



Tinton Falls
NEW JERSEY

Borough of Tinton Falls
Environmental Commission

556 Tinton Avenue
Tinton Falls, NJ, 07724

<https://tintonfalls-nj.municodemeetings.com/bc-ec/page/environmental-commission>

Members:

Jonathan Cohen, Chair
Ellen Goldberg
Vincent DeVita
Frank DeVita
Martine Ladd
Robert Markoff
Steven Surman

Barbara Kulberg (alternate)
Tatianna Swenda (alternate)

2023 Annual Report

Members / Meetings / Minutes

- Members: Jonathan Cohen, Chair; Vincent DeVita; Frank DeVita; Martine Ladd; Robert Markoff; Steven Surman; Ellen Goldberg; Barbara Kulberg; Tatianna Swenda
- Meetings were held on the 4th Thursday of each month via Zoom and/or in-person. Minutes were taken and approved for each meeting.

Committees / Regional Collaborations

- Select environmental commission members also served on the TF Planning Board, Green Team, Ft. Monmouth ESAC, FMERA, NJ Composting Council and Community Garden.
- Some TFEC members attended webinars and training hosted by ANJEC throughout the year.
- Some TFEC members participated in activities, such as Rally for the Rivers Eco Fest, hosted by Clean Ocean Action. Refer to photos below.



- Some TFEC members attended presentations conducted by the Environmental Partnership Group consisting of members from various Environmental Commissions of surrounding towns.
- TFEC members supported a local coalition of concerned citizens regarding the land disturbances at the Ruffin Cemetery, located in Tinton Falls.
- TFEC submitted application to Sustainable Jersey for Bronze Certification. Received comments from Sustainable Jersey before revising and resubmitting application.
- TFEC received ANJEC grant for Pine Brook Greenway Project.
- TFEC collaborated with the TF Brownie Troop on a pollinator garden surrounding the Osprey Nest constructed in 2022.

Planning Board /Town Council Interaction

- TFEC supported the submission of a response letter to NJDEP regarding the Application for a Letter of Interpretation: Line Verification, Block 1131, Lots 30, 31 and 32 related to the proposed development in the area.
- TFEC members reviewed proposed development plans to determine potential impacts to surrounding environment. These plans were associated with 49 & 71 Shark River Road (Block 136, Lots 4.01 & 7) – proposed 129,000 square feet of warehouse.
- TFEC received a letter, dated January 30, 2023, from ANJEC complimenting TFEC on its “Osprey Nest Habitat” Project. The letter included remaining grant funding for the project.
- TFEC coordinated with TF DPW for a Green Fair /Earth Day event held on April 29, 2023. Refer to photos below.









- TFEC received an email on March 10, 2023, from TF building office regarding a Freshwater Wetlands Letter of Interpretation Application for the property at Block 101.02, Lot 2 in Tinton Falls. The Application was submitted by Trinity Hall.
- TFEC reviewed a Freshwater Wetlands Application, submitted to NJDEP by DuBois Associates, for the property at Block 128.03, Lot 36 associated with the proposed building of a 2,190 square foot warehouse facility, parking area, and filling of a wetland area and buffer.
- TFEC reviewed Application for NJDEP Freshwater Wetlands General Permit #10B, Special Activity Transition Area Waiver – Stormwater Management and Linear Development, and Flood Hazard Area Individual Permit/Hardship Exception Request, submitted by NJDEP for Route 66 (MP 0.74 to MP 2.62) Jumping Brook Road to Bowne Road/Wayside Road, Neptune and Ocean Townships.
- TFEC reviewed Application for Freshwater Wetlands Letter of Interpretation – Line Verification Application: Schoolhouse Road Associates, LLD, Subject Property: 4206 N.J.S.H Route 33, Block 155, Lot 6, 1401 Schoolhouse Lane, Tinton Falls and Wall Township.
- TFEC supported the proposed bottle deposit return law initiative.

Education and Outreach

- TFEC coordinated an educational presentation by Mazza Recycling and TF DPW on July 14, 2023.
- TFEC members visited the Mazza Recycling Facility on September 26, 2023, as part of an educational tour, guided by a Brynn Mosello of Mazza. Refer to photos below.



- TFEC members participated in the TF Community Day held October 8, 2023, TFEC members provided educational games and giveaways for the community. Refer to photos below.



- TFEC collaborated with environmental club at Monmouth Regional Highschool with town cleanups and the TREX Challenge/Initiative (plastic recycling).

- Solar landscape conducted a presentation to the TFEC on what community solar is about.

Community Initiatives

Rain Barrel Workshop

- TFEC started to discuss and plan for rain barrel workshop in conjunction with DPW. This activity is planned for 2025.

Plastic Bag Ban

- TFEC distributed reusable bags at Hockhockson Park on April 22, 2023 in conjunction with opening day of the Tinton Falls Little League season.

Pollinator Garden

- TFEC collaborated with the TF Brownie Troop to construct a pollinator garden in town adjacent to the Osprey Nest.

Community Garden

- TFEC collaborated with the community garden members to enhance the garden in 2024.

Green Fair

- TFEC is planning for a Green Fair in 2024 in honor of Earth Day.

Mazza Recycling Tour

- In partnership with the TF Green Team, we participated in a tour of the Mazza Recycling Facility in Tinton Falls.

Tinton Falls Community Day

In partnership with the TF Green Team, on October 8th, the TFEC tabled at Tinton Falls Community Day. We distributed information on:

- Importance of recycling
- Importance of bees and pollinating
- Picking up after your dog

Projects

1. Pollinator Garden: in conjunction with and help from the TF Brownie Troop a pollinator garden was constructed adjacent to the Osprey Nest, located at Riverdale West Park.



Clean ups

The following litter cleanup was conducted in 2023 in Tinton Falls:

- November 11 - Pine Brook Triangle

Volunteer Hours:

An estimated 100 work hours were performed by TFEC volunteers in 2023, associated with the activities described in the 2023 TFEC Annual Report.

Goals for 2024

1. Enhance Community Garden.
2. Conduct Rail Barrel Workshop.
3. Conduct Green Fair.
4. Prepare Environmental Resource Inventory Document using grant funds from Sustainable Jersey. See photos below.

