

PBCIP NEWS

A Publication of Parkside Business & Community In Partnership, Inc.

Serving Parkside Since 1992

April 2011

Welcome to Sustainability! Community Meeting Tuesday, April 12

“What Is It & How Will It Benefit Me?”

The word “sustainability” is thrown around a lot, but what does it really mean?

It’s best known for referring to the environment -- practices such as recycling or cutting down on your electric bill to save money and also save natural resources. But sustainability has a much more personal meaning as well. Financial sustainability means paying your bills every month without a struggle and improving your lifestyle. Sustaining your health means cutting down on costly doctor’s visits and medications when you eat right and exercise.

All those definitions apply to Parkside and PBCIP’s efforts to guide residents in creating a neighborhood sustainability plan.

Join us for a sustainability kick-off at 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, April 12, at Haddon Renaissance Adult Day Center, 1470 Haddon



**PBCIP April
Community Meeting**

Sustainability Kick-Off

**7:30 p.m., Tuesday, April 12
Haddon Renaissance
Adult Day Center
1470 Haddon Avenue
(block captains meet
at 6:30 p.m.)**

Avenue.

This is your chance to help decide what’s most important to you when it comes to sustainability. What does Parkside need to do to preserve natural resources and also what do we need for financial, health and lifestyle sustainability?

We’ll have giveaways and info on free home repair programs that will save you money on energy bills!

SNEAK PEAK for May: PBCIP’s May community meeting is our annual Summer Fun Info Fair - activities to keep your kids busy this summer!



**FREE
FREE
FREE**

There are two programs offering Parkside residents home repairs related to sustainability. Meet representatives from OEO and Greater Camden Partnership at PBCIP’s April Community meeting. (For more details on the programs, turn to page 2.)

HOME REPAIRS!

It’s a New Day in Parkside...Make a New Commitment.

FREE REPAIRS!



Don't Forget: It's Time to Register!

PBCIP's next session for the Hope Institute homebuyer education program begins on May 25. Reserve your spot now to learn how you can buy a home sooner than you think! Call (856) 964-0440 or register online at pbcip.org.

Two Sources for FREE Home Repairs

Two organizations are offering programs for energy efficiency and weatherization improvements. Representatives from these programs will be at PBCIP's April 12 community meeting.

OEO Program

Qualified Parkside homeowners can get FREE large-scale upgrades to their homes through the Camden County Council on Economic Opportunity weatherization program.

Homeowners who meet income guidelines may be eligible for replacement or repair of the following:

- Furnace
- Water heater
- Windows and doors
- Refrigerators
- Insulation
- & More

For an application, contact WAP at (856) 910-1180 or OEO at (856) 964-6887.

Additional information is available at www.pbcip.org.

Power Program

The POWER program offers financing up to \$16,000 as a state rebate and ten-year forgivable loan. An example of work that qualifies under this program is:

- Sealing air leaks
- Insulation
- Fixing loose railings and stairs
- Gas appliance connections
- Fuel line leak repairs
- Improving indoor air quality
- Replacing siding with external insulation

For an application, contact Cooper's Ferry at One Port Center in Camden (across from the aquarium) or visit www.camdenpower.com.

Calendar of Parkside Events: What's Happening In April & May

March 28-June 30 -- **Farnham Park will be CLOSED to the public due to construction and renovation.**

Tuesday, April 12, 7:30 p.m. -- **PBCIP Community Meeting "Sustainability"** at Haddon Renaissance Adult Day Center, 1470 Haddon Ave. Block Captains meet at 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, April 13, 6 p.m. -- **Hope Institute graduation** at Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital.

Friday, April 22 -- Good Friday. **PBCIP offices closed.**

Friday, April 29 -- **Rain garden installation** on Park Boulevard.

Saturday, April 30, 9 a.m. to noon -- **Rebuilding Together Day** volunteer projects.

Tuesday, May 10, 7:30 p.m. -- **PBCIP Community Meeting "Summer Fun - Childcare and Youth Programs"** at Haddon Renaissance Adult Day Center,

1470 Haddon Ave. Block Captains meet at 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, May 25, 6 p.m. -- **Hope Institute Spring/Summer session begins.** Topic: Introduction.

Wednesday, June 8, 6 p.m. -- **Hope Institute Spring/Summer session begins.** Topic: Are You Ready to Buy?



Volunteer Days April 29 & 30



Park Boulevard will be buzzing at the end of this month when several events on the calendar coordinate to bring improvements to the area.

Rebuilding Together Day on April 30 coordinates with other volunteer events, and the celebration of Arbor Day weekend. The result is a home improvement opportunity provided by Rebuilding Together Camden & Vicinity, plus construction of a rain garden on the Park Boulevard median to help address flooding between



Park and Walnut Street. PBCIP is partnering with the New Jersey Tree Foundation

and Rutgers Cooperative Extension for the rain garden. Several other planting projects are planned as well.

The Tree Foundation will work with volunteers to plant 100 shrubs at eight PBCIP properties. Also, 100 additional shrubs will be provided for the front yards of current Park Boulevard residents and volunteers.

Additionally, the two dates are “clean-up days” for residents. PBCIP will provide dumpsters, bags and other materials for spring cleaning. Volunteers will also assist with clean-up of alleyways and public areas around Park Boulevard. PBCIP is also working to provide a shredder for residents to properly dispose of documents without fear of

identity theft, and to organize distribution of smoke detectors.

On the morning of Friday, April 29, Park Boulevard residents will be asked to move their vehicles to allow the city street sweeper to clean the road prior to work on the building and planting projects.

Volunteer Days April 29 & 30 Join Us on Park Boulevard!

Activities Include:

- Home Renovation
- Planting Shrubs
- Shrub Giveaway
- Park, Garden & Median Clean-Up
- Dumpsters for Spring Cleaning
- Shredding Event
- Smoke Detector Give-Away

Neighbor Spotlight: Rain Gardeners

Two Parkside residents recently made a commitment to give back to their community by combining their “green thumb” talents with fulfilling a need in the neighborhood.

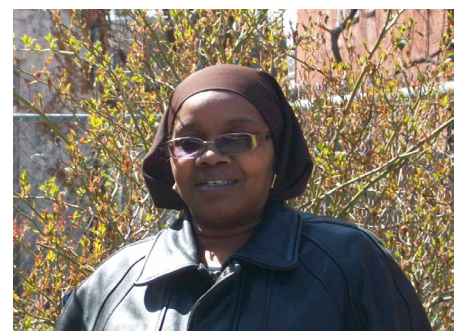
Louise El-Amin and Andre Redd recently completed training on the care of rain gardens. They will be stewards of a garden planned as part of improvements at Farnham Park.

A rain garden is specially designed to absorb more than the usual amount of water to help control flooding and minimize standing water that

can be a nuisance and also breed mosquitoes. The ground is prepared to improve drainage, and hearty, water-loving plants are used to drink up the rain.

“It’s a wonderful thing to look into,” Ms. El-Amin said. “At the training, we had a chance to do it hands-on ourselves at a plot across from the CCMUA building, so it was very educational.”

Ms. El-Amin said she is excited that many more rain gardens are planned for the city, particularly a various schools where children will have a chance to see the garden grow and learn



Louise El-Amin is enthusiastic about giving back to Parkside by tending to the community’s new rain garden.

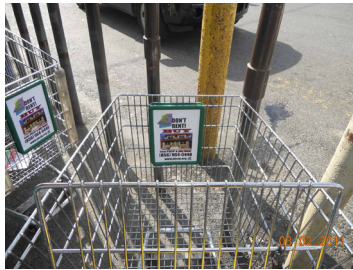
that there is a natural way to recycle rainwater back into the earth. Another rain garden is planned for Park Boulevard (see above).

Springtime Tip:

PBCIP's Administrative Assistant Sade Bryant offers this "green thumb" tip from her mom:



Take a banana peel and gently wipe the leaves of your plants with the inside of the peel. It will provide the plant with potassium for a healthy natural shine.



What's this?? Find this picture on pbcip.org and be the first person to correctly identify where it was taken for your chance to win a gift card!

IMPORTANT NOTE

Farnham Park will be CLOSED from March 28 through June 30 due to construction and renovation.

Work includes installation of new playground equipment, repair of the spray pool and planting of a rain garden and improvements and lighting to walkways as well as drainage.

PBCIP News is an official publication of Parkside Business & Community In Partnership, Inc., a New Jersey non-profit corporation, 1487 Kenwood Ave., Camden, NJ 08103.964-0440. Bridget Phifer, Executive Director. © 2011, PBCIP, Inc.

IT'S A NEW DAY IN PARKSIDE MAKE A NEW COMMITMENT!

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What's a Rain Garden?

Parkside Business & Community In Partnership, Inc.
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