

The Boonsboro Environmental Commission (BEC)

Third Annual Report

January 2015 – December 2015

- Distributed Waste Reduction Survey to downtown businesses and churches. The Survey provided insight as to what systems are currently in place with regards to waste hauling and recycling practices by Town businesses.
- Worked with the Park Board to complete the People Loving and Nurturing Trees (PLANT) Community application through the Maryland Department of Natural Resources.
- Supported the development of a Community Garden at the Town Farm.
- Worked with Park Board to organize a stream clean-up for April 19, 2015
- Hosted Shawn Walker of Trees 101 (www.trees101.net) for a talk on trees as part of the BEC speaker series.
- Intern Beth Seabright completed a Stormwater Management plan that would treat most of the South end of Town with a new bio-retention swale in Shafer Park.
- Held stakeholders meeting for pay-as-you-throw options by WasteZero.
- Researched community garden development.
- Hosted Fran Scher, Ph.D, Washington County Master Gardener, for a talk on organic gardening as part of the BEC speaker series.
- Received a grant from MD Residential Composting Program which resulted in the purchase of 40 compost bins to be sold to Boonsboro residents at a reduced rate.
- Purchased 50 storm drain pins that were installed on storm drains within Town.
- Sponsored and manned a BEC informational tent at Green Fest.
- Approved 2016 BEC budget
- Attended the Grand Opening of the Apple Valley Recycling Sorting Facility.
- Donated a compost bin to Boonsboro Elementary School in order to promote composting to community youth.
- Implemented a successful Community Farmers Market. Placed signage around Town as well as started a Facebook page for the Farmers Market. Created written rules and regulations for the market.
- Completed and submitted Tree City USA application
- Witnessed with pride the Maryland Energy Administration as they recognized Boonsboro as a Smart Energy Community for saving energy.
- Assisted in coordination and participated in Bulk Trash Day held at Shafer Park
- Supported the establishment of a Forest Stand Delineation on the town farm which will be used to meet forest conservation requirements for developments and preserve existing forest.
- Supported with facts the PAYT option at the Town's public hearing.
- Supported the pervious paving at the lacrosse/soccer fields and voted to place a pervious parking lot informational sign at the site to educate the community.

On the Horizon

- Provide a viable pay as you throw (PAYT) option to Mayor and Council in an effort to reduce the town's expense and increase the environmental sustainability of the community.

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- Provide Mayor and Council a financially and environmentally sustainable plan for waste and recycling removal for the town.
- Continue the Boonsboro Farmers Market
- Work toward residential composting.
- Work with other Town Commissions towards creation of a Town Beautification Program.
- Work with the Public Safety Commission on making our crosswalks safer, including the possible addition of LED pedestrian traffic signs.
- Work with Town Engineer on adding a bio-retention area to the Potomac Street area in an effort to minimize the impervious pavement pollution from entering the stream.
- Form a committee with other Town boards and commissions to begin working on a Town-wide plan to connect all sections of the Town with paths and trails for pedestrians and cyclists.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bill Brady
Chairperson
Boonsboro Environmental Commission