



ALPINE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT DECEMBER 2011

The Alpine Environment Commission (EC) continues to maintain a very active role in our community in preserving and protecting our rather unique and cherished environment. The EC consists of volunteers – three of which have been designated “Volunteers of the Year” by our Mayor & Council over the past few years. We continue to interact closely with our elected officials, borough employees and specifically with our building department and borough engineer, whose participation is essential to our endeavors.

Our building department communicates all potential building developments to the EC in a timely manner and arranges for a property owner to meet with the EC for an on-site inspection. During this inspection potential tree removal is carefully analyzed, as well as any other recommendations the EC may offer.

Core Training: This year two members of the EC, Lorraine and Sue, completed the NJ Division of Parks & Forestry Core Training program. This program was developed to educate EC/Shade Tree members to identify diseased and potentially dangerous trees.

ANJEC: The Alpine EC maintains an active membership in the Association of NJ Environmental Commissions and partakes in many of their activities.

Landmark Tree Designation: The EC continues to encourage residents to designate trees on their property for landmark status. It was through this endeavor that the EC was able to designate the huge Maple trees lining the historic Alpine Cemetery as landmarked, and place a plaque indicating same on one of the trees.

Recycle Day: The EC participated in the National Recycle Day which was most successful. The Alpine grammar school children participated in the event by creating recycle posters for display in Borough Hall. The EC promoted tree preservation by passing out specially created recycle bags to residents with the EC logo, a book mark with 10 recommendations as to how not to forget your bag and a flyer listing the ways Alpine recycles.

Arbor Day: Arbor Day was celebrated with a Mayoral Proclamation designating April 30th as Arbor day in Alpine.

The EC. distributed seedlings to residents with bookmark directions for planting as well as also providing the school children with the same. In addition the EC. planted a young seedling at our Borough's new Church St. passive park land.

Official meetings and Site Inspections: The EC conducted 6 public meetings and undertook 17 site inspections . . . 9 for potential tree removal and 8 for approval of the Tree bond return..

The EC is also prompted to thank the Mayor & Council, the Building Dept., and our Borough Engineer for their support and guidance during all of 2011 without whose assistance our goals could not have been achieved.

Respectfully submitted,
Lorraine Mattes, Chair