

February 23, 2009  
7:30 p.m.  
Richard Wall House

The regular meeting of the Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) was held tonight. Voting members present were Barbara Duffy, Bill Mettler, David McVeigh-Schultz, Lorna Rosenberg, Miriam Moss, Mary Beth Carroll and K. Daryl Carrington. Non-voting (ex-Officio) members present were Thomas Bale. Also present were Bridget Chadwick, Bonnie Hay, Rita Stevens, Lewis Ruberg, Dottie Baumgarten and Robert DeMaria and Staff present: Bryan T. Havir, Assistant Township Manager.

1. **Call to Order.** Ms. Duffy called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.
2. **Acceptance of Meeting Minutes.** Upon motion of Mr. Schultz and seconded by Ms. Duffy, the EAC accepted the January 26, 2009 meeting minutes, with two corrections. 1) On page five, Mr. Schultz "presented at" instead of "attended" the Global Warming presentation at Arcadia University. 2) Ms. Duffy stated that under the Transportation Committee Report the minutes did not reflect the letter drafted by EAC addressing concerns regarding the SEPTA Parking Garage at the Jenkintown-Wyncote Station which was sent to the Public Works Committee at its January 13, 2009 meeting.
3. **Under Committee Reports,** The Committee reports were given in the following order:

A. Building Committee

The following items were discussed:

- Mrs. Rosenberg reported that an Energy Home Audit was filmed today. The film will be edited for production by Blu Path Design Architects for a twenty (20) minute DVD to be shown on Cheltenham Township cable access channel 42. Cheltenham High School Video Club is also assisting with the video production to be shown on Channel 42. The proposed name is entitled, "Everyone Can Green Their Home"; however, that could change.
- Ms. Rosenberg reported on a seminar scheduled for February 24, 2009 at Curtis Hall which is being sponsored by the EPA. About seventy (70) individuals from around the region have signed up to attend.

- A Home Efficiency Design Speakers Series has been developed with the first presentation entitled Lowering Your Carbon Footprint scheduled for Wednesday March 4, 2009 at the Elkins Park Library commencing at 6:45 p.m. Information will be e-mailed later tonight about the event.
- A Workshop on Solar Thermal Energy for Homeowners Part I is planned for March 25, 2009 at the Elkins Park Library. (see attached outline)

## B. Energy

- Mr. Schultz distributed The EAC Education Project Objectives and Timing outline and discussed the following: 1) Educating homeowners on conservation; 2) Informing small businesses about managing energy efficiency and 3) Informing educational and governmental institutions on ways to improve energy efficiency. (See attached)
- Mr. Bale then provided a detailed report on Sustainable Household Support Groups with 1) Demonstrations Group Meeting in March. 2) Introductory support group meetings in April and May and 3) Group goals and progress report meeting in June. Would like to have 9-12 people for a focus group to meet on March 26, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. Mail flier to friends and follow up with phone calls.
  - a. Talk about EAC activities
  - b. Review of DVD on Global Warming
  - c. Talk about what homeowners can do to make their homes energy efficient.
  - d. Offer a homeowner Survey
  - e. Develop a check-list
  - f. Offer economic incentives
  - g. Homeowners to sign a pledge
  - h. Collect Feedback
- Mr. Carrington made a motion to accept the Energy Committees' recommended educational initiatives as outlined which was seconded by Lorna Rosenberger and unanimously accepted.

- Mr. Mettler provided an update on the Smart Power program for wind energy which was discussed at a recent meeting he attended. He said that according to the information, Cheltenham is 5<sup>th</sup> of 22 green energy communities in Southeastern Pennsylvania with 7% of residents buying wind energy. Since 2007, there have been 244 new sign ups. Ideas offered for generating interest in wind energy include advertising on paper placemats at area restaurants or eateries and offer those who already have wind energy a \$20.00 credit on a future utility bill. It was also recommended that PECO representatives be invited to participate with a display at the Earth Day Fair.

#### C. Transportation

- Ms. Chadwick reported that there would be a SEPTA meeting on February 24, 2009 at Cheltenham High School to discuss the proposed Jenkintown-Wyncote Parking Garage, commencing at 7:30 p.m. Eight hundred residents had been invited to the meeting by SEPTA via direct mail. Ms. Chadwick reported that a group of residents are getting organized who are upset.
- The EAC members felt that Ms. Duffy should be present at the meeting and discuss the items outlined in the EAC's letter which was previously developed and forwarded to the Public Works Committee. Mr. Mettler felt the letter is well measured and represents the EAC's current position. Ms. Duffy agreed to attend the meeting.

#### D. Communications

- Ms. Carroll presented a hard copy of the inaugural environmental e-mail blast newsletter which was reviewed by the members. She also recommended the EAC meeting minutes be placed on the Township's website. Ms. Carroll is developing e-mail list with contacts names and e-mail addresses. Ms. Duffy suggested additional contacts include links to Melrose Park, High School Park and Grove Park e-mail lists. The concept is to distribute an e-mail blast at least once a month. It was suggested that the draft copy be reviewed by the Township's Public Information Officer before communication is finalized and sent. (See attached)

#### E. Watershed Committee

- Creek Naming – Ms. Duffy reported that the public comment period deadline was extended indefinitely until the committee is completely satisfied that its research is 100% complete.
- Earth Day Activities – Ms. Duffy reminded everyone that April 18, 2009 is the Park Clean-Up Day. If any community group wants to host a clean-up project please let her know. So far, the following community groups have agreed to participate: Grove Park; Tookany Elkins Park Rotary; Boys Scott #22; Elkins Park Garden; Laverock Garden; Elkins Estate Retreat (Dominican Retreat House) offered to participate and present a wellness component. Elkins Estate Retreat did offer use of their facility for next year's Earth Day Events. Additional recommendations for clean up sites were offered: Glenside War Memorial Park and Renninger Field. Ms. Carroll felt she could request help from Girl Scouts #7391 for help with cleaning up this Park. Ms. Duffy said there was a need to promote activities with a flier and hoping to get this out by March 25, 2009. Ms. Duffy said that Earth Day Fair at Cedarbrook Middle School is set for April 25, 2009 Reduce, Recycle, Reuse is this year's theme. Activities include speaker for composting; music, vendors, solar wind, etc. The vendors would include food, co-ops, Glenside Farmers' Market and the Tookany-Tacony Frankford Watershed Partnership with a rain barrel display. There is a new group called, Be the Change, and they will have a demonstration table related to plastic bags.

#### 4. **Old Business**

Mr. DeMaria made a presentation on a pre-proposal application for a potential PA Alternative Energy Grant that he was looking to write and submit by March 6, 2009. He suggested forming a partnership with the Township. Mr. Havar suggested that Mr. DeMaria prepare a draft of the pre-applications proposal and that it be e-mailed to the EAC for review and comment prior to submission to the State. If the project is selected, a formal project narrative will need to be submitted in June, 2009.

**5. New Business**

Rita Stevens, PHD who is involved in the Philadelphia Horticulture Society's (PHS) City Gardens, Tree Tenders and Shade Trees, addressed the EAC about working with on a collaborative concept, "Bringing the Philadelphia Green Model to the Suburbs".

This includes Abington and Cheltenham Township as well as Chester and Norristown. The Philadelphia Green model goes back 35 years and involves taking vacant lots and greening them. Ms. Stevens has worked with Michael Gromn, PHS, who is a Cheltenham resident who is responsible for taking the green model to the suburbs. The PHS's mission is to inform, educate and grow membership.

Some ideas where collaborative projects could be developed include: 1) Tree tenders, 2) PHS training programs (for township staff and Maintenance); volunteer recruitment and retention and 3) use of Meadowbrook Farms as a resource for EAC events. 4) Shade Tree Advisory Commissions to use ISA methodology in inventory of trees 5) Use of i-tree software provided by U. S. Forestry Service to measure your canopy, multi-years, measurement, youth involvement.

**6. Other Business and Announcements**

Mr. Mettler announced that there will be an EAC Conference on March 14, 2009. Cost to attend is \$10.00. Everyone was encouraged to attend and register online. Mr. Havir noted there was sufficient funding in the Township budget earmarked for EAC activities to reimburse voting members that attend the conference.

**7. Adjournment** - Chairperson Duffy adjourned the meeting at 10:00 p.m.



David G. Kraynik,  
Township Manager

Prepared by  
Kathryn McDevitt



# **Solar Thermal Energy for Homeowners**

**Wednesday, March 25 6:45-8:45 p.m.  
Elkins Park Library**

**Presenter: Jurgin Balitzky, Solar Thermal Installation Contractor**

## **PART ONE**

All information provided is based on a family of four (4) living in an un-insulated house within the Delaware Valley.

How does one develop the correct size for the solar collector and the solar hot water storage tank?

How to calculate the estimated savings of the system being installed.

Developing a use formula for consumption and saving.

Why vacuum tube collectors rather than a flat plate collectors

Estimated cost of an installed system.

## **PART TWO**

Discussing a solar hot water system that also has the ability to offset some of the cost to heat ones house. Figures are based on a freestanding single-family residence. In addition to the domestic hot water provided by the system basic develop parameters for an expanded system.

To what extent should the Domestic Hot Water system be enlarged?

What percent of space heating will be offset by the system?

How will the system over heating be resolved?

Incorporation of a programmable controller

Cost to benefit ratios of hybrid system.

# EAC Education Project Objectives and Timing

## Goal 1: Educate Home Owners About Energy Conservation Opportunities

### 1. Energy Home Audit Film

EAC Coordinators: Lorna and Dave

Community Volunteers: Laura Blau, Producer; Joe Volpe, Cinematographer and Editor

- a. filming completed by February 23
- b. film editing completed by the end of March
- c. distributed by township television, ECA, and Bluepath Design

### 2. Home Efficiency Design Speakers Series

EAC Coordinator: Lorna

- a. Presentation 1: Lowering Your Carbon Footprint by McGraw Engineering Associates  
Wednesday, March 4
- b. Presentation 2: Solar Thermal for Homeowners by Jurgen Balitski, private contractor  
Wednesday, March 25

### 3. Sustainable Household Support Groups

EAC Coordinator: Tom

- a. Demonstration group meeting March
- b. Introductory support group meetings April-May
- c. Group goals and progress report meeting June

## Goal 2: Inform Small Businesses About Resources To Manage Energy Efficiency

### 1. Business Association Presentations

EAC Coordinator: Mary Beth

- a. Provide tools and resources to reduce energy waste and cost, and to achieve and measure energy savings.
- b. Encourage improved building energy management and maintenance, and seek out local business success stories in conservation.
- c. Introduce businesses to do-it-yourself building evaluation techniques and professional building auditing services.

## Goal 3: Inform Educational and Governmental Institutions About Ways to Improve Their Facility's Efficiency

### 1. Workshop for township managers and officials

EAC Coordinator: David Schultz

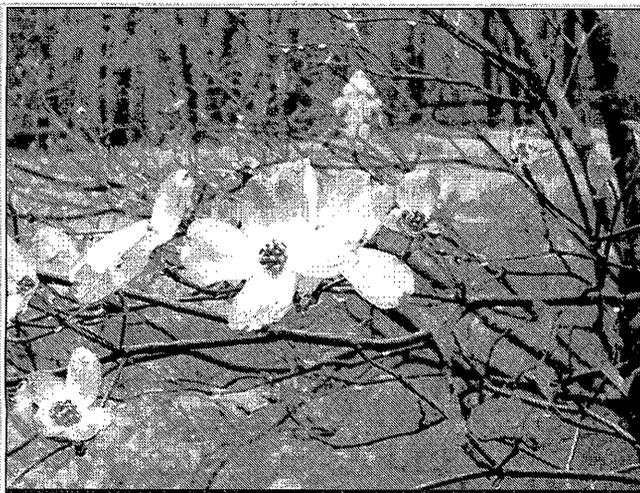
- a. 1/2 day training in how to achieve energy and water efficiency improvements in public buildings and grounds through;  
maintenance innovations, and;  
planning and financing for retrofit projects.

### 2. Companion workshop for administrators and facility managers of educational institutions

EAC Coordinator: Marion Moss

- a. 1/2 day training in how to achieve energy and water efficiency improvements;  
develop and improve recycling and reuse programs, and;  
measure how these programs reduce your campus's carbon consumption.

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# Cheltenham Township Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC)

## Do The BIG 10!!!!!!

1. Choose organic, locally grown vegetables and fruits. Eat less meat and dairy- healthy & uses less energy. Join a CSA, Shop Farmers' Markets, Grow a garden.
2. Drink & carry filtered tap water, not bottled-cheaper, cleaner. Save \$1.30/bottle
3. Use cloth bags for food shopping and reusable containers for leftovers & lunches.
4. Change your regular light bulbs to CFLs (spiral lights)
5. OFF is Beautiful: turn off water, lights, and unplug electronics when not in use. Save 25% or more on your utilities bills: save \$1.67/ccf natural gas, \$0.17/KWh electricity, \$2.60/gal heat oil and \$0.0109/gal for water (including all charges)
6. Get a thermostat that you can program to turn down the heat or the cooling when away or sleeping at night. Turn 1 degree lower in winter, 1 degree

## Who are we?

The Cheltenham (EAC) is an advisory board that recommends environmental actions to the Cheltenham Township Board of Commissioners. In the Past two years, since our inception, we have enjoyed many successful community based environmental projects. We would like to keep you informed on the projects, seminars, and community activities that we are working on. Please forward this email to anyone who you would like. We hope to involve our wider community in working together to make a more sustainable world.

## Earth Day Community Groups Wanted

We need Community groups to host an Earth Day Project on Saturday, April 18th! Projects can include stream, park or neighborhood clean ups, plantings, etc. All projects will be advertised on the Cheltenham Township website, channel 42 and in fliers distributed to local schools and libraries.

(If you don't wish to host a project, you can always join another project-- check out the Cheltenham website at the

Try 1 degree lower in winter, 1 degree higher in summer, *Dress for the season.*

**7.** Keep sun OUT on hot days IN on cold days with shades, blinds or curtains

**8.** Wash only FULL loads in dish & clothes washers-use clothesline to dry clothes.

**9.** Get PA Wind Energy for your home: [www.PecoWind.com](http://www.PecoWind.com). Wind energy is clean and healthier for everyone. It can be scaled up to help make a clean energy grid.

another project-- check out the Cheltenham website at the end of March for an updated list of Earth Day Projects!)  
Contact Barb Duffy ([beduffy@comcast.net](mailto:beduffy@comcast.net))

## Mark your calendar

### **Lowering Your Carbon Foot Print: How and Why Your Home's Energy Performance Matters:**

Wednesday, March 4th, Elkins Park Library at 6:45 pm

### **Cheltenham Earth Day Projects**

Saturday, April 18th Locations throughout the Township (check the website for details at the end of March

### **Cheltenham Community Earth Day Festival**

Saturday, April 25th 2009, Cedarbrook Middle School (Noon to 4pm)

### **Used Electronics Drive - Ethical Recycling**

Saturday & Sunday, March 28 & 29 (rain or shine)

11am 3pm, Cedarbrook Middle School

300 Longfellow Road, Wyncote, PA

COST: \$1.00 per pound (ethical recycling fee)

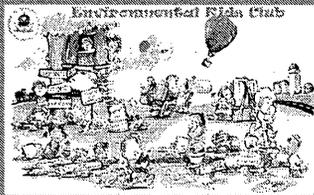
CONTACT: [sarah@ttfwatershed.org](mailto:sarah@ttfwatershed.org), 215.208.1613

Nothing we collect will be tipped into landfills, incinerated as solid waste, or dumped in developing countries!

#### **WE WILL ACCEPT:**

Televisions, Computers, Monitors, Keyboards, Drives, Cables, Cords, Peripherals, Fax Machines, Scanners, Laptops, Stereo Equipment, Speakers, CD & DVD Players, Telephones, Remote Controls, VCR's, Projectors, Digital Cameras, PDAs, Speakers, Radios, Answering Machines, Camcorders, Electric Typewriters, Video Game Systems, Pagers, Microwaves, Toasters, USB Media, Magnetic Media, Zip Disks, Audio Tapes, Floppy Diskettes, Ink Cartridges, etc.

Fo tne Kd



Find fun children activities at  
This site!

EPA for Kids

## Speakers Available

Are you interested in helping to plan the 2009 Earth Day Festival?? OR Interested in having an environmental speaker come to your club or group? OR Interested in being a speaker for the EAC?

-- contact Barb Duffy (beduffy@comcast.net)

Do you wonder what impact  
you have on the environment?  
Find out here-  
Find your footprint!



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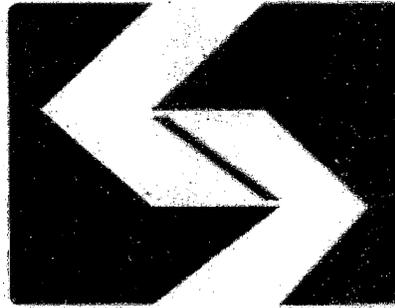
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Cheltenham EAC | 123 Rices Mill Rd | Wyncote | PA | 1909

Agenda Item  
# 3.C.



# COMMUNITY MEETING

## *Jenkintown - Wyncote Station Improvement Project*

Join us at this opportunity to provide valuable feedback to the Jenkintown-Wyncote Station Improvement Project. Participants will have the opportunity to learn about the project, review preliminary materials, and participate in a question and answer session.

**Tuesday February 24, 2009**

**7:30 to 9:00 pm**

**The Little Theater  
Cheltenham High School  
500 Rices Mill Road  
Wyncote, PA**

If you have questions please contact Wendy Green  
at (215) 580 7661 or [wgreen@septa.org](mailto:wgreen@septa.org)

Production of the Educational Video  
"Everyone can Green Their Home"

A Collaboration of the Cheltenham Environmental Advisory Council, BluPath Architects, the Energy Coordinating Agency, the TV Production Studios at Cheltenham High School and the Gordon and Mettler Households  
Lorna Rosenberg, January 6, 2009

The Cheltenham Township Environmental Advisory Council is facilitating the production of an educational video entitled "Everyone Can Green Their Home". All efforts to create and produce this video are voluntary by all parties involved.

**Purpose:** To produce an educational video that showcases opportunities that an "average" homeowner can apply to reduce their energy and water use while operating their home sustainably. It is intended to air the video on channel 42 and neighboring stations as well as aired throughout the community at designated locations. It can also be available as a teaching tool, requested by the public and institutions.

**Background:** Cheltenham Township will be conducting a green house gas inventory and action plan in 2009. The major source of green house gases in our Township is from the built environment including both residences and commercial buildings. In order to engage Cheltenham residents in energy reduction actions we are creating this video which we hope will be widely viewed and influential.

BluPath Design, architects and their new company GreenSteps, LLC has created a "Green Homes Basics" course which they are teaching in the region. Laura Blau of BluPath Design, architects, is offering the firm's professional experience in assisting homeowners and residents to green their home as the moderator for the video. She believes that the video will be an enhancement to their in-person live GreenSteps course and a great tool for reaching a broader audience.

**Approach and Expected Results:** Two Cheltenham Resident households have been selected as case studies that will appear on the video. The Energy Coordinating Agency will conduct several diagnostic tests on each house for energy efficiency and will be filmed by the Cheltenham High School TV and Video Media Dept. with participation from BluPath, GreenSteps and the Cheltenham Township EAC. BluPath will conduct a preliminary walk through of both homes (both inside and outside) with the homeowners to point out areas for improvement. BluPath will create a rough script, and conduct a second walk-through that will be filmed; walking through the home reviewing the diagnostic test results and highlighting areas for improvement while dialoging with the homeowner.

Cheltenham High School TV and Video Media Dept will create a final edited video which can be aired at specific times and perhaps be placed on the Cheltenham Township and School District websites or used in the community as an educational tool. All contributors will be noted in the film credits.

It is the hope of the EAC that hundreds will watch and make improvements to their homes to reduce their energy use, reduce green house gases and lower bills. The video is collaboration between several partners.

1) **Cheltenham High School TV and Video Media Department:** will be filming and producing the final DVD as well as scheduling the program for public viewing on Channel 42. The intent is to heavily advertise the viewing times to include the greatest number of viewers. The contact for this effort is Joseph Volpe the teacher in charge of the CHS program who will be using student support to assist him with this effort. There is no fee for this effort as it is considered an educational outreach project.

2) **BluPath Architects and GreenSteps LLC:** BluPath and GreenSteps has created a "Green Homes Basics" course which they are teaching in the region. Laura Blau and Paul Thompson of BluPath Design, architects, are offering the firm's professional experience in assisting homeowners and residents to green their home as the moderator for the video. BluPath will also gather appropriate samples (windows, insulation etc) as examples for the homeowners. Laura believes that the video will be an enhancement to GreenSteps live course and a great tool for reaching a broader audience.

3) **Energy Coordinating Agency:** The Energy Coordinating Agency (ECA) is an energy saving company located in Philadelphia and is a Home Performance with ENERGY STAR provider. ECA will be donating technical expertise for a blower door test and other diagnostic tests (possible blower door test, Carbon Monoxide test, Infrared Thermal Imaging etc in the selected "case study" homes at the beginning of the video. The results of ECA's work will be shared with GreenSteps, BluPath Design and the homeowner as baseline of information for prioritizing what are the most strategic and immediate greening efforts to tackle first.

4) **Cheltenham Township Environmental Advisory Council:** The EAC is coordinating the efforts of the video. Lorna Rosenberg and David Schultz are arranging for taping, and advertising the airing the video for a wide audience (i.e. notices to all Cheltenham schools, libraries, website postings etc)

5) **Two Cheltenham Resident Households:** Two Cheltenham resident households have been selected to serve as "greening test cases". BluPath, ECA, a representative from the EAC and the CHS production crew will visit the household to conduct the diagnostics. Results of the efficiency tests will be included in a filmed walk-through of the home with BluPath making observations with the homeowner about opportunities for "greening" both inside and outside the home. A final sit-down will be filmed where BluPath makes prioritized recommendations of easy next steps the homeowner can take to make their home more energy, water and resource efficient. Owners are being asked to sign a waiver of possible damages.

We hope to have the filming completed in February 2009.