

Princeton Environmental Commission
2017 Goals and Progress Achieved

There were two overarching themes to the Environmental Commission goals for 2016 that continued into 2017: to address and mitigate the causes and effects of climate change, and to partner with the municipality, local nonprofits and Princeton University to increase the effectiveness of our actions.

1. Support Council on initiatives beneficial to the environment
 - a. The PEC provided education and information on multiple ordinances which have relevance to environmental protection and sustainability including Stormwater Management, Recycling and the Circulation Element of the Master Plan.
 - b. In addition, the PEC started work on a Green Building & Sustainability Element of the Master Plan and initiated a conversation about sustainability in affordable housing.
 - c. We passed a resolution opposing a planned compressor station in Franklin Township and successfully advocated for Council to do the same.
 - d. We also assisted with public education on Council initiatives, developing a draft of a brochure to educate on the requirements for Construction Waste and holding education sessions at the Princeton Public Library on invasive plants in our open space and green strategies for stormwater management.
2. Engage with the development of the Princeton University campus plan.
 - a. The PEC has invited Princeton University to attend our February 2018 meeting where we plan to develop an understanding of the campus plan's projected impact on water quality, open space, climate change and sustainability efforts and advocate on behalf of the local environment as necessary.
3. Increase visibility of sustainability efforts in Princeton by creating awareness of and support for "green" projects.
 - a. We applied for and received a grant from ANJEC to support efforts to manage invasive species and to educate the community about the dangers of invasive plants and the benefits of native plants. As part of the grant we held an information session for 100 people at the Princeton Public Library, partnering with D&R Greenway Land Trust, Friends of Princeton Open Space, and the New Jersey Invasive Species Strike Team. Two training sessions were held in partnership with FOPOS and NJISST to educate local residents on emergent invasives and equip them to help to monitor our local open space.
4. Complete the analysis of the impact of the Green Building Checklist. Data analysis was completed and a report was prepared, earning points for Princeton's Sustainable Jersey

recertification. Work will continue in 2018 to develop strategies to increase the adoption of sustainable practices in Princeton's built environment.

5. Continue our work reviewing development applications to encourage sustainable development in Princeton. Reviewed a total of 9 (as of 10/17) development applications.
6. Hosted a summer intern