:30-11:30 am

**Strawbridge Lake Buffer
Route 38, between
Pleasant Valley Ave. & Nixon Dr.**

The Kay Smith/STEM Scholarship for 2016: Will Go to Environmentally Active Graduating Senior

For the third year, STEM is sponsoring a scholarship for a Moorestown High School graduating senior who has shown through his/her actions a commitment to supporting an environmentally sustainable Moorestown. This year's scholarship of \$1,000 will be awarded through the Moorestown High School local scholarship program. Members of the STEM board will be reviewing applications from a slate of students who have submitted paperwork for 2016.

Be sure to let any qualifying family members or neighbors know of this wonderful opportunity.

—Mark Pensiero



March for a Clean Energy Revolution—Philadelphia on Sunday, July 24, 2016

On the eve of the Democratic National Convention, thousands will march for action to prevent climate catastrophe and present renewable energy directives to current and future policy makers who will be gathering in the city.

STEM is coordinating a group trip for this event. If interested in participating, contact Joe Ponessa at 856-235-6376 or jponessa@comcast.net.

For additional event info, visit www.cleanenergymarch.org.

Membership

Thanks to new and renewing members. Without your support, STEM could not make an environmental difference in Moorestown. Call Betsy Schnorr at 856-235-6348 if you would like to volunteer. We need help with publicity and natural area care.

**Volunteer projects are available for
scout groups & community service hours.
Contact Jean Fox at:
foxjean62@gmail.com or 856-642-7864**

Diane and the Detention Basin

Located in the middle of the Town Hall/Library/Recreation Center complex parking lot is a feature new to the center of Moorestown—a storm water detention basin (also referred to as a dry or holding pond). This approximately one-half-acre man-made depression in the soil is designed to collect rainwater runoff from the impervious surfaces of the parking areas, sidewalks, and roofs of the municipal complex. The basin allows the rain runoff to soak into the ground gradually, recharging the groundwater and becoming available for plants to use instead of flowing into nearby creeks or wastewater treatment plants. At the northeast corner of the basin, at street level near Third Street, is a drain to handle a true flooding situation. It is designed so that the high water would drain into the storm water sewer instead of flooding the parking area or Third Street.

The detention basin not only handles rainwater runoff, but also has become a natural garden. After the basin was constructed, it was planted with native, water-tolerant wetlands plants that included swamp milkweed, soft rush, sedges, and wild blue iris. However, it soon became overcrowded with native—but invasive—cattail plants. STEM member and knowledgeable

environmentalist Diane Miskowski came to the rescue! She noticed the situation and received permission to intervene. Diane got the cattails under control and will continue to monitor them to allow the other native wetlands plants to flourish.

In so doing, she will nurture the attractive, meadow-like area of native plants that will provide habitat for wildlife, pollinating insects, butterflies, dragonflies, and birds. A pair of crows and Mallard ducks have found the area to their liking, and scores of dragonflies and butterflies are already flitting about in warm weather.

There is no need to be concerned about water remaining in the storm water basin and attracting mosquitoes, for dragonflies are their natural predators in all stages of their growth. The dragonflies lay their eggs in the wet bottom of the detention basin. These eggs will hatch into aquatic larvae (dragonfly nymphs), which feed on mosquito eggs and larvae, also in the water. The adult dragonflies also eat adult mosquitoes. “When I was working there throughout last summer, I didn’t get one mosquito bite,” said Diane.

This plot of native plants has been designated a Monarch Waystation.



Photo above: Diane Miskowski in front of the detention basin at the Moorestown Town Complex.

Monarch Waystations are areas that are certified by Monarch Watch to provide milkweeds and flowering plants necessary for Monarchs to reproduce and feed. Monarchs lay their eggs only on milkweed—the only food the newly-hatched larvae (caterpillars) eat.

Similarly, nectar from the basin’s flowers provides nourishment for fall migrating Monarchs, enabling them to make their long journey to overwintering grounds in Mexico. The need for host plants for egg-laying and larval food, as well as nectar from flowering plants for the adults, is vital in providing energy sources to all Monarch and butterfly populations around the world.

—Margo Foster

STEM's 16th Annual "Nature in Moorestown" Photo Contest Judging to Take Place at the Annual Picnic, Sunday, June 26 at 4 pm

With the digital equipment available today, photography is easier than ever. More and more people are visually recording the world around them.

STEM's "Nature in Moorestown" Photo Contest offers amateur photographers of all ages an opportunity to showcase their work in a competitive setting. Winning entries will appear on the STEM website and in the Newsletter, as well as being displayed at STEM public events.

Moorestown is blessed with an abundance of natural beauty and encourages photographers of all ages to capture the local flora, fauna, and landscapes. It's a snap! Your nature photo could be a winner.

The rules:

All photos must have been taken in Moorestown after June 2015. Pick natural subjects such as plants, animals, and/or landscapes. Submit 5x7 inch prints (color or black and white), with a maximum of four entries per person. Digital editing and adjustments are accepted, but not photo montages.

Current Update on Strawbridge Lake Analysis

Princeton Hydro has completed the physical portion of the lake's watershed analysis and is presently noting which areas of concern have the most potential for corrective action. The analysis showed that much of the sediment entering the lake is from stream bank erosion both along the Hooten and Pennsauken tributaries.

While erosion is evident in Moorestown, most comes from the 82% of the watershed that falls outside Moorestown, primarily in Evesham and Mount Laurel, and much of that is on private property. While most of the lake bank erosion control that was put in place almost two decades ago has held up well, there are several areas where lake residents (in Moorestown) have removed trees and buffer plants and mowed to the water's edge, causing severe erosion to take place. This is particularly evident along the Haines Drive shore of the Lower Lake and will likely be taking place along the Upper Lake, where someone recently cut down trees and mowed to the edge, tearing the protective fabric in the process.

You do not need to be present to win.

To be eligible for judging:

Entries must have the following information written on the back of the photo:
1) title of picture; 2) name, address, and email of the photographer; 3) designated category as adult or student (18 years or younger); 4) location and date of photo; and 5) an arrow pointing to the top of the image.

Submission details:

The deadline for entries is June 24, 2016. Mail to STEM, P.O. Box 704, Moorestown, NJ 08057.

Judging:

All received photos that are eligible (see instructions above) will be included in the judging to take place at the STEM Annual Picnic held on June 26, 2016. See invitation on page 7 of this newsletter. You are welcome to attend the picnic—just please bring a pot luck dish to share.

Please note: All prints submitted will become the property of STEM for non-

commercial use in educational and promotional materials. For more information, please contact Bill Creekmore at 856-461-8717 or cwd@verizon.net.

Some tips:

- Take early morning shots when lighting is softer
- Keep your back to the sun but also consider flowers and shrubs illuminated from behind
- Look for special effects from fog or rain
- Get down to the level of your subject for better perspective

Photo below by Bill Creekmore, 2nd Place Adult 2015, "Masked Hunter."



Detention and sediment settling ponds were installed during the same period as bank erosion controls. The three sediment settling ponds on the Route 38 side of the Upper Lake were designed to take sheet flow from Route 38 and remove the sediment before the water entered the lake. One of the three is now full of sediment, and trees have grown up around all of them, making maintenance difficult. On the Haines Drive side, all ponds need maintenance and a lot of love and care.

In September 2000, the NJDEP designated Strawbridge Lake a TMDL (Total Maximum Daily Load) for phosphorous, and impaired for sediment, turbidity and chlordane that was found in fish. Since that time the chlordane issue has gone away, but we have not found evidence that the NJDEP ever officially removed the lake from this concern. The other issues remain unresolved.

We have been told that the NJDEP, starting in 2017 and for the next 2-3 years after, will allocate the majority of 319(h) grant money (non-point source pollution program) toward the Lower

Delaware Watershed. We will need to develop shovel-ready projects this year that we can use to apply for this funding. In May 2016, we had hoped to begin treating the Japanese knotweed that is spreading rapidly along the Upper Lake and could still possibly meet this timeline, but three quotes for the treatments are needed. The progress in acquiring quotes has been limited to date—one was received, one has been misplaced, and the Township has not been able to get a third. Moorestown Environmental Advisory Committee (MEAC) has reached out to Taylor Design for suggestions on other contractors.

Our NJDEP, TMDL strongly recommends weed harvesting. We began removing the spatterdock on the Upper Lake and hope to continue with that this year. The TMDL also requires that we continue water quality monitoring, which this year may also include chlordane testing. A negative chlordane testing result will allow us to remove it from the list of concerns.

— Chet Dawson



Annual STEM Membership Form

Return to:

P.O. Box 704, Moorestown, NJ 08057

Make checks payable to STEM

(A membership expiration date appears on the mailing label.)

(Please print)

Name _____ Check HERE for electronic Newsletter only

Address _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Memberships: New Renewal

Individual (\$15) \$ _____

Family (\$25) \$ _____

Student (\$10) \$ _____

Donations:

Open Space Fund \$ _____

Ongoing activities \$ _____

Amount enclosed: \$ _____

Dues and donations are tax-deductible

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES (please circle your areas of interest)

Communications

- Flyers, brochures, & postcards
- Newsletter
- Public relations

Advocacy

- Attend town meetings
- Letter writing
- Phone calls

Education

- Community education
- Educational materials
- School-based programs

Events

- Children's activities
- Donating plants for Plant Sale
- Plant Sale staffing
- Open Space Festival
- Refreshments

Outdoor Activities

- Conservation projects
- Lead nature walks
- Litter Patrol
- Natural Area Care
- Open space monitoring

Administrative

- Clerical
- Computer related
- Fundraising
- Legal issues

Visual and Creative Arts

- Arts and crafts
- Fine Arts
- Graphic design
- Photography

Other

STEM is a 501c3 non-profit organization. Contributions are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law. Information filed with the Attorney General concerning this charitable solicitation may be obtained from the Attorney General of New Jersey by calling (201) 504-6215. Registration with the Attorney General does not imply endorsement.

You Are Invited to
**STEM'S ANNUAL PICNIC
 & NATURE PHOTO CONTEST**

When: Sunday, June 26, 2016 at 4:00 p.m.

Where: The LoPresti Residence
12 Pepperbush Lane, Moorestown

Who: STEM Members and Non-members
You need not be a member of STEM to attend

Come join in the fun!
Enjoy great food, good company, and the
judging of the Nature Photo Contest.

It's Pot Luck, so bring food to share.
Contact Joe Ponessa
at 856-235-6376 or jponessa@comcast.net
for more details & to RSVP.



SAVE THE ENVIRONMENT
OF MOORESTOWN

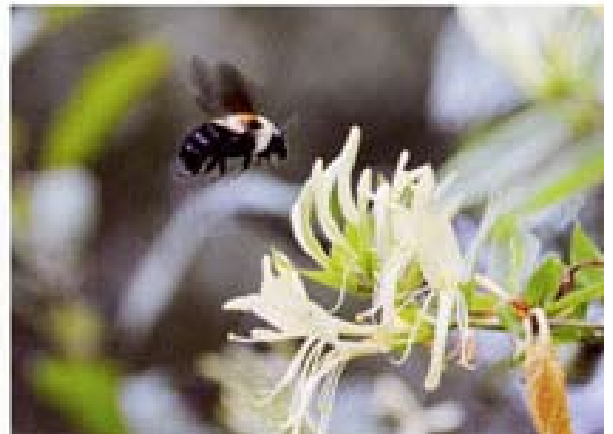


Photo above won Student Honorable Mention in the 2015 STEM Nature in Moorestown Photo Contest, "The Allure of Honeysuckle" by Olivia Hart.

SAVE THE DATE

**STEM STEPS OUT@STRAWBRIDGE LAKE
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2016**

Newsletter Correction

The Spring Newsletter incorrectly stated the destination of Judy and Bruce Shaw as Indiana. Their new home will be in Kent, Ohio.

Membership Renewal

If your mailing label says 3/31/2016 or earlier, it is time to renew your membership! Thanks for your support.



SUMMER 2016

Save the Environment of Moorestown
P.O. Box 704, Moorestown, NJ 08057
www.stemonline.org

**Membership Renewal
Benefits STEM Projects**

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**Saturday, June 4 from 9am to 3pm
STEM ANNUAL PLANT SALE
At Moorestown Day on Main Street
Details on Page 1**

AREA EVENTS OF INTEREST

Saturday, May 14 - October 22, 2016- Burlington County Community Agricultural Center, 8:30am-1pm, Centerton Rd., Moorestown

Saturday, June 4, 2016- National Trails Day, visit an open space or preserved area, hike the trails, and enjoy the beauty and serenity of the natural world.

Sunday, June 26, 2016- Earth Fair Festival, 10am-4pm, Historic Smithville Park, 803 Smithville Rd., Eastampton, 609-265-5858

Sunday, July 10, 2016- Mushroom Foray with NJMA, 10am-2pm, Rancocas Nature Center, 794 Rancocas Rd., Westampton, 609-261-2495, Preregister

Sunday, July 24, 2016- March for a Clean Energy Revolution, Philadelphia, PA, www.cleanenergymarch.org

Mosquitos! The best (and effective) way to eliminate mosquitos is to empty any containers with standing water and to encourage open, airy spaces with sunshine. Dragonfly adults feed voraciously on mosquito adults and larvae. And dragonfly larvae love mosquito larvae so if you have a pond, don't treat it with pesticides, as this will kill the dragonflies! If an area is ecologically balanced with a diversity of native plants, the birds (larvae are bird food) and dragonflies will do an excellent job of controlling the mosquitos. Stay away from using "BT" as it also kills butterfly and moth larvae.

People who are immunocompromised should wear long sleeves and pants and spray their shoes, clothing, and hat with DEET. **Don't apply DEET directly to the skin.**

STEM Steering Committee Members for 2016-2017

Joe Ponessa, President; 856-235-6376 & jponessa@comcast.net
Elizabeth Endres Hines, Vice-President; 856-222-1163 & eendres03@gmail.com
Mark Pensiero, Treasurer; 856-235-0171 & mark.w.pensiero@lmco.com
Paula Horton, Secretary; 856-296-0798 & phorton100@comcast.net
Claire Rollin Adair, Director; 856-727-3830 & cerollin@gmail.com
Susan Buffalino, Director & Newsletter Ed.; 856-866-9506 & sbuff4@aol.com
Jean Fox, Director; 856-642-7864 & foxjean62@gmail.com
Kathy Huffman, Director; 856-778-2201 & kajer3@comcast.net
Diane Miskowski, Director; 856-235-6523 & dmiskowski@emsl.com
Joan Ponessa, Director; 856-235-6376 & joanponessa@comcast.net
Betsy Schnorr, Director; 856-235-6348 & betsybjs@aol.com
MHSEC Representative

STEM's Steering Committee meets the third Wednesday of each month (with a break in December), and it's there that decisions are made about STEM's activities for the year, STEM involvement at public events, directions on environmental advocacy, financial commitments, legal obligations—in short, most aspects of the organization.

Steering Committee members are nominated in late winter and early spring, and their acceptance is voted on at our Annual Meeting in the spring. STEM members are welcome to attend a Steering meeting (though, per our by-laws, not permitted to vote on motions), and any STEM member who is interested in serving on the Steering Committee is encouraged to speak with someone on our Nominating Committee. New views keep the organization dynamic! For information about STEM and its programs, contact:

Joe Ponessa, President; 856-235-6376 & jponessa@comcast.net

Join us on the third Wednesday of the month—you'll be surprised how much you'll learn not just about STEM, but about Moorestown in general.

See the calendar on the front page or

contact one of our Nominating Committee members:

Claire Rollin Adair at 856-727-3830 & cerollin@gmail.com
Kathy Huffman, Director; 856-778-2201 & kajer3@comcast.net
Barb Rich at 856-234-2787 & barbrich37ec@gmail.com