Mountain Lakes Environmental Commission Meeting
January 20, 2026 7:30pm (virtual)

Members in attendance:

Bob Platt, Mimi Kaplan, Jackie Bay, Cy Korman

MLHS Liaison: Charlotte Caggiano

1. Approval of last month's Minutes - will approve next month as not available

2. ERI Update-Moved to next month. Reminder to provide feedback from Highlands updated version to Dan.

3. Discussion of 2026 EC Goals- The following were suggestions:

- Restrictions on Gas powered leaf blowers: BC changed hours of use to help cut down on noise and air pollution, but currently not interested in changing use ordinance. Plan to educate residents and local landscapers on the drawbacks of the use of gas powered leaf blowers: air and noise pollution.
- Alkaline Battery Recycling - Bob met with Mitchell Stern, pending DPW meeting scheduled for 2/19
- Skip the Stuff Act – consider possibility of borough ordinance, visit local restaurants to remind them of that patrons need to ask for straws, single-use plastic utensils, etc.
- Dark Sky Movement - campaign aimed at reducing light pollution, restoring the natural nighttime environment and preserving the visibility of the starry skies for humans and wildlife.

4. Defined 2026 EC Goals:

- Community Clean-Up Day - April
- Leave the Leaves Campaign
- Improvement of Stormwater Runoff into lakes - Need to coordinate efforts with Lakes Management Committee given their receipt of Highlands grant.
- Update Rain Garden schedule for 2026

5. Borough Council Liaison: not available

Meeting ended 8:30pm, next meeting 2/17/26 in person at 7:30pm

Recorder: Mimi Kaplan