

**WATERFORD TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION (WTEC)
MINUTES – January 15, 2026**

Members: Rick Yeatman - Chairperson, Terry Ciarlante - Clean Communities Coordinator, Pete Wristbridge, Michael Ward, Jennifer Treloar, Kyle Santos, Tom O'Neill. Andrew Wade - Township Liaison

Green Team Members: Rich Casian, Craig Buffington, Ed Paul & Charlie Damiani

Meeting called to order at 7:05 PM. This meeting was held in the Waterford Township Municipal Conference Room. In accordance with Chapter 231 of the Open Public Meeting Act, notice of the time and place for this meeting was listed in the Central Record and the Courier Post. The Sunshine Rule was announced and the Pledge of Allegiance recited.

Roll Call: Rick Yeatman, Terry Ciarlante, Pete Wristbridge, Jennifer Treloar, Kyle Santos, Charlie Damiani, Rich Casian, Mike Ward, Ed Paul, Tom O'Neil, Deputy Mayor Andrew Wade. Absent: Craig Buffington, Rich Casian

Reading and approval of minutes: Minutes from the 12/18/25 meeting were reviewed and approved. Motion, Jennifer Treloar; Second, Kyle Santos. Motion carried.

Members of Public Present: Caitlin Nolan, Program Coordinator at Waterford Township Public Library. Going forward, Caitlin will be attending the first hour of Commission meetings as a representative from WTPL. Caitlin is working on her MLS degree and shares many of our environmental interests. Caitlin gave an impromptu presentation on the environmental impact of Artificial Intelligence. Jen requested that Educational Programs be addressed first in Old Business, so that Caitlin will be able to participate.

Old business

Education Programs: (Jennifer Treloar) First topic, magazine subscriptions. Jen will reach out to Waterford Schools and WTPL to gauge interest in us funding environmental magazine subscriptions. Rick suggested Sierra Club, Evergreen and National Geographic for WTPL. Second topic, museum passes at WTPL. They are currently funded by Friends of the Library. There are some that Jen identified we can fund: Woodford Cedar Run, Academy of Natural Sciences at Drexel University, and Brandywine River Museum. The Academy of Natural Sciences renews 2/28 for \$299. Rick motioned that we fund the museum pass for Academy of Natural Sciences, Pete seconded. Motion carried.

Another program that we can fund at WTPL is the Seed Library, which runs from March 2 – March 31. Caitlin will talk D'Ambly's for ideas on how we can expand the program. Jen also recommended that we fund the WTPL's April 22nd "Preserving the Pines" talk by local author and environmentalist, William Lewis. His honorarium is \$250. Kyle motioned that we fund the

honorarium; Jen seconded. Motion passed. Other environmental activities discussed that we could fund at WTPL include presentations on native plants, invasive species, and a movie about microplastics. There is a Native Species Workshop scheduled for April 8th at WTPL; Caitlin will advise us at the next meeting about any expenses related to the workshop that we can fund.

Caitlin invited us to the Summer Reading Kick Off Event at WTPL on June 22nd, 5:30pm to 8:30pm. This year's theme is dinosaurs and archeology.

Jen also presented the Evesham Municipal Authorities 2026 calendar as an example of something we could possibly fund. We discussed how we could use such a calendar to advertise proper recycling, bulk trash, information about battery recycling, and our mattress disposal ordinance. Deputy Mayor Wade stated he would present to members of Township Committee for feedback.

Visitor Project: (Rhea Hood-Rhoane) Rhea could not make it to the meeting. Rick proposed that we leave her project off the agenda going forward due to lack of participation. If/when she comes to future meetings, we will discuss her project at that time. We all agreed to this going forward.

TREX Recycling: (Rick Yeatman) Rick reported that TREX is no longer funding benches. They have a new reward system. We agreed to continue with the project to get plastics out of the waste stream. We have three blue bins at the WTDPW facility, and they are being used. We have fliers posted at the Municipal Building and fliers available at the convenience center. Residents are not required to obtain a permit to drop off plastics.

Chair's Report

Atco Lake: (Rick Yeatman) Herbicides Aquaneat and Tribune should be applied in May 2026. No other news to report.

New Business - Upcoming Events:

Spring Clean-up: April 18, 2026

Fall Clean-up: October 17, 2026

Camden County announced that Waterford's Hazardous Waste Drop Off date will be May 16th. Jen motioned that we schedule our 2026 Spring Shredding Event for May 16th. Kyle seconded; motion carried.

New Jersey's 2026 free fishing days are scheduled for June 6 and October 17. Jen motioned that we schedule our Fishing Derby for June 6th. Terry seconded. Motion carried.

Discussion item: Invasive species education. Topic was discussed; nothing was decided. It was suggested that we use our Facebook page to publicize invasive species when they are blooming, with directions on how best to remove them.

Township Committee Liaison Report: (Deputy Mayor Wade) Deputy Mayor Wade advised that Waterford Township has purchased a street sweeper. We are required by law to sweep at least three times annually and to sweep up road salt. He also educated us about the process of debris disposal and storage after using a street sweeper. Andy also discussed that we need local businesses to report their recycling tonnage to the Township. He also informed us about new tire legislation pending for the 2026-2027 NJ General Assembly which would completely change how tire licensing works. Businesses that recycle tires will need a \$150,000 bond; in addition, there will be separate licenses required to store, dispose of, and haul tires. Andy encouraged District 4 Senator Paul Moriarty to vote “no” on the legislation.

Clean Communities Report: (Terry Ciarlante) our balance is \$70,005.29. Our page had 14,250 views and engagement was up 92%. Terry requested assistance in moderating the page. Jen and Pete volunteered; Terry, Pete and Jen will meet up so that Terry can add us to the account.

Land Use Board Liaison Report: (Mike Ward) Mike reported that the Township is dealing state regulations and the Pinelands Commission related to stormwater management in our new affordable housing area. Due to how our Haines Boulevard area is zoned, contractors need to obtain a Pinelands Credit to obtain a use variance.

Trails Ambassador Report: Rich Casian: Absent

Pinelands Commission notifications: (Rick Yeatman/Deputy Mayor Wade) Nothing new to report.

Comments from members: Ed wants us to talk to Public Works for assistance with moving our trailer.

Motion was made to adjourn by Terry Ciarlante. Seconded by Rick Yeatman. The meeting was adjourned at 8:56 PM.

Next Meeting Date: February 19th, 2026

Respectfully submitted by Jennifer Treloar, WTEC Recording Secretary