

LOWER MAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP
ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL
FEBRUARY 12, 2026 MEETING

Present: James J. Bray, Chair; Alan Dresser, Vice-Chair; Cheryl Coffee; Soumya Dharmavaram; Dominic Mitchell; Elizabeth Quigley; Eleanor Turner

Also in attendance were Jim Driscoll, Anita and Jasper

The meeting was called to order at 6PM.

Review/Approval of January 15 2026 Mtg. Minutes - Mr. Bray asked for a vote on the January 15, 2026 EAC minutes. Ms. Coffee voted to approve the minutes and Ms. Turner seconded the motion. And all were in favor.

EAC Awards Applications- Mr. Bray asked Ms. Quigley about the status of the grants she has been working on. She indicated that she would start working on the Bucks County Conservation District grant in March or April. Regarding the Governor’s Award, she said the application opens in October and the deadline is mid-January so we can start applying in the Fall. She said she will keep the group in the loop.

Tree Tenders Discussion – Mr. Bray reported that he had a meeting with Carla Kimmel-Smith on the Tree Tender project. Because of the bureaucratic nature of the Tree Tender Program she was in favor of having our own group of volunteers take care of the trees rather than joining a “Tree Tenders” group. Mr. Bray thinks that is a good idea as well.

Heritage Tree Ordinance – Ms. Coffee has put together several proposals, including Patterson Farm and Five Mile Woods for review. She will forward this info to Mr. Bray and they will discuss the submittals.

Strategic Planning- 2026 and beyond - Ms. Turner, Ms. Coffee, Ms. Dharmavaram and Jasper discussed the idea of doing a survey, Ms. Quigley adding that it should be an actionable list. Ms. Turner asked Mr. Bray if he has ideas for rules around surveys. He said he will talk to Dave Kratzer, Township Manager, about accessing surveys for this purpose.

2024 Long-Range Master Tree Plan – EAC recommendations for the spring 2026 planting completed (species, numbers and locations) and forwarded to the Twp. Mr. Bray, Mr. Dresser and Mr. Majewski will meet one more time to finalize before going out for bids. The “December 2025 Tree Bank Update” has been completed and will be put on the EAC website.

Recycling – The second Styrofoam Event of 2026 will be held on a date to be determined, probably either May 16th (best) or 23rd (2ND best).

Bird Town PA – Plans are being made to name and celebrate a Bird Town PA Day on a Saturday in May. The celebration would involve an early morning bird walk, a late morning children’s program and an afternoon bird program.

Land Use Reviews – There was no land development news other than Troilo Development is proposing to replace the empty CVS on Yardley Langhorne Rd. with a car wash. The Zoning Board will hear their variance request on March 17th.

Proposed Single Use Plastics Ban Update – Present plan is to hold a BOS presentation in March or April. The date will be finalized after Mr. Bray, Ms. Mitchell and Ms. Turner meet to discuss timing.

Environmental Stewardship Award Update- The Yardley Re-Fillery was chosen as the 2025 winner of the ESA award. The recipient of the \$1,000 check chosen by the Re-Fillery from a list of non-profits will be honored at the Award Ceremony at the February 18, 2026 BOS meeting.

EAC Lecture Series for 2026 – The next event “Naughty by Nature” is scheduled on Feb. 14th. It’s an entertaining and educational lecture given by Mike Weilbacher who gave the lecture last year for Valentines Day. It was so enjoyed that the EAC decided to bring it back.

Our second lecture may not be as funny and entertaining, but it certainly will be interesting, educational and important. It’s called “Data Centers - Impacts and Your Electric Bill”. It will be held on Saturday March 14 at 10am at the Township Building.

The third event, on May 2, also falls in the “we all should know” category. It is called “Fast Fashion” and, despite the name, will not help you fill your closet, but rather, it will educate you on how the ever-present plastic that is harmful in so many ways, is also present in our clothing.

EAC Year End Review – Mr. Bray asked that everyone review the copy and forward any comments.

EAC and Township Newsletters – The new time/day for EAC meetings is the fourth Tuesday of the month at 7PM.

With no more business to discuss, the meeting of the EAC was closed at 7:15PM. The next meeting will be held on March 24, 2026 at 7PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

James J. Bray, Chair