

Washington Township Environmental Commission (WTEC)
Morris County, New Jersey

Minutes of August 4, 2008, 7:30 PM Meeting
(Agenda Attached)

Prepared by: Mark Napolitano, Acting Chairman, and submitted on August 6, 2008.

I. Attendance:

Present: Mark Napolitano, Anthony LaVista, Frank Ferraro, Mervyn Haines, John Prusak,
David Shoudy

Absent: Kathy Smith, CJ Sinko, Valerie Walsh, Bill Leavens, TWP Liaison Ken Short

II. Approval of July 7, 2008 Meeting Minutes: Minutes of July 7, 2008 were approved.

III. Invasive Species Project: No update.

IV. Surface Water Testing: Date for September testing was set for Friday, 12 Sep 08. Mark, Anthony, Frank, John, and David stated that they are available to on this date to collect water samples. It was agreed that the revised sampling protocol that Mark presented in November 2006 will be implemented, beginning with this sampling effort. Mark will contact QC Laboratories to arrange for a quotation, contract, as well as the delivery and pick-up of bottles.

UPDATE: During the interim between the 04 Aug 08 WTEC meeting and preparation of these minutes, Mark contacted QC Laboratories and requested, received, and reviewed a quote. After minor modification of the quote to ensure sufficient fecal coliform report data, a contract was signed by Mark on 06 Aug 08 for the analysis of samples (Nitrate as Nitrogen, Total Phosphorous, Fecal Coliform) collected from 9 sites for a total cost of \$545.00. To meet the 6 hour hold time, sample collection is to be completed between the hours of 7:00 AM and 9:30 AM, for pick-up at 10:00 AM.

V. Waterway Signs: Mark met with Morris County DPW staff, as well as Washington TWP DPW staff, at a joint meeting held at the Washington TWP municipal building to review the locations where the signs will be posted. Mark later received the signs that he had ordered from the NJ State Department of Corrections and delivered them to Washington TWP DPW. Installation is being scheduled. Washington TWP DPW has recently acquired sign making equipment, and can meet future WTEC signage needs. One of the waterway signs was brought to the meeting for inspection by WTEC members. (A photo of it is included within these minutes on Page 3.)

Mark provided information to the Washington TWP Finance Department to create a Purchase Order, and subsequently signed the voucher, on behalf of Kathy, authorizing an expenditure of

\$260.00 for the signs. \$190.00 of the amount was allocated from the WTEC budget, with the remaining \$70.00 amount coming from a private donation to the TWP.

Mark has prepared a brief article for publication consideration in the Observer Tribune newspaper, and will submit it immediately after installation of the signs (Mark will accompany the article with a photograph of DPW staff installing a sign).

VI. Raising Recycling Awareness in Schools: Mark has maintained contact with Flocktown/Kossman School as well as the Mansfield Radio Shack with regard to the battery recycling contest. Project is postponed until the school year begins.

VII. Used Motor Oil Recycling Project: Mark contacted Boy Scout Troop 236 to solicit interest in the project. Project is postponed until the school year begins.

VIII. Forest Management Plan: Merv contacted a NJ State forester to discuss forest management plan development and parameters for site selection on township owned property within Washington TWP. Merv also contacted Dr. Keller, environmental specialist, to obtain assistance and guidance. Merv discussed the environmental benefits of clear cutting a large area, citing a location mentioned by Dr. Keller near Sandshore Rd. in neighboring Mt. Olive as an example. The exact location of the site was unknown.

Merv stated that the typical cost for Forest Management Plan development is \$900.00, and he discussed the economic return from timber harvesting. Merv suggested that if an area was clear-cut in Washington TWP as part of a forest management plan, that the Boy Scouts be approached to solicit interest in executing a project to control invasive species at the site.

Discussion was held regarding township owned properties as candidate sites. However, the list of 119 properties available at the meeting did not identify the acreage amounts, so discussion of potential sites greater than 10 acres could not be conducted.

UPDATE: During the interim between the 04 Aug 08 WTEC meeting and preparation of these minutes, Anthony e-mailed an Excel spreadsheet containing a list of township owned properties that included acreage amounts for each lot. Since not all WTEC members have MS Excel, Mark resorted the list by acreage size to highlight the 47 properties that exceed 10 acres in size, and sent the sorted list to all WTEC members as a PDF.

UPDATE: During the interim between the 04 Aug 08 WTEC meeting and preparation of these minutes, Mark traveled to Mt. Olive and located what appears to be the clear-cut site near Sandshore Rd., Mt. Olive. The site, which had been clear-cut and is now covered with new vegetative growth, is located on both sides of Stephen Park Rd., close to where it intersects Sandshore Rd.

IX. Correspondence Reviewed: Letter from Morris County Mosquito Extermination Commission notifying the WTEC of an application to the NJDEP under the Freshwater Wetlands Protection Act rules to conduct regulated activities in wetlands and transitional areas on properties in Morris County for the purposes of mosquito control.

X. Other Issues:

A.) John presented a flyer (8.5" x 11") that contained information regarding recycling, which was prepared by the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority. John suggested that the WTEC could prepare a similar information sheet for distribution.

B.) Washington TWP Fall Festival: Kathy has arranged for a WTEC table at the Fall Festival on Saturday, 27 Sep 08. Merv, Frank, Dave, Mark, and John stated that they are available to volunteer some time to man the table for a period between 12:00 PM and 4:00 PM.

C.) Due to the Labor Day holiday on 01 Sep 08, the next regular WTEC meeting will be adjourned until the following week, i.e., 08 Sep 08.



**Environmental Commission
Washington Township (Morris County)**

**Meeting Agenda
Prepared by Kathy Smith, Chairperson
To be Attached to the Minutes of the Meeting**

August 4, 2008 - 7:30 pm

1. Comments/Approval of July minutes.
2. Updates on WTEC 2008 Projects
 - a. Invasive Species
 - b. Surface Water Testing
 - c. Waterbodies in Washington Township
 - d. Raising Recycling Awareness in Our Schools
 - e. Motor Oil Recycling
 - g. Forestry Management Plan - review potential sites
3. Additional items.
 - a. As necessary.
4. Correspondence Available for Review