

Environmental Commission/Green Team Monthly Update, June 2025

Dear Neighbors:

Guess what? New Jersey is still under a drought warning. [Visit the NJ Department of Environmental Protection](#) to learn more about how you can help conserve water now before the warning becomes an emergency.

Let's get to the update.

Upcoming Meeting

Compost curious? **Attend our next Green Team and Environmental Commission meeting on Monday, June 9, at 7:30PM, at the Porch Club (213 Howard Street).** We'll be joined by [Matt Wasserman of the New Jersey Composting Council](#). He'll chat with us about composting options for Rivertonians. Composting doesn't just save us money, [it also helps mitigate climate change!](#)

A short business meeting will follow our chat with Matt. As usual, everyone is welcome.

Welcome to Our New Chair of the Environmental Commission!

We bid a fond farewell to Kathy Simon, who served as the Chair of our Environmental Commission for many years! We are welcoming Michael Gawbill as our new chair. Mike has already forged full steam ahead addressing resident concerns. Come to our next meeting on Monday to meet him!

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](#), and **let us know if you're interested in being a volunteer repair coach.**

What Have We Been Up To?

The Environmental Commission and Green Team has been getting around! In the past few weeks, we set up info tables at food truck events and the Porch Club Garden Tour.

Come say hi at the next food truck events on Wednesday, June 18, 2025, and Wednesday, June 25, 2025. We will also be at the [Palmyra-Riverton-Cinnaminson Juneteenth: Celebration of Culture](#), on Thursday, June 19, 2025, from 4-8PM, at the Palmyra Community Center (30 W. Broad Street, Palmyra, NJ). [Click here to learn more about the history of Juneteenth](#) from the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History & Culture!

Stuff to Do

NJ Fibershed Barn Crawl, Saturday-Sunday, June 7-8, 2025, 10AM-4PM, sites throughout New Jersey. From the event page: "The Barn Crawl is an opportunity for farm-fiber lovers from across the region to learn about our local fiber production, while visiting farms, meeting fiber animals, and shopping for locally-sourced products." [Learn more here](#).

Cherry Hill's Student Climate Action & Sustainability Showcase, Sunday, June 8, 1:30-5:00PM, featuring the famous [Doug Tallamy](#), High School West, 2101 Chapel Ave, Cherry Hill Township, NJ 08002. [Register here](#). First registrants receive a native plant kit!

Pollinator Community Science Survey Training, presented by Kelly Gill, Pollinator Conservation Specialist with the [Xerces Society](#), Thursday, June 12, 2025 9:00AM, Wheaton Arts Event Center, 1000 Village Drive, Millville, NJ 08332. [Register here](#).

"The Geological & Climate Change History of the Coastal Plain," presented by geologist Murray Rosenberg, Monday, June 16, 7:00PM, Unified Science Building, Room 246, Stockton University. This event is free and is organized by the South Jersey chapter of [the Native Plant Society of New Jersey](#).

Rich and Varied Ecosystems Despite New Jersey's High Density Status, [exhibition at the State Museum of New Jersey](#), on view through March 15, 2026, 205 West State Street, Trenton, NJ, 08608. General admission is Free.

Resource Spotlight (no pun intended...)

Did you know? Dark skies are a [natural resource](#)! [Learn more here about what you can do at home to help lessen light pollution](#).

Nature Neighbors—Q&A

Nature Neighbors is back! This month, Nature Neighbors is featuring Tyler Putman, a Thomas Ave. resident who regularly attends Environmental Commission and Green Team Meetings.

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

Tyler: I heard about the EC and Green Team thanks to my wife, Nicole Belolan! I've enjoyed meeting lots of new people thanks to these organizations and feeling like they give me a concrete way to contribute to a more sustainable future on the community level.

Nature Neighbors: What is your favorite natural spot or feature in Riverton?

Tyler: I love the Pompeston Creek and am excited about future initiatives to study, conserve, and advocate for our local watershed!

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

Tyler: Nicole and I have really enjoyed how easy it is to make small changes that can contribute to a more sustainable community. We use historic and eco-friendly materials in our ongoing house restoration and natural cleaning products. We also garden with native plants, grow vegetables, and shop locally. Thanks to our native plant gardening, we have enjoyed the return of all sorts of pollinators, birds, and butterflies to our property. You can follow some of these projects on our Instagram @notthegothicmansion.

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

Tyler: In 1970, the American poet Gary Snyder (b. 1930) wrote "Four Changes," a foundational essay for the burgeoning environmental movement. I think a lot about this particular part: "Stewardship means, for most of us, find your place on the planet, dig in, and take responsibility from there. The tiresome but tangible work of school boards, county supervisors, local foresters, local politics, even while holding in mind the largest scale of potential change."

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

Tyler: I'd love for Riverton and Rivertonians to think about what the Borough can do to work "point by point" towards "the largest scale of potential change," in Snyder's words. Little things like municipal composting, planting native plants and trees on borough property, shifting to electric vehicles and tools for municipal projects, banning fossil-fuel-powered landscaping equipment, and reducing single-use plastic products can all go a long way in making our community and world more sustainable.

Nature Neighbors: Thank you, Tyler!

[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, June 9, at 7:30PM!

Sincerely,

Michael Gawbill and Nicole Belolan

Borough of Riverton Environmental Commission and Green Team

