

Dear Mayor and Councilmembers:

As you know, the Keyport Environmental Commission (KEC) has been participating in the Northern Monmouth Watershed Alliance in order to work cooperatively with neighboring communities with respect to complying with the revised requirements for the MS4 permitting process. In connection with those efforts, I am pleased to share an exciting upcoming initiative designed to promote community engagement and regional cooperation in watershed education and protection.

On Saturday, October 25, 2025, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m., the Northern Monmouth Watershed Alliance will be hosting its first-ever "Know Your Stream" Day, focused on the Waackaack/Mahoras and Flat Creek watersheds. This event invites residents from across our Bayshore communities to explore the waterways that run through and connect our towns.

The "Know Your Stream" event aligns with the Alliance's mission to raise awareness about the importance of taking a regional approach to watershed management. These water systems do not follow municipal boundaries, and as such, cooperation across towns is essential to ensuring the long-term health of our water resources.

The event specifically aims to:

- Educate residents about the link between stream health and flood control
- Promote local watershed stewardship
- Encourage observation and reporting of stream conditions by residents
- Foster greater awareness of how upstream actions impact downstream communities

Once registered through the website (<https://monmouthwater.org/>), participating families will receive a map identifying eight key viewing points along the streams. At each point, a volunteer "Stream Captain" will be available to guide observations and explain the stream's characteristics, flow direction, and relevance to flood mitigation and water quality. Participants will complete a simple stream observation form, which they can submit via the website. These observations are a boots-on-the-ground approach to gathering data on our waterways.


In addition, this event will help satisfy municipalities' obligation under the MS4 permits. <https://monmouthwater.org/ms4-permit/>

I am writing to ask for your assistance in sharing information about this event with our community. Specifically, I would appreciate it if the attached notice could be posted on our website and shared with the schools.

The KEC believes this event offers a meaningful opportunity to engage residents in environmental learning while also fostering the kind of regional collaboration that is essential to managing water resources effectively in our shared geography.

Thank you for your time and continued commitment to environmental stewardship.

Warm regards,


 9/26/2025

Joe Sheridan

Chair, Keyport Environmental Commission

Join Us for “Know Your Stream” Day – A Community Watershed Exploration Event

Hosted by the Northern Monmouth Watershed Alliance

 **October 25, 2025 | 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.**

 **Register at <https://monmouthwater.org/>**

The Northern Monmouth Watershed Alliance is a volunteer group made up of local Environmental Commission members, township officials, professionals, and concerned citizens from across the Bayshore region. Together, we are committed to promoting regional cooperation in protecting our local watersheds.

Why Watershed Awareness Matters

Watersheds affect us all. They play a critical role in:

- Protecting and improving drinking water quality and quantity
- Managing flood risk in vulnerable communities
- Supporting local ecosystems and wildlife

By understanding how water moves through our environment — from headwaters to the Bay — we can all play a part in protecting these vital resources.

Introducing Our First-Ever “Know Your Stream” Day

We invite you and your family to take part in a fun, educational afternoon observing the Waackaack/Mahoras and Flat Creeks. Once registered, you’ll receive:

- A map of eight designated viewing points
- A stream observation sheet
- Access to guidance and learning materials from local “Stream Captains”

At each site, knowledgeable volunteers will be available to explain how the streams flow through our communities, what features to look for, and how your observations can help us better understand stream health and flood control.

Get Involved – It’s Easy!

1. Register at monmouthwater.org
2. Download your maps and observation form
3. Visit the stream viewing points between 1:00 and 4:00 p.m.
4. Upload your completed observation form to the website

Whether you’re a student, parent, nature lover, or concerned resident, this is a chance to learn how your local waterway connects with your daily life — and how you can help protect it.

Let’s get to know our streams — together!