Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC) – 2021 Accomplishments

Hello all,

It's my pleasure to provide an update for the activities and accomplishments of Montgomery Township's EAC. The past year has been busy, to say the least, but we've been working diligently to make our Township a more sustainable place to live.

Last spring and into the summer, we made presentations on the importance of single use battery recycling. As most people normally throw old batteries in the trash, our Board of Supervisors approved two Battery Recycling stations for our residents - One at the Township Building entrance and the other at the Community Center entrance. To date, we've recycled and diverted over 600 pounds of single use batteries from landfills. If you'd like more information you may click <u>here</u>.

Over the summer, the EAC had conducted a Solar Energy Summit. During this virtual presentation, we provided education on resources for residents to research and potentially install solar panels for their homes or businesses. This presentation is available at the following <u>link</u>.

Last fall, the EAC focused on presenting a virtual Weatherization Summit for our residents. This presentation highlighted the importance of insulating and air sealing your home. For more on Weatherization please reference this <u>link</u>.

For the remainder of the year, the EAC had researched the storm water issues experienced by many residents. The rate in which we experience heavy rainfall, and "100-year" storms is dramatically increasing. This issue has driven our EAC to dedicate most of our schedule for 2022 to focus on storm water management and the steps we can take minimize damage to our properties. This year, we'll work to help residents to better understand rain gardens. The EAC will work to provide resources on how to build rain gardens and where to purchase native, non-invasive plants.

Otherwise, we are looking at another busy year. The Township will offer an <u>electronic recycling event</u> and <u>tree</u> <u>giveaway</u>. The Township is discussing additional environmental event opportunities. Throughout the year, you can participate in free <u>hazardous waste collection events</u> from Montgomery County.

Be sure to follow our <u>Township Newsletter</u> for all upcoming events. You can also follow us on <u>social media</u> for helpful *Tuesday Tips*, and supporting blog posts.

It's been great serving on our Township's EAC. I'm looking forward to another productive year with my fellow Committee members.

Best wishes,

Ryan Rex Environmental Advisory Committee Chair Montgomery Township