

## **NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY IN CHERRY HILL**

*October 2023*

Despite the threat of rain, over two dozen intrepid trail worker volunteers turned out for the rescheduled event that started at Croft Farm on Saturday, October 14, 2023. Dave Fleisher, President of the Cherry Hill Township Council, and Vice President of Council, Brian Bauerle, welcomed the volunteers, and thanked them for helping the Cherry Hill Environmental Board (CHEB) improve the township trails, care for our Open Space Natural Lands and provide an exceptionally valuable resource for people to connect with nature.



Lead and organized by CHEB, teams gathered their tools from the old barn and proceeded to four project sites, but not until they received a quick tour from CHEB Chair, Lew Gorman III, of a portion of the barn where cows used to be milked and horses were stabled. It's now CHEB's Workshop.

Before noon and the arrival of raindrops, the teams accomplished valuable trail improvements. The surface of the Barclay Farms ADA trail received more stone on a 75' section of trail. Silt was shoveled out from under the Croft Farm Nature Trail bridge to allow water to flow to Evans Pond and not flood the trail. Sections of Cherry Valley Trails received a new coat of woodchips to protect soil and tree roots, and invasive bamboo shoots were cut. As part of a trail's partnership, a team cleared vegetation from the newly developing Evans Pond trail. This new trail will allow a circumnavigation of Evans Pond through connections with existing Croft Farm Trails.

National Public Lands Day in Cherry Hill has been organized by CHEB and has provided valuable service to Township Open Space Natural lands for over 10 years. For information on how to volunteer with CHEB, please email [CHEB@chnj.gov](mailto:CHEB@chnj.gov).



*Article submitted by Cherry Hill Environmental Board Chair, Lew Gorman.  
To learn more about the Board or to volunteer, visit: [www.chnj.gov/CHEB](http://www.chnj.gov/CHEB).*