

Environmental Commission/Green Team Monthly Meeting April 2025

Dear Neighbors:

Bluebells, violets (the NJ state flower), and tulips are up! Spring is here.

Upcoming Meetings

You are invited! This month, we will hold a joint Environmental Commission/Green Team Meeting in-person at The Porch Club (213 Howard Street) on **Monday, April 14, at 7:30PM**. Thank you to the Porch Club for sharing their space! **Everyone** is welcome.

Are you in the Know?

If you know a neighbor who may want to sign-up for the Environmental Commission and Green Team monthly email (which is what you're reading now!), they can do so by texting the word NEWSLETTER to 888777. They will be prompted to share their email address. Or, you can [access this notice on the Borough website](#).

Save the Date

Repair Café, Burlington County Agricultural Center, 500 Centerton Rd, Moorestown, NJ 08057, in collaboration with regional Green Teams
[Learn more about repair cafés here](#).

Stuff to Do and Things to Learn

Attend an Earth Day Every Day webinar! Rutgers Environmental Stewards and the Marine Extension Program Seminar Series are partnering to offer six webinars in April and May on the theme "Some Good News: Environmental Success Stories in New Jersey." [Learn more and register here \(free!\)](#).

The Burlington County Earth Fair will take place on Sunday, April 27, 2025, from 11AM-4PM at 803 Smithville Rd, Eastampton Township, NJ 08060. FREE, FREE, FREE! *And*, native plant expert Dr. Doug Tallamy will be giving a talk. [Learn more about Earth Fair here](#).

A collective of Burlington County Green Teams will meet on Monday, June 2, at 6:30PM at the Lower Forge Brewery in Medford, NJ. Everyone is welcome! No need to be a formal member of the Green Team to join us.

Nature Neighbors—Q&A

Nature Neighbors is back! If you want to be featured or would like to suggest someone to feature for our Nature Neighbors Q&A, please email Nicole Belolan at nbelolan@gmail.com.

This month, we are featuring [Michael Gawbill](#), who is one of the members of the Green Team

How did you first get involved with the Riverton Environmental Commission (EC) and/or Green Team?

When I moved to Riverton in the winter of 2023, national and global events inspired me to engage with the local community. I noticed EC/Green Team meetings listed on the borough's community calendar. Given my background in sustainability efforts through my career, I felt I could contribute to the town. I attended my first meeting in the summer of 2024 and have since become more active with the team.

What is your favorite natural spot or feature in Riverton?

I love walking, running, biking, and rollerblading along the Delaware. I often train by traveling circuits that take me from the Yacht Club to the Palmyra Nature Cove, and back.

What actions do you take at home to help the environment?

I am always striving to improve in this regard. I use reusable cleaning towels and mop heads instead of disposable paper towels and pads. Nearly all my cleaning supplies are now non-toxic and biodegradable, and I air dry my laundry whenever possible. I typically take public transit when traveling to NYC or Philly. This spring, my girlfriend and I are excited to start composting and planting native species in our flower beds.

What steps do you think anyone can take to be greener?

Some small wins include getting away from disposable water bottles, buying glass jarred grocery items instead of plastic, and using biodegradable pet waste bags!

What sustainability or environmental initiative have you seen other municipalities adopt that you think would be a great idea for Riverton to consider adopting or promoting?

I have visited Davis, California, a few times for work, and was very impressed with their cutting-edge sustainability initiatives. The city plans to be carbon neutral by 2040. To achieve this, they are switching all city work vehicles and transportation buses to EVs. The city also sort waste effectively, with composting and varied recycling options throughout the city. The town's college, UC Davis, will also be carbon neutral by 2025!

Thanks for joining us this month on Nature Neighbor's, Mike!

Upcoming Native Plant Sales

Have you heard? Planting native plants helps control stormwater, create habitat for beneficial insects and wildlife, trap carbon, save you in watering (especially after the first year), and more! [Learn more about their benefits from the Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation](#) and [from our own website](#). You can plant them in the spring or fall, and since many are perennials, they come back year after year. [One of our other favorite resources on identifying great native plants for your garden is the Jersey-Friendly Yards website](#).

Want to buy some native plants this spring and get started? Here are some upcoming sales:

Thursday, April 10-Saturday, April 12, 2025, D&R Greenway Land Trust, 1 Preservation Pl, Princeton, NJ 08540. [Learn more about the D&R sale here](#) (including hours).

Saturday, April 26, 10AM-1PM, Cedar Run Wildlife Refuge, 4 Sawmill Road, Medford, NJ, 08055. [Learn more about the Cedar Run sale here](#) (including special hours for members).

Saturday, April 26, 9AM-12PM, Pinelands Preservation Alliance, 17 Pemberton Rd, Southampton Township, NJ 08088. [Learn more about the PPA sale here](#) (including special hours for members).

Through the fall, Bowman's Hill Wildflower Preserve, 1635 River Rd, New Hope, PA 18938. [Learn more about Bowman's Hill nursery here](#).

Social Media

You can follow us on social media for more regular updates.

Green Team Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/riverton_green_team/

Green Team Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/people/Riverton-NJ-Green-Team/100082748494990/>

Environmental Commission Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/RivertonEnvironmentalCommission/>

Borough Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/RivertonNJ>

Borough Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/boroughofrivertonnj/>

We hope to see you Monday, April 14!

Sincerely,

Kathy Simon and Nicole Belolan

Borough of Riverton Environmental Commission and Green Team

