**Caldwell Environmental Commission Summary 2016**

Winter – we had a few garden meetings to plan the garden activities. We applied for another ANJEC Open Space grant for a sign at the pollinator garden.

**April 2016**

1. We worked with Roseland and West Caldwell Environmental Commissions to show “Bag It” with the Environmentally Friendly Club at Caldwell University on April 21st.

2. We had a garden clean-up and had our annual Earth Day/ Arbor Day on April 30th. Bartlett Tree participated and gave away free trees to participants. We held a bike swap, gave away tote bags, had a shredding opportunity to collect funds for the High School Scholarship Committee, & announced the winner of the contest. A Caldwell University student did an independent study project on idling at the university and had a table at the Earth Day.

3. We received another Open Space grant from ANJEC ($1500) for a sign at the garden.

4. We encouraged Mayor Dassing to participate in the Mayor’s Monarch Pledge from the National Wildlife Federation.

**In June**, we developed a display for the library to let the community know what the commission does in conjunction with the History Day on June 11. We also showed “Bag It” for the community at the Library as part of their lunch and learn activity.

**In July**, we met with the Rotary to discuss the Pollinator Garden. The result was a possible sponsorship for the garden fence. Shop Rite will be a sponsor for the individual garden plants.

**In September**, we showed the movie “Bag It” at Caldwell University for students and faculty and members of the Dominican Motherhouse. The Rotary presented the Council with a check for the fence.

In addition, the Commission received an Environmental Achievement award from ANJEC at their annual Congress for their activities concerned with “Bag It” and plastics pollution. Caldwell University students participated in their Annual Day of Service at the Personette garden by mulching and raking the property.

**In October**, the Commission presented the town their environmental achievement award from ANJEC for their promotion of the decrease of plastics pollution.

**In November**, we cleaned up the garden and our display on the Plastic pollution activities through the use of the film “Bag It” is at the library until January 2017. At the end of November, we participated in a Solar Workshop sponsored by Sustainable Jersey. We received a donation of replacement pavers for the Path from Alan Benson from AZEK and fertilizer treatment for our trees at the property from the Bartlett Tree Company.

**In December**, we did a pollinator garden presentation to the Kiwanis with a possible sponsorship for educational materials for schools.

Our partnership with PSEG in the Solar4All program is proceeding nicely, the panels should be complete in early 2017.