

Qualitative Assessment Template

Name of Action Hold a Green Fair

In a few short sentences, please describe the action and identify your partners.

The Paramus Earth Day Fair is an annual event sponsored by the Paramus Environmental Commission. The event's main goal is to educate the community about local natural resources, as well as local conservation and preservation efforts. At the event, local groups such as; Hackensack Riverkeeper, Bergen County Audubon Society, Paramus Shade Tree and Parks Commission, amongst others. Participants set up tables and displayed educational brochures and gave away promotional materials about their organization. Also, students from Paramus High School Advanced Placement Environmental Science Class displayed projects which they have worked on throughout the year.

Even if the action was performed by volunteers, or you got in-kind donations, please estimate your costs and the time commitment required to complete the action.

The event is a no cost or profit scenario. Participation and staffing is provided on a strictly volunteer basis. It takes the Environmental Commission approximately six month to arrange the fair and get the participants to commit. All entertainment and give aways are provided at no cost by the participants.

Assess what worked and what could be done if this action is tried again in the community.

Due to unforeseen circumstances, the 2012 fair was relocated, at the last minute, to new location. This location, Petruska Park, worked out to be better than the previously planned location. At the end of the event, the organizers held a debriefing session to analyze the event's success. Access to ample electrical service was a major concern for future events.

What are the next steps for this action?

The Paramus Environmental Commission plans to invite last year's participants to the 2013 fair. For the 2013 fair the Environmental Commission would like to incorporate a paper shredding participant, as well as other "greener" activities to better educate our community members.