

Hatboro Environmental Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes
Monday, August 4, 2025
Borough Hall, 414 South York Road, Hatboro, PA 19040

EAC Members in Attendance: Kelly A'Harrah, Ryan Fairman, Ann Menichelli, Councilperson Alex Myers, Jonathan Pignatelli, Cole Woodson. **Absent:** LuAnn Kline

Borough Representation: Councilperson Jennifer Hendrickson; Diane Hegele, Borough Manager

Members of the Public: Todd A'Harrah, Dave Head, Robin Laufer, Katrina Nuss, Marianne Shaeffer

Meeting called to order at 7:02pm.
Livestream capability could not be attained.

Motion to approve June 2, 2025, EAC Meeting Minutes: 1st Kelly A'Harrah; 2nd Jonathan Pignatelli: Passed unanimously.

Note that no minutes exist for the July 2025 meeting, which was canceled.

NexTrek Recycling Challenge: Borough Hall is no longer an option for a collection site for plastic film recycling. Other locations discussed included Hatboro Beverage, Hatboro Lumber, the ULCH, and Crooked Billet Elementary School. Coordination with Hatboro Chamber of Commerce for possible collection site(s) was discussed. Logistics for timely management of collected recycling was discussed, including recording, weighing, photographing and delivering recycling to final collection site. Locations for final collection include Weis Markets, Acme Markets, Wegman's Market, and Kohl's.

Action Steps:

1. New location(s) for collection site
2. Volunteers needed to manage collection and delivery
3. Developing graphic for advertising new location/s

Earth Day 2026: Borough Council will act on Special Event Request Form for event at August 2025 voting meeting. Committee for this event to be decided in future EAC meeting(s). Vision and content for event will be determined once committee is formed. EAC will work alongside the borough and the Pennypack Events Committee (PPEC) to coordinate event. RL suggested a vermiculture workshop, a make-and-take activity, and willingness to coordinate Hospitality Room for exhibitors.

Hatboro Tree Talk scheduling: Kathleen Salisbury, Temple University, “Big Trees: Friend or Foe?” presentation on either September 17th or 24th.

Action Steps:

1. Contact Kathleen Salisbury to determine best date for presentation
2. Submit Special Event Request Form to borough prior to next Council Meeting
3. Develop graphic for advertising presentation
4. Advertise presentation

Bird Town PA: July meeting cancelled due to lack of quorum. Upcoming projects at Crooked Billet Elementary School could include educational programming, installing bird houses on the school property, and adding visual cues to windows to reduce bird strikes.

PHS Tree Tenders: Keeping PA Beautiful Grant application was denied. Discussion of Fall 2025 Community Tree Planting to replace deceased trees in tubes along riparian buffer at Pennypack Park and Eaton Park. Suggestion made to replace plastic tubes with wire cages or black plastic cages.

Action Steps:

1. Coordinate date of event with borough
2. Submit Special Event Request Form to borough
3. Extend invitation to Shade Tree Commission to work on project
4. Invite youth and community groups to participate
5. Transplant trees to larger pots to provide optimal growing conditions
6. Seek donations of supplies- wire bales, plastic cages, stakes, other items

Riparian Corridor Conservation District Ordinance: EAC members to comment on draft prior to completion of final draft.

Motion to table sending ordinance to MCPC: 1st Jonathan Pignatelli; 2nd Ryan Fairman: Passed unanimously

National Night Out: NexTrek Recycling Challenge bin and posters will be displayed by borough.

Public Comment:

Dave Head

1. Suggested public support of Earth Justices and Sierra Club’s initiatives to maintain the Roadless Area Conservation Rule and EPA regulation of greenhouse gases.

Action Step:

- After Dave shares information, post it on EAC Facebook page and website
2. Porcelain berry vines are taking over trees along Pennypack Creek. Can these be removed?

Robin Laufer

1. Cedar for bat houses-ask fencing companies for scrap or donation
2. Is there an alternative to using plastic zip ties on tree cages?
3. Holiday Light Collection- Philadelphia location for drop off

Katrina Nuss

1. Location for polystyrene/#6 Styrofoam recycling: Northeast Foam, 90 Hamilton Street, Chalfont, PA 18914
2. Pens and markers can be recycled at Staples stores
3. Mug wort at Borough Hall circle was removed but there is more on the property.
4. Native Plant Ordinance should be maintained on agenda
5. Natural areas belong to the species that live there; it is not co-existence with humans. Wildlife should not be subjected to fireworks in their home.

Action Steps:

1. Post information about polystyrene and writing utensil recycling locations on website.
2. Show Councilperson Hendrickson where mug wort is growing on property.

Kelly A'Harrah

Concern about public safety at the planned fireworks event at Pennypack Park. Frightened wildlife, namely deer, could accidentally harm park visitors. Deer and other wildlife could be flushed from woods prior to event.

Jonathan Pignatelli

Hatboro Lumber has provided about 400 pieces of 1"x3"x6" lumber which could be used for pollinator and/or bird houses.

Motion to Adjourn: 1st Jonathan Pignatelli; 2nd Ryan Fairman: Passed unanimously

Next meeting is Wednesday, September 3, 2025