

Environmental Commission/Green Team Monthly Update, November 2025

Dear Neighbors:

We hope everyone had a fun and safe Halloween! If you don't think you'll use your costume again next year, consider saving it to donate to a Halloween shop next fall!

Let's get to the update.

Upcoming Meeting

Attend our next Green Team and Environmental Commission meeting on Monday, November 10, 7:30PM, at the Borough Hall (505 Howard Street). Note the location change this month.

Everyone is welcome. Bring a neighbor.

Upcoming Events

Want to become a local environmental expert? Considering registering for the 2026 Rutgers Environmental Stewards continuing education program! The class convenes online weekly on Tuesday nights, Jan. 20-May 12. Certification requires a community service project. Fee is \$325 with a limited number of discounts are available to those in need. [Join today!](#)

Want the NJ State Assembly to pass the Green Amendment? Would you like to discuss this with others in the region? Join the Pinelands Preservation Alliance online for "The People's Hearing for the New Jersey Green Amendment." This event will take place via zoom on Wednesday, Nov. 12, from 7:00PM-8:00PM. [Register here.](#)

Rutgers Cooperative Extension Earth Day Every Day Webinar Series—FREE! [Register here.](#)

- Monday, November 10, Rock You Like a Hurricane: Hurricane Science, with Dr. Travis Miles, Rutgers University

Thinking about adding a small pond to your garden? Attend "How to Create a No-Fuss Wildlife Pond with naturalist Pat Sutton," Coordinated by Southeast Chapter of the Native Plant Society of New Jersey, Monday, November 17, 7:00PM, Stockton University, Unified Science Center, Room 346. FREE.

Like looking up at the stars? Attend a FREE Public Star Watch at Batsto Village on Saturday, November 22, 2025, at 5:30PM, 31 Batsto Road, Hammonton, NJ 08037. Note per the advertisement: "The event is weather permitting, and visitors are encouraged to check the WAS website

(<https://go.pinelandsalliance.org/e/1047083/2025-11-06/2qgpv/534052789/h/fsw5W4zcEaRRTOTNV2bwdMwSL09fcdJgFrvoxJwCT68>) after 1 PM. the day of the event to confirm it is still happening should there be cloudy skies.”

Enjoy visiting museums? Check out *Ecosystems at Risk: Threatened and Endangered in New Jersey*, an [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.

New Resource!

Thanks again to Dan Reed for an excellent talk on residential solar last week! If you missed it, [check out our resources on renewable energy here](#).

It's That Time of Year Again—Time to Leave the Leaves

Leaves are great, free mulch and fertilizer, and they provide habitat for beneficial insects and other wildlife. [They even help trap carbon](#) and prevent it from turning into carbon dioxide (which contributes to global warming). If this practice is new to you (and that's OK – it is new to many of us!), consider leaving the leaves in one or two garden beds. Of course, if you have excess leaves, the Borough will pick them up as usual. [You can read more about the benefits of leaving the leaves here](#), and feel free to let us know if you have questions. Tag us on social media with your fall leaves pics!

What Have We Been Up To?

The Environmental Commission and Green Team, along with Council liaisons, have been listening to and researching resident related to environmental issues such as pollution drift from Philadelphia and possible code violations at sites within the Borough. The Environmental Commission and Green Team are exploring partnering with Burlington County and an engineering firm to conduct a climate change vulnerability assessment for Riverton. The goal is to identify key actions to help mitigate risks to the community.

We recently completed maintenance on the native plant rain garden at the Riverton School and the native plant garden behind the war memorial. Check out these spaces for inspo for your own property. Remember—[we have many native plant resources on our website, too](#).

We're also collaborating on developing a compost education and pilot program for Riverton residents—stay tuned for more information about this soon!

Finally, we kicked off our Climate Change reading group in July. Are you interested in reading more about climate change and learning about what you can do to help? Join our climate change reading group! We will meet **every third Thursday** of the month through February 2026. We will meet at Calvary Presbyterian, 300 4th St, from 7-8PM. You need not read the entire book or attend every session to participate! Free plus the

cost of books. Register any time (including after July) by [filling out this form](#). Questions? Email Nicole at nbelolan@pm.me.

Books include: [What if We Get it Right?](#), [The End of Nature](#), [Nature's Best Hope](#), [Parable of the Sower](#), [This Changes Everything](#), [The Serviceberry](#), [The Floating Coast](#), and [An Environmental Leader's Toolkit](#).

This reading group was created in partnership with the Rutgers Environmental Stewards (RES) program. The program is funded by Rutgers New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station. For more information, visit envirostewards.rutgers.edu.

Things to Read

Want to learn more about stormwater management? Check out ANJEC's resource paper, "Stormwater Management for Municipalities: Green Infrastructure Designs and Options," [available here](#).

Curious about how you and our community can manage climate change? Review Rutgers-New Brunswick New Jersey Climate Change Resource Center and the Nature Conservancy, "New Jersey Nature-Based Solutions: Planning, Implementation, and Monitoring Reference Guide," June 2025, [available here](#).

Nature Neighbors—Q&A

Nature Neighbors will be back next month!

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](#).

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, November 10, at **7:30PM, at Borough Hall!** (Note the location change this month.)

Sincerely,
Michael Gawbill and Nicole Belolan
Borough of Riverton Environmental Commission and Green Team

