

## Conservation Chair Report 2013

This year the Conservation Committee accomplished the following:

Strong positioning on the Weeder web site with a comprehensive list of sites (researched by committee) for recycling almost everything. Working on finding sites for the rest. Further, we plan to include a “good news” section to report on success stories in conservation/recycling/plant management as well as a section on “how to respond”.

Sent Weeder donation checks to previously approved organizations, as we do every year, but this year, researched each organization and wrote letters individually to each organization citing those accomplishments which are of importance to our group. Have determined that one project for next year is to thoroughly review each of the organizations we have been donating to, to determine whether that organization should remain on our list or if they should be replaced by another. It seems that this is a somewhat overdue review.

In accordance with the GCA requirement to research/sponsor at least one conservation program a year, we had Maya Rossum, the Delaware RiverKeeper, speak to us regarding the issues surrounding the Delaware River watershed. In addition, we invited Paul van Meter, head of Viaduct Green to speak in February. He reviewed the group’s plans to create Philadelphia’s own High Line garden along the abandoned viaduct railway. And lastly, our committee made the arrangements to have our May meeting at Mt. Cuba, with Greg Tepper speaking to us about the importance of native plants.

Also, in line with GCA conservation bylaws, our committee sent two members, Nancy Evans and Avery Bissell, to the GCA meeting in DC, where we were educated and updated on current conservation issues and legislation.

Nancy Evans