

PGC Conservation Committee Report
July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021

Outlined below is a brief summary of the activities carried out by the Philipstown Garden Club Conservation Committee (“PGC3”) over the past twelve months. As was the case with the rest of the club, activities were somewhat limited due to the COVID epidemic.

In November 2020, the PGC3 co-sponsored a Zero Carbon Home Seminar with Climate Smart Philipstown. The Zoom seminar was well attended with the many participants learning about a number of low-cost steps they could take to reduce the carbon footprints of their homes. As a follow up, the PGC3 began working with Climate Smart Philipstown to set up a list of alternative energy references in the local community for other Philipstown residents thinking of implementing carbon reduction technologies (solar panels, heat pumps, EVs, high R-value windows, etc.). The reference list is ongoing and continues to grow.

In January, The PGC3 teamed up with the Horticulture Committee to host a milk jug seed-starting seminar. Several club members planted their milk jug greenhouses with a large number of native plants, with extra emphasis on good plants for pollinators. Some of the plants were eventually sold at the PGC plant sale and traded amongst PGC members for their gardens.

In May, the PGC3 conducted two work sessions at the Hubbard Lodge Butterfly Garden with the staff of NY State Parks. PGC members worked to clear the overgrown pollinator garden to prepare it to be replanted with native plants. This was the first partnership project between NY State Parks and the PGC and we look forward to future collaboration.

Due to the limited number of programs and the fact that there was no real cost for the programs that were conducted, the PGC3 did not use any of its \$1000 budget over the past year.

The Conservation Committee met on June 29th 2021 to look ahead to the next club year and discussed a number of projects, presentations and initiatives for the coming 12 months. A much more robust schedule is planned for the post-COVID times ahead.

Respectfully submitted,

Seamus Carroll
Conservation Committee Chair