

Salisbury Township Environmental Advisory Committee
2900 South Pike Ave.
Allentown, PA 18103

February 15, 2012

Salisbury Township Board of Commissioners
Mr. Randy Soriano, Township Manager
2900 South Pike Ave.
Allentown, PA 18103

RE: Salisbury Township Environmental Advisory Committee
Annual Report for the Year 2011

Dear Board of Commissioners and Township Manager:

The Members of the Salisbury Township Environmental Advisory Committee would like to take this opportunity of presenting our Annual Report for the year of 2011, as referenced below:

ACTIVITIES

1. The EAC has met monthly during 2011 on the third Wednesday of each month with one exception in August where the Committee as a whole met in a workshop format to address finalization of the Natural Resource Inventory project. Among the topics covered at the meetings have been discussions for potential projects such as
 - Composting to help alleviate tonnage to landfills
 - E-cycling (electronic waste, i.e. computers, printers, cell phones, etc)
 - Natural Resource Inventory
 - Rain Barrel workshop
 - Educational workshops at Township parks
 - Planting memorial trees in Township parks
 - Seeking designation of the Township as a Bird town USA location to acknowledge our critical position as a habitat for local and migratory birds in the region
2. The EAC members have attended various meetings, workshops and conferences related to topics that affect Salisbury Township including:
 - Lehigh Valley Watershed Conference 3-11-2011
 - Delaware River Basin forum 3-10-2011
 - Lehigh Valley Sustainable Bus Tour on 6/15/2011
 - Lehigh Valley Clean Water Summit 9/29/2011
3. EAC members participated in reviews and recommendations associated with the Natural Resource Inventory for Salisbury Township. Many meetings incorporated review of the draft report until finalization of data and presentation was accomplished. The primary

focuses of the NRI was to validate the value of the natural resources found within the Township and relate their importance on a regional and State level.

4. EAC members participated in community clean up efforts in Walking Purchase Park on 4/30/2011; Emmaus/Upper Milford EAC Earth Day clean up on 4/16/2011; and Wildlands Conservancy riparian buffer planting on Swabia Creek at Brookside GC on 10/27/ 2011

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1. The foremost accomplishment in 2011 was the finalization of the Natural Resource Inventory conducted by the Lehigh County Conservation District (LCCD). The project included the EAC members providing support with Field work, conducting public meetings, and hosting meetings to allow for personal interviews with long term residents of the Township.

In September 2011, the EAC Chairperson, Mr. Glenn Miller along with Mrs. Rebecca Kennedy of LCCD presented a Final Review power point presentation of the NRI to the Salisbury Township Board of Commissioners. The Board of Commissioners formally adopted the Natural Resource Inventory on October 13, 2011 inclusive of the STEAC Executive Summary.

The value of the NRI is another tool in forming the foundation of future work of the EAC and a source of information to the BOC and Township Administration about potential issues that may be relevant to the Comprehensive Plan and subsequent ordinance amendments primarily in Zoning and Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance (SALDO).

2. Organized and hosted a Backyard Composting Workshop at Green Acres Park on September 10, 2011 featuring a presentation by a member of the Lehigh Valley Master Gardeners. Provided handouts and source material for compost bins to attendees.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

1. To establish communication with the Salisbury Township School District to discuss potential environmental awareness projects on school property and/or involving district students
2. To continue environmental awareness efforts to educate Township residents
3. To raise the profile of Salisbury Township as a critical ecosystem for the well being of the Lehigh Valley, particularly related to wildlife habitat, air quality, water quality and our watershed

4. To advocate for the adoption of the Natural Resources Inventory to be integrated into the Comprehensive Plan to guide future development and zoning within Salisbury Township

GOING FORWARD

1. The EAC thanks the Board of Commissioners for its continued support and welcomes the opportunity to discuss any environmental issues for which the Commissioners seek information
2. We are committed to clearly outlining any proposed costs of upcoming projects for review and discussion by the Board of Commissioners as we seek their approval to proceed
3. We also seek their assistance to add new members to serve on the Task Force for key issues of concern, as well as to promptly fill any vacancies that may arise on the EAC during the upcoming year

Respectfully Submitted

Salisbury Township EAC Members:

Mr. Glenn Miller, Chair Person

Mr. Lou Cinquino, Vice Chair

Bruce Burchard

Jane Benning

Mary Anne Stinner

Joseph Hebelka, Planning Commission Representative

JoAnne Ackerman, Board of Commissioner Representative