



New Britain Township

Environmental Advisory Council

Kathleen Davis, Chair	Cynthia Jones, Supervisor, Liaison
Lucy Jones, Vice - Chair	Alex Mullin, Secretary, NBT Staff
Mary Margaret Briggs, Member	
Geraldine Reuter, Member	
Carol Weston-Young, Member	

Minutes – May 6th, 2026

Attended: M. Briggs, C. Weston-Young, L. Jones, G. Reuter, A. Mullin, C. Jones

Regrets: K. Davis

Meeting was called to order by L. Jones @ 7:00 pm.

Discussion:

- Approval of Minutes– M. Briggs motioned, and G. Reuter seconded a motion to approve the April 1st, 2026, minutes. The EAC unanimously approved the minutes.
- A discussion ensued regarding the Bird Town PA acceptance presentation held at the May 4, 2026, Board of Supervisors meeting. Heidi Shiver presented the Bird Town designation signs to the Township. The Committee discussed potential locations for installation of the signs throughout the Township.
- A discussion ensued regarding participation in the AARK Wildlife Rehabilitation and Education Center Open House scheduled for May 30–31, 2026. Bird Town New Britain Township representatives will assist with the event.
- Sarah and M. Briggs will attend on May 30, 2026, as representatives of Bird Town New Britain Township.
- A discussion ensued regarding opportunities to achieve a higher Bird Town designation status through additional environmental initiatives and community outreach efforts.
- A discussion ensued regarding the development of a Bird Town subpage on the Township’s Environmental Advisory Council webpage to provide information, resources, and updates to residents.
- A discussion ensued regarding scheduling Bird Town meetings prior to the Township Environmental Advisory Council meetings beginning at 6:30 p.m.
- A discussion ensued regarding the Rain Barrel Workshop held on May 2, 2026. The Committee agreed the event was well attended and successful. Allowing participants to drill the diversion spout holes at their residences was viewed positively as it helped prevent alignment issues during installation. The workshop reached full capacity.



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- The Committee recognized Ken Jones for serving as guest speaker and co-organizer for the event.
- A discussion ensued expressing satisfaction with the overall turnout and community participation. The Committee discussed interest in hosting the Rain Barrel Workshop again next year.
- M. Briggs made a motion, seconded by G. Reuter, authorizing K. Davis to order an additional ten (10) diverter kits utilizing EAC Rain Barrel Program funds. The motion passed unanimously.
- A discussion ensued regarding the remaining three (3) rain barrels available for purchase.
- A discussion ensued regarding the Native Plant Presentation conducted by Andrea of Divine Earth Gardens prior to the meeting. The Committee noted that sixteen (16) individuals signed in for the presentation, with twenty-one (21) confirmed attendees. Attendees received a native plant at the end of the presentation (Swamp milkweed or Mountain mint)
- A discussion ensued regarding the upcoming workshop at the Township Demonstration Garden scheduled for May 16, 2026, beginning at 10:00 a.m.
- The Committee reported that plants for the garden project have been purchased, and fencing installation is anticipated in the near future.
- A discussion ensued regarding grant funding awarded by Bucks Beautiful in the amount of \$558 for expansion of the Township's Demonstrative/Pollinator Garden and Native Berry Zone.
- A discussion ensued regarding the continued development of the Demonstration/Pollinator Garden at North Branch Park, as well as the establishment of a Berry Zone near the former concession stand area within the park.
- A discussion ensued regarding the Grading/Topsoil Recommendation previously presented to the Board of Supervisors at the April 1, 2026, meeting. No action has been taken by the Board at this time.
- A discussion ensued regarding the Naturalized Lawn Ordinance Recommendation presented to the Board of Supervisors at the April 1, 2026, meeting. The Committee noted that the Board has received the Environmental Advisory Council's recommendations and that the Township Solicitor and Engineer will prepare a draft resolution for further consideration.
- A discussion ensued regarding the Township Solicitor drafting a resolution on behalf of the Board of Supervisors to include language permitting residents to naturalize portions of their lawns in accordance with Township regulations.
- L. Jones stated that the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society in combination with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection awarded a Trees for Watersheds Grant in the amount of \$5,911.40. The grant will support tree planting within the North Branch Park Basin. The Neshaminy Watershed Association is coordinating with the EAC for project implementation.



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- A discussion ensued regarding ongoing coordination efforts with the Neshaminy Watershed Association related to the grant project and future planting activities.
- Ken Jones stated he would contact Merck regarding potential collaboration opportunities and volunteer participation for the tree planting initiative.
- G. Reuter noted that TEVA offers employees volunteer time off opportunities which may assist with future planting and environmental projects.
- A discussion ensued regarding the Plastic Reduction Committee report and recommendations. Jim Morano and G. Reuter requested that the EAC consider a motion to forward a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors for adoption of a single-use plastic reduction ordinance.
- G. Reuter made the motion, seconded by C. Weston-Young. The motion passed unanimously.
- A discussion ensued regarding the status of the Mosquito Bucket Workshop. Details are still in development. The Environmental Advisory Council discussed the possibility of hosting an information table at newly proposed Movie Night and distributing materials at the annual 4th of July Parade.
- A discussion ensued during public comments on non-agenda items regarding bat houses as a potential method of mosquito control, with the suggestion that this could be developed as a potential Scout project.
- A discussion ensued regarding how residents can obtain information about activity occurring at the rear of properties. C. Jones advised residents to submit a Township Request for Service form, which prompts staff to review and investigate matters related to a specific property.
- Adjournment – A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by C. Weston-Young, seconded by G. Reuter at 7:50pm. The EAC unanimously passed the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Lucy Jones, Vice-Chair

*The next meeting of the Environmental Advisory Council of New Britain Township will take place on **Wednesday, June 3, 7:00 pm** at the New Britain Township Building, 207 Park Avenue, Chalfont, Pa. Agenda is posted to the Township website prior to the meeting date at www.newbritaintownship.org.*