

EAC NETWORK FALL GATHERING

October 5, 8:30AM - 4:45PM

Temple University, Ambler
580 Meetinghouse Rd Ambler, PA 19002

Agenda At-a-Glance

8:30AM | Coffee and Registration (tour participants)

9:00AM - 10:30AM | Arboretum Tours

Option 1: Sustainability; Option 2: Resilience; Option 3:
Native Plants/Invasive Plant ID and Management.

10:30AM | Registration II (everyone else)

10:45AM - 12:15PM | Plenary

Welcome and EAC Lightning Share **Assembly Room**

12:15PM - 1:15PM | Lunch

Included in registration. Check out exhibitors! **Room 302/303**

1:15PM - 2:15PM | Breakouts 1

Parking Reform and the Path to a Greener Tomorrow **Room 305**
Electrification for Communities **Room 306**

2:30PM - 3:30PM | Breakouts 2

Energy Audits as a Plan for Climate Action **Room 305**
Protecting and Enhancing Groundwater Resources **Room 306**

3:30PM | Snack Break

Check out exhibitors! **Room 302/303**

3:45PM - 4:45PM | Breakouts 3

Event Planning and Management for EACs **Room 305**
Rethinking Lawns: A Shift Towards Meadows **Room 306**

Event Committee

**Montgomery County Planning
Commission (host)**

Drew Shaw, Jon Leshner, Ryan Lamberti

Lansdale Borough EAC

Rob Gladfelter, Connie Lezenby, Sean
Weatherwax, Sean Green

Upper Gwynedd Township EAC

Jonathan West, Dennis Wendt, Joanne Walker

Towamencin Township EAC

Rory Kelly

New Hanover Township EAB

William Ross Snook

Springfield Township EAC (Montco)

Joy Bergey

Upper Merion EAC

Zach Davis

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Presentations & Presenters

Lightning Sessions: EAC Sharing

- Highlights of Springfield's Efforts to Reduce Municipal Energy Usage. **Springfield Township (Montco)**
- Influencing the Construction of an Energy-Efficient Municipal Building. **Upper Dublin EPAB**
- The Challenges of Residential Food Scrap Composting. **Abington Township EAC**
- The Dangers of Artificial Turf and Efforts to Curb Its Use. **Upper Merion EAC**

Electrification for Communities - A Panel Discussion

A variety of speakers will share short presentations focused on the topic of electrification for communities followed by plenty of time for questions. **Presenters: Joe Green, First Energy Corporation; Liz Robinson, Philadelphia Solar Energy Association; Phillip Gonski, PE, Burns Group.**

Parking Reform and the Path to a Greener Tomorrow

Explore how parking reform is emerging as a powerful tool in the fight against climate change. By removing mandatory parking minimums and rethinking antiquated municipal codes, communities can encourage more sustainable land usage and greener transportation while reducing urban sprawl and greenhouse gas emissions. We will discuss how these reforms not only decrease carbon emissions, but also foster a more livable, vibrant, green community! **Presenters: Jarrett Lash, Upper Merion Township; Zach Davis, Upper Merion Township EAC.**

Energy Audits as a Plan for Climate Action

At the local level, municipalities can drive climate action by first being models of energy efficiency, electrification, and clean energy generation, then applying their experience to the wider community. The first step is a good energy audit of municipal facilities that provides actionable, meaningful steps. We will present tips and techniques for getting an energy audit, and then making sure it doesn't just sit on the shelf collecting dust. Included will be a local case study of one municipality that has turned their audit into real climate action, cutting carbon emissions significantly, and saving taxpayers money! **Presenters: Dianne T. Herrin, CEM, Practical Energy Solutions; Joy Bergey, Springfield Township EAC (Montco).**

Protecting and Enhancing Groundwater Resources

Groundwater is an important, unseen, and often overlooked resource. Protection and enhancement can occur at many levels: regionally, the Delaware River Basin Commission's Southeast Pennsylvania Groundwater Protected Area (GWPA), is an area where more stringent regulations apply to groundwater than in other areas of Pennsylvania. At the watershed level, watershed protection efforts often have the added benefit of enhancing groundwater resources. And at the municipal level, MS4 programs can have a positive impact on groundwater. **Presenters: Elizabeth Koniers Brown, Delaware River Basin Commission; Craig Thomas, Chester County Water Resources Authority; Beth Uhler, Center for Watershed Protection.**

Presentations & Presenters (continued)

Rethinking Lawns: A Shift Towards Meadows

In recent years there has been a growing recognition of the benefits of converting traditional lawn to meadow on both private land and in public spaces. From improvements in water quality, stormwater management, decreased maintenance costs, and increased biodiversity, this session will cover some of the why's and how-to's of installing and maintaining meadows in municipal open spaces, institutions, and other land uses. **Presenters: Drew Shaw, Montgomery County Planning Commission; Robert Gladfelter, Lansdale Borough EAC; William Ross Snook, New Hanover Township EAB.**

Events Planning and Management for EACs

Workshops, community days, tree plantings, and recycling programs, oh my! There are many types of programs and events that Environmental Advisory Councils can be involved with, and getting started can be intimidating if you don't have event planning experience. This session will provide an overview of the event planning process, along with plenty of tips and tricks from presenters to take event planning from daunting to no big deal! **Presenters: Carol Grayshaw, WeConservePA; Eric Lindhult, Upper Dublin Township EPAB.**

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