
GREENWAYS NEWS

Volume 30, Issue 1

Spring 2025

Trailhead Park Plans

Since the opening of the Middlesex Greenway in 2012 users have parked on a small gravel lot or on the lawn at the Trailhead on Middlesex Ave. Over the years there have been concept plans for a new park on the site. Last year the County hired a firm called Arterial to finalize the design for the park. They are the same firm designing Peterson Park in downtown Metuchen.

The County and Metuchen are working on what will be in the park, which may include some railroad history elements. New entrances and parking areas, and landscaping are also being planned. There is no timetable on the final design or construction.

Prior to it being used for the Middlesex Greenway, the Trailhead was a parking lot for the Celotex plant across the street, and earlier it was a lumber yard that burned down in the 1940s. The property was cleaned up in the early 2000's and the asbestos dump at the rear was covered with a clay cap. Currently the Greenway ends next to the Trailhead, and when the Greenway is extended to the north-west the park will be a mid-way point on a much longer trail.

ECO-TOURS of Edison 30th Anniversary! 1995-2025!

In the winter of 1995, Walter Stochel, Bob Takash of the Edison Greenways Group, Bob Spiegel of the Edison Wetlands Association, and Bob Harsell of the Arthur Kill Watershed Association created a series of hikes to highlight land that could be preserved as conservation areas in Edison. A list of these sites was presented to the Edison Planning Board in January 1995 as draft conservation plan, for the update of the Edison Master plan. Noticing a world-wide environmental travel trend, we called these hike "Eco-Tours"

The first tour was held on a snowy wet February 26, 1995 on the newly preserved northern portion of the Dismal Swamp.



Those spring 1995 Eco-Tours were so successful it was decided to continue them in the fall, and then every year since.

Thousands of people have joined us in exploring many interesting areas of Edison. From the Stevens Preserve to the Raritan River we walked through woods, swamps, up hills, and down in ravines. We even had environmental experts leading us. Along the way, hundreds of acres of land were preserved. This year we will be doing some of these "Classic 1995" tours. See page 2 for the spring list.

Join us and see the wild side of our environment!

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Eco-Tours 30th Anniversary
- 2 Spring 2025 Eco-Tours
- 3 Weed Warriors
- 3 Outdoor Trail Walking
- 4 Greenway Meetings

ECO-TOURS of Edison

Spring 2025

This year is our 30th year of doing the Eco-Tours

#1. Barnes Preserve from Liberty St. Metuchen

Sunday February 23, 2025

10:00am-12:00pm

Meet: End of Liberty St. in Metuchen

Hike a wooded wetland to the Dismal Brook.

#2. Barnes Preserve from Talmadge Rd.

Sunday March 9, 2025 10:00am to 12:00pm

Meet: Talmadge Rd & Sagamore Ave. S Edison

Hike the northern part of the preserve.

Classic 1995 Eco-Tour. Dogs ok. //

#3. Tingley Lane Park

Sunday March 23, 2025 10:00am-12:00pm

Meet: **Parking lot, J. Adams Middle School**

New Dover Rd.

Hike an 80+-acre forest with numerous vernal ponds.

Classic 1995 Eco-Tour. Dogs ok. //

#4. White Rock-Glendale

Sunday March 30, 2025 10:00am-12:00pm

Meet: Glendale Ave. & Silverlake Ave. Edison

Hike down to "White Rock" along the Raritan River.

#5. Menlo Park School to Edison Tower

Saturday April 5, 2025 10:00am-12:00pm

Meet: Menlo Park School 155 Monroe Ave. Edison.

*Walk from Menlo Park School to the Edison Tower and
back on sidewalks and trails.*

Classic 1995 Eco-Tour Dogs ok.

#6. Piscatawaytown Burial Ground Cleanup & Tour

Sunday April 27, 2024 1:00pm to 2:30pm

Meet: Behind St. James Church, Woodbridge Ave. &
Park Way in Edison.

*Help clean up a 330-year- old cemetery,
and tour this interesting spot*

#7. Mill Brook Ravine

Sunday May 4, 2025 10:00-12:00pm

Meet: Mill Rd. by NJTP

Hike a shale hill above the Mill Brook.

#8. Bicycle Tour of Edison & Metuchen

Sunday May 18, 2024 9:00am-1:00pm

Registration 8:00am. \$10.00 per rider

Meet: Municipal Building. 100 Municipal Blvd.
25 Miles. Rest Stops, snacks. 29th year!

#9. Memorial Day Flag Raising at Oak Tree Pond Historic Park

Monday May 26, 2025 11:45am

Meet: Oak Tree Pond Historic Park, Oak Tree and New
Dover Rd.

#10. Greenway to Barnes Preserve

Sunday June 8, 2025 1:00pm-2:00pm

Meet: YMCA 65 High St. Metuchen, NJ

#10. Short Hills Battlefield from Hayduk Dr.

Sunday June 29, 2025 9:30am-11:30am

Meet: End of Hayduk Dr. off of Woodland Ave.

*Hike 100 acres of forest that was the site of the 1777
Battle of the Short Hills.*

The ECO-TOURS of Edison are organized by the Edison Greenways Group, Middlesex Greenway Coalition, Edison Open Space Committee, and the Edison Wetlands Association to give residents a chance to see some of the most interesting and environmentally important areas of Edison. Since 1995 hundreds of people have gone on these walks, and hikes.

The tours are open to the public, and will last approximately 2 hours.

Bring something to drink, binoculars, compass, notepad, and bird book.

Please wear appropriate clothing, and waterproof footwear. The walks can be tough and wet. There are no restroom facilities on the outdoor tours.

Before each tour call 732-906-0529 for cancellation information. Due to bad weather, or other causes, a tour may be postponed.

Middlesex Greenway

Metuchen-Edison-Woodbridge NJ



Greenway Notes Volunteering

Middlesex Greenway/Edison Greenways Group

Contact:

edisongw@fastmail.com
wstochel@earthlink.net

Metuchen Weed Warriors

Contact:

k.sammond@gmail.com
sherberg3@verizon.net
weeks5@optonline.net

Edison Environmental Commission

Contact:

sallyyabra@gmail.com

Edison Open Space Plan:

[www.https://www.edisonnj.org/about_edison/edison_open_space/index.php](https://www.edisonnj.org/about_edison/edison_open_space/index.php)

OUTDOOR TRAIL WALKING

By Bob Takash, President Edison Greenways Group

When weather permitting, hiking or walking outdoors is very good exercise. The profound benefits can transform your body and mind for a lifetime. Note that you strengthen your heart and breathing well-being, as well as build muscles.

Spending time in nature can help bring us back to the present and evoke a sense of calm and peace to our otherwise hectic lives. It enhances social moments and allows for building community. We have had successful Health Walks on the Middlesex Greenway, all open to the public.

There is an indoor Middlesex County "Walk With A Doc" event on Wednesday, February 26, 2025 at 12 PM at the YMCA in Piscataway, NJ. Check it out as you can celebrate the Indoor or Outdoor Trail Walking Experience.

Metuchen Weed Warriors Update

The Weed Warriors not only work to remove invasive plant species in the area they also plant native species. This fall they have been collecting tree acorns and seeds to plant in the spring. Want to help?

Their contact information is on the left.

Land Next to Greenway Eyed for Preservation

The Middlesex Greenway Coalition wrote a letter of support to the Borough of Metuchen supporting County acquisition of a lot on Lodi Ave. that borders the Greenway.

This would connect the Greenway to trails along the Mill Brook and Myrtle Park to the south.

During the past decade there have been "diversions" of the Greenway by PSEG, and Enbridge, which required purchasing additional land for the Greenway. This would be a perfect use of these funds.

Become a member (\$15.00)

(Total) \$ _____

Please make checks payable to: Edison Greenways Group Inc.

We are a non-profit tax-exempt IRS 501 c (3) organization.

Our Mailing Address: PO Box 10432, New Brunswick, NJ 08906

Your NAME: _____

Honoring: _____

Address: _____

Town: _____ ZIP: _____

Middlesex Greenway Coalition Meetings

Starting at 7:00 pm Edison EMS Clara Barton First Aid Squad
1079 Amboy Ave. Edison. All Thursdays.

February 27, 2025, March 27, 2025,

April 24, 2025, May 22, 2025,

June 26, 2025, July 24, 2025,

August 21, 2025, September 25, 2025,

October 23, 2025, November 20, 2025,

December 18, 2025

For More Middlesex Greenway Information:

Find us on Facebook: Middlesex Greenway

Website: www.edisongreenways.org

Email: edisongw@fastmail.com

Phone: 732-985-7071

See the progress of the Greenway.

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/edisongreenways1/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B01Gw6UmIPY#t=13>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q89daPHnbkM>

Middlesex Greenway

Metuchen-Edison-Woodbridge NJ



The GreenwayS News is published by the Edison Greenways Group, Inc. PO Box 10432 New Brunswick NJ 08906 We report on the status of the Middlesex Greenway and highlight other area greenways and open spaces and their potential linkage to the Middlesex Greenway. When the Middlesex Greenway Coalition was formed in 1993, we anticipated that it would be a key link in a growing system of greenways and trails. We are now closer to seeing this system become a reality. Copyright 2025 Edison Greenways Group, Inc. All rights Reserved. ❖

Middlesex Greenway Coalition

PO Box 10432

New Brunswick, NJ 08906

US POSTAGE

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED