



LONG BRANCH ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

2011 ANNUAL REPORT

As of April 16, 2012

Under the New Jersey Statutes Annotated (NJSA), the environmental commission enabling statute (NJSA 40:56A) directs environmental commissions to prepare and submit an annual report to the municipal governing body. In addition, Long Branch Ordinance Section 35-4, states that the environmental commission "shall ... make an annual report to the governing body of the municipality". This memorandum is the Long Branch Environmental Commission (LBEC) Annual Report for 2011.

The Commission planned and executed a variety of tasks and projects in this second full year of our organization. These efforts respond to our objective of better understanding and protecting the City's environment and increasing public awareness of the City's resources. Accomplishments for 2011 are described below:

Environmental/Natural Resources Inventory (ERI): The ERI, initiated in 2010 through a matching grant from ANJEC, was finalized and adopted by the Planning Board on May 17, 2011 as an appendix to the Master Plan. The total number of volunteer hours for the LBEC was 281.

Public Outreach:

- Enhanced environmental support, awareness and public outreach through representation at local City sponsored events such as "Neighborhood Night Out", "Paws for a Cause"
- Maintenance of interactive LBEC Facebook page
- Representation on Monmouth County Environmental Partnership
- Purchase of Tree Identification Keys for distribution at outreach events
- City's periodic email blasts (on behalf of the LBEC) to Green Team list

Sustainable Jersey: LBEC supported the City's efforts to obtain Bronze Level Certification in 2011. In particular, the adopted ERI was 1 of the 2 Priority Items required for this certification level.

Surface Water Quality: Focus on on-going surface water analysis at the Bath Ave storm sewer ocean discharge

Pesticide Free Zones (PFZ) / Integrated Pest Management (IPM): Developed a draft IPM Resolution that was voted on by City Council and approved in February 2011. The

resolution enhances the city's 20-year IPM policy and strategy employed in the maintenance of the City's public properties and facilities.

Wind Turbine - Continued research in alternate wind energy solutions.

Whale Pond Brook Watershed Association (WPBWA) The LBEC supported the WPBWA and its draft Resolution requesting the City to become members of the Association. The WPBWA introduced the draft resolution to Council. Council passed approval of the membership on Dec 27, 2011.

2010 – 2011 WPBWA Activities have included:

- Meeting with stakeholders and NOAA to consider restoration options
- Discussions and coordination with Urban Coast Institute for coordination of common restoration and enhancement opportunities
- Numerous clean ups (eg., Ross Island, Peach Tree Street, upstream areas)
- Convene neighborhood meetings (eg., Ocean Peach Tree, Heath, Brooke, Long Branch Overlook Ave); additional future meetings planned
- Demonstration projects planning for 2012 along Elinore Ave.
- Working with Borough of Eatontown to have Christopher Way property owners rebuild damaged catch basin on the brook in Eatontown

Review of Plans and Applications: Review and input to the following 2011 Zoning Board of Adjustment plans and applications was provided:

- T-Mobile Zoning Board application
- Sitting Duck Site Plan