

Raritan Township, NJ

Environmental Commission & Green Team



Environmental Commission & Green Team 2026 Calendar*

March – October: Pollinator Garden Maintenance (occurs rough twice a month)

April 18 – Stream Clean-up with Raritan Headwaters

May 3 – Green Fair

May 11 – Tree Maintenance

May 16 – Bird Spotting^

June 20 – What’s Living in our^ Streams

July 16 – Invasive Plant identification^

August 16– Dealing with Deer^

Sept 19 – BioBlitz @ Micek Pk

Sept 22 – Pollinator Garden Tour and Seed Collection^

Oct 13 – Tour of RTMUA Water Treatment Plant^

^ Part of our Environmental Series

*Check our Calendar for more details [Environmental Commission and Green Team 2026 Calendar - Google Docs](#)

Spring 2026

Volume 1

YOUR ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

The Raritan Township Environmental Committee serves as an advising body to the elected Township Committee. It is composed of between five and seven volunteers who reside in the Township and are appointed by the Township Committee for 3 year terms. While no specific skills or backgrounds are required, some of the members have/had careers working in or dealing with the NJ Department of Environment Protection, or as engineers and environmental consultants, while others just have a strong interest in environmental causes. Everyone who joins the Environmental Commission is committed to improving our local environment, including the quality of our air, water and other natural resources.

The Environmental Commission also serves as an umbrella organization for the Green Team, Tree Committee and Stewardship Committee. The Green Team, like the Environmental Commission, is comprised of residents who are committed to environmental issues. They are volunteers recommended by the Environmental Commission and appointed to one year terms by the Township Committee. The Green Team works as an extension of the Environmental Commission organizing environmental events and participating in various environmental activities. For a number of years, they operated as an ad hoc group, but in 2025, the Green Team was officially designated a committee by Township resolution.

An important role of the Environmental Commission is to educate the public on environmental issues and provide residents with opportunities to participate in environmental actions. For example, last year, we offered presentations on Residential Well Testing and Smart Septic Practices, as most of us in Raritan Township have private wells and septic systems. Proper understanding and maintenance of these systems is crucial to protecting your health and safety/comfort. We’ve also supported the planting of 875 trees in Morales Park and Mine Brook Park. Our winter seed sowing event, with seeds taken from the native plant pollinator garden created in 2023, was a big success.

The Raritan Township Environmental Commission and its various subcommittees are always looking for environmentally minded people who want to get involved. If you’d like to volunteer or be considered for the Commission in the future, or just want to share any ideas you have, contact us at: EnvironmentalCommission@raritantwpnj.gov

Pictured: beekeepers and observational hive at the last year's Green Fair



2026 GREEN FAIR

Come visit us at the Hunterdon Community Farmers Market on Opening Day, May 3rd, 9:00 AM- 1:00 PM for our 2026 Green Fair. In addition to regular market vendors, there will be various environmental organizations for you to speak with and learn from. Visit representatives from the Northwest New Jersey Beekeepers Association and view their **observational hive**, Raritan Headwaters Assoc., Woodlands Wildlife Refuge with Tank the Turtle (weather permitting), OneCompostCan, the Native Plant Society, AmeriCorps Watershed Ambassadors with live critters from our local streams and others. The Raritan Township Community Garden will be there with a limited number of seedlings and vegetable seeds to give away. A wide range of electric vehicles will be on display through the NJ Electric Vehicle Association.

Come for the market, come for the environmental displays and come to speak with members of the Environmental Commission and Green Team. Find out what activities are being planned for the year and how you too can become a steward of the environment as a Green Team volunteer.

CURRENT 2026 PROJECTS

Community Forestry Management Plan

The Environmental Commission was awarded a \$20,000 grant to develop a Forestry Management Plan which will inventory and assess our forest and tree resources. It will help determine the health of forested areas primarily in our parks, open space areas, and municipal properties, as well as identify dying and dead trees in parks and along public roads where they could present a hazard to the public. A Forestry Management plan helps identify and monitor trees that may come down in the future and cause damage and provides guidance that the community can use to manage our tree resources and identify additional tree planting opportunities.

Community Energy Plan

The Township was awarded a \$20,000 Grant to develop an Energy Plan. The Plan is intended to identify energy related areas where the Township should focus its efforts. This could include promoting and facilitating the use of solar, helping residents with energy conservation, making the Township more electric vehicle friendly, promoting the construction of 'green' buildings, and other energy related projects. One of the objectives of the Plan is to hear from residents what they think is important in shaping our energy future. Currently, the Township is waiting on the receipt of the funding to begin this work.

Key Links and Contact Information

Township Website: [Raritan Township NJ - Home](#)

Environmental Commission Webpage: [Raritan Township NJ - Environmental Commission](#)

Env Comm/Green Team Calendar: [Environmental Commission and Green Team 2026 Calendar - Google Docs](#)

To sign up for this newsletter or to volunteer, contact us at the Environmental Commission email:

EnvironmentalCommission@raritantwpnj.gov