

The regular meeting of the Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) was held tonight.

Voting members present were: Barbara Duffy, Daryl Carrington, Mary Beth Carroll, Miriam Moss, Lorna Rosenberg and David Schultz. Also present were ex-officio member Jonathan Essoka. Other interested public in attendance were: Bob Hamburg, Bonnie Hay and Tom McHugh. Staff present was Bryan T. Havir, Assistant Township Manager.

1. Call to Order – Mr. Schultz called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

2. Acceptance of Meeting Minutes – Mr. Schultz asked for a motion to approve the February 28, 2011 meeting minutes. Mr. Schultz noted that under the Annual Reorganization/Election of Officers, the wording be changed concerning the recommendation to appoint Tom McHugh Chairperson of the Transportation Committee subject to consent of a majority of voting EAC members and consensus by the Public Works Committee. Ms. Rosenberg made a motion to approve the February 28th meeting minutes as amended; seconded by Ms. Duffy. The motion was unanimously accepted.

Ms. Carroll announced that she will continue to work with Ms. Rosenberg on the website content for the EAC for the Township website for the next two weeks. Discussion on the communication committee chairperson was tabled until next month.

3. Committee Reports -

A. Watershed Committee – Ms. Duffy reported on the following:

- Ms. Duffy reported that the **2011 Cheltenham Community Earth Day Festival** is scheduled for May 14, 2011 at Cedarbrook Middle School from noon to 3:00 p.m. The next planning meeting is scheduled for March 22nd at 7:00 p.m. at Cedarbrook Middle School.
- Earth Day Project Activities are scheduled for April 30 and May 1, 2011. The late date is due to the holidays. Anyone interested in participating in the festival planning or would like to host a project, should contact Ms. Duffy at (beduffy@comcast.net) or 215-885-1506. (see attached report)

B. Energy Committee – Mr. Mettler was not present to offer his report. (see attached report)

C. Transportation Committee – Mr. McHugh noted that approximately 100 visitors attended the March 13, 2011 Transition Cheltenham Launch Party at the Cheltenham High School (see attached report). Four volunteers signed up for the transportation group's activities. (see attached report).

D. Buildings Committee – Ms. Rosenberg noted that the recycling program in the School District continues to move ahead. She is also working with the District and the Cheltenham High School personnel to get a green roof implemented at the High School. (see attached report).

E. Communications Committee – Ms. Carroll noted that she spoke to the Township Public Information Officer about the information needed for the Township's new website launching. She requested information about a green corner being placed on the Township website homepage. There will be a special ad hoc meeting to determine how much information can get on the website and the role different committees' play and they plan to bring back to the next meeting.

4. *Special Presentation:* Mr. Stephen Safir, of the Audubon Society, presented a fifteen minute video presentation on their program directed at municipalities called Bird Town, an At Home Program – "Creating Sustainable Communities through the Lives of Birds". (see attached).

5. *Old Business:*

A. EAC Vision Statement – Mr. Essoka guided a discussion on the development of a vision statement utilizing examples of vision statements from the Pennsylvania Environmental Council; Sustainable Jersey, ICLIE International and First Suburbs Coalition which were forwarded to the members by Mr. Schultz. (see attached). The most favored vision statement was that of International Council for Local Environment Initiatives (ICLEI). The discussion

included the following acknowledgement of concepts from the members to incorporate into the vision statement. These included the following topics:

- Vision statement is expansive.
- Mission statement is focused, organizational and can be implemented.
- Sustainable Future of Cheltenham.
- Healthy Ecosystems.
- Restoration equally important – Reference to Doug Tallamy’s book, Bringing Nature Home.
- Restoration – environment building infrastructure; older suburbs.
- Welcomes new opportunities.
- Actively support sustainable initiatives.
- Manage and improve ecosystem – symbiosis.
- Community vitality and nature vitality are interlinked.
- Verbal drawing of where you want to be.
- How to deal with problems – educational element – role of educators and advisors.
- Increase feeling of place; paradigm shift from unlimited to full world resources.
- Township motto – Where growth is a tradition rather quality of life.
- Restore versus sustain.
- Promote Township as wonderful place to live – Tookany Creek, Canopy, Audubon, Rail system.
- Urban core; regional context; catalyst for role collaborations; relationship to entities.

Mr. Essoka thanked the members for their input and he will put their comments and suggestions together for review and continued discussion at the next EAC meeting. Please send additional thoughts to Mr. Essoka at jessoka@verizon.net.

B. Website Development – Mr. Carroll offered the following proposed EAC communications directory for consideration and discussion:

- Green with Nature – Parks & Recreation, Watershed Plan, Open Space, Bird Town, Flora/Fauna.
- Learning Green – Township, Advanced Placement Environmental Course, Cheltenham High School, Master Gardener
- Green Transit – Bus, train, bikes, trails and maps
- Built Environment – Building codes, where to buy green
- Energy – Alternative Energy – Solar, geo-thermal
- Green Civics – EAC Committee, Shade Tree, Initiatives, Transition Town

The objective is to get through the directory with the fewest clicks; no regular changing of information, and providing links to cutting edge information. Ms. Carroll asked the EAC

members to forward their favorite information websites. Ms. Carroll and Ms. Rosenberg will send an e-mail to members of the proposed template before the next EAC meeting. They are looking for resources from Ms. Moss regarding Arcadia University; PTO's from Ms. Rosenberg; resources for Temple University from Mr. Carrington and Transportation from Mr. McHugh. Mr. Havir noted that the Township Staff was looking toward training committee volunteers to update information on website, e.g., Library Staff, Cheltenham Center for the Arts; Police Department, etc. He said the EAC Communications Chair could be trained as well.

C. Energy Works – Ms. Rosenberg will reach out to Mr. Khiet Long at the Pennsylvania Environmental Commission regarding the EAC hosting an event on April 27, 2011 at Curtis Hall.

D. Township Sustainability Plan - Mr. Havir reported that the Board of Commissioners is working with Montgomery County Planning Commission on a proposed schedule and meeting structure for the Township Sustainability Plan. The first meeting of the steering committee has been proposed for May. Formation of committee has not been announced yet. It is the intent the plan will take eighteen months to complete. Letters of interest from 28 citizens have been received. When finalized, information will be mailed to the EAC.

6. *New Business* -

A. DCNR C2P2 Grant Application is due April 20, 2011 – Mr. Havir reported that Mr. Rubert of DCNR had suggested re-filing the planning project submitted two years ago for Curtis Park Landscape Management Master Plan and submit that project for the April 2011 grant round. Mr. Havir requested a letter of support from the EAC Chair. Ms. Carroll made a motion to approve a support letter for the filing of a grant application for a planning grant for Curtis Park Landscape Management Plan on the behalf of the EAC; seconded by Ms. Rosenberg. The motion was unanimously accepted.

7. Other Business -

A. Ms. Carroll wished to bring to the attention of the Township the pedestrian safety concerns and the lack of crosswalks existing at the intersection of Glenside Avenue & Rices Mill Road. Mr. Havir suggested to Ms. Carroll that this was a Public Safety issue and not for the EAC. Ms. Rosenberg made a motion to have Ms. Carroll represent the EAC's concerns to the Public Safety Committee at the next meeting; seconded by Ms. Carrington. The motion was unanimously accepted.

B. Ms. Carroll also inquired about the property (known as the Krapf property) on or near the intersection of Glenside Avenue and Rices Mill Road for pedestrian mobility. This was the property where the school buses had previously parked. This property is now for sale according to Ms. Carroll. Ms. Carroll asked if the Township had plans for this property. Mr. Havir noted that this property was identified in the Open Space Plan under green infrastructure as possible acquisition due to flooding and having a large paved area next to the Tookany Creek. However, there was neither County Open Space funds earmarked for this project nor was acquisition ranked as a high priority for expenditure of public funds in the Township's Open Space Plan. Discussion ensued on redevelopment possibilities for the property. Mr. Havir stated that this matter could be taken up at a future EDTF meeting by way of Jonathan Essoka, as an EAC liaison and member on the EDTF.

C. Cresheim Trail Meeting- Mr. Innes announced that the committee will be meeting on Wednesday, March 23, 2011 at the Richard Wall House Museum Carriage House. A presentation will be made on the importance of trails in our watershed. He also said three Commissioners in Springfield Township recently voted to support the trail concept and a letter of support will be provided to the Trail Committee. The letter of support can be used by the committee in future funding opportunities for trail construction.

March 21, 2011 7:30 p.m.
Township Administration Building

8. *Adjournment* – Mr. Carrington made a motion to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Mr. Rosenberg. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.



David G. Kravnik,
Township Manager

Submitted by:
Kathryn McDevitt

Watershed Committee Report: EAC Meeting March 21, 2011

* **2011 Cheltenham Community Earth Day Festival planning continues.** The festival date has changed to Saturday, May 14th from noon to 3pm at Cedarbrook Middle School. The focus of the festival will be “**Conserving Resources**”. Cedarbrook students will be developing projects to teach participants about conservation of water, electricity, trees, etc. There will also be other vendors to educate the community as well as food and music. Outreach has started by the Festival planning committee to organize community and other organization to be involved in the Festival. Next planning meeting is Tuesday, March 22nd at 7pm at Cedarbrook MS.

* **Community-wide Earth Day Projects are set to happen on the weekend on April 30th/May 1st.** We have started to contact community groups to see who would like to host an Earth Day hands-on project anywhere in the township. So far we have 8 groups back from last year and are waiting to hear from several more. If you know anyone who would like to host a project please contact Barb Duffy at beduff@comcast.net or at 215-885-1506.

* **Riparian Corridor Conservation District Ordinance Draft review-** There was no meeting this month, so there is no update at this time. Barbara Duffy will contact the Ad Hoc Zoning Committee and Hanna Mazzaccaro, MontCo Planner to inquire about a time line for moving this draft along.

* **Native Plant ordinance-** Same as last month—this draft ordinance is completed and still needs to move onto the next step, but is on hold due to the focus on the Riparian Corridor Ordinance. Barbara Duffy will contact the Hanna Mazzaccaro, MontCo Planner to inquire about where this draft is in the process.

* Continuing work with the EAC Buildings Committee and TTF Watershed Partnership on **Water Conservation strategies** to promote to the community. Community educational focus will be included in the Earth Day Festival planning.

* Supplied TTF Partnership with Stormwater marker disks for labeling stormwater inlets in the Cheltenham Village area. The disks inform residents that the stormwater inlets drains directly to Tookany Creek. TTF Watershed Partnership worked with a group of Arcadia University students to mark about 50 inlets.

McDevitt, Kathryn

From: wmmettler3@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, March 20, 2011 6:48 PM
To: david.mcveigh.schultz@gmail.com; McDevitt, Kathryn; beduffy@comcast.net
Subject: Re: EAC March 22, 2011 Meeting Agenda and February 28, 2011 Meeting Minutes
 3/20/11

Dear David, Kathryn and Barbara:

Dave, thanks for your good energy and focus on our vision statement my favorite one of the examples is: Sustainable New Jersey's triple bottom line—it's concise and to the point and embraces social justice, environmental integrity and re-localization of the economy.

Energy Report:

Transition Cheltenham had it's Launch Party on Sunday, March 13 4-8PM at CHS cafeteria. The participants—quick adapters from our township for the most joined in a sumptuous Pot Luck Banquet and got to choose for joining among 10 Action Groups for "Powering Down" (living comfortably on less and less energy demand):

LOCAL: Arts, Economy, Energy, Education, Food, Government, Trails & Transit, Celebration & Outreach, and Zero Waste.

There will be a gathering of these Action Groups on 27 March for visioning each field and starting the first action steps to reach that vision.

The questions posed to each participant are:

What do you love?

And what would you like to grow in your community?

Respectfully,
 Bill Mettler

-----Original Message-----

From: David McVeigh-Schultz <david.mcveigh.schultz@gmail.com>
 To: McDevitt, Kathryn <kmcdevitt@cheltenham-township.org>; Amy Steffan <amysteffen@verizon.net>; Barbara Duffy <beduffy@comcast.net>; Bernie Penzak <bpanzak@glackinplan.com>; Bob De Maria <demari4@verizon.net>; Bob Hamburg <bhanomalous7@gmail.com>; Bonnie Hay <belh@verizon.net>; Bridget Chadwick <chadwick@voicenet.com>; Chris Beetham <cbeetham@verizon.net>; Daryl Carrington <daryl@jcdavisarchitects.com>; Deborah Fries <defries@state.pa.us>; Diana K. Weiner <dkweiner@comcast.net>; Donna Suevo <dsuevo@state.pa.us>; Dottie Baumgarten <dottiebaumgarten@gmail.com>; Ed Lichstein <edlichstein@comcast.net>; Eva Monheim <EMONHEIM@aol.com>; Havir, Bryan <BHavir@cheltenham-township.org>; J. Noorman <jnoorman@verizon.net>; Janet Starwood <janet.starwood@verizon.net>; Jeffrey Bacal <bacalite@comcast.net>; Jim Gorman <Jimgorman10@gmail.com>; Jim Innes <james.innes@carrierclasstowers.com>; Jonathan Essoka <jessoka@verizon.net>; Judith Gratz <weitzhuis@comcast.net>; Justin S. Moriconi, Esq. <jmoriconi@alflaw.net>; Kathleen Foti <kfoti@montgomerynews.com>; Khiat Luong <kluong@pecpa.org>; Lorna Rosenberg <Rosenberg.Lorna@epamail.epa.gov>; Martha Mowry <marthamowry@hotmail.com>; Martin Carey <mdcproductions@mac.com>; Mary Beth Carroll <MBCarroll@aol.com>; Mirian Moss <mossm@arcadia.edu>; Myron Goldman <mgoldman13@comcast.net>; Paul Gordon <pwgordon@comcast.net>; Rita Stevens <RITASTEVEN@comcast.net>; Robert Panebianco <rpanebianco1951@yahoo.com>; Sarah Robb-Grieco <sarah@ttfwatershed.org>; Susan Dannenberg <sdannenberg@septa.org>; Thomas Johnston <tjohnston@thinkgreenllc.com>; Tom Bale <tombale@comcast.net>; Tom McHugh <tom.mchugh@monitordata.com>; William Mettler <WMMETTLER3@aol.com>

Sent: Sun, Mar 20, 2011 2:58 pm

Subject: Re: EAC March 22, 2011 Meeting Agenda and February 28, 2011 Meeting Minutes

Cheltenham Township EAC

Report of the Transportation Committee

March 21, 2011

Participation at the Transition Cheltenham Launch Party March 13, 2011:

Ron Dunbar, Jeff Olawski and Gail Post staffed the "Transit and Trails" action group table at the TC launch party yesterday. Judi Gratz was also there doing all sorts of good things for everybody.

Ron guessed that they had about 100 visitors.

There was a fair amount of traffic at the transportation table. Four people signed up to take part in the Transportation group's subsequent activities. I will contact those people shortly and try to form a viable working group. Much of the interest was focused on the biking and walking routes in the township and how they can be made safer. There was a large township map at the table.

Commissioner Drew Sharkey attended, came over and chatted briefly.

Buildings Sub-committee report, March 21, 2011 – submitted for the EAC by Lorna Rosenberg

Still continuing on these efforts.

RECYLING –

We are still in a major effort to kick off the recycling program in the Cheltenham School District. The target for a significant awareness and action Campaign is the week after EarthDay , April 25-29. During this week the District will focus on the following activities:

- Recycling tips of the week
- No-waste Lunch Day
- Max Recycling Collection Challenge
- Poster contest and green T-shirt day.
- Presentations by Waste Management

Cheryl Horsey, Susan O'Grady and Dr Ray Bavi and I are working with a group of parents to make this happen. We are still in the planning stages.

Green Roof CHS -

Met with Burt Horn Chair of the Science Dept, Russell Wolff – AP Environmental Science Teacher, Ray Bavi, facilities to discuss moving forward with the green roof proposal. The students are working on a power point that will be reviewed by Dr. Bavi and myself and then presented to the Superintendent by mid – March. Hopefully, they will be approved to present their information to the School Board Facilities Committee for approval. At the moment the group is working with RoofScapes and will seek funding through grants to pay for the project.

Have had discussions with URS corporation about a comprehensive stormwater management project for CHS starting with a raingarden.

I need to follow up with Ray Bavi and the teachers.

Dear EAC Members and Supporters,

The EAC decided to forgo all but quick announcements from committee reports at tomorrow's meeting in order to make room for a 20 minute discussion on the development of vision statement for the EAC, as well as other old business. As a result, it is all the more important for committee chairs provide written reports. I hope to collect these at the beginning of the meeting and have copies made and distributed to everyone attending..

In anticipation of the discussion about organizational visioning, I had promised to share with you some model vision statements that have been adopted by kindred organizations in the environmental field. Four are listed below.

1. Pennsylvania Environmental Council: Pennsylvania will be a model for implementing collaborative solutions to environmental protection and restoration. This success will be built from the work of partners that recognize the inextricable links between the environment, the economy, and our quality of life.

2. Sustainable Jersey strives for a better tomorrow one community at a time. The program encompasses the three equal, interrelated components of sustainability:

Prosperity – support your local economy and use community resources

Planet – practice responsible environmental management and conservation

People – embrace social equity and fairness

3. ICLEI USA's mission is to build, serve, and drive a movement of local governments to advance deep reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and achieve tangible improvements in local sustainability. (and summarizing)

ICLEI International's vision is to be::

- a. a growing association dedicated to sustainable development;
- b. a high energy flexible movement of local governments working together for performance;
- c. a demonstration of creativity and excellence in developing and executing cutting edge solutions.

4. *The mission of the First Suburbs Coalition is to promote sustainable communities with healthy environments, vital economies, and a high quality of life for all current residents and future generations by promoting the preservation, reinvestment, and revitalization of first suburb neighborhoods, commercial areas, and infrastructure. In accomplishing its mission, the First Suburbs Coalition will be guided by the following values:*

- **Accessibility**
Maximize mobility and access to opportunity for all first suburb residents
- **Economic Vitality and Reinvestment**
Promote economic vitality through reinvestment in the first suburbs commercial, residential, and public infrastructure
- **Environment**
Protect and restore the natural environment within the first suburbs
- **Place Making**
Encourage the creation of vibrant community places within the first suburbs that foster social interaction and active living
- **Education**
Support the public education system within the first suburbs and promote active learning throughout the community
- **Civic Governance**
Promote the engagement of all residents in community decisions
- **Regional Context**
Encourage collaboration among the first suburbs and coordination with regional initiatives

I hope you find this helpful as a discussion starter. Thanks for your consideration.

Dave McVeigh-Schultz
EAC Chair

 Audubon



BIRD TOWN
P E N N S Y L V A N I A

*A project of Audubon Pennsylvania's
Audubon At Home Program*

Creating Sustainable Communities through the Lives of Birds

A History of Conservation

The National Audubon Society has been protecting birds and their habitat for more than a century. In the last ten years the organization has expanded its emphasis to include backyards and other aspects of the “built landscape” – as habitat diminishes we look to these human-influenced spaces to serve as critical habitat for many birds. The **Audubon At Home** program appeals to anyone with jurisdiction over property and who aims to provide a healthier habitat for birds *and* people. **Bird Town** rolls up the actions of individuals within municipal boundaries and provides the tools that foster stewardship.

A Sense of Place

We are intrinsically tied to the place we live. In what once was “Penn’s Woods,” the forest primeval, it is the trees that anchor us to what has become our ecological address. There are other plants of course; shrubs, wildflowers, grasses that define Pennsylvania’s sense of place and that contribute not only to environmental health, but to differentiating what works in our landscape from that of Kansas, Nevada, or any other state. In the context of a *Bird Town*, native plants are the basis for a living landscape; one critical to the life of native birds and ultimately our own.

Living Green

Green living is now entrenched in the American conscience; daily choices are made based on the benefits of health, sustainability, and “eco-friendliness”. *Bird Town* looks beyond conventional “eco” vehicles such as recycling and composting and addresses the complex ecological services provided by natural environments; innumerable services we now recognize support all life, including human.

Bird Town aims to guide communities in making coherent decisions with a culture of conservation that will provide connections to nature, recreation, and improved greenspace.

Why Birds?

Birds are the most visible and measurable indicators of environmental health in our natural areas and indicate the conditions of far away places where birds travel; the boreal forests and tropics of South America for example. Pennsylvania is an important place to migrating birds; its breeding grounds for 16% of the world’s Scarlet Tanagers, 10% of the world’s Worm-eating Warblers, and 9% of the world’s Wood Thrushes.

Habitat loss, fragmentation, and degradation are the leading causes of population declines in birds, other wildlife, and plants. Roughly 2.1 million acres of wildlife habitat nationwide are converted to residential use every year.

While implementing the best landscaping practices on an individual property can help support wildlife and protect natural resources, linking adjacent properties through a broader community plan can yield even greater conservation outcomes by stabilizing common bird populations and expanding the resources to more specialized species.

Bird Town provides the framework for implementing such a plan.

Everybody’s Birding! Bird watching or “birding”, is one of America’s most popular pastimes. According to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, more than 63 million people are involved in bird feeding or bird watching and they spend 100 million dollars in *each* state annually.

Benefits of Becoming a Bird Town

- An improved quality of ecological systems
- *Community pride and increased marketability*
- Vastly increased resources to native birds and native insects
- *A safer, more rewarding place to live, work, and play*
- Economic development and higher property values
- *Maintenance costs and times reduced*
- Cleaner water, cleaner air, less landfill
- *Cooperation of community officials, constituents, and businesses*
- Encourages exercise, recreation and community pride and cohesion
- *Renewed ecosystem services such as stormwater management*

Assembling the Flock – How Audubon Helps

The process begins with a simple commitment from the township to help educate their residents about sustainable practices and bird conservation. With that, Audubon provides to the town:

- 2-day intensive training for 6 individuals to become community conservation leaders
- Website and letterhead template, logo usage
- Bird Town/Bird Habitat Brochures, promotional materials for Great Backyard Bird Count and other citizen science programs
- Five (5) metal street signs (24”h x 18”w) for town gateways to proclaim your commitment to stewardship
- One (1) display banner for events and municipal building
- Business sponsor window stickers
- Quarterly content for township/EAC newsletters
- Video content on request for CATV stations
- Periodic analysis reports of township status for website
- Support in planning Bird/Nature Festival fundraiser
- Hat, decals, and miscellaneous items as produced

Based on the activity of the town, it will be rated on a 5-star system with annual growth and goal-setting. Audubon will assist with the implementation of a business plan so that the EAC or committee can create a sustained effort that not only yields water and energy savings but also raises revenue to help facilitate continued education and outreach efforts.

Getting Started – The Municipal Migration Route

The ongoing partnership between Audubon and your town begins with a simple commitment on behalf of the municipality. Membership into this unique and valuable program and all that it entails is just an \$850 per year program fee. With successful Bird Day events, the EAC not only be able to sustain this program, but have funds on hand to deliver whatever programs or resources to their community they desire.

1. Take Off

- Initial meeting with Audubon with EAC and/or ideally, a municipal representative (supervisor, commissioner, etc.)
- Identification of “Captain” (Big Bird) to lead effort, and six potential trainees
- Commitment to pursue

2. Flap

- Second meeting with Audubon
- Begin proclamation process for Bird Town/Bird Fest
- Agree to terms of services

3. Ascend

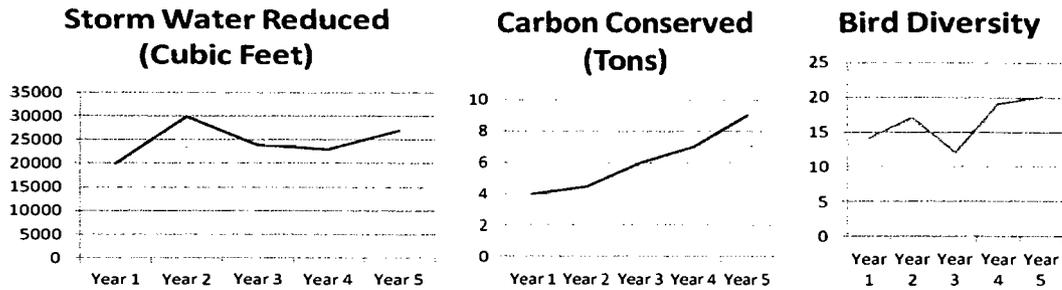
- Third meeting with Audubon
- Work with Audubon to develop business plan and Bird Fest strategy
- Receive materials from Audubon based entry level

4. Soar

- Residential properties engaged, schools show interest, parks serve as model gardens
- Annual report from Audubon show growth and municipality is awarded
- Promotion of towns success through web and media
- Annual Bird Fest occurs with sponsors, vendors, booths and events

Measuring Success - Value in Real Results

It begins as residents register their property and activity in the Bird Town **Habitat Recognition** database. Then, **each year** your town will receive status reports showing how conditions have changed and the financial benefits your constituents and town have realized based on the cumulative data. A small sample “dashboard” below demonstrates how a township might progress after five years of participation:



In the end, Audubon will be able to provide valuable information on:

1. Total Properties participating (households, schools, businesses, parks)
2. Increased Bird Diversity
3. Water Conserved
4. Chemicals reduced
5. Carbon sequestered
6. Acres Enrolled
7. Municipal Money Saved
8. Property owner savings

The Other Green

Bird Town, by its nature, creates a financial incentive to homeowners, municipalities, and other property owners. By reducing runoff, mowing regimes, chemical treatment, and solid waste, municipalities over time can save on expenditures. Homeowners can create a cost-neutral landscape plan by considering energy use in the indoors and can reduce their own expenses by adopting best management practices similar to the township.

Studies show that **real estate values** increase 7-20 % where trees, recreational resources and natural amenities are part of the community. Real estate in these areas also sells faster than areas without these amenities.

One of the top four criteria for new age **workers** today is living with **easy access** to natural environments and recreational opportunity.

Voluntary...not Regulatory

Bird Town is completely voluntary and can be modified to fit the needs and size of your town. However, Bird Town can greatly assist participating sites in meeting state and federal land use and stormwater regulations (MS-4 permits) by providing case studies and best management practices.

Bird Fest

To strengthen community cohesion that is centered on a collective concern for birds and their habitat, Audubon will assist the EAC and town by providing a business plan for an annual dedicated "Bird Day" – a community festival celebrating birds and nature and success. The festival might include sponsors, contests, vendors, music, and live animals.

**For more information, please contact
Steven Saffier, Director of Audubon At Home
ssaffier @ Audubon.org
Audubon Pennsylvania
John James Audubon Center at Mill Grove
1201 Pawlings Rd.
Audubon PA 19403
<http://pa.audubon.org/AAH-BirdTown>**

Evidence suggests that children and adults **benefit so much from contact with nature** that land conservation can now be viewed as a public health strategy."

Howard Frumkin, MD, and Richard Louv, author of *Last Child in the Woods*