



TEAC Annual Report for 2025

Tarrytown Environmental Advisory Council (TEAC):

- A volunteer, resident-led, nine-member Council
- Established by the Village in 1974 under NYS Law (Article 12-f)
- Advises the Village on environmental matters
- Committed to working with the community through public education and outreach



**Tarrytown
Environmental
Advisory Council**

www.TarrytownEnvironmental.org

Our Committees...

- Landscaping (native and pollinator gardens)
- Community Outreach
- Energy and Conservation
- Lakes
- Zero Waste
- + Liaise with the Tree Commission



Current Council Members

Rachel Tieger, *Co-Chair and Chair of Zero Waste Committee*

Dean Gallea, *Co-Chair and Chair of Energy and Conservation Committee*

David Gutschmidt, *Lakes Committee*

Kerstin Erdbrink, *Landscaping Committee*

Rohit Sareen, *Landscaping Committee*

Mai Mai Margules, *Chair of Landscaping Committee*

Jenny O'Connor, *Chair of Community Outreach Committee*

Catherine Ruhland, *Chair of Lakes Committee and Tree Commission Liaison*

Suzy Allman, *Photographer, Graphic Design*

Mason Lee, *Associate Member, Co-chair of Hackley Lake Keepers, Lakes Committee*

Effie Phillips-Staley, *TEAC Trustee Liaison*

We also thank the many volunteers that have helped us with events and projects in 2025.

Areas of Focus and Ongoing Efforts - Things We DO

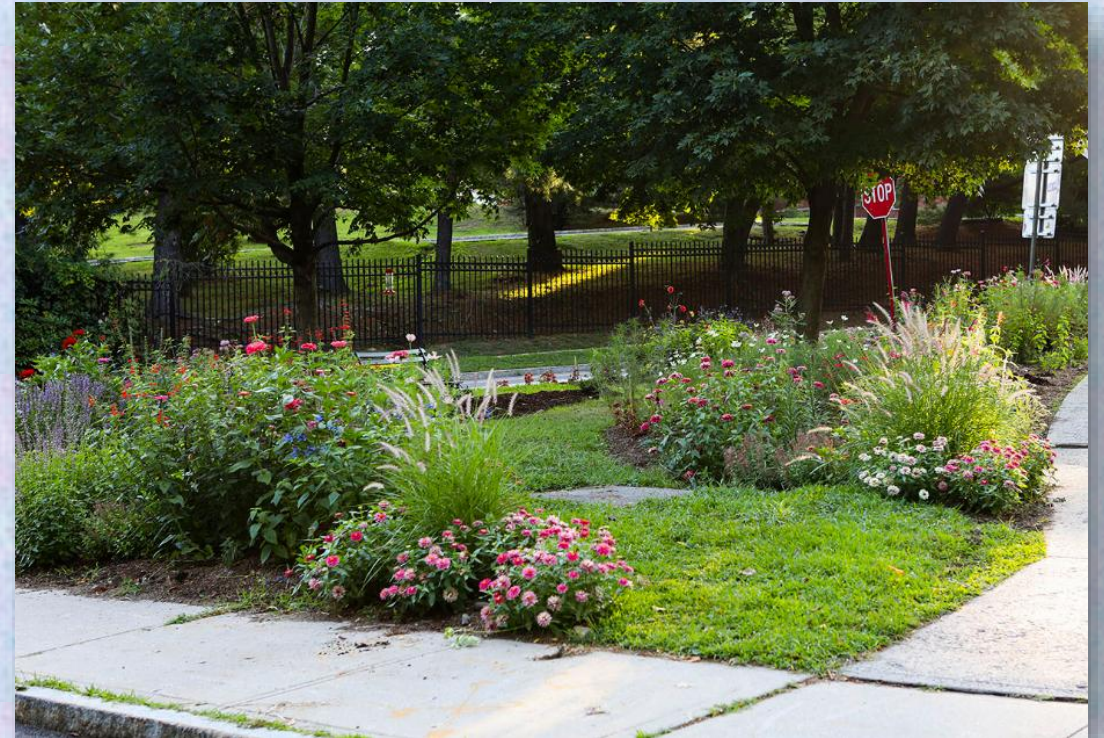
- Engage w/ Planning Board, DPW and Parks Dept
- Work for healthy air, soil and water
- Community Gardening and Pollinator Pathways
- Advise residents on sustainable landscaping
- Maintain green and open public spaces
- Website, Social Media and Monthly Newsletter
- Promote Zero Waste, repair and plastic reduction
- Publish articles in local media outlets
- Public presentations on environmental issues
- Energy conservation and building standards
- Sustainable development and climate resilience
- GHG and Carbon emissions reduction
- Climate Smart and Clean Energy Community
- CAPI-A (Climate Adaptation Plan)





2025 TEAC Highlights and Accomplishments – Things we DID

- CAPI Adaptation Plan Progress
- Vine Squad Outings
- Invasives Awareness Campaign
- Public Pollinator Gardens and Planters
- Adopt-a-spot success - Suzy's Garden →
- Native Plant and Seed Giveaways – including at Lyndhurst and Rockefeller events
- Community Garden
- Earth Month - partnered with SSH
- Eco Fair
- Waste Warriors with student volunteers
- Hackley Lake Keepers Cleanups
- Monthly Newsletter and Social Media
- Community Outreach - tabling
- Kayak Cleanups of upper and lower lakes
- Repair Cafes
- Kayak to Nyack



Vine Squad

The **TEAC Vine Squad** is an outdoor, volunteer-driven activity on chosen Saturdays from late January to April, from 10am-12pm.



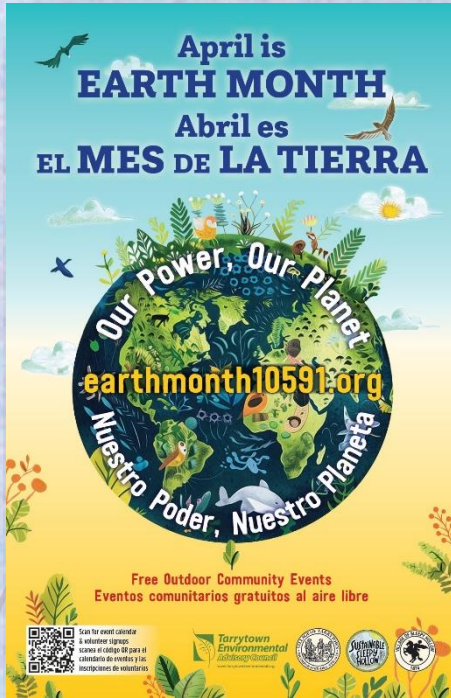
2026 dates remaining:

- **Feb 21**
- **March 7, 21, 28**
- **April 7, 14**

**Sign up at
tarrytownenviro.org**



10591 Earth Month - April



TEAC Eco-Fair - September



Community Collaboration and Activities

Collaborated with over 30 local orgs, Village entities and community groups including Sustainable Westchester, Hudson Valley Regional Council, Sustainable Sleepy Hollow/SHEAC, Rivertowns Repair Cafe, Riverkeeper and more. See tarrytownenviro.org for the complete list.



September Kayak to Nyack and Back



May Hackley School Community Day



July Table at Mermaid Parade

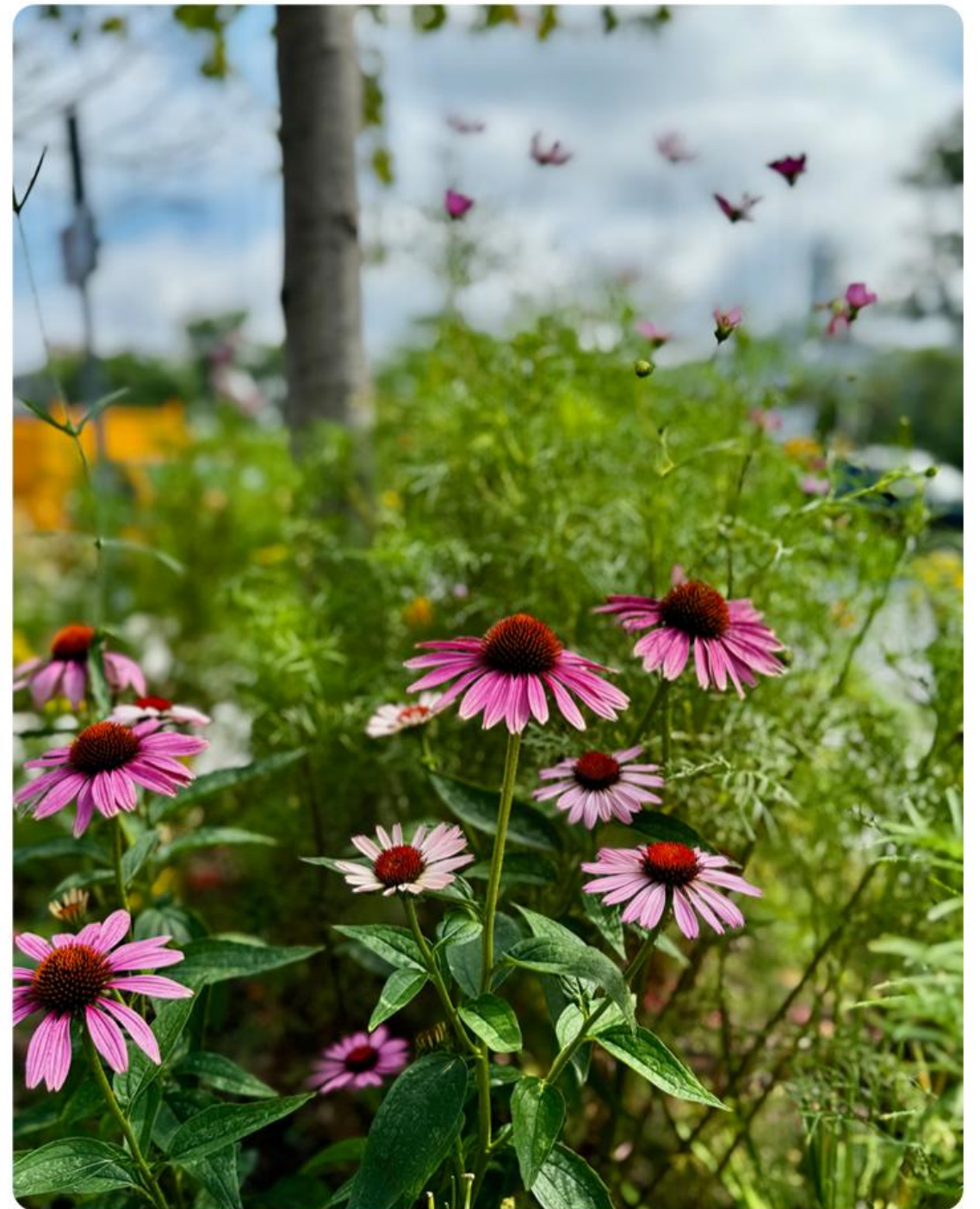


April TarryHollow Repair Cafe



Jan '26 Rivertowns Intervillage Sustainability Network (RISN)

TEAC Landscaping
Connecting with Our Community
2025 - Year in Review



Connecting With Our Community - Events

Connecting with our community to promote sustainable landscaping practices - direct outreach works.

@TASH Market/Eco Fair

- Native plant give-aways - over 500 plants!
- Adopt-a-Spot promo
- Invasive Removal Education
- 9 Seed give-aways in multiple venues



TEAC Landscaping - Connecting with Our Community



Public Education and Green Space Beautification

Dedicated volunteers working with Parks and DPW staff kept our green spaces looking good in 2025.

- Neperan Park Gardens
- Patriots Park
- Sarah Michaels Park
- Main Street/Broadway Barrels + Tree wells
- MNR
- Gracemere



New interpretive signs installed by the Village educate residents in sustainable gardening practices and native species identification.



Adopt-A-Spot - New Village Green Space Initiative

The launch of Tarrytown's Adopt-a-Spot program in 2025 was a catalyst for community involvement. Residents stepped up to create and maintain sustainable public green spaces throughout the Village.



Leading Today For A Sustainable Tomorrow - Thank You!

Thanks to the dedicated work of our many volunteers, the support of the community, and the commitment of the Village, we are proud to share that Tarrytown received the **Mayor's Monarch Pledge Leadership Circle Designation** in 2025.

None of this would have been possible without the incredibly generous support of Tarrytown green space sponsors, Oak Kim and James Fitzgerald, and Damon and Rachelle Gersch. Their support and active involvement have been vital to ensuring the success of projects that will have a lasting impact on a sustainable future.



Sponsors Oak Kim and James Fitzgerald at MNR



2026: Priorities and Initiatives

- Things We WILL do

- **Landscaping Initiatives**

- Adopt-A-Spot promotion to expand Pollinator Gardens
- Promote Local Leaf Blower Ordinance Improvements
- Redesign Patriots Park “Paulding Garden” with lower-growing plants
- Monarch Pledge outreach
- Planning for re-use of old Eastview Pumphouse – Possibly for a “Ruin Garden”



- **Energy and Conservation**

- Follow through on solarization of Library and Rec Center
- Finish our Climate Adaptation Plan (CAPI-Adapt)
- Work towards Silver-level Climate-Smart Community

- **Zero Waste**

- Host annual Eco Fair
- Facilitate and participate in Repair Cafe events
- Improve organization of Waste Warriors program

- **Lakes**

- Cleanups with Hackley LakeKeepers
- Vine Squad outings, including Wilson Park area – and Trail improvements
- Monitor Lakes for invasive growth and promote a Lakes Management Plan
- Annual kayak cleanups

- **Outreach**

- Host Earth Month activities (with Sustainable Sleepy Hollow)
- Promote “Leave Leaves Alone” in Fall – Educate about Gas Leaf Blowers



CAFÉ DE REPARACIONES DE LOS RIVERTOWNS

RIVERTOWNS REPAIR CAFE

HASTINGS • DOBBS FERRY • IRVINGTON • TARRYTOWN • SLEEPY HOLLOW

Sunday, March 29th 10am-2pm

Hosted by TarryHollow Repair Cafe

Sleepy Hollow Senior Center

The James F. Galgano Building 55 Elm St, Sleepy Hollow

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Repair Experts • Fixers • Menders • Tinkerers • Restorers • Greeters • Friendly Faces



Habr  instructores de reparaci n para: Art culos mec nicos y el ctricos, reparaci n de bicicletas, art culos de madera, reparaci n textil (sin dobladillo), joyer a

Volunteer-Run • Free • All Welcome

Dirigido por voluntarios • gratis • todos bienvenidos

What is a Repair Cafe?

A volunteer-led "pop-up" free repair event! You bring your broken items in and we help you to fix them.

There will be tools and materials to make repairs on clothes, furniture, electrical appliances, bicycles, crockery, toys, etc, depending on that day's location and volunteers.

TarryHollowRepairCafe@gmail.com

Co-sponsored by Sustainable Sleepy Hollow + Tarrytown Environmental Advisory Council with support by the Hastings Repair Cafe, Irvington Repair Cafe and Dobbs Ferry

Instagram: [Rivertowns_Repair_Cafe](#) Facebook: [TarrytownEnviro](#)

April is EARTH MONTH

Abril es EL MES DE LA TIERRA



Free Outdoor Community Events
Eventos comunitarios gratuitos al aire libre



Scan for event calendar & volunteer signups
scanea el c digo QR para el calendario de eventos y las inscripciones de voluntarios



TEAC gives a BIG THANK YOU to Alissa Fasman for many great years serving as our link to the Village to help us accomplish our initiatives... Our Best Wishes to her!

Engage with TEAC!

- Visit our TEAC website: tarrytownenvironmental.org
- Attend Monthly meetings:
7:30pm on 2nd Monday at Village Hall – Or via Zoom link
- Our Earth Month website: EarthMonth10591.org
- Email us: tarrytownenviro@gmail.com
- Follow us: facebook.com/tarrytownenviro
- Join TEAC events

THANKS for watching and listening!

Dean Gallea, Rachel Tieger and Mai Mai Margules, TEAC Councilmembers

Local Orgs. and Groups with whom TEAC Collaborates

- Community Coalition (C2 - Kids' Club)
- DEC (Dept of Environmental Conservation)
- Hudson Valley Resource Council (HVRC)
- EF School
- Environmental Leaders Learning Alliance (ELLA)
- Federated Conservationists of West. Cty. (FCWC)
- Friends of Neperan Park
- Friends of the Riverwalk
- Hackley School
- Hudson Compost Services
- Hudson Valley Regional Council (HVRC)
- Little Gardens of Tarrytown
- Mothers Out Front
- NYSACC member
- NYSERDA (NY State Energy Agency)
- Riverkeeper
- Rivertowns Intervillage Sustainability Network (RISN)
- Repair Café Hudson Valley and Rivertowns (Hastings)
- Sustainable Hudson Valley
- Sustainable Sleepy Hollow (SHEAC)
- Sustainable Westchester
- The TaSH Farmers Market
- Tarrytown Board of Trustees, Planning Board, DPW, Parks, and Police
- Tarrytown Tree Commission
- The Neighborhood House
- Transportation and Mobility Council
- TUFSD school district
- U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary
- Village Harbor Master
- Volunteer New York!
- Warner Library
- Westchester Environmental Network
- YMCA at Tarrytown