



BROOKDALE PARK CONSERVANCY

July, 2010

General Meeting
September
Board Meeting
July 20



WATER FOR THE TREES

Keeping the Trees Alive

As a project of Essex County Public Works, trees were planted to provide nearby residences a noise buffer from the dog park. It also re-establishes the plantings that were originally in the park. They are a mix of evergreens including spruces, hemlocks, cedars and pines as well as flowering dogwoods. The trees were selected based on historic planting plans, existing conditions, budget and availability.

Now we need YOUR help. If you can spare any time to help water, we can ensure their survival into the winter months. Any time would be greatly appreciated. An interactive Water Calendar is set up on our website so you can enter your name, time and location of watering. This will help other volunteers know when and where needs watering...[click here to sign up!](#)



ORDER
YOUR BPC
T-SHIRT!

BPC COMMITTEES

Please review our new committees. See one that interests you? We'll put you on the roster.

- **Marketing:** Outreach, fund-raising, communications
- **Membership:** Recruitment, retention
- **Preservation:** Olmstead plan, restoration, plantings, history
- **Environmental:** Green, safety
- **Trees:** Safety, inventory, replacement

WILDFLOWER PROJECT

Thanks to an Essex County Parks project, a wildflower meadow will be planted in the footprint of the old pond to beautify the area. The process includes killing the existing grass in the area using a systemic herbicide (this is unavoidable—if not done the existing grasses and tenacious weeds like mugwort will prohibit any successful germination of wildflower seeds), spreading a native wildflower seed mix, using a wet mix for the low area and a drought tolerant mix in the higher zones. This mix will consist of native grasses and wildflowers intended to bloom throughout the seasons. Included is two years of maintenance, consisting of mowing at the proper times to encourage seed dispersal and spreading of the native plants. This will be a beautiful site in the park and also provide a nice habitat for birds and small mammals.

TREE SAFETY

Paul Jordan, Tree Consultant, will be meeting with the Board on July 20th to discuss next-steps towards a safer park. Our trees need our attention, and a plan needs to be put in motion as soon as possible.

LENAPE RESTORATION

This 'hidden gem' is part of a seven-member trail system, the Liberty Water Gap Trail (LWGT). The Lenape stretches for over thirty miles from the southern entrance of Branch Brook Park in Newark to its junction with the Patriots Path at the Essex County Environmental Center in Roseland. Inside Brookdale, it goes from the Watching entrance, up the west side path, past the rose garden and tennis courts, and exits the path towards Glenside Terrace.



The BPC has been asked to help with:

- repainting faded trail markings
- erecting professional trail medallions for the LT and LWGT in high visibility areas
- promoting its existence to the community

The BPC has applied for a grant, The Kodak American Greenways Program in order to fund the necessary work. A huge "Thank You" goes to Pat Gilleran for being the BPC's own Grant Czar. Navigating grant submission is an arduous task, we are extremely grateful for her work.

The LWGT stretches for 130 miles across the entire state of New Jersey. You can learn more about the trails at www.libertywatergap.org.

PILES BE GONE!

Walk the west side of the park and you'll notice all those piles have been removed. Thanks to the handful of BPC volunteers!

We've set up a spot on CafePress for you to order a BPC-branded shirt: cafepress.com/BrookdaleParkConservancy

