



NEWSLETTER

SPRING 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

March 2016, Volume 45, Issue 2

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STEM'S ANNUAL MEETING & ELECTION

followed by a presentation by *Diane Miskowski*
"Love in the Garden—the Story of Pollination"

Thursday, April 7, 2016 from 7 to 9 pm

Burlington County Community Agricultural Center
500 Centerton Road, Moorestown

**FREE
ADMISSION**



Photo above: Presenter Diane Miskowski shows signage for a certified pollinator garden.

Add a little spice to your Thursday evening and join STEM members and the general public at the Burlington County Community Agricultural Center, informally known as the "Ag" Center. STEM will hold its Annual Meeting to review the past fiscal year 2015-16 and elect officers and directors for the coming year which begins on April 1, 2016. In addition, Diane Miskowski, a STEM Steering Committee Director, will be speaking about the unbreakable link among native plants, pollinators, wildlife, and humans, and how you can transform your property into a wildlife oasis. Her presentation will include how to use native plants (as well as some non-invasive non-natives), to transform your backyard into a sanctuary for your family as well as the birds, insects, other wildlife that it will attract.

If you have not had a chance to visit the County's Ag Center, the evening affords an occasion to do so. The Center, formerly known as the Winner Farm, is the location of the Burlington County Farmers' Market—a yearly, seasonal event. More information on the Center is included in an article on page 6.

Join STEM for this timely presentation and take a few minutes to enjoy some light refreshments. For more details contact [Elizabeth Endres Hines](mailto:Elizabeth.Endres.Hines@agcenter.com) at 856-222-1163 or eendres03@gmail.com.

Calendar of Upcoming STEM Events

Thursday, April 7
STEM Annual Meeting
Burlington County Agricultural Center
7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 9
NAC Conservation Project
Wigmore Acres, Westfield Road
9:30-11:30 a.m.

Wednesday, April 20
STEM Steering Committee Meeting
7:00 p.m.

Saturday, May 14
NAC Conservation Project
Esther Yanai Preserve
Garwood Road@Swede Run
9:30-11:30 a.m.

Tuesday, May 17
NAC Conservation Project
Little Woods on the Rancocas
Creek Road@Laurel Creek Blvd.
9:30-11:30 a.m.

Wednesday, May 18
STEM Steering Committee Meeting
7:00 p.m.

A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

When we think of the arrival of spring, we often think of renewal and regeneration. In the spring we like to clean out the old and make way for the new. The STEM Steering Committee gathered for a special meeting on a sunny Sunday morning in February with the goal of fine-tuning our strategy. For the fiscal year 2016, we aim to focus on: 1) Natural Area Care, Strawbridge Lake, and Open Space management; 2) expanding membership, engagement, and participation; and 3) building strong coalitions. We welcome your participation in any or all of these endeavors.

We are also excited to have set the date for this year's STEM Steps Out Festival at Strawbridge Lake. Please mark your calendars for Sunday, October 2, 2016. As we begin the next STEM year, may I invite you to join the fun and satisfaction of working with a fantastic group of environmentally conscious people. Please peruse this newsletter and let us know of your interests. We'd love to have you more involved this year!
—Elizabeth Endres Hines

Vote at the Annual Meeting—April 7; Renew Your Membership

This year marks the 44th anniversary for Save the Environment of Moorestown (STEM). The member-driven, non-profit organization has been addressing environmental issues in Moorestown since its inception. As an all-volunteer group, it has a history of providing support and expertise to the Township. A goal, highlighted during their Strategic Meeting in February, is building strong coalitions with other Moorestown groups and entities, including the Open Space Committee, the Economic Advisory Committee, Sustainable Moorestown, and the high school Environmental Club.

Don't miss the Annual Meeting! It will give you a chance to meet the officers and directors, hear a pertinent and timely presentation, and visit the County's Ag Center. Over the years, STEM has been an important, informed, and independent voice in Moorestown—one deserving of your support going forward.

As we start a new fiscal year, sincere thanks goes to Elizabeth Endres Hines for serving as STEM's President this past year, and to Barb Rich, Chet Dawson, Kay Smith, and Margo Foster for serving as very knowledgeable Honorary Directors and dedicated volunteers.

Kay Smith/STEM Scholarship Award



Above, Joe Ponessa shows the KAY SMITH/STEM Scholarship plaque to some members of the Moorestown High School Environmental Club. STEM members Kathy Huffman and scholarship honoree Kay Smith (a founder of STEM in 1972) stand to Joe's right. On his left are some of the members of the high school club: President Allison Eichhorn, Katelyn Hock, Annie Wixted, Devyn Monahan, Paige Hillman, and Events Coordinator Will Rafferty.

STEM members met with the Moorestown High School Environmental Club on February 22, 2016 in the MHS Media Center to familiarize students with the \$1,000 Kay Smith/STEM Scholarship Award. The scholarship, established in 2014, is awarded yearly to a Moorestown High School graduating senior who has exhibited outstanding concern and commitment to

STEM STEERING COMMITTEE 2016-2017 PROPOSED SLATE

President (2-year term): Joe Ponessa
(completing 2nd year of term)

Vice-president (2-year term): Elizabeth Endres-Hines
(completing 2nd year of term)

Treasurer (2-year term): Mark Pensiero
Secretary (2-year term): Paula Horton

Directors: 1-year terms

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)

*Submitted by 2015-16 Nominating Committee:
Claire Rollin Adair, Elizabeth Endres Hines, and Barb Rich*

Moorestown's natural environment and STEM's mission. Students were encouraged to keep a list of their environmental activities throughout their high school tenure to submit with their scholarship application during senior year.

Former Moorestown High School recipients of the award were Kayla Rini in 2014 and Evelyne Richardson-Thomas in 2015. Both were MHS Environmental Club members during their high school years.

In addition to the scholarship opportunities, STEM also extends an invitation to the MHS Environmental Club president and members to join STEM's Steering Committee monthly meetings and to submit articles for the STEM quarterly newsletter. Students are also encouraged to help with Natural Area Care (NAC) projects and at the fall STEM Steps Out event, and to submit images to the "Nature in Moorestown" photo contest in June. Further information is available on the STEM website at STEMonline.org.

—Margo Foster

Meet Our Presenter

While Diane Miskowski has over 35 years' experience in the fields of microbiology and environmental health, she has always been interested in nature, ecology, and gardening. She took up birding and gardening in earnest as a way to relax when she began working.

As a natural transition from birding and gardening, Diane became interested in butterflies and pollinators over the years. All her interests have now coalesced, and she enjoys focusing on the relationships among people, birds, pollinators, and native plants. Diane's presentation at the Annual Meeting on Thursday, April 7 at the Burlington County Ag Center will share her perspective on the natural world. This is an interest she plans to pursue full-time after she retires. Join STEM for an engaging educational evening.

*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!*

Bruce and Judy Shaw Uproot to Indiana

Active environmentalists and STEM members Bruce and Judy Shaw soon will be moving from Moorestown back to his roots in Indiana—our loss, the Hoosiers' gain. Over the years, through commitment, diligence, and adversity, the Shaws have moved forward to benefit our township, county, and state—both professionally and as volunteers. All of the Shaws' interests and accomplishments are too numerous to relate fully here—what follows are some of the highlights.

Both Judy and Bruce are advocates for land preservation. Locally, Bruce has served as the chair of the Open Space Advisory Committee (OSAC), while Judy served on the Planning Board. She was instrumental in the preservation of the orchard near their home on Creek Road, helping to save that land from development. The parcel has now become Boundary Creek Natural Resource Area, a well-used preserved open space that is part of the Burling-

ton County Parks system. With STEM members Linda and Bruce Carskadon, they challenged Moorestown's appropriation of Open Space Funding for other uses.

Bruce has more than 20 years of experience guiding families through health and aging transitions and is the founder of Eldercare Facilities Group, an online long-term care facilities registry. He also has served as a consultant to many organizations in his field.

Judy, a researcher at the Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy, Rutgers University, led the Sustainable Raritan River Initiative. As such, she authored *The Raritan River: Our Landscape, Our Legacy*. The book gives readers “a tour of the remarkable river, a major waterway 90 miles long...the longest river that is completely within New Jersey, [and] includes the state's largest contiguous stretch of wildlife habitat....”

Among other positions, Judy served in the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) in the Science and Research Department and on the Burlington County Board of Agriculture. She is a Master Gardener and regularly donated extra plants from her yard to STEM's Plant Sale each June.

And then there is the old game of croquet: a new sport for many. Ardent aficionados, Bruce and Judy introduced many to the fun inherent in that little wooden ball—inviting players to their home to play in the light of the full moon. Best wishes, Judy and Bruce!

—B. Rich, B. Schnorr, K. Huffman, K. Smith, and L. Carskadon contributed to this article.

Below: the cover of Judy Shaw's recently published book on the Raritan River.



Strawbridge Lake Management Plan Update



Photo above shows an area along the shore of Strawbridge Lake where Japanese knotweed was incorrectly managed.

The team working on the Strawbridge Lake long-range management plan is still gathering information and gaining knowledge, but they face challenges. The Upper Lake in particular has begun to fill again. This has also resulted in that area's being almost completely covered with spatterdock (an aquatic invasive plant) growth. Removal of the spatterdock last year required that they be dug up from the lake bed—the spreading and entangled 4” to 5” diameter roots makes this a slow and difficult process and may take several years to complete.

Hooten Creek runs clean much of the

time, but the mounds of silt that have built up in the pond on the other side of the Church Street Bridge are evidence that erosion is occurring upstream.

Most of the Pennsauken Creek Watershed that feeds Strawbridge Lake and beyond is outside of Moorestown, primarily in Mt. Laurel. Three years ago, Moorestown Environmental Advisory Committee (MEAC) performed a watershed study, and their findings have been given to Princeton Hydro, currently conducting the lake study. The study will be used to formulate recommendations for minimizing the amount of silt and other pollutants that enter the water. One puzzling unknown is the exact nature of the discoloration that is causing the high turbidity in the lake. We do know that the turbidity is highest in the Lower Lake and that the same discoloration can be found in the Pennsauken Creek. MEAC is proposing that water samples be given to EMSL Labs in Cinnaminson for analysis, and discussions are underway with Diane Miskowski at EMSL (and a STEM Board member) to get this done.

Currently there is no management plan for controlling invasive plants or for a controlled access and viewing of the lake. In the past, there has been some planting of native plants and shrubs along the lake shore, and this strategy significantly decreases erosion and the amount of pollutants that enter the lake. Unfortunately, vegetation has been removed and inappropriate mowing has occurred. Despite recent Township ordinances to stop these practices on Township open spaces, they continue. Examples are the recent mowing/removal of vegetation along the Upper and Lower Lake shores—erosion has already increased.

In addition, Japanese knotweed is rapidly spreading along the shoreline of the Upper Lake and can be found in several hundred foot long sections 10' to 20' wide. MEAC is working with Moorestown Public Works Acting Director Ken Ewers on removal of the knotweed. Recently, a knotweed stand was cut along the shoreline, presumably by neighbors. Note: if knotweed is cut and the roots not removed, faster growth and spreading will result. Appropriate replanting of the disturbed soil needs to occur to prevent erosion.

—Chet Dawson

NATURAL AREA CARE —Caring for the Environment



*Looking forward to
seeing you at one of the
NAC Projects*

NAC Season Started on Saturday, March 12!

The first NAC project of 2016 focused on the Susan Stevens Halbe Preserve on Creek Road. The main trail around the interior pond had not been mowed for several years and was in need of re-blazing. A pre-session evaluation occurred on Monday, March 7 by Kathy and Jerry Huffman and Susan Buffalino. They cleared and marked the location of the “new” trail, diverting it from the edge of the pond and around several wet areas. A “to-do” list was created for the team that volunteered for the scheduled NAC session on Saturday, March 12. The final task is coordinating with the Township to set up dates for regular mowing. When you are on the east end of town, visit the site and hike on the newly-opened trail.

The calendar for Second Saturday and weekday NAC projects appears on the right. These sessions provide the opportunity for volunteers who enjoy working outdoors to contribute to the community. No experience is necessary. Site leaders and co-leaders are knowledgeable and direct all activities.

Typical morning tasks include trail blazing and maintenance, invasive plant control, stream clean-ups, and litter collection. Occasionally, new trees and shrubs are planted. Although the work sessions are scheduled for two-hour time blocks, volunteers are welcome to contribute as much or as little time as they can.

Light refreshments, maintenance supplies, and equipment are provided, or you can bring your own tools. Please contact NAC Chairperson Jean Fox 856-642-7864 or foxjean62@gmail.com for details or additional information.

Upcoming Opportunities to Volunteer

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

This site has a very visible location on the corner of Westfield Road and Bridgeboro Road. Its 12.5 acres were a nursery prior to its preservation. Wigmore now features a fenced Butterfly Garden and includes a tributary of Swede Run. Parking is available on-site. Look for the NAC signage.

Saturday, May 14, 9:30-11:30 am, Esther Yanai Preserve, Garwood Road

Bordered by Swede Run, the Yanai preserve is primarily a floodplain/wetlands area that can be walked most of the year. The loop trail leading to a predominately beech woods is a work in progress. Park on the nearest cross street.

Tuesday, May 17, 9:30-11:30 am, Little Woods, Creek Road@Laurel Creek Blvd.

Just down the road from Boundary Creek Natural Resource Area, this open space has an entrance across from Susan Stevens Halbe Preserve. Its upland loop trail meanders through a variety of forested habitats and offers great views of Rancocas Creek. Park along Creek Road near the NAC signage.



Photo on the left, taken in 2012, is of the Wigmore Acres Butterfly Garden when it was first installed.

Join volunteers on Saturday, April 9 at the scheduled NAC project and get to see the changes that have occurred in the past four years. Your help with the spring clean-up will ensure a successful season for the native plants and beautiful butterflies that nectar and breed there.

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. 4**

Celebrate the 46th Earth Day in 2016 by Making a Commitment to a Sustainable Earth

- **Learn about your watershed**

Water is an important resource. There are five watersheds in Moorestown. Find out which is yours and commit to protecting it by reducing (or eliminating) the amount of chemicals you apply to the vegetation in your yard. Rainfall carries these surface chemicals (and pet waste, too) directly into the nearest stream.

- **Dig up some of your lawn and plant a few native shrubs**

One of the quickest ways to decrease the cost of lawn care is to decrease the size of your lawn. In its place, create colorful planting beds and fill them with native plants and shrubs. Native vegetation requires less water and care and creates a food source for local and migrating wildlife.

- **Learn about sustainability and get on the path to achieving it**

Sustainability is a broad concept that includes ecology (biological systems), economics, politics, and social/cultural components. It's a popular term that challenges us to tackle environmental degradation, climate change, overconsumption, population growth, and the pursuit of indefinite economic expansion. WOW, that's a big job—we better get started!

- **Become an active citizen**

Whether it's a state, local, or municipal-sponsored event, or a project coordinated by a non-profit organization like STEM—get involved. You can make a difference by volunteering your time, participating in environmentally-friendly projects, and by becoming an informed **VOTER**.

Membership Renewal

Thanks to all of you who support STEM with your yearly dues and donations. STEM's mission to preserve, protect, and enhance the natural environment of Moorestown for today's and future generations is made possible with your support.

A number of our members work periodically on maintaining Moorestown's Open Spaces, participating and planning our Joint and Annual Meetings in the winter and spring, organizing our Plant Sale at Moorestown Day in June, presenting STEM Steps Out/Open Space Festival in October, and other activities.

Your mailing label indicates your dues status. If it's dated 2015 or earlier, it's time to renew. **If you send your dues now, we can save the cost of a mailing to remind you.** See page 7 for further information.

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

Pompeston Woods Easement Monitoring Report

The annual monitoring of the Pompeston Woods Easement was undertaken on November 16, 2015 by Sue Paoletti, Tom Finley, Claire Rollin Adair (team leader), and Amy Filippone. The Easement Committee is a subgroup of the town's environmental organization, STEM. A fall project, the monitoring is conducted to encourage Industrial and residential neighbors of the Easement to maintain the inherent natural beauty of the preserved area.

It was an exceptionally beautiful, warm, sunny day—little did we know that would be the norm for the next six weeks! We split into two groups and met at the section of the Easement by the industrial park.

We easily found all boundary markers with the exception of the two markers closest to the industrial park, which were obscured by overgrown vegetation. We cut back the vines to make the markers readily accessible and visible in the future.

In a letter to residential neighbors, we reminded them that lawn clip-



Above: Pompeston Woods Easement monitoring volunteers Sue Paoletti, Claire Rollin Adair, Amy Filippone, and Tom Finley.

pings should not be disposed of in the Easement because they could contain invasive plant species and/or harmful chemical fertilizers. Any yard waste generated by residents must be kept on the residential side of the Easement boundary. This is good advice for anyone whose property borders a preserved open space.

Welcome New STEM Member Briana Mateo

There continues to be an abundance of multiflora rose—an invasive species—along the perimeter of the area. However, the interior of the Easement remains in good condition with few if any invasives. Evidence of free-blown trash was greatly reduced from last year and was at a minimum. The Easement Committee has asked the buildings' owners to notify their tenants of the need to keep the industrial property free of litter to prevent its blowing into Pompeston Woods.

Overall, the Easement appeared intact and in good condition. We are fortunate to have such a pristine, old-growth forest in our Township. Please contact team leader Claire Rollin Adair at cerollin@gmail.com if you would like to join us in the fall of 2016. The Easement Committee would love to share this adventure with many more people!
—Sue Paoletti & Amy Filippone

Twenty-five Years Later— The Moorestown Historic District

On January 28, 2016, STEM participated in the annual Joint Meeting with the Moorestown Improvement Association, the Pompeston Creek Watershed Association, and the Moorestown Garden Club. A spokesperson for each organization gave a brief update on their current involvements. STEM President Elizabeth Endres Hines provided information regarding the ongoing Strawbridge Lake assessment with its challenges of erosion and invasive plants, along with the various properties around town that could be added to our Open Space Inventory.

The main program for the evening was a PowerPoint presentation at the Community House by Kim Bunn and Lynn Schill. Entitled *Twenty-five Years Later—The Moorestown Historic District*, the program was based in part on the huge archive of historical photos and information researched for their book, *Images of America—Moorestown*. It was engaging to see the old photos of Moorestown homes—some still standing, others long gone—and to hear interesting historical anecdotes about early residents and businesses. There was a brief discussion of the pre-Revolutionary Cowperthwaite house at the corner of Kings Highway and Lenola Road and its possible future in light of a pending sale.

Bringing a Family Farm into the 21st Century

In 2005, using dedicated revenue from its Farmland, Open Space and Park Trust Fund, the Burlington County Board of Chosen Freeholders purchased the Winner Farm. This former dairy farm was renamed the Burlington County Community Agricultural Center (the Ag Center for short).

Located at the intersection of Center-ton and Hartford Roads in Moorestown, the Ag Center features a 62-acre preserved working farm dedicated to connecting the general public to agriculture, nature, and gardening. The primary goals of the site are to foster a public awareness and appreciation for local agriculture and to support the local agricultural economy.

The Ag Center is home to a seasonal community farmers' market held on Saturdays from May to October. This year marks its ninth season, and the

Enter STEM's 18th Annual Nature in Moorestown Photo Contest

- The rules:**
- a. Photos must be taken in Moorestown (after June 2015)
 - b. Subjects should be predominantly natural as opposed to man-made
 - c. Submit small color panoramas or prints up to 5" X 7"
 - d. Digital editing and adjustment are acceptable, but no photo montages
 - e. Mail entries to STEM, P.O. Box 704, Moorestown, NJ 08057 by June 1, 2016 or bring them to the STEM Annual Picnic on Sunday, June 26, 2016
 - f. A maximum of 4 entries per person will be accepted
 - g. Awards will be given in adult (over 16 years) and children's categories

Entries must have the following information written on the back of each photo for it to be judged:

1. Title of picture;
2. Name and address of photographer;
3. Location of photo;
4. Month and year of photo;
5. Arrow pointing to the top of the picture;
- and 6. Adult or child category. Direct all questions to Bill Creekmore at w2dp@comcast.net or 856-461-8717.

Photos below: top, the former Winner farmhouse, now the focal point of the Burlington County Community Agricultural Center; below, the Ag Center Community Gardens.



market will feature over 30 vendors. The operation of this market is an extension of the County's farmland preservation goals in that it provides opportunities for local farmers to direct-market their products at retail prices. With greater control over production and marketing decisions, farmers are afforded the opportunity to sell specialty or niche products, test new enterprises, or give direct-marketing a try without making a huge financial investment.

The newly renovated farmhouse includes a meeting space (the site for the STEM Annual Meeting) and the farmhouse kitchen—a commercial kitchen providing space for local farmers and food entrepreneurs to explore.

On-going programs at the Ag Center also include community gardens, spe-

cial events, programs, and education highlighting local agriculture. The large community garden area has over 60 plots available to local residents.

The Ag Center is under the general administrative supervision of the Burlington County Department of Resource Conservation. This site is maintained and managed through unique public/private partnerships among farmers, gardeners and the Burlington County Park System.

—Article information courtesy of the Burlington County website



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.

Coming Soon – Saturday, June 6, 2016 STEM Plant Sale

For its Annual Plant Sale, STEM volunteers will participate in Moorestown Day on Main Street. Canopies and tables will be set up in front of the First Baptist Church. The Plant Sale is a great venue for sharing information on ecological landscaping and wildlife gardening.

As we look to live sustainably, re-member native species, which flourish in our area with little watering (once established) and fertilizing, and provide food for beneficial insects and other wildlife, including the struggling Monarchs, bats, and bees.

Native plants remain the focus, though a variety of herbs will also be for sale along with a great assortment of locally donated species. Again this year, STEM will be accepting plants from your garden/yard. Bring them on the day of the event or contact Nanci Clem at 856-866-0065 or nanci2424@yahoo.com to arrange pick-up. The Plant Sale is the organization's only fundraising event of the year, so your support is welcomed!



Photo above is from SSO 2015 showing staff from the Center for Aquatic Sciences sharing a horseshoe crab experience.

Save the Date: Fall 2016 Fall Festival STEM Steps Out at Strawbridge Lake Sunday, October 2, 2016

Before we know it, the fall season will be here and we'll celebrate another year of environmental stewardship in Moorestown. When STEM Steps Out at Strawbridge Lake in October, it will be the culmination of months of work coordinating the vendors, environmental organizations, and the day's activities. The STEM sub-committee planning the SSO 2016 event needs help. Contact Elizabeth Endres at eendres03@gmail.com to participate.

John Mastran...

John Mastran and his wife, Carol, were staunch supporters of STEM and its projects over many years. John's passing in March brings to mind his behind-the-scenes support of Carol's unwavering 1990's campaign to preserve Stokes Hill as an open space and premier winter sledding location for Moorestown's youth.

As a conservationist, John was instrumental in getting restrictions in place to prevent the Moorestown Field Club from development of its golf course. That deed restriction remains in force and is held and overseen by the New Jersey Conservation Foundation.

His memorial service will be held on Saturday, April 23, 2016 at 11 a.m. at the First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown.

STEM extends its sincerest condolences to the Mastran family.



**SPRING
2016**

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

**Membership Renewal
Benefits STEM Projects**

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Thursday, April 7 at 7 to 9 pm
2016 STEM ANNUAL MEETING
Election of the Steering Committee for 2016-17
Presentation by Diane Miskowski,
"Love in the Garden—the Story of Pollination"
Details on Page 1—Admission: FREE

AREA EVENTS OF INTEREST

Thursday, April 7, 2016- Rancocas Outdoor Photo Club, 10am, Rancocas Nature Center, 794 Rancocas Rd., Westampton, 609-261-2495 or details at www.rancocasnaturecenter.org

Saturday, April 9, 2016- America the Beautiful: Celebrate Our National Parks, 2:00pm, Jen Bulava, Burlington County Library, Woodlane Rd., Westampton

Wednesday, April 13, 2016- Birding Belize, 7:30pm, Don Jones, BCNSC, Lumberton Community Bldg., 180 Woodside Dr., Lumberton.

Sunday, April 17, 2016- Walking Tour of Rancocas State Park, 1:30-3pm, Rancocas Nature Center, 794 Rancocas Rd., Westampton, 609-261-2495 & rancocasnaturecenter.org

Saturday, April 23, 2016- PPA Native Plant Sale, 11am-2pm, 17 Pemberton Rd., Southampton, pinelandsalliance.org.

Sunday, April 24, 2016- Arbor Day Festival, Noon-4pm, Rancocas Nature Center, 794 Rancocas Rd., Westampton, 609-261-2495 or www.rancocasnaturecenter.org for details.

Saturday, April 30, 2016- Garden Day Expo, 9am-2pm, BurlCo Ag Center, 500 Centerton Rd., Moorestown.

Wednesday, May 11, 2016- Gorillas in the Mist, Wildebeast in the Dust, 7:30pm, Rehn & Mattan, BCNSC, Lumberton Community Bldg., 180 Woodside Dr., Lumberton.

STEM Steering Committee Members for 2015-2016

Elizabeth Endres Hines, President; 856-222-1163 & eendres03@gmail.com
Joe Ponesza, Vice-president; 856-235-6376 & jponessa@comcast.net
Mark Pensiero, Treasurer; 856-235-0171 & mpensiero@gmail.com
Susan Buffalino, Sec. & Newsletter Ed.; 856-866-9506 & sbuff4@aol.com
Claire Rollin Adair, Director; 856-727-3830 & cerollin@gmail.com
Margo Foster, Director; 856-235-5862 & mcmfoster@yahoo.com
Jean Fox, Director; 856-642-7864 & foxjean62@gmail.com
Paula Horton, Director; 856-296-0798 & phorton100@comcast.net
Kathy Huffman, Director; 856-778-2201 & kajer3@comcast.net
Diane Miskowski, Director; 856-235-6523 & dmiskowski@emsl.com
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 Elizabeth Endres Hines, President; 856-222-1163 & eendres03@gmail.com

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