

EAC Meeting 3/24/15

Attendees: Matt Sabo, David Lewis, Kathy Shattuck, Joe Poppiti, Tim Plemmons, Chris Bish, Sarah Fisher, Steve Carter, Janet Ebert

Ash Borer

- Janet Ebert reviewed her report.
- From Janet's report we see that we have an extensive population of ash trees.
- This is a great report, but it shows how much of a problem the ash borers are going to be for our township.
- David also developed a communication plan to describe the ash borer issue.
- The township should develop a plan to respond to the inevitable arrival of the emerald ash borer and look at grant money available for remediation and destruction.
- What are the ramifications of different options?
- Chemicals are not something that Janet would recommend. Chemicals would have to be applied every few years.
- If there is a "safe" chemical, what is it? Is it available?
- Recommendations should be worked up for the public. (Which chemicals would be allowable? Should they plant other trees? When should they remove their ash trees?)
- Our township should put up purple monitor boxes.
- Look at Chester County – what is their plan?
- The ash borer problem should be brought up to Kennett regional meeting to see if they have looked at this problem and do they have a plan for it?
- What do we need to tell our residence, how & when?
- Look into the ½ mile buffer.
- The woodland ordinance should be looked at.
- Is there a timber value for uninfected wood?
- People should be reminded that they should not transport cut wood beyond 25 miles.
- After reviewing Janet's report, we should send the report to the forester Lloyd and Tom Committa.
- Matt will check with Lisa for when we can present this to the supervisors.

A few notes on Janet Ebert and the study that was conducted:

- Janet Ebert is recognized as one of the leading botanical experts working in the Mid-Atlantic region with a primary focus in Chester County, Pennsylvania. She has decades of experience and regularly consults and prepares inventories for a variety of local municipalities and notable conservation organizations including the Brandywine Conservancy, Natural Lands Trust and North American Land Trust. Janet Ebert is on the approved Pennsylvania state list for conducting township inventories, and completed the plant species and community inventory in Kennett Township in 1999.

- Both Steve Carter (through his position at North American Lands Trust) and Matt Sabo (through his involvement with the Kennett Township EAC) have experience working with Janet on other engagements and endorsed her as a proper choice for this assignment.
- The Township engaged Janet to conduct this inventory in 2013, with the direction to identify and obtain the GPS location of all ash trees within 50 feet of major roadways identified by the EAC. We also asked her to walk the trails of Anson Nixon park and identify and map ash trees within the same distance.
- The EAC was pleased with Janet's work and report, and believe she fulfilled the terms of the engagement. We look forward to updating the Supervisors on the results in April.

Social Networking

- David has assemble some ideas to discuss at the May meeting.
- David will talk to Lisa about putting together a dropbox for EAC to use to share information.

Garden Way

- Matt and Joe are still trying to get together with the fire marshal about burning off the weeds.