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The Green Way

No. 4

KINGSTON GREENWAYS ASSOCIATION

A NEW JERSEY NON-PROFIT CORPORATION

www.kingstongreenways.org

BARBEQUE EDITION

Town Barbeque.... It's time to Party! September 10th is the date for the Kingston Village BBQ. We'd like some help at the KGA table, and hope you stop by to learn how you can help (and maybe join us or help sign up a neighbor?) The BBQ starts at 3 PM, and will be at the (preserved!) Laurel Avenue Schoolyard. The KGA donated web space to the BBQ committee. Learn more at www.kingstongreenways.org/bbq

Kingston Greenways Association Upcoming Events

Saturday, September 17th: Hamilton-Trenton Marsh Trip!

Marsh Trip! The KGA trustees have been wondering about how other communities have developed their unique open space resources, so we have arranged a trip to the Hamilton-Trenton Marsh on Saturday, September 17th. It will be led by Mary Leck, a naturalist who has been studying the ecology of the Hamilton/Trenton marsh for close to two decades.

Located southeast of Trenton in Hamilton Township, the 1,250 acre Hamilton/Trenton Marsh is the northernmost freshwater tidal marsh on the Delaware River. The marsh includes both tidal and nontidal marshland, forested swamp and upland and second-growth forest. Ponds, creeks, and Delaware & Raritan Canal and the Delaware River are all connected by this extensive waterway.

This diverse habitat supports an astonishing 550 species of plants, more than 230 species of birds and many mammals, amphibians and reptiles, including many rare and endangered species.

We will carpool to the Marsh. Plan to leave from the Laurel Ave. School at ~1:00. The walk, which starts at Spring Lake in Trenton, starts at 2:00. Wear comfortable walking shoes and bring some water to drink. The terrain is generally flat. Long pants are recommended.

Sunday, October 23rd: Annual Fall Foliage Walk

The Autumn Leaves... Yes, summer is still here, but we do have to plan ahead. Our Fall Foliage Walk, Sunday, October 23rd at 2 PM, will concentrate on fall colors in horticultural trees this year. We have planned a walk which includes a corner of the Mapleton Preserve.

Meet at the Lock Tender's House at the Kingston Lock, off Route 27, and wear your walking shoes. The walk won't be strenuous, but will last about an hour and half, including some walking in the village area. Refreshments will be served.

Summer activities for the KGA.... It's been a busy summer, and activity continues with the KGA. This June we celebrated National Trails Day with our boardwalk clearing in the Cook Natural Area. David Southgate led the effort to clear the way from the new Carter Brook Bridge to the Cook trail at Heathcote Brook Road. Thanks to all who came out and used the weed whackers!

Not two weeks later, John Mandell received his Eagle Scout Badge, in part for his work rebuilding the Carter Brook Bridge. The KGA helped fund the reconstruction, though if we had had to pay hourly wages (based on the volunteer work of dozens of Boy Scouts), we would have gone broke! David Southgate and Tari Pantaleo attended the ceremonial walk from the bridge to the firehouse, and the ceremony itself, with Assemblyman Bill Baroni and Assemblywoman Greenstein in attendance. Congratulations to John for a job well done!



John Mandell at the Carter Brook Bridge dedication

Get Involved! Tree Survey.... KGA has applied for a grant to study, survey and photograph trees at the newly acquired Princeton Nurseries property. To help with this we need a small volunteer team of photographers and data organizers to help with the survey. We are sure that this small team can make a big difference in the planning for the nursery lands development.

Princeton Nurseries Property News.... Karen Linder and Robert von Zumbusch, both trustees of Kingston Greenways Association, have been appointed to the newly-formed Mapleton Preserve at South Brunswick Commission. Joining them will be Anne Zeman, as the third member representing South Brunswick Township. All three have been instrumental in reorganizing and revitalizing Friends of Princeton Nursery Lands, and Anne and Robert are members of KVAC, the joint Township Advisory Committee for the Village of Kingston. Robert Tucker and Jane Snyder have been named as alternates to the Commission, and Mayor Frank Gambatase will act as Township Council liaison. The Commission, which will also have three members representing the State, will be responsible for the planning and development of the Mapleton Preserve, and for administering a \$300,000 endowment from William Flemer's Sons, Inc.

Join the KGA or Renew Your Membership – Stay Connected.... The Kingston Greenways Association still has plenty of work to do! Trails around Kingston need planning and development. The greenbelt is still incomplete in both Franklin and South Brunswick Townships, and we continue to work on land acquisition projects. It is not something that happens fast! Also, paths connecting Kingston to adjacent communities need to be created. And finally, the wonderful open space surrounding our village provides an open-air classroom for nature study, which we make use of in our seasonal walks.

The Association's strength is in our numbers. We urge you to be part of our network of open space advocates. That's a good reason to give us an e-mail address. We don't share our members' addresses, and only send out e-mail notices a few times per year. If you don't want to be notified by email, leave the space blank; you will still get *The Green Way* newsletter. Won't you send in your membership form today? We hope to see you at our fall activities. Don't forget to visit our updated website! www.kingstongreenways.org

Charlie Dieterich, President, Kingston Greenways Association