

# NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2015

Working Since 1972 to Save the Environment of Moorestown

*"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed people can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."*  
— Margaret Mead

March 2015, Volume 44, Issue 2

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## STEM'S ANNUAL MEETING & ELECTION

followed by a presentation by

**Susan Brookman, Executive Director**  
**NJ Invasive Species Strike Team**

FREE  
ADMISSION

**"Together, We Can Nip Invasive Species in the Bud!"**  
**Saturday, March 28, 2015 from 11 to 1 pm**

Moorestown Library Meeting Room, 111 West Second Street



The photos on left, courtesy of Google Images, show examples of two common plant species that are invasive in the wild—purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*) and English ivy (*Hedera helix*). These and other non-native invasive plants, animals, and pathogens are the focus of Saturday's presentation.



STEM's Annual Meeting and election of officers for the 2015-16 year starts at 11 am. A very action-oriented presentation follows immediately after. If you have a smartphone and spend time outdoors, the New Jersey Invasive Species Strike Team would like your help. The Strike Team works to stop the spread of new invasive species whose presence is likely to damage the health of our environment.

Light refreshments will be served after the program. For more details contact Kathy Huffman at 856-778-2201 or [kajer3@comcast.net](mailto:kajer3@comcast.net).

## Calendar of Upcoming STEM Events

**Wednesday, March 18**  
STEM Steering Committee Meeting  
7:00 p.m.

**Saturday, March 28**  
STEM Annual Meeting  
Moorestown Library Meeting Room  
11:00 a.m.-1 p.m.

**Saturday, April 11**  
NAC Conservation Project  
Wigmore Acres, Westfield Road  
9:30-11:30 a.m.

**Wednesday, April 15**  
STEM Steering Committee Meeting  
7:00 p.m.

**Saturday, May 2**  
NAC Conservation Project  
Esther Yanai Preserve  
Garwood Road@Swede Run  
9:30-11:30 a.m.

**Tuesday, May 19**  
NAC Conservation Project  
Little Woods on the Rancocas  
Creek Road@Laurel Creek Blvd.  
9:30-11:30 a.m.

**Wednesday, May 20**  
STEM Steering Committee Meeting  
7:00 p.m.

## **A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK**

Welcome spring! Hopefully, by the time this newsletter reaches you, the weather will have broken. This winter has seemed long, but soon we will be able to enjoy ourselves outdoors again.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Pinelands Preservation Alliance (PPA) on their 25th anniversary as an organization dedicated to protecting the Pinelands Preserve. This includes acting as a watchdog over the Pinelands Commission to ensure they are not swayed by outside interests. Currently, PPA is part of a campaign to stop the nomination of a candidate friendly to the development of the 22-mile gas pipeline planned to run through the Pinelands in Cape May County. The plan was defeated last fall, but is in danger of being resurrected.

On the home front, STEM will be busy this spring. Please join us for our Annual Meeting on March 28 at the Moorestown Library. Our guest speaker will be addressing an important topic—invasives! Apropos, the Natural Area Care (NAC) projects start in March, so consider volunteering at one of the events. We promise good companionship and some exercise, much needed after being in all winter.

As a reminder, STEM will hold its Annual Plant Sale as part of Moorestown Day in June. See the short article on page 7. On that note, happy spring, and I hope to see you at our events.

—Kathy Huffman

## **Vote at the Annual Meeting** **Saturday, March 28, 2015**

Save the Environment of Moorestown (STEM) is entering its 43rd year of science-based environmental volunteering. Founded in 1972, surrounded by the flurry of activism at that time, STEM has achieved a great track record on protecting our open space, preserving sensitive habitat, and working to create an awareness of the importance of water quality.

Over the years, STEM has needed to stand firm on issues it felt strongly about, including the appropriate use of precious open space funds. STEM has been an important, informed, and independent voice in Moorestown—one deserving of your support going forward.

As we start a new fiscal year, sincere thanks goes to Kathy Huffman for serving as STEM's President since 2012, and to Barb Rich and Kay Smith for serving as very knowledgeable Honorary Directors, joined by Chet Dawson for 2015-16.

### ***Preview of the STEM Annual Meeting Presentation: "Together, We Can Nip Invasive Species in the Bud"***

Thanks to a Conservation Innovation Grant from the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), the NJ Invasive Species Strike Team has developed an app, *New Jersey Invasives*, to enable people with smartphones to learn about, identify, and report invasive species. With the

app, users who see something they suspect may be an invasive species can scroll through photos to identify what they see, read information about it, then take a picture and submit a report—it's that simple!

Members of the Strike Team's Technical Advisory Committee (experts in the fields of botany, entomology, aquatic biology, and the like) verify each sighting and add the information to the online database the Strike Team uses to track the spread of problem species.

Susan Brookman, the Strike Team's Executive Director, says that detecting invasive species early is the key to successful control. "If we can catch an invasive species soon after it arrives, we have a chance to 'nip it in the bud' and keep it from establishing a viable population in New Jersey. It's easy to see the damage done by widespread invasive species like Dutch Elm disease, the European gypsy moth, and Japanese knotweed. It makes a lot of sense to spend a little effort figuring out which non-native species have the potential to wreak havoc, then spend a little more effort to eradicate them. The alternative—letting them spread and then dealing with their impacts—costs so much, both to our pocketbooks and to our state's agricultural and natural heritage."



## **STEM STEERING COMMITTEE** **2015-2016 PROPOSED SLATE**

**President: Elizabeth Endres-Hines 2-year term**  
**Vice-president: Joe Ponessa 2-year term**  
(completing 2nd year of term)  
**Treasurer: Mark Pensiero 2-year term**  
**Secretary: Susan Buffalino 2-year term**

**Directors: 1-year terms**  
**Claire Rollin Adair**  
**Margo Foster**  
**Jean Fox**  
**Paula Horton**  
**Kathy Huffman**  
**Diane Miskowski**  
**Betsy Schnorr**  
**MHSEC Representative**

**2015-16 Nominating Committee:**  
**Kathy Huffman (Steering Committee Member)**  
**Claire Rollin Adair (Steering Committee Member)**  
**Barb Rich (Non-Steering Committee Member)**

*Submitted by 2014-15 Nominating Committee:  
Claire Rollin Adair, Elizabeth Endres Hines, and Barb Rich*

The Strike Team works with counterparts across the mid-Atlantic to catalog non-native species and assess their threat levels. It creates an annual list of target species and then encourages conservationists and outdoor enthusiasts to be on the lookout for them. When invasive species are detected, the Strike Team offers guidance to property owners to help them eradicate the problem species.

***If you have a smartphone and spend time outdoors, the New Jersey Invasive Species Strike Team would like your help.***

Brookman will talk with members of Save The Environment of Moorestown at its meeting at the Moorestown Library on Saturday, March 28 at 11:00 a.m. Brookman will share information about the invasive species that threaten Moorestown's open spaces and what can be done to manage them. All interested members of the public are invited to attend and participate.

—Susan Brookman

*Susan Brookman <susan@njisst.org>*  
*New Jersey Invasive Species Strike Team*

## Tis the Season to See Litter

Now that the snow's melted, the truth comes out: A lot of litter was hiding in and under those mounds of snow. Taking a bag or two with you for picking up trash when you walk goes a long way toward making Moorestown look as good as it should. Usually a plastic grocery bag fills up for every mile of walking. Any cans and bottles you pick up can be recycled when you get home.

It's a good feeling to see how much better an area looks litter-free and to know you have contributed to it. The next step is to provide additional trash and recycling bins along Main Street and other well-traveled avenues. Have trash, but don't see a trash and/or recycling bin—then stash your trash until you can dispose of it properly.



*When creating a wildlife & pollinator-friendly garden, expect to attract colorful species such as these. Photos: on left, Red Admiral butterfly, Google Images; above top, Tiger Swallowtail butterfly, Google Images; above Monarch, by Margo Foster; on right, Victor Gardens, STEM archives.*

## Pat Sutton Presents Wildlife Gardening Workshop

You are invited to a special workshop "How to Create a Welcoming Garden for Butterflies and Birds Using Native Plants," presented by Pat Sutton, renowned wildlife educator. Pat will share her wealth of practical experience in attracting wildlife by planting with native flowers and shrubs. No space in your yard? Even planted containers work. This year is a crucial one for planting nectar flowers and milkweed for Monarchs. Each of us can make a difference.

The workshop is open to new and experienced gardeners, and is appro-

priate for high school age and adult participants. Pat's appearances in Burlington and Camden counties are rare and not to be missed.

The presentation will take place on Sunday, April 19, 2015 from 12:15 to 2:15 p.m. at the Unitarian Church at 401 North Kings Highway, Cherry Hill (between Church Road and Chapel Avenue). Tickets are \$10/person. Pat will sign her books for those who wish to purchase them at the end of the program. Attendance is limited to 100 participants. Deadline for reservations is April 12, 2015.

## Tips on Preventing Household Flooding

Although flooding from broken pipes is usually associated with freezing weather, it can happen at other times of the year as well; and pipes aren't the only problem. The hot water heater can spring a leak or those hoses on the washing machine can burst. In fact, the household insurance industry has identified the latter as their biggest claims category.

Here are a few tips to help prevent against "plumbing flooding."

1. For the washing machine, you can simply turn off the faucets/valve to the machine when it is not in use. A more reliable alternative is to replace the original rubber hoses with reinforced hoses, available at home supply centers.
2. Shutting off the main water supply to the house when you go out of town provides substantial protection; when doing this you should also shut off the hot water heater (or set it on 'Pilot' to protect against expansion pressures.)

## Now Read Thi\$: Money-Saving Me\$\$age

Every organization needs financial assistance to cover yearly expenses. As STEM's fiscal year ends in March, we need to ask our loyal and caring members to provide dues/donations toward our mission of Saving the Environment of Moorestown for 2015-2016. Our Winter Newsletter in January outlined our needs (see page 2); you can reread that article in the Newsletter section on our website at [www.stemonline.org](http://www.stemonline.org).

If you will tear off the top of page 7 of this Spring Newsletter as a reminder to send in your contribution for this year, we will not have to bear the cost of a special mailing to remind you! Since it costs about \$350-\$400 to create and mail such a letter to our full membership, you can help STEM by sending in your funds now and save that amount for better use. Thank you!

—Margo Foster



To ask questions or reserve your place, email: [19aprilworkshop@gmail.com](mailto:19aprilworkshop@gmail.com). Please include the name(s) of the persons attending. You will receive your confirmation electronically.

Want to know more about Pat Sutton's work? Visit her website at <http://www.patandclaysutton.com/upcoming-events/>.

—Paula Horton

3. If you have steam heat you should check with your plumber about this during the heating season.
4. Be careful about thermostat setbacks during extreme cold spells. Letting faucets drip during these periods also helps protect against freezing.

A few simple measures with your plumbing system can help prevent a major disaster.

—Joseph Ponessa

# NATURAL AREA CARE —Caring for the Environment



*Looking forward to  
seeing you at one of the  
NAC Projects*

## **STEM Invites You to Join Us!**

It's been a cold and wet winter with smaller ponds still frozen even as the season changes. The first NAC activity was cancelled due to snow, but spring is around the corner. As the weather warms, NAC volunteers can dust off their loppers and clippers and get to work in April readying Moorestown's open spaces for all to use and appreciate.

Second Saturday and weekday NAC projects have been planned for 2015—see the calendar on the right. These sessions provide the opportunity for volunteers who enjoy working outdoors to contribute to the community. No experience is necessary. Site leaders and co-leaders are knowledgeable and direct all activities.

Volunteers tackle jobs such as trail blazing and maintenance, invasive plant control, stream clean-ups, and litter collection. Occasionally, new trees and shrubs are planted. Although the work sessions are scheduled for two-hour time blocks, volunteers are welcome to contribute as much or as little time as they can.

Light refreshments, maintenance supplies, and equipment are provided. Please contact NAC Chairperson Jean Fox 856-642-7864 or [foxjean62@gmail.com](mailto:foxjean62@gmail.com) for details or additional information.

## **Upcoming Opportunities to Volunteer**

### **Saturday, April 11, 9:30-11:30 am, Wigmore Acres, Westfield Road**

This site has a very visible location on the corner of Westfield Road and Bridgeboro Road. Its 12.5 acres were a nursery prior to its preservation. Wigmore now features a fenced Butterfly Garden and includes a tributary of Swede Run. Parking is available on-site. Look for the NAC signage.

### **Saturday, May 2, 9:30-11:30 am, Esther Yanai Preserve, Garwood Road**

Bordered by Swede Run, the Yanai preserve is primarily a floodplain/wetlands area that can be walked most of the year. The loop trail leading to a predominately Beech woods is a work in progress. Park on the nearest cross street.

### **Tuesday, May 19, 9:30-11:30 am, Little Woods, Creek Road@Laurel Creek Blvd.**

Just down the road from Boundary Creek Natural Resource Area, this open space also offers peaceful creek views. Its upland loop trail meanders through a variety of forested habitats. Park along Creek Road near the NAC signage.



**Schools, groups,  
scouts, and organiza-  
tions are always  
welcome! Hours  
volunteered can be  
used for community  
service credits.**

*Photo on the left is of an American Woodcock, National Audubon Society Field Guide to Eastern North American Birds. Woodcocks are an early spring visitor and frequent meadow habitats where males can display their elaborate mating rituals to attract the females of the species.*

## **2015 NAC Calendar**

**Volunteers Always Welcome**

**Saturday, March 7**

**9:30-11:30 am**

**Susan Stevens Halbe Preserve  
Creek Road**

**Saturday, April 11**

**9:30-11:30 am**

**Wigmore Acres**

**Westfield Road**

**Saturday, May 2**

**9:30-11:30 am**

**Esther Yanai Preserve**

**Garwood Road@Swede Run**

**Tuesday, May 19**

**9:30-11:30 am**

**Little Woods on the Rancocas  
Creek Road@Laurel Creek Blvd.**

**Saturday, June 13**

**9:30-11:30 am**

**Pompeston Park Upstream  
of New Albany Road**

**Saturday, July 11**

**8:30-10:30 am**

**Waterworks Woods**

**Kings Highway@Waterworks**

**Saturday, August 8**

**8:30-10:30 am**

**Little Woods on the Rancocas  
Creek Road@Laurel Creek Blvd.**

**Saturday, September 12**

**9:30-11:30 am**

**Pompeston Park Downstream  
of New Albany Road**

**Tuesday, September 22**

**9:30-11:30 am**

**South Valley Woods  
Behind South Valley School**

**Saturday, October 10**

**9:30-11:30 am**

**Pompeston Park Downstream  
of Fernwood Drive**

**Saturday, November 8**

**9:30-11:30 am**

**Pompeston Park Upstream  
of New Albany Road**

## Celebrate the 45th Earth Day in 2015 by Making the Earth a Better Place for People and Wildlife

- **Plant milkweed**

This past year has been labeled “The Year Monarchs Didn’t Appear” by the New York Times. Monarch butterflies lay their eggs on the milkweed plant; the resulting caterpillars consume its leaves, then form jeweled chrysalids. Last year’s wet growing season devastated the milkweed crop and impacted the Monarch population. Plant milkweed in your yard and give the returning Monarchs another chance.

- **Add a birdfeeder to your yard**

As long as your neighborhood is not Black Bear habitat, you can hang a birdfeeder to attract the birds. Not only will you be helping our feathered friends meet their nutritional needs during periods of nesting, migration, and inclement weather, you’ll be treated to the beauty of this diverse animal group.

- **Dig up some of your lawn and plant a few native shrubs**

One of the quickest ways to decrease the cost of lawncare is to decrease the size of your lawn. In its place, create planting beds and fill them with native plants and shrubs. Native vegetation requires less water and care.

- **Learn about your watershed**

There are five watersheds in Moorestown. Find out which is yours and commit to protecting it by reducing (or eliminating) the amount of chemicals you apply to the vegetation in your yard. Rainfall carries these surface chemicals (and pet waste, too) directly into the nearest stream.

- **Donate your time and participate in an environmental project.**

Whether it’s a state, local, or municipal sponsored event, or a project coordinated by a non-profit organization like STEM, your volunteer hours make a big difference in the community.

### New Signage for Waterworks Woods

One of our favorite Moorestown open spaces that sits adjacent to Strawbridge Lake is Waterworks Woods. The site will soon have new signage installed courtesy of Sustainable Moorestown.

The site stretches from Kings Highway to Nixon Drive. If you hike back to the old swimming pool and follow the trail around it, you can observe an old Bald Cypress in a wet area with its “knees” growing at its base. Visit the site soon to get a glimpse of spring in action.



STEM’s Natural Area Care volunteer monthly and mid-week conservation projects are now listed on “MeetUp.com.” David Bicking has set it up and is coordinating the postings. In addition to the NAC sessions, there is a wealth of activities featured on the site, including David’s well-received Moorestown hikes. Visit the website and be amazed at how much there is to get involved in year-round whatever your interest.

### Just in Time for Arbor Day:

**“A society grows great  
when old men plant trees  
whose shade they know  
they shall never sit in.”  
— Greek Proverb**

### Pompeston Woods Easement Monitoring



Above: A late fall view of the Pompeston Woods Easement taken by Claire Rollin Adair.

On a beautiful November 8, 2014 the Easement Monitoring Committee conducted its annual monitoring walk at Pompeston Woods to check on the maintenance of the 13-acre area as required by the deed restriction placed on it almost 20 years ago.

Everyone enjoyed the large stands of native ferns and beige-leaved Beech trees.

Tom Finley, Susan Poaletti, Kay Smith, Paula Horton, Amy Filippone, and Claire Rollin Adair split into two groups to walk the boundaries along the residential and industrial sides to observe any changes since the previous year. They saw no large problems,

although it was noted that two residential neighbors seemed to have dumped some lawn trimmings and shrub clippings into the area. There was also some trash on the industrial side next to the Easement.

The Committee wrote two letters—one

to remind the eight residential neighbors of the dangers of putting chemically treated garden materials on native plants within the Easement, and the other to the Industrial Landlords to ask for a cleanup of trash near the Easement. It was happily noted that there were no dumpster overflow problems this year. The Committee expects these small-scale corrections will be made as has been done previously. A yearly report of the monitoring was sent to the landowners.

Consider joining the group for the monitoring next November—it takes only one or two hours and it’s fun. This year marks the 19th year for the Pompeston Woods Conservation Easement monitoring project!

— Claire Rollin Adair

## Mancini Speaks at January Joint Meeting— The Buzz on Honeybees

Local beekeeper Jean Mancini provided the buzz at STEM's Annual Joint Meeting at the Moorestown Community House on January 27, 2015 co-hosted with the Moorestown Improvement Association, the Moorestown Garden Club, and the Pompeston Creek Watershed Association.

Although no bees were present, Jean shared photos of her bees and hives (on Westfield Road), other insect look-alikes, and information about bees and beekeeping. Jean's been an enthusiastic beekeeper for seven years, after taking beginner and advanced courses at Rutgers. She harvested 70 pounds of honey in 2014, her record so far.

"I don't get stung; bees are very peaceful if not threatened," she told the audience. Like bats, birds, and butterflies, bees are affected by man's intrusions in and changes to the environment, including habitat loss. Although honeybees are non-native to the USA, they thrive on many native plants and flowers. Since they can't see red, they are attracted to flowers of blue, white, yellow, and purple.

Good information about plants to choose to favor the bees is available online—check it out before you do your spring planting! If you need help with a swarm of bees (when they gather in a mass to establish a new hive), contact a beekeeper on [njbeekeepers.org](http://njbeekeepers.org) Web site for help in relocating them.

—Margo Foster

## SSO 2014 Winning Apple Dessert Recipe



Here is a copy of the winning apple dessert recipe baked by Ann Marie Regan. Even though it was a long winter, we can savor dreams of autumn and fond memories of STEM Steps Out.

## Enter STEM's 17th Annual Nature in Moorestown Photo Contest

- The rules:**
- Photos must be taken in Moorestown (after June 2014)
  - Subjects should be predominantly natural as opposed to man-made
  - Submit small color panoramas or prints up to 5" X 7"
  - Digital editing and adjustment are acceptable, but no photo montages
  - Mail entries to STEM, P.O. Box 704, Moorestown, NJ 08057 by June 1, 2015 or bring them to the STEM Annual Picnic (date TBD)
  - A maximum of 4 entries per person will be accepted
  - Awards will be given in adult (over 16 years) and children's categories

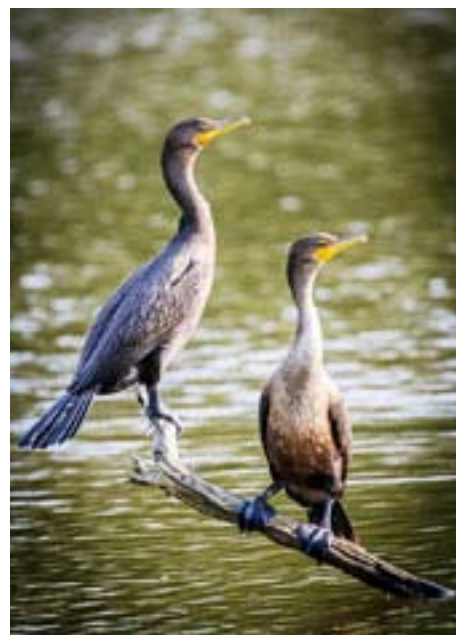
**Entries must have the following information written on the back of each photo for it to be judged:**

- Title of picture;
  - Name and address of photographer;
  - Location of photo;
  - Month and year of photo;
  - Arrow pointing to the top of the picture;
  - Adult or child category.
- For more info, call Bill Creekmore at 856-461-8717.

Winning photos from prior contests: below left, by Geoff McClain and below right by Chet Dawson.



All prints submitted will become the property of STEM for non-commercial use in educational and promotional materials.



### Caramel Apple Pie Serves 8-12

#### For Crust and Filling:

1 unbaked pie crust  
7 to 8 cups Granny Smith apples, peeled and sliced  
1/2 cup sugar  
1/4 cup flour  
1/4 tsp. salt  
juice of 1/2 lemon

#### For Topping:

3/4 cup (1 1/2 sticks) butter  
1/2 cup flour  
1 cup packed brown sugar  
1/4 tsp. salt  
1/2 cup quick cook oats  
1/2 cup finely chopped pecans  
1/2 cup caramel topping (prepared)

1. Preheat oven to 375°F. Roll pie crust out on a lightly floured surface so that it is 1" larger in diameter than the top of your pie pan. Carefully fold dough in half and transfer to pan, then unfold so it covers pan. Tuck edges underneath to make a neat dough rim.

2. In a large bowl, mix apples, sugar, flour, salt, and lemon juice. Stir to combine. Let sit while you make the topping.

3. Combine butter, flour, brown sugar, and salt in a bowl and mix with a pastry

blender or fork until crumbly and lumpy. Add oats and pecans.

4. Mound apples into pie pan, then sprinkle on all topping. Cover crust edges with aluminum foil and bake for 25 minutes. Remove foil and continue baking until top is golden brown, 25 to 30 minutes. If top browns too quickly, cover pie with foil. Drizzle caramel sauce on top before serving.

Per serving: 630 calories, 92g carbohydrates, 5g protein, 28g fat, 45mg cholesterol, 450mg sodium, 4g fiber.



## Annual STEM Membership Form

Return to:

P.O. Box 704, Moorestown, NJ 08057

Make checks payable to STEM

(A membership expiration date appears on the mailing label.)

(Please print)

Name \_\_\_\_\_  Check HERE for electronic Newsletter only

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Memberships:  New  Renewal

Individual (\$15) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Family (\$25) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Student (\$10) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Donations:

Open Space Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Ongoing activities \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Amount enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Dues and donations are tax-deductible

### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES (please circle your areas of interest)

#### Communications

- Flyers, brochures, & postcards
- Newsletter
- Public relations

#### Advocacy

- Attend town meetings
- Letter writing
- Phone calls

#### Education

- Community education
- Educational materials
- School-based programs

#### Events

- Children's activities
- Donating plants for Plant Sale
- Plant Sale staffing
- Open Space Festival
- Refreshments

#### Outdoor Activities

- Conservation projects
- Lead nature walks
- Litter Patrol
- Natural Area Care
- Open space monitoring

#### Administrative

- Clerical
- Computer related
- Fundraising
- Legal issues

#### Visual and Creative Arts

- Arts and crafts
- Fine Arts
- Graphic design
- Photography

#### Other

STEM is a 501c3 non-profit organization. Contributions are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law. Information filed with the Attorney General concerning this charitable solicitation may be obtained from the Attorney General of New Jersey by calling (201) 504-6215. Registration with the Attorney General does not imply endorsement.

## Save the Date: Saturday, June 6, 2015 STEM Plant Sale on Moorestown Day

The value of having native plants in your yard has been the subject of several recent presentations. Their importance along highways is being debated in the NJ Legislature via the "DOT Native Plants Bill" (S-2004 & A-3305). So, get on board, plant natives this year, and help the environment help wildlife.

For its Annual Plant Sale, STEM will man a booth in front of the First Baptist Church on Main Street during Moorestown Day. It is a great venue for sharing information on ecological landscaping and wildlife gardening.

In addition to the native plants, a variety of herbs will be for sale. Again this year, STEM will be accepting donations from your garden. Bring them on the day of the event or contact Nanci Clem at 856-8660065 or [nanci2424@yahoo.com](mailto:nanci2424@yahoo.com) to arrange pick-up. The Plant Sale is the organization's only fundraising event of the year so please be supportive.

Remember, native species, which flourish in our area with little watering (once established) and fertilizing, provide food for beneficial insects and other wildlife, including the struggling Monarchs and bees.



The groundhog (photo above from STEM archives) has a rich history of lore associating it with the prediction of spring's arrival. Each February 2nd, as the story goes, it emerges from a winter of hibernation. If it sees its shadow, it goes back into its burrow for another 6 weeks, and spring is late in arriving. Has anyone seen one yet this month waddling around?

## Native Plant Society of New Jersey

There is a local chapter of the NPSNJ—Rancocas Nature Center—that meets at the nature center once a month, usually on Mondays. The group has a broad focus and appreciates input from new members.

For additional information and upcoming presentations, visit the NJ Native Plant Society website at [NJNPS.org](http://NJNPS.org) or contact Toni Price at [toniprice@lavenderfarms.org](mailto:toniprice@lavenderfarms.org). The nature center is located at 794 Rancocas Road, Westampton, NJ 08060.

**THANK YOU** to the STEM volunteers who contributed to this newsletter, and assisted in its publication by proofreading, mailing the newsletter, and offering suggestions that improved its quality.



SPRING  
2015

Save the Environment of Moorestown  
P.O. Box 704, Moorestown, NJ 08057  
[www.stemonline.org](http://www.stemonline.org)

*\*Membership Renewal  
Benefits STEM Projects\**

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**Saturday, March 28 at 11:00am**  
**2015 STEM ANNUAL MEETING**  
Election of the Steering Committee for 2015-16  
Presentation by Susan Brockman,  
NJ Invasive Species Strike Team  
Details on Page 1—Admission: FREE

### AREA EVENTS OF INTEREST

**Thursday, March 26, 2015-** Aarachnids!, 7pm, Rancocas Nature Center, 794 Rancocas Rd., Westampton, 609-261-2495 or [www.rancocasnaturecenter.org](http://www.rancocasnaturecenter.org) for details, Presenter: John Black.

**Wednesday, April 8, 2015-** Life Along the Delaware Bay, 7:30pm, BCNSC, Lumberton Leas Community Bldg., 180 Woodside Dr., Lumberton, Presenter: Larry Niles

**Saturday, April 11, 2015-** Healthy Hike, 10:30-11:30am, Rancocas Nature Center, 794 Rancocas Rd., Westampton, 609-261-2495 or [www.rancocasnaturecenter.org](http://www.rancocasnaturecenter.org) for details.

**Sunday, April 19, 2015-** Wildlife Gardening Workshop, 12:15-2:15pm, Unitarian Church, 401 N. Kings Hwy, Cherry Hill, [19aprilworkshop@gmail.com](mailto:19aprilworkshop@gmail.com), Presenter: Pat Sutton.

**Saturday, April 25, 2015-** PPA Native Plant Sale, 11am-3pm, 17 Pemberton Rd., Southampton, [pinelandsalliance.org](http://pinelandsalliance.org).

**Sunday, April 26, 2015-** Arbor Day Festival, Noon-4pm, Rancocas Nature Center, 794 Rancocas Rd., Westampton, 609-261-2495 or [www.rancocasnaturecenter.org](http://www.rancocasnaturecenter.org) for details.

**Saturday, May 2, 2015-** Garden Day Expo, 10am-4pm, BurlCo Ag Center, 500 Centerton Rd., Moorestown.

**Friday, May 15, 2015-** Birding, 9am, Long Bridge Park, use Marne Hwy or CR Rt. 541 entrance, Register at 609-265-5858.

### STEM Steering Committee Members for 2014-2015

Kathy Huffman, President; 856-778-2201 & [kajer3@comcast.net](mailto:kajer3@comcast.net)  
Joe Ponessa, Vice-president; 856-235-6376 & [jponessa@comcast.net](mailto:jponessa@comcast.net)  
Mark Pensiero, Treasurer; 856-235-0171 & [mark.w.pensiero@lmco.com](mailto:mark.w.pensiero@lmco.com)  
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Claire Rollin Adair, Director; 856-727-3830 & [cerollin@gmail.com](mailto:cerollin@gmail.com)  
Chet Dawson, Director; 856-273-0126 & [cwg9@cornell.edu](mailto:cwd9@cornell.edu)  
Elizabeth Endres Hines, Director; 856-222-1163 & [eendres03@gmail.com](mailto:eendres03@gmail.com)  
Margo Foster, Director; 856-235-5862 & [mcmfoster@yahoo.com](mailto:mcmfoster@yahoo.com)  
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Paula Horton, Director; [phorton100@comcast.net](mailto:phorton100@comcast.net)  
Betsy Schnorr, Director; 856-235-6348 & [betsybjs@aol.com](mailto:betsybjs@aol.com)  
MHSEC Representative

STEM's Steering Committee meets the third Wednesday of each month (with a break in December), and it's there that decisions are made about STEM's activities for the year, STEM involvement at public events, directions on environmental advocacy, financial commitments, legal obligations—in short, most aspects of the organization.

Steering Committee members are nominated in late winter and early spring, and their acceptance is voted on at our Annual Meeting in the spring. STEM members are welcome to attend a Steering meeting (though, per our by-laws, not permitted to vote on motions), and any STEM member who is interested in serving on the Steering Committee is encouraged to speak with someone on our Nominating Committee. New views keep the organization dynamic! For information about STEM and its programs, contact Kathy Huffman at 856-778-2201 & [kajer3@comcast.net](mailto:kajer3@comcast.net).

Join us on the third Wednesday of the month—you'll be surprised how much you'll learn not just about STEM, but about Moorestown in general.

See the calendar on the front page or contact one of our Nominating Committee members:  
Elizabeth Endres Hines at 856-222-1163 & [eendres03@gmail.com](mailto:eendres03@gmail.com)  
Claire Rollin Adair at 856-727-3830 & [cerollin@gmail.com](mailto:cerollin@gmail.com)  
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