

**Newtown Borough Environmental Advisory Council**  
April 13, 2026 Meeting Minutes  
Council Chambers 23 N. State St. Newtown PA 18940 and Zoom

**Members Present:** Katherine Borish, Pat Foster, Tim Markey (Chair), Bob Mirales, Julia Woldorf (Council Liaison)

Absent - Glenn Beasley, Summer Bound, Samantha McGraw

1. Amendments to the Agenda - none
2. Approve March Minutes - Katherine made the motion and Tim seconded, all approved.
3. EAC Priorities for 2026
  - a. Sustainable Landscaping Research - Bob shared a primer on gas leaf blowers - background and history, public health issues and pollution, case studies in communities adopting ban ordinances. There was discussion about residential versus commercial landscaper use. Next steps are a sample ordinance and a meeting with Borough Council to gauge support.
  - b. Newtown Borough Climate Action Plan - The presentation of the Newtown Borough Climate Action Plan will be made at the April 15 Borough Council meeting at the Chancellor Center. The EAC will review the plan in detail and further develop the action items. There was discussion about the feasibility of engaging with HARB to better balance energy efficiency and historic character.
  - c. Native Plants – There will be a container gardening event - “Plant Native Grow Happy” - on May 16 at Patriot’s Park. Event announcements are out in local news outlets. An Event Brite signup tool will be created after Borough Council approves it at the April 15 meeting. Pat offered to help with securing the 6 tables needed and offered to help with setup. EAC budget is available if needed.
  - d. Newtown Borough, in partnership with the Newtown Theatre, will feature the Extraordinary Caterpillar movie at Newtown Theatre on Earth Day, April 22, with a panel discussion on native plants afterwards. Advertising for the event will continue up to the event date, and word of mouth is encouraged.
  - e. Storm Sewer round decal project - ongoing
4. Borough Council Update
  - a. The Frost Avenue Newtown Creek bridge project bids are being evaluated.
  - b. Bids for landscaping services, with an electric option, are in and final decision will be made by Borough Council this month.
  - c. Julia updated us on the EV charging ordinance that is in progress.

5. New Business

- a. Discussion of event on May 20, 6:30 - 9:00 at the Washington Crossing Visitor Center. "Nature's Best Hope: Screening and Panel" features a Doug Tallamy video followed by expert panel. There was discussion about staffing a table with handouts and information.

6. Public Comment - none

7. Confirm Next EAC Meeting - Monday, May 11, 2026 at 7:00pm

8. Motion to Adjourn

- a. Bob made the motion to adjourn, and Katherine seconded with all in favor and the meeting was adjourned.

For the Council,

Tim Markey