

Conservation, Energy, & Environment Committee (CEEC) Report
Public Health, Safety & Environment Subcommittee, January 2, 2024
Submitted by Paula Jones, Chair, CEEC

The CEEC meets the second Thursday of each month from 4:30 – 6 PM via a hybrid meeting format (in person at Town Hall, Conference Room 5).

The next meeting will be January 11. This will be a Special Planning Meeting from 4 – 6 PM. The Committee has one of these planning meetings roughly every two to three years in order to determine Committee priorities for the next one to two years.

CEEC's recent focus has been on: Climate Change Resiliency/Mitigation (e.g. planting trees, Energy Plan), Trash Reduction (e.g. Shred Day, Electronics and other recycling, composting), Conservation, Environment & Public Health (e.g. bird counts, pesticide use, artificial turf).

Highlights from 2023:

Trees for Bloomfield (TFB) partnership with Bloomfield Beautification Committee – TFB planted 104 trees (93 in Bloomfield residents' yards, 11 on Town property). CEEC co-sponsored additional TFB events (e.g. 2023 TFB Photo Contest).

Document Shredding & Small Electronics Recycling Days (April 29th and October 7th) – At the October 7th event 9,600 pounds of paper were shredded, and 4,135 pounds of small electronics were recycled. About the same amounts were processed at the April 29th event.

Monitoring Bird and Butterfly population trends in Bloomfield (spring, summer, and Christmas counts) – CEEC member Zellene Sandler and other citizens participate in bird and butterfly counts at selected Bloomfield locations each year. Ms. Sandler reports on the annual results as well as the long-term population trends which have implications for land-use and building practices.

Pesticides and PFAS – (1) Met with Seabury residents in June regarding concerns about pesticide applications at Seabury. (2) DPW provided an overview of what pesticides are used on Town properties, particularly Filley Park. (3) Since artificial turf playing fields are being considered as part of the Rockwell Park Master Plan, CEEC and the BPL co-sponsored a webinar titled “Healthy Turf Healthy Citizens” in May.

Invitations to table at Windsor community events – CEEC participated in Windsor's Sustainability Fair on April 29th, and tabled at the Northwest Park Country Fair on September 30th.