

**Plainfield Township
Environmental Advisory Council
October 13, 2015 – 7:00 PM**

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – September 8, 2015

OLD BUSINESS

- **Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company LLC - AECOM Progress Update**– Act 14 Notification General Permit 8 & 11 Application for the 2015 Pennsylvania Project Anomaly Project – Anomaly Digs #16, 24 and 25
- **PA DEP Growing Greener Plus Grant Update – Little Bushkill Creek**
 - **2014 Grant Progress** – Plan for moving forward in 2015 and 2016
 - Approval was received to move forward with an RFP to hire an Environmental Firm
- **Northampton County #213 Rasleytown Road Bridge Replacement Update**
- **Northampton County Farmland Preservation – County/Municipal Partnership Program Update** - The Northampton County Farmland Administrator, Maria Bentzoni, directed the closing of eight preservation easements during the month of August.
- **Comprehensive Map MS4 Sites and Piping Update – Tom Petrucci**

NEW BUSINESS

- **Item for Consideration - West Side of Route #33 Trail Held (Eighth Street extension)**
 - **Bryan Cope – Northampton County Open Space Program Coordinator**
 - **Dawn Gorham, Ph. D. – Director of Land Preservation, Wildlands Conservancy**
 - **Christopher Stroehler – Senior Conservation Planner, Wildlands Conservancy**
 - **Christine Dettore – Regional Advisor, Northeast Region Bureau of Recreation and Conservation, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources**
 - **Claire Sadler – Conservation Coordinator, Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor, Inc.**
- **Greenway Protection**
 - **Christopher Stroehler, Senior Conservation Planner, Wildlands Conservancy**

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- **Plainfield Township Biosolids Ordinance** – Regulates septage and sewage sludge
- **Official Map** – Greenway Protection

PUBLIC COMMENT

MEETING ADJOURNMENT

GRANT AND EVENT INFORMATION

GRANTS

Appalachian Trail Conservancy Conservation Assistance Mini-Grant

The Appalachian Trail Conservancy (ATC), along with Audubon PA and the Kittatinny Coalition, is now accepting applications for the ATC Conservation Assistance Mini-Grant Program. The purpose of the mini-grant program is to help local Pennsylvania municipalities through which the Appalachian National Scenic Trail (A.T.) passes, as well as partnering non-profits, to preserve and promote local natural and cultural assets along the Kittatinny Ridge and A.T. In 2015, \$35,000 in grants will be awarded with a required minimum 20% local match. The match may come from any source. Application deadlines are rolling with a pre-application meeting required before application submittal. **The 2015 Round closes on December 31, 2015.**

While priority will be given to plans for municipal conservation assessment or land use action, eligible projects can align with broader goals of successful conservation and trail-related awareness campaigns or planning and protection strategies. These can include ecologic and natural resources; scenic forested, agricultural, or open area viewsheds; heritage or cultural resources; and recreational trails. Funding cannot be used for land acquisition projects.

The ATC and Audubon PA co-lead the Kittatinny Coalition – an alliance of land trusts, environmental organizations, government agencies, and academic institutions working together to conserve the natural, scenic, cultural, and aesthetic resources of the Kittatinny Ridge in Pennsylvania. The coalition's key role is to be a facilitator and leader in projects that preserve and promote the region's natural and cultural assets.

Funds for the grants come from the National Park Service's Appalachian Trail Park Office and are provided to the ATC through a cooperative agreement.

EVENTS SCHEDULE

- **The next Regional EAC meeting agenda and meeting date is in progress.**
Jeanne Barrett Ortiz, Municipal Outreach Specialist
Audubon Pennsylvania Cell: 215-519-5648 jortiz@audubon.org

- **Lehigh Valley Watershed Conference** – Tuesday, October 13, 2015 at the Lehigh University STEPS Building
 - Dorothy Merritts from Franklin & Marshall College will be the conference keynote speaker, addressing how to best approach stream restoration in Pennsylvania after three hundred years of intensive land use

