



**Virtual Meeting
 Joint Hawthorne Environmental Commission/Green Team –Minutes
 November 13, 2025**

Call to Order: Rayna Laiosa, Mary Mahon, Pat MacDonnell, Holly Cowen, Mike Mariani, Maureen Cook, and Charles Stebbins

Guests: Judi and John Bosloper, Rita Pinelli, Mike and Janet Turco

Join Zoom Meeting

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- I. Attendance and Acceptance of Meeting
 - a. Hawthorne Environmental Commission – Minutes October 9, 2025
 1st Motion by Pat MacDonnell 2nd Motion by Holly Cowen
 - b. Hawthorne Green Team – Minutes – August 25, 2025 – Reviewed and All Accepted
- II. Hawthorne Planning Board – Reported by Rayna Laiosa - There were no meetings.
- III. 2026 Hawthorne Environmental Commission Meeting Dates – 2nd Thursday – Discussed and Agreed

January 8, 2026
February 12, 2026
March 12, 2026
April 9, 2026
May 14, 2026 (Joint)
June 8, 2026 – Joint & Annual Environmental Program

July 9, 2026
August 13, 2026
September 10, 2026
October 8, 2025
November 12, 2026
December 10, 2026 (Joint)

IV. 2026 Hawthorne Green Team Meeting Dates – 4th Monday – Discussed and Agreed

January 26, 2026
February 23, 2026
March 23, 2026
April 27, 2026
May 14, 2026 – (Joint)
June 8, 2026 – Joint & Annual Environmental Program
July 27, 2026
August 24, 2026
September 28, 2026
October 26, 2026+
November 23, 2026
December 10, 2026 (Joint)

V. 2026 Environmental Events/Activities – Discussed and Agreed

- a. 34th Cel Earth Bration Hawthorne High School – Saturday April 18, 2026 – Hawthorne High School – 10:00 am to 2:00 pm
- b. Annual June Environmental Program – Monday June 8, 2026 - HHS Auditorium at 7:30 pm
- c. Hawthorne Green Fair at the Farmers’ Market – Sunday September 13, 2026 Rain Date: Sunday September 20, 2026
- d. Hawthorne Day – Saturday September 26, 2026

VI. Green Team Meeting

- a. Community Garden Communications – First Refusal of Your Garden Bed – (3) gardeners are not returning for the 2026 season; There are two (2) 4 x 12 garden bed available for upgrades to the existing gardeners; (6) gardeners has expressed an interest in an upgrade; Will select the winners – picking out of a hat at meeting – Pat MacDonnell Picked 1st Kevin Norman, 2nd Diedre Casso; Announced three (3) garden beds will be made available in January 2026
- b. Refresh of the Community Garden Sign – Paul Whelan - Did a great job!
- c. Next Green Team Meeting: Thursday December 11, 2025 at 7:30 pm

VII. Refresh of 8 Acre Woods Signs – Paul Whelan - Did a Great Job!

VIII. Sustainable Jersey- - Official News – Borough of Hawthorne Achieved Sustainable Jersey Silver Certification – 440 Sustainable Jersey Action Plans; Annual Luncheon Tuesday November 18, 2025 Atlantic City, NJ – Mayor Lane, Margo Lane, and Rayna Laiosa will attend and accept our Silver Award

IX. Shade Tree Commission - Daffodil plantings – Sunday November 2, 2025 at 1:00 pm meeting at Boro Hall. Boro Hall – 200 bulbs, Library 250 bulbs, and Community Garden – 50 bulbs Thank you Mike Mariani, Rayna Laiosa, Ed Van Gunst, and Boy Scouts

Troop 85 for volunteering your time for planting the daffodil bulbs. Special thanks to Mike Mariani for bring another drill bit for the bulb planting.

- X. Friends of the Library – Received Grant from City Green – Native Plants Planting at Hawthorne Library – Completed
- XI. Kids to Kids Newsletter - Rita will work on the next winter’s Kids Newsletter on Jane Goodall.
- XII. Update on Issues and Commissioners Concerns:
 - a. 2026 Calendar – New Upgrades – Will include Hawthorne Recycling Center – One Page Flyer created by Rita and Hawthorne’s Stormwater Program Poster
 - b. A Hawthorne resident requested clarification on planting Native Plants between the sidewalk and the curb - grassy area. She received a warning for the plantings. Rita will take a photos and send them to Rayna for review. Rita will research for the appropriate native plants to be planted between the sidewalk and the curb.
 - c. Hawthorne resident, may be able to donate Bat Houses to the Hawthorne Environmental Commission. The Commission was interested in the placement of the bat houses either around the Gateway to Passaic River or 8 Acre Woods area.
 - d. Update - Plastic Film is being bagged in the storage container at the Recycling center.
 - e. Reminder – Teacher Letters needs to be sent to the Hawthorne School System to communicate about the 2026 Environmental Activities – Cel Earth Bration on Saturday April 18th, 2026 and the Annual June Environmental Program on June 8, 2026.

**Next Virtual Hawthorne Environmental Commission
Meeting/Green Team
Thursday December 11, 2025 at 7:30 pm**