



## Verona Environmental Commission

600 Bloomfield Avenue  
Verona, New Jersey 07044

**April 17, 2012**

**Verona Community Center, Conference Room, 880 Bloomfield Ave**

**VEC Public Meeting: April 17, 2012 at the Verona Community Center.  
Members in attendance: Gerard Shimonaski, Gloria Machnowski, Anthony Saltalamacchia, Tara Bratek, Tom Freeman, Virginia Citrano, Marjorie Williams, and Kerry Bass.**

### AGENDA ITEMS

I. March 20, 2012 minutes were approved by the VEC members.

II. Waste Water Treatment Plant presentation: The presentation was approved by the Plant Manager. Members decided to make a DVD for VTV. Gloria will make the copy and contact Steve Neale. Another DVD will be made to be presented to Elementary School Principals and HBW Principal. Jerry will arrange a meeting with the principals to discuss the possibility of a field trip next school year. Mr. Martin would like to present it at a Council Meeting. The date was not determined yet but we'll make another copy for it.

III. Earth Day event at the Recycling Center on April 14<sup>th</sup> was a great success. The advertising on-line and posters by Gloria and Jim were fantastic. Jerry wrote articles that were published in the local media. Virginia did the proofreading and posted the event. Tony, Marjorie, Gloria, Jerry and Kerry gave recycling bins and barrels at the event. The cloth shopping bag give-away was great too.

IV. Land Use section of Verona's Master Plan and the impact to the environment: Jerry showed members the development plan for Durrell St. as an example on how to review projects and make comments. The VEC needs at least 2 members to learn this procedure to be able to complete reviews in the future. Members asked Jerry to create a checklist of the potential environmental impact items to use as a guide. Members supported Jerry's idea to create a list of land space in Verona that should be protected by rezoning or other measures taken in advance.

VI. Update on seeking a grant to purchase a "Rocket" composter for food waste at VHS: Jerry told members that Mr. Martin offered the VEC \$10,000 to purchase the composter. Jerry explained that an appropriate site should be selected at VHS. Gloria suggested to recondition the VHS green house to install the composter there. The composter also needs activating agents such as wood chips to function. Members mentioned that probably the wood chips could be provided by the Township. This is an ongoing initiative and more research is needed.