



**Tinton Falls**  
NEW JERSEY

**Borough of Tinton Falls**  
**Environmental Commission**  
**556 Tinton Avenue**  
**Tinton Falls, NJ, 07724**

<https://tintonfalls-nj.municodemeetings.com/bc-ec/page/environmental-commission>

Members:

Jonathan Cohen, Chair  
Ellen Goldberg  
Vincent DeVita  
Frank DeVita  
Martine Ladd  
Robert Markoff  
Steven Surman

Barbara Kulberg (alternate)  
Tatiana Swenda (alternate)

## **2022 Annual Report**

### **Members / Meetings / Minutes**

- Members: Jonathan Cohen, Chair; Vincent DeVita; Frank DeVita; Martine Ladd; Robert Markoff; Steven Surman; Ellen Goldberg; Barbara Kulberg; Tatiana Swenda
- Meetings were held on the 4th Thursday of each month via Zoom and/or in-person. Minutes were taken and approved for each meeting.

### **Committees / Regional Collaborations**

- Select environmental commission members also served on the Green Team, Ft. Monmouth ESAC, FMERA, NJ Composting Council and Community Garden. Annual membership in ANJEC.
- Some TFEC members attended webinars hosted by ANJEC throughout the year.
- Some TFEC members participated in activities hosted by Clean Ocean Action.

## **2022 TFEC Annual Report**

### **Education and Outreach**

- Laura Bagwell of Eatontown EC presented Eatontown's ordinance on native plants to the TFEC on March 24, 2022. Eatontown's ordinance was compared to Tinton Falls' ordinance.
- TFEC hosted a Sustainable Jersey webinar for the TF Council on January 27, 2022 on electric vehicles. It lasted 1.5 hours and is available on the Sustainable Jersey web page for anyone who missed it. The webinar touched on the following:
  - Federal infrastructure money for grants is coming for charging stations.
  - TFEC recommends the borough purchase electric vehicles going forward for municipal use.
  - It costs approximately \$1.60 an hour to charge an electric garbage truck.
  - There may be DEP grants and money from the Board of Public Utilities. The town would have to pay some money toward it.
  - Money should be coming for condos to have charging stations.
  - Police cars could last up to 2 days on a charge.
- TFEC collaborated with environmental club at Monmouth Regional Highschool with Osprey Fest and town cleanups.

### **Community Initiatives**

#### **Rain Barrel Workshop**

- TFEC started to discuss and plan for rain barrel workshop in conjunction with DPW. This activity is planned for 2023.

#### **Plastic Bag Ban**

- TFEC distributed reusable bags at Hockhockson Park on April 30, 2022 in conjunction with opening day of the Tinton Falls Little League season.
- TFEC handed out reusable bag at the annual Egg Hunt on April 9, 2022, located at the Sycamore Avenue Soccer Complex.

#### **Pollinator Garden**

- TFEC collaborated with the TF Brownie Troop to construct a pollinator garden in town. Plans are in the process of being developed.

#### **Shade Tree Certification**

- TF obtained Shade Tree USA Certification from NJ Shade Tree Federation.

#### **Community Garden**

- TFEC collaborated with the community garden members to enhance the garden in 2023.

## 2022 TFEC Annual Report

### **Green Fair**

- TFEC is planning for a Green Fair in honor of Earth Day in 2023.

### **Take Back Prescription Drug Program**

- In 2022, The Borough of Tinton Falls had 2 Rx Drug Safety and Disposal drop-off dates. One on April 30, 2022, the second on October 29, 2022. Two collection locations: Seabrook Village (3000 Essex Rd., Tinton Falls, NJ 07753) and Tinton Falls Police Headquarters (556 Tinton Ave., Tinton Falls, NJ 07724). Collection receptacles were stationed at the Police Station and Seabrook Ericson Living senior housing on Essex Road. TFPD police officers monitored the collection boxes for security. The police department arranged for the safe disposal of the medications with the DEA.
- The events were promoted using social media and a code red phone blast. Since April 2022, they have collected over 260 pounds of prescription drugs from approximately 100 community members.

### **Mazza Recycling Tour**

In partnership with the TF Green Team, we participated in a tour of the Mazza Recycling Facility in Tinton Falls. This regional event also included Green Team and EC members as well as town officials from Long Branch, Red Bank, Tinton Falls, Little Silver, and Middletown.



## 2022 TFEC Annual Report

### Tinton Falls Community Day

In partnership with the TF Green Team, on October 8<sup>th</sup>, the TFEC tabled at Tinton Falls Community Day. We distributed information on:

- Osprey in preparation for Osprey festival
- Importance of bees and pollinating
- Picking up after your dog



## 2022 TFEC Annual Report

### Projects

1. **Osprey Nest:** in conjunction with and assistance from the Monmouth Regional High School Environmental Club the TFEC hosted a free Osprey Fest for children in the community on Saturday, October 1st at Riverdale West Park. There were children's games, story time, scavenger hunt, prizes, and other activities to help promote osprey awareness in the community. A pamphlet was created to advertise the event. A grant of ANJEC facilitated the funding for this event!

Also, for the second phase of the Osprey project, TFEC is thinking of planting wildflowers around the pole, putting a plaque up with Osprey information and locating a bench nearby for enjoying the wonderful scenery.





## 2022 TFEC Annual Report

### Clean ups

The following cleanups were conducted in 2022 in Tinton Falls:

- May 14 - Turtle Island Cleanup
- December 30 - Wardell Road



## **2022 TFEC Annual Report**

### **Volunteer Hours:**

An estimated 100 work hours were performed by TFEC volunteers in 2022, associated with the activities described in the 2022 TFEC Annual Report.

### **Goals for 2023**

1. Enhance Community Garden.
2. Complete Pollinator Garden.
3. Conduct Rail Barrel Workshop.
4. Conduct Green Fair.
5. Complete second phase of Osprey Project.
6. Begin formal review of site plans.