

**ANNUAL REPORT 2021  
FLORENCE TOWNSHIP  
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**

**History**

The Mayor and Council of the Township of Florence created and established the Florence Township Environmental Commission on 12-21-1983 by Ord. No. 1983-12 as Ch. 12 of the 1983 Code pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40:56A-1. The Commission is concerned with the protection, development, and use of the natural resources located in the territorial limits of the Township of Florence. Over the years, the Commission has attracted numerous township volunteers to advance those goals. The Commission interacts with neighboring community environmental commissions, the Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissions (ANJEC), and with environmentally oriented non-profit organizations to address local, regional and state environmental concerns. The Commission shall keep records of its meetings and activities and shall make an annual report on or before the first day of February of each year and submit the same to the Mayor, Township Council and Township Business Administrator, which report shall be comprehensive and detailed, covering operations, receipts, disbursements and expenditures for the full year.

**Powers and Duties**

The Florence Township Environmental Commission shall have the following powers and duties: The promotion of the conservation and development of the natural resources of the Township of Florence. The planning, implementing and informing the general public with respect to local conservation programs. The responsibility to compile and maintain an index of all open areas, publicly or privately owned, including all marshlands, swamps and other wetlands. The conduct of all appropriate research into the possible use or uses of open spaces in Florence Township. The submission of recommendations to the Planning Board of appropriate plans and programs for inclusion in the Florence Township Master Plan and for the general development and use of such areas. Whenever the Environmental Commission has prepared and submitted to the Planning Board and the Board of Adjustment an index of the natural resources of the municipality, the Planning Board or the Board of Adjustment shall make available to the Environmental Commission an informational copy of every application for development submitted to either Board. Failure of the Planning Board or Board of Adjustment to make such informational copy available to the Environmental Commission shall not invalidate any hearing or proceeding. [Amended 4-18-1984 by Ord. No. 1984-3] The preparation of advertisements, books, maps, charts and other appropriate material necessary to the discharge of its duties and the distribution of the same. To act as a coordinating agency in the community with respect to conservation matters and a liaison between local conservation needs and the regional, state and federal agencies responsible for administering to those needs. To study and make recommendations concerning open space preservation, water resource management, air pollution control, solid waste management, noise control, soil and landscape protection, environmental appearance, marine resources and protection of flora and fauna.

The Commission shall act and discharge its duties within the limits of funds appropriated to it for such purpose by the Florence Township Council.

As of January 2012 the members of the Environmental Commission are also members of the township Sustainable Jersey Green Team. Resolution No. 2012-45 of the Township Council established the Green Team to develop recommendations and to advise the Mayor and Council on the implementation of the Sustainable Jersey program.

### **Monthly Meeting Schedule**

Meetings are scheduled for the first Thursday of each month (except for public holidays) at 7:00 PM. Meetings are held in the Municipal Complex, 711 Broad Street, Florence, NJ 08518. The Commission enthusiastically welcomes public attendance and comment at its regular monthly meetings. The meeting schedule is posted on the Town Hall bulletin board and published in the Burlington County Times. Minutes from the meetings are available on request.

The schedule for 2021 Florence Township Environmental Commission meetings were as follows:

January 14 (reorganization)	February 4 Cancelled
March 4 Cancelled	April 1 Cancelled
May 6	June 3 Cancelled
July No Meeting	August 5 Cancelled
September 2	October 7 Cancelled
November 4	December 2

### **Contact:**

For more information about the Florence Township Environmental Commission please:

- Email us at: [kfederico@florence-nj.com](mailto:kfederico@florence-nj.com)
- Call the Chairman of the Environmental Commission, David Mudge at: 609-499-2654; or the Clerk of the Commission, Karen Federico at: 609-499-2525
- Write us at: Florence Township Environmental Commission  
c/o Municipal Complex, 711 Broad Street, Florence, NJ 08518-2323

### **Membership**

The Commission is comprised of nine members. Three members represent the three wards and two At-Large members serve three-year terms, two alternate members that serve two-year terms, a Township Council liaison serving a one-year term, and a Planning Board liaison serving a one-year term; all appointed by the Township Mayor.

The list of 2021 Florence Township Environmental Commission members and appointee information is provided below:

Paul A. Ordog, Jr., Chairman, Ward #1 Commissioner  
David Mudge, Vice Chairman, Ward #2 Commissioner  
William Federico, Secretary, Commissioner-at-Large  
Melanie Mieczkowski, Commissioner-at-large  
Richard Brown, Ward #3 Commissioner  
Jerry Sandusky, Township Council Representative  
John Pagano, Planning Board Representative  
Michelle Ryan Krzykalski, Alternate #1  
John Woolston, Alternate #2

**Paul A. Ordog, Jr.** has been a resident of the Roebling section of Florence his entire life and has served on the Florence Township Environmental Commission since January 1984. Paul was also the township representative of the Delaware Estuary Program and a member of the Sustainable Jersey Green Team.

**David Mudge** has been a life-long resident of Florence and a member of the Environmental Commission since 1996. David is also a member of the Sustainable Jersey Green Team.

**Melanie Mieczkowski** is serving her second term as environmental commissioner. Melanie is also a member of the Sustainable Jersey Green Team.

**Michelle Ryan Krzylalski** is the Alternate #1 for the Environmental Commission. She also votes when sufficient commissioners are not present for a quorum.

**Richard Brown**, has been a lifelong resident of Florence Township and a member of the Sustainable Jersey Green Team.

**William Federico** has been a member of the Environmental Commission since 2018. He is also a member of the Sustainable Jersey Green Team.

**John Pagano** is the Planning Board Representative

**Jerry Sandusky** Township Council Representative has been a lifelong resident of Florence Township.

**John Woolston** has been a lifelong resident of Florence Township and a member of the Sustainable Jersey Green Team. He is the Alternate #2 for the Environmental Commission. He also votes when sufficient commissioners are not present for a quorum.

**Karen Federico**, Clerk of the commission.

### **Commission Activities**

Received and discussed correspondence:

PSE&G Wetlands extension

Delaware Riverkeepers

NJ Turnpike Multi-Use Permit

Catalyst Group re 1021 Potts Mill Rd

Flood Hazard Permit 1900 River Road

ANJEC seminar information and pamphlets

Florence Turnpike Warehouse

Wetland applications

RD Wood tot improvements

Several meetings were cancelled due to Covid 19 precautions or lack of business.

The Sustainable Jersey Green Team meetings in 2021 were not held.

Site plan reviews and applications

ZB#2021-13 NFI Real Estate Lounsberry Tract

ZB#2021-14 NFI Real Estate Wainswright Tract

PB#2021-07 LIT/MRPI River Road

Resolutions:

EC- 2021-01 Annual Schedule of Regular Meetings