



Sept. 2014, Volume 43, Issue 4

NEWSLETTER

FALL 2014

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

- STEM Steps Out at Strawbridge Lake
- A Note from the President's Desk
- SSO Highlights
- "Nature in Moorestown" Photo Contest Winners
- STEM Picnic Photos
- 2014 NAC Schedule & Conservation Projects & Reports
- Strawbridge Lake Study Update
- Single Stream Recycling
- Leaf Composting & Mulching
- Birds, Bees, & Butterflies
- Percheron Park Update
- MHS Tree Planting
- STEM Scholarship Award
- STEM Membership Form
- MHS Environmental Club
- STEM Steering Committee

Calendar of Upcoming STEM Events

- Sun., October 5**
STEM Open Space Festival
Strawbridge Lake & Haines Drive
Noon to 4:00 p.m.
- Sat., October 11**
NAC Conservation Project
Pompeston Park Downstream
of Fernwood Drive
9:30 to 11:30 a.m.
- Wed., October 15**
STEM Steering Committee Mtg.
7:00 p.m.
- Fri., November 7**
Candlelight Night
Main Street, Moorestown
7:00 to 9:00 p.m.
- Sat., November 8**
NAC Conservation Project
Pompeston Park Upstream
of New Albany Road
9:30 to 11:30 a.m.
- Wed., November 19**
STEM Steering Committee Mtg.
7:00 p.m.

"I ❤️ STRAWBRIDGE LAKE"

STEM STEPS OUT IN 2014 OPEN SPACE FESTIVAL SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5 FROM NOON TO 4 P.M. AT STRAWBRIDGE LAKE & KINGS HIGHWAY



It's not just Moorestonians that have a soft spot for Strawbridge Lake and the surrounding park—residents of the nearby communities of Maple Shade, Mt. Laurel, and Cherry Hill have also fished its waters, hiked/biked its trails, and skated its icy surface. Stories about about past events and how decades ago the park was the go-to spot on Kings Highway.

This year's festival will highlight Strawbridge Lake's colorful past and plans for a sustainable future. Join STEM's dedicated membership as they host their annual environmental education celebration on the grassy slopes by the Kings Highway dam and Haines Drive. The afternoon will be filled with engaging displays, activities for all ages, coloring and bake-off contest awards, refreshments, and sumptuous desserts. Don't worry, we've included your favorites as well—the fishing contest, canoe rental, animal exhibits, photo contest winners, and live music.

Share your love of desserts by entering the Favorite Dessert Contest—sweet treats are always winners. Additional details on STEM's Open Space Festival are on page two of this newsletter. The event is free and fun for all ages. Come early, stay late, and you won't miss a thing. Questions? Contact Jean Fox at (856) 642-7864 or foxjean62@gmail.com.

Photos on left capture highlights from SSO 2013. The day's activities are fun and engaging for all ages. Your participation supports Save the Environment of Moorestown's mission.

A Note From the President's Desk

This summer has ended, but I am sure you will agree that we had the best summer season in years—the perfect weather for enjoying the outdoors. STEM's Natural Area Care volunteers continued to chug along through the summer, and we had clean-ups at several of Moorestown's open space sites: Little Woods on the Rancocas, Pompeston Park, and Wigmore Acres. If you participated in any of those activities thank you from the bottom of my heart! We always need help at these stewardship events.

As we get back into our "regular" routine, don't forget about our fall festival, STEM Steps Out (or SSO, as we call it). Our theme this year is Strawbridge Lake, the heart of the community, one area with which we can all identify. We will have lots of activities, and various organizations will be participating. I look forward to seeing you there!
—Kathy Huffman

2014 OPEN SPACE FESTIVAL

“I ♥ STRAWBRIDGE LAKE”

Join us for an afternoon of attractions, exhibits, displays, and fun activities for all ages.
Sponsored by Save the Environment of Moorestown

Sunday, October 5 from **Noon to 4 p.m.**
at **Strawbridge Lake & Kings Hwy., Moorestown**



FREE Admission

“STEM Steps Out” Activities

Canoe Rentals
Fishing Contest (for ages 6-15)
Live Animal Exhibits
STEM's Photo Contest Winners
Crafts, Activities & Games for Kids
“Favorite Dessert” Contest
Environmental Organizations Exhibits
Moorestown K-3 Coloring Contest Display
Natural History Info & Activities
STEM Open Space Banner Display
Pumpkins, Cornstalks, Mums, And More!
Refreshments & Dessert Booth

Admission to the festival is free, but donations are always appreciated. Proceeds benefit STEM's mission to preserve, protect, and enhance the natural environment of Moorestown.

For further information contact foxjean62@gmail.com or (856) 642-7864 or www.stemonline.org.

DO PEOPLE SAY YOU MAKE THE BEST DESSERTS ON EARTH? THEN YOU'LL WANT TO ENTER!

STEM FAVORITE DESSERT CONTEST ENTRY DETAILS

- ◇ Open to all ages
- ◇ Sunday, October 5, 2014 (rain or shine)
- ◇ Bring your dessert to the festival site between 11:00-11:30 am
- ◇ Include a card with the name of your dessert, the recipe, your name, phone number, and email address
- ◇ Please do not bring a dessert that needs refrigeration
- ◇ Judging will be 25% appearance & 75% taste
- ◇ Prizes will be awarded at approximately 12:30 pm
- ◇ All desserts will be available for public tasting after the awards ceremony (suggested donation - \$2/serving)



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!

STEM's "Nature in Moorestown" Photo Contest Winners for 2014



STEM photo contest coordinator, Bill Creekmore received a wonderful assortment of nature-oriented photographs, making it tough to award just 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place awards. This year's winners are (clockwise from top left): Adult 1st Prize, "Going Green" by Anthony Malave; Student 1st Prize, "Paradise Lost" by Sabrina Khan; Adult 3rd Prize, "Bicycle for Two" by John Saludades; Student 3rd Prize, "Spring Awakening" by Sabrina Khan; Student 2nd Prize, "Reap" by Sabrina Khan; Adult 2nd Prize, "Peek-A-Boo" by Desiree Miller; Adult Honorable Mention, "King Clematis" by Bill Creekmore; Student Honorable Mention, "Africa in Moorestown" by Brian Kaye; Adult Honorable Mention, "Loosie Goosie" by Bill Creekmore.



STEM extends a warm thank you to Bob Laramie and Gretchen Rector for their expertise in judging the photo contest.

The Annual Picnic & Photo Judging

Each summer, STEM invites its membership to join a pot-luck dinner and photo judging event. This year's festivities was hosted by the Malloy-Lopresti family. Thank you for sharing your home. A lovely setting combined with a delicious menu and an exciting photo contest judging made for an enjoyable Sunday afternoon. Photos below attest to a fun time by STEM members and many from the Steering Committee, and the photo on the right shows Bob Laramie and Gretchen Rector judging the "Nature in Moorestown" photo contest.



NATURAL AREA CARE —Caring for the Environment



Looking forward to
seeing you at one of the
NAC Projects

NAC at Pompeston Park, Downstream of Fernwood Drive

Please join the NAC stewardship project on:

Saturday, October 11, 2014, 9:30 -11:30 AM at Pompeston Park (Georgian Drive entrance). We will be removing invasives around the south and west edges of the large field and maintaining the trail downstream of Fernwood along the west side of Pompeston Creek. The trail to the easement needs to be cleared of trash, dead trees, and invasive plants. Growth of invasive, non-native plants pulls down the trees and smothers the native ground cover, degrading habitat health.

Please wear a long sleeved shirt and long pants. Bring work gloves and hand clippers and/or loppers, if possible. Parking is available along Georgian Drive. It is the first left off of North Riding Road after its intersection with Riverton Road. Park along the street at the end of Georgian Drive and look for the NAC signage. If you have any questions email Tom Hottenstein at thottenstein@comcast.net. After the project, explore this gem of a park and its unusually long and beautiful trail along Pompeston Creek.

Report on Recent NAC Projects

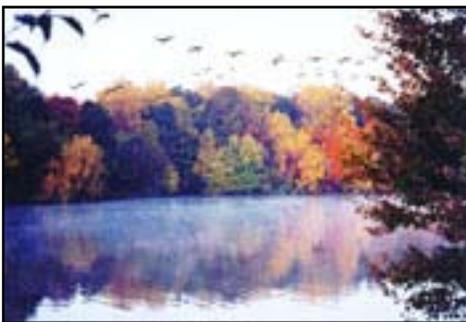


Above, Regina Osiecki and Matt Boullis remove Japanese knotweed at WWW.

Successful spring/summer stewardship projects were held at Moorestown open space sites including Wigmore Acres, Pompeston Park, Little Woods, and Waterworks Woods. Thank you to volunteers Kathy Huffman, Jean Fox, Matt Boullis, Joe Ponessa, Kay Smith, Regina Osiecki, Susan Buffalino, David Bicking, and others for their dedication to the environment and for their generous donation of time and expertise. Consider joining us for the next project, ensuring that our open spaces remain healthy for all wildlife.

Strawbridge Lake Study Update

Strawbridge Lake is a precious resource for Moorestown, and 2014 is the year dedicated to making sure it stays that way. This past spring the Township contracted with Princeton Hydro to conduct a comprehensive lake study that includes the physical, chemical and biological aspects of the lake. That study should be completed shortly and combined with a volunteer-conducted watershed analysis, headed by STEM's Elizabeth Endres, will lead to an overdue, long-range management plan for the lake.



Above, a fall photo of Strawbridge Lake.

The biggest concern prior to the current study was that the noticeable increase in plant growth might be caused by silt build-up. Early indications are that the shoreline stabilization that occurred following the last dredging was successful, and there has only been minimal silt build up since the dredging. We still need to find some missing reports to verify this finding. We do have ongoing problems with excessive vegetation, but while we did procure a permit to treat it, it was decided to hold off until next year. The delay in part was due to a hope that a disease that has hit the spatterdock, which covers large parts of the lake, would cut it back to acceptable levels. Recent inspection reports that some spatterdock did die, but not enough to stop it from continuing to spread. **Cont'd on page 7.**

2014 NAC Calendar

Volunteers are always
welcome and appreciated

Saturday, March 8
9:30-11:30 am
Strawbridge Lake Buffer
Route 38

Saturday, April 12
9:30-11:30 am
Pompeston Park Upstream
of New Albany Road

Wednesday, April 23
9:30-11:30 am
Waterworks Woods
Kings Highway@Waterworks

Saturday, May 3
9:30-11:30 am
Esther Yanai Preserve
Garwood Road@Swede Run

Tuesday, May 20
9:30-11:30 am
Little Woods on the Rancocas
Creek Road@Laurel Creek Blvd.

Saturday, June 14
9:30-11:30 am
Wigmore Acres
Westfield Road

Saturday, July 12
8:30-10:30 am
Pompeston Park Downstream
of New Albany Road

Saturday, August 9
8:30-10:30 am
Little Woods & Susan
Stevens Halbe Preserve
Creek Road@Laurel Creek Blvd.

Saturday, September 13
9:30-11:30 am
Waterworks Woods
Kings Highway@Waterworks

Tuesday, September 23
9:30-11:30 am
South Valley Woods
Behind South Valley School

Saturday, October 11
9:30-11:30 am
Pompeston Park Downstream
of Fernwood Drive

Saturday, November 8
9:30-11:30 am
Pompeston Park Upstream
of New Albany Road

It's Here! Single Stream Recycling

As most of you probably know, many Burlington County townships (including Moorestown) shifted to single stream recycling as of September 1. All recyclable household materials can now be placed together in the same square blue bin with the lid and front bar. Recyclable items include newspapers, cans and bottles, and #1, #2, and #5 plastic containers.

Sorting will be done primarily by machine with some manual assistance. For this to work smoothly, some important rules to follow include: NO plastic bags, no cups, caps or lids (even from acceptable plastics, unless the lid is attached to part of the container); DO NOT FLATTEN cans or plastic bottles.

The Hazards of Mulch Volcanoes

Take a walk around town, and look at our many and beautiful trees. On nearly all landscaped properties, what you will also see are piles of mulch heaped around the base of the tree—"mulch mountains" or "mulch volcanoes." Would you be surprised to learn that this almost universal practice by homeowners and professional landscapers is bad for trees? In fact, while mulch can be a good thing for trees as well as for plants, too much can cause damage, disease, and even death.

According to the Rutgers Cooperative Extension Fact Sheet, *Problems With Over-Mulching Trees and Shrubs* (FS099), among the many harmful effects of over-mulching include oxygen starvation of the near-surface roots, inner bark death of mulch-covered trunks and stems (from continuous

The reason for this is simple: cans, bottles, and plastics are separated from paper and cardboard by a computerized optical process. Flat objects are recognized as paper and cardboard. Three dimensional items are diverted to a separate stream to be further sorted. Plastic bags or flattened cans, for example, would wind up with paper and cardboard, requiring the conveyor belt to be shut down so those materials could be removed by hand. Small caps and lids can drop through the conveyor and should be disposed of as trash.

For further information, visit www.Burlicorecycles.com or call 609-499-1001. —Joseph Ponessa

moisture exposure) and disease, where mold and fungi invade the constantly wet tissue. Also, the invading organisms create excess heat that essentially composts the buried tree tissues. There are other drawbacks as well, not to mention the cost of the extra mulch.

Standard mulch practices involve layers not more than 3" deep, pulled away from the trunk, and not more than 2" in poorly drained soils. Coarser mulches can be a bit deeper, while fine-grained products (double-shredded mulch) should be shallower (allowing good oxygen diffusion), and wet soils may not need any mulch.

Additional information appears in the above-mentioned fact sheet. For a free copy, visit www.rce.rutgers.edu and enter FS099 in the search box.

—Joseph Ponessa

The Birds and the Bees (and Butterflies, too)

Birds, bees, and butterflies have discovered the small oasis of native plants created by Diane Miskowski on French Avenue in Moorestown. When she moved to the property eight years ago, her yard was a typical suburban landscape planted with grass and trees. With a lot of hard work and input from native garden outlets, she has transformed the spot into a lush smorgasbord of enticing bushes, trees, and flowers for the flying members of the natural community to enjoy. Like most gardens, it is a work in progress.

From American holly, bayberry, and chokeberry to milkweed, shadbush, and winterberry, Diane's yard now sports a garden alphabet of various

plants that invite year-round visits from wildlife. Recently some members of the STEM community also visited the garden to drink up knowledge (instead of nectar) to apply in their own gardens.

Diane plans to share some of her native plant know-how at STEM Steps Out at Strawbridge Lake on Sunday, October 5, from noon to 4:00 p.m. Be sure to stop by to soak up some ideas for planting in your own surroundings to attract Monarch butterflies, hummingbirds, and other hungry species!

—Margo Foster

Photo on right by Kathy Huffman. Diane Miskowski points out some of her native plants to STEM members including Margo Foster, during their recent visit.

All Those Leaves—Windfall or Woe?

Now is the time to collect as many autumn leaves as you can and put them to good use. They are a valuable asset to your landscape—no matter how you use them, nor how much or how little effort you put into them.

Ideally leaves can be converted into nutrient-rich compost by shredding them and layering them throughout the year with "greens"—kitchen and yard waste.

If you aren't already composting and would like to, now is the time to plan a system. You need to decide what arrangement is suited to you, the amount of effort you are willing to devote, and where on your property you would put it. You can do your composting in purchased or homemade bins, batch composters (purchased drums or spinners), or in a pile. A good system needs to be large enough (4' x 4' x 4') to generate heat for speedy composting.

Ideally you should shred the leaves to reduce their volume and to speed their rate of decomposition. You can get an unbelievable amount of shredded leaves into a few trash cans or black bags. The easiest way to shred leaves is to run a mower over them. Shredding is better but involves getting, operating, and storing another piece of equipment. Even if you don't shred the leaves they will still eventually break down into "black gold." A 2" layer of compost provides all the nutrients your plants, trees and shrubs need. Disease control is another benefit. It is the best mulch, according to recent Ohio State research.

Although you can get free compost from the Township by transporting it in your vehicle, it is much easier to gather leaves right on your own property. Margo Foster reminds me that leaves can be used directly as mulch, creating a "natural but neat" look.

Lots of composting info is available online. The Gardens Alive website is a good start.

—Kay Smith



Saving Energy is Cool!

One of the most neglected ways to save energy involves refrigerator maintenance, specifically the condensation coils, located on the back of the refrigerator or, more often, beneath it. These coils are responsible, of course, for dissipating the heat that is extracted from the refrigerator cabinet. However, because they are out of sight, they receive little attention.

Since there is a lot of airflow over them, the coils collect significant amounts of dust, which acts as an insulation blanket- exactly where you don't want it. As a result, this makes the motor run longer to do its job, costing extra energy and creating needless wear and tear on the refrigerator.

These coils should be cleaned once, or, preferably twice a year, more often if you own a pet that sheds hair. Cleaning is done with a vacuum, and for coils beneath the fridge, will require pulling off the 'kick panel' located beneath the door(s). Doing this regularly will help your refrigerator and your energy bills.

—Joseph Ponessa

Ten Lucky Trees—Green Buffer for Moorestown HS Athletic Fields

They're in the ground, ready to grow: ten young tupelo (black gum) and Princeton American elm trees planted along Westfield Road next to the Moorestown High School athletic fields (across from Wigmore Acres). The 10-12 foot high trees were planted on Friday, September 19 from nine 'til noon in a very well-orchestrated operation directed by Jessica Franzini of the New Jersey Tree Foundation. The Moorestown Tree Planting and Preservation Committee, under the direction of Chairman John Gibson, had submitted an application to the foundation; their application to receive the trees was selected over ten others.

Jessica outlined the planting procedure, from digging the holes to easing in the burlap-covered root balls of the trees—500 pounds in all. A backhoe helped dig the dry, compacted, and rocky soil; top soil and mulch provided by the Township were distributed by wheelbarrows and a small front loader. Jessica pointed out the importance of not covering the flare of the tree trunk, where it meets the soil, with dirt or mulch. Watering bags affixed to the base of the tree trunks were filled to complete the operation.

Volunteers assisting that day included members of the Moorestown High School Environmental Club and advisor Rich Wilczewski; a team of green-shirted volunteers from IKEA, which supports the NJTF; some members of the MTPPC; Greg Meyer, of American Forests, the oldest conservation organization in the country, founded in 1875; and a number dedicated local citizens, including Deputy Mayor Stacey Jordan.

It's very satisfying to see what vision, dedication, organization, and hard work can accomplish. To find out more about these organizations, see: www.newjersey-treefoundation.org and www.americanforests.org.

—Margo Foster

A Horse of One's Own...



Although no progress is visible yet at Percheron Park at Main and High Streets, behind-the-scenes planning and fund raising continue. The site is a former gas station, and actual construction of the park will begin once soil remediation is completed.

Sculptor Joshua Koffman of Philadelphia has created a 10" bronze model of Diligence as a step toward creation of the life-sized bronze statue that will be the prominent feature of Percheron Park. Diligence, the 15-hand (five feet at the shoulder) Percheron draft stallion introduced to the USA by Moorestown's Edward Harris II in 1839, was showcased to the farming community to exhibit the horse's outstanding qualities of strength, stamina, speed, spirit, and calm temperament. Other men and horses followed Harris' lead, and by 1930 the Percheron was the predominant draft horse in this country.

Pictured above is Koffman's 10" bronze model of Diligence. Limited edition copies of this iconic piece, mounted on a hardwood base, may be ordered now for delivery in 2015 for \$5,000. When you order your own heirloom-quality bronze horse, you will also be helping to support the park. Please make your check payable to Friends of Percheron Park and mail to P.O. Box 153, Moorestown, NJ 08057. To learn more about the sculptor and the park, visit www.joshuakoffman.com and www.percheronpark.org.

Our very best wishes to you as you recover!

One of the guiding lights of STEM, Barb Rich, was injured in a car accident in June and recently was released from extended care. We all miss her and hope she has a speedy recovery.

STEM Awards Environmental Scholarship to Kayla Rini

Moorestown HS Environmental Club President Kayla Rini was awarded a \$500 scholarship at the high school's award night in June. STEM Treasurer Mark Pensiero was in attendance. Kayla is a shining model of environmental ethics. She partnered with STEM during her tenure, and worked with the school's administration to accomplish a number of sustainably-oriented projects.



Photo above, Kayla Rini manned the MHS display table during Moorestown Day 2014.



Photo on left by Kathy Logue: a dedicated group of volunteers from several area organizations including the MHS Environmental Club participated in a tree planting at the Moorestown HS athletic fields (see article on left).



Annual STEM Membership Form

Return to:

P.O. Box 704, Moorestown, NJ 08057

Is your membership up-to-date? An expiration date appears on the mailing label. Make checks payable to S.T.E.M.

(Please print)

Name _____ Check 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.

Strawbridge Lake Study Update-Continued from page 4

Strawbridge Lake suffers from many of the same issues as other shallow, man-made and mud bottom lakes in New Jersey, and the current study has again pointed this out. Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness or clarity and is important as it indicates the limit light penetrates into the water. It is measured by placing a Secchi disk into the lake and noting the depth at which it can no longer be seen. Secchi depths for Strawbridge Lake ranged from 1 ½ ft. to 3 ft., about the same as before the dredging. For a healthy lake you want to see depth readings close to at least 6 ft. High turbidity also leads to low oxygen levels below where the light penetrates, and oxygen levels in our lake drop rapidly below about 5 ft.

Despite the low oxygen levels in the bottom few feet of the lake the fish population seems to be fine. We are still trying to determine the cause of the high turbidity and the local watershed study noted that the turbidity in Pennsauken Creek is also high. One possible cause is that bottom feeders, such as carp, are stirring up the bottom. Carp were stocked in the lake in 1977 and 1978 and have proliferated since that time.

Total phosphorous is considered the most important chemical element in good lake control, and for Strawbridge Lake it is too high. High phosphorous levels lead to excess growth of vegetation including algae and can also impact turbidity. The elimination of home use phosphorous-bearing fertilizers should help, but they are just one of many possible sources. Moorestown soils are known to be naturally high in phosphorous. Geese excrement is an obvious source as are road chemicals and historic phosphorous remains bound in the mud at the lake bottom. The bound phosphorous is released as the water temperature and oxygen content change. While we will examine controlling the sources, a chemical treatment may be needed to bind the phosphorous to make it unavailable for plant use. We will continue to update you as the study progresses.

—Chet Dawson

MHS ENVIRONMENTAL CLUB

The Moorestown HS athletic field tree planting project was a great way for the MHS Environmental Club to start the school year. Under the advisership of Moorestown teacher Rich Wilczewski, students volunteered to help plant trees along the Westfield Road perimeter of the property. An article on page 5 provides details of the day and the image below shows the group effort. The MHS Environmental Club can be contacted at: environmentalclub.mhs.08057@gmail.com.



Photoabove, MHSEC participated in the tree planting on Sept. 19, 2014. Back Row from left to right: Scott Budzak, Hernan Manuia, Cameron Jones, Melvin Sheppard, Magan Steinagle, Mr. Rich Wilczewski (Environmental Club Advisor), Catherine Wilson, Allison Eichhorn (Environmental Club President), & Frank Keenan. Kneeling in front: Hunter Smith, Matt Schweiker, Brandon Alpert.



**FALL
2014**

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

**Membership Renewal
Benefits STEM Projects**

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

SAVE THE DATE
Sunday, October 5 from noon to 4pm
STEM STEPS OUT FESTIVAL
At Strawbridge Lake, Kings Hwy. & Haines Dr.
Details on Pages 1 & 2

Remembering Carol Mastran & Ruth Cartwright

STEM membership would like to extend condolences to the families of Carol and Ruth, both longtime STEM members who passed away this past season.

Carol was active with STEM for several decades and lent her artistic talents to its cause. One of Carol's most lasting contributions was her role in spearheading the "Save Stokes Hill" campaign. Using her artistic talents, she created artwork to aid fundraising and rallied the children of Moorestown to help save Stokes Hill, a sledding hill and natural history area in danger of development. One of her illustrations appears below.

Ruth was the wife of Bill Cartwright, who passed about 7 years ago. He was a long time volunteer at our Plant Sale and SSO.

She also was a supporter of STEM and very active in her activities and dancing in Moorestown productions.



STEM Steering Committee Members for 2014-2015

- Kathy Huffman, President; 856-778-2201 & kajer3@comcast.net
 - Joe Ponessa, Vice-president; 856-235-6376 & jponessa@comcast.net
 - Mark Pensiero, Treasurer; 856-235-0171 & mark.w.pensiero@lmco.com
 - Susan Buffalino, Sec. & Newsletter Ed.; 856-866-9506 & sbuff4@aol.com
 - Claire Rollin Adair, Director; 856-727-3830 & cerollin@gmail.com
 - Chet Dawson, Director; 856-273-0126 & [cwg9@cornell.edu](mailto:cwd9@cornell.edu)
 - Elizabeth Endres Hines, Director; 856-222-1163 & eendres03@gmail.com
 - Margo Foster, Director; 856-235-5862 & mcmfoster@yahoo.com
 - Jean Fox, Director; 856-642-7864 & foxjean62@gmail.com
 - Paula Horton, Director; phorton100@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 Kathy Huffman at 856-778-2201 & kajer3@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:
Elizabeth Endres Hines at 856-222-1163 & eendres03@gmail.com
Claire Rollin Adair at 856-727-3830 & cerollin@gmail.com
Barb Rich at 856-234-2787 & barbrich37ec@gmail.com