

Hopewell Township Environmental Newsletter

A Publication of the Environmental Commission

Environmental Commission Meetings

The Hopewell Township Environmental Commission meets the second Wednesday of each month @ 7 PM except for November and December when meetings are held the first Wednesday of the month. The meetings are open to the public and all are welcome to attend.

HTEC Members

Jerry Lewis - *Chair*
 Jane Hankins - *Vice Chair*
 Beth McClain - *Secretary*
 Ken Strait - *Liaison to Land Use Board*
 Burt Doremus
 Marion Carll
 Cheryl Lalancette

Newsletters are available on the township website and the township Facebook page. Printed copies available in the municipal building.



Now is the time to plant your bulbs for next spring.



Hopewell Township Open-Space Areas

We were glad to meet you and chat with you. The youngsters were excited to get a bag of milkweed pods and instructions for planting next year's garden as were many adults. We had lots of questions about how to start a pollinator garden. There were inquiries about what the Environmental Commission's purpose is; where to get more information about environmental issues and concerns; how to volunteer for projects. Some stopped by to look at the projects we have completed so far and take some handouts. A few people signed up to receive our monthly newsletter via email. If you have questions, concerns, ideas, or suggestions please visit our link on the township website or stop in at our monthly meetings. (See meeting times in the column to the left.)

Hopewell Day
Many thanks to those who stopped by to chat with us. It was good to meet you and answer your questions.

Protecting Open Space Areas

Open space is land free of most development or structures other than those that support recreation, environmental and cultural education or agricultural activities.

Open space can be a rural wildlife preserve, a farm, a suburban park or a community garden. Open space is crucial for providing habitat for wildlife and plant species. Open space protects water resources and provides recreation opportunities.

Open space can be Passive, Agricultural, or Active/Recreational open space.

Land held as passive open space remains in a relatively natural state as woods or meadows, mountains or streams. It may include environmentally sensitive areas. Human recreation, if permitted, is generally restricted to hiking, hunting and fishing, biking.

Passive open space preserves diversity of the ecosystem, acts as a buffer and offers flood protection. Environmental Education and stewardship can occur as a result of recognizing the impact of our actions on our natural environment.

Agricultural Open Space provides economic and environmental benefits, offer preserving or buffering vistas. Farms provide food sources as well as extend wildlife habitat by linking areas of open space and providing corridors for wildlife.

Active/Recreational Open Space

Humans also need open space for active recreation — open space in the form of playing fields, jogging trails, tennis courts, playgrounds, docks or other boating facilities. These sites should be relatively unconstrained by environmentally sensitive features.

