

MEDIA RELEASE

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Contact: Kristy Ranieri, (973) 762-1510; info@sustainablejersey.com



32 New Jersey Towns Win Sustainable Jersey® Grants; \$175,000 Awarded for Sustainable Projects Funded by Walmart

Award Recipients Span 18 Counties: Atlantic, Bergen, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Essex, Gloucester, Hudson, Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth, Morris, Ocean, Passaic, Salem, Somerset, Sussex and Warren

Trenton, NJ (November 15, 2011) – Today [Sustainable Jersey](#) announced that \$175,000 has been awarded through the Sustainable Jersey Small Grants program funded by [Walmart](#). Thirty-two local governments will accept green grants for sustainability projects at the [Annual Sustainable Jersey Awards luncheon](#) on November 15, 2011 at the [New Jersey State League of Municipalities' conference](#) in Atlantic City. This is the third year that Walmart has funded the grants program, bringing their total contribution to \$595,000.

"Over the past few years, through Walmart's sponsorship of the Sustainable Jersey Small Grants Program, municipalities across New Jersey have taken on the task of making their communities greener and more sustainable," said Jennifer Hoehn, Walmart Senior Manager of Public Affairs for the state of New Jersey. "Walmart is proud of the success of this program and we look forward to continuing to make a difference in the state through these grants."

The 11 winners of the \$25,000 and \$10,000 grants have proposed projects that provide sustainable solutions to everyday challenges. Wind turbines, electric vehicle charging stations, school food composting, community gardens and more have been added to the list of initiatives that the Sustainable Jersey Small Grants program is funding.

AND THE 2011 SMALL GRANT WINNERS ARE:

- **Three \$25,000 Grant Winners:** Marlboro, West Windsor and Woolwich Township.
- **Eight \$10,000 Grant Winners:** Berkeley Township, Cape May City, Frelinghuysen, Hardyston, Secaucus, South Orange, Teaneck and Washington Township.
- **Twenty-one \$1,000 Capacity-Building Grant Winners:** Burlington City, Burlington Township, Chester Township, Chesterfield Township, Eatontown, Elsinboro Township, Galloway Township, Glen Rock, Green Brook, Haddonfield, Hawthorne, Jackson Township, Livingston, Maplewood, Milltown, Morris Plains, North Plainfield, Norwood, Pequannock, River Vale and Wyckoff.

The Sustainable Jersey grants are intended to help local governments make progress toward a sustainable future in general, and specifically toward Sustainable Jersey certification. Currently, 62 percent of New Jersey's towns and cities (350 towns across all 21 counties) have registered to become Sustainable Jersey certified. "The impact that these projects will make in New Jersey is incredible," said Pam Mount, Chair of the Sustainable Jersey Board of Trustees. "Funding green initiatives at the community level will have a ripple effect that will benefit us all."

In applying for a grant, each municipality submitted a proposal describing its local sustainability initiative and described how it would relate to the Sustainable Jersey actions. A total of 86 proposals were reviewed and scored by a neutral Blue Ribbon selection committee composed of uncompensated experts and public figures.

A WORD FROM THE 2011 GRANT WINNERS:

West Windsor is delighted that Sustainable Jersey and Walmart have awarded the Township a \$25,000 grant to help develop a Climate Action Plan. Implementation of the plan will reduce emissions of greenhouse gases from municipal operations and from the community in general, benefiting taxpayers and reducing our carbon footprint.

Congratulations to the West Windsor Environmental Commission and Green Team for preparing the winning application. -- Mayor Shing-Fu Hsueh, West Windsor Township

Councilman LaRocca and the Green Team have been working diligently to keep Marlboro a sustainable community. We are honored that Sustainable Jersey has recognized our community and excited to implement our project with the assistance of this grant. – Mayor Jonathan Hornik, Marlboro Township

Receiving these grant funds not only allows Woolwich Township the opportunity to promote its sustainable goals, but it also allows us to partner with our school district, and assist with the education of its students about the educational aspects of composting, reducing food waste and achieving multiple sustainable goals. --Mayor Sam Maccarone, Woolwich Township

Berkeley Township is very pleased to have received this grant from Sustainable Jersey and thanks its grant sponsors for providing the funding. We see this new Environmental Resource Inventory as an opportunity to inform our residents and our decision-making boards regarding the precious natural resources in our community, but more importantly, to raise awareness of the impact of stormwater runoff on the delicate estuary that is the Barnegat Bay, the most critical environmental and economic resource in Ocean County. We are hopeful that our effort to map existing stormwater collection and drainage infrastructure in the Township as a part of the ERI will provide insight into how we can make wise investments in the future in retrofitting our infrastructure to reduce or remove the nutrients that are adversely impacting the Bay. We also hope that it will serve as a valuable model for other Barnegat Bay municipalities. – Mayor Jason Varano, Berkeley Township

The Cape May City Green Team submitted this application to complete a demonstration project at the Cape May Elementary School to install a small wind turbine to reduce the energy costs of the school, provide a new educational component for the school's growing sustainability curriculum, and extend the City's use of alternative energy. We thank Sustainable Jersey and Walmart for making this funding opportunity available. -- Mayor Ed Mahaney, Cape May City

As Mayor of Frelinghuysen Township, I consider it both my privilege and my duty to embrace the tenets of the Sustainable Jersey program. I fully support our Green Team in their work to weave sustainability into the fiber of our local government and, as well, of our community overall. We in Frelinghuysen truly treasure the rural nature of our Township. And aligning with hundreds of other New Jersey communities in pursuing Sustainable Jersey certification spawns confidence that we can indeed achieve environmental stability for generations to come. Especially with support from the folks at Walmart! Our Green Team has designed a project to promote safe sharing by pedestrians and cyclists and motorists, of thirteen miles of roadways which center on our Town Hall as a community hub. Where some bits of the project would be possible via local funding and volunteerism, our Walmart Sustainable Jersey Small Grants award facilitates complete execution. We thank Walmart and the Sustainable Jersey program for empowering and inspiring us in our sustainability efforts. –Mayor Thomas Charles, Frelinghuysen Township

The Township of Hardyston would like to thank the Sustainable Jersey Small Grant review committee for selecting our project. I, the Township Council, and Township staff are extremely excited to be the recipient of a \$10,000 Sustainable Jersey Small Grant to help fund the creation of a community garden at the Township Municipal Complex.

The Township is anxious to achieve Sustainable Jersey Certification and feels the community garden is key to including

the community in that process. Hardyston is a firm believer in the value of wellness programming for both staff and the community as a whole and believes the garden is the perfect complement to their wellness initiative. The Township's Green Team, local non-profits, and the YMCA are excited to start work on the garden. -- **Mayor Stanely Kula, Hardyston Township**

We are extremely grateful to Walmart and the Sustainable Jersey staff for their time, effort, and generosity in creating such an opportunity. Environmental stewardship is a high priority in Secaucus – it's a responsibility that we all must bear. Not only in this town, but in every town, everywhere. This project will help us continue to promote that message and, in the process, complete some really important work with our municipal trees. -- **Mayor Michael Gonnelli, Secaucus**

Between the midtown direct train line, plentiful bike routes and a growing jitney/transit service, South Orange already has great - and green - ways for residents, students and shoppers to get around town. We're excited about the possibility of adding electric charging stations so we can do our part to help encourage cutting-edge green transit options, not only setting an example for other towns but providing our community with cost-effective and sustainable means of transportation. We hope you'll come grab a bite to eat, catch a show or hop on the midtown direct train, all while charging your electric vehicle in one of our parking lots! -- **Alex Torpey, Village President, South Orange**

The Township of Teaneck is honored and privileged to have received Walmart's charitable donation to further educate our youth about the importance of sustainability. Teaching the importance of sustainability early on is crucial for the welfare of our environment. The Township of Teaneck strives to become a benchmark sustainable municipality and this grant is an excellent start. – **Mayor Mohammed Hameeduddin, Township of Teaneck**

Washington Township is very thankful for receiving this grant. We have always been very conscious of our natural resources and beauty. The Township has been a leader in pro-active measures to protect our environment. The Township Committee, Planning Board, and Environmental Commission spend numerous hours developing environmental ordinances and taking proactive measures for enforcement. This grant will allow us to expand our monitoring program and provide for a better quality of life for our residents and those in the surrounding communities. -- **Ken Short, Mayor, Washington Township**

2011 GRANT RECIPIENT TOWNS

2011 Recipients of \$25,000 Sustainable Jersey Project Grants

Municipality	County	Project
MARLBORO <i>Sustainable Jersey Certified</i>	Monmouth	Form-based zoning Code
WEST WINDSOR <i>Sustainable Jersey Silver Certified</i>	Mercer	Climate Action Plan
WOOLWICH TOWNSHIP	Gloucester	Public School Food Composting Program

2011 Recipients of \$10,000 Sustainable Jersey Project Grants

Municipality	County	Project
BERKELEY TOWNSHIP	Ocean	Environmental Resource Inventory
CAPE MAY CITY <i>Sustainable Jersey Silver Certified</i>	Cape May	3.7 kW Wind Demonstration Project
FRELINGHUYSEN	Warren	"Safe Routes" Project
HARDYSTON	Sussex	Community Garden

Municipality	County	Project
SECAUCUS	Hudson	Forest Preservation
SOUTH ORANGE <i>Sustainable Jersey Certified</i>	Essex	Electric Vehicle Charging Stations
TEANECK <i>Sustainable Jersey Certified</i>	Bergen	Green Schools Program
WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP	Morris	Easement Inventory

2011 Recipients of \$1,000 Sustainable Jersey Capacity-Building Grants

1. BURLINGTON CITY, Burlington County
2. BURLINGTON TOWNSHIP, Burlington County; Sustainable Jersey Certified
3. CHESTER TOWNSHIP; Morris County, Sustainable Jersey Certified
4. CHESTERFIELD TOWNSHIP, Burlington County
5. EATONTOWN, Monmouth County
6. ELSINBORO TOWNSHIP, Salem County
7. GALLOWAY TOWNSHIP; Atlantic County, Sustainable Jersey Silver Certified
8. GLEN ROCK, Bergen County
9. GREEN BROOK, Somerset County
10. HADDONFIELD, Camden County; Sustainable Jersey Certified
11. HAWTHORNE, Passaic County; Sustainable Jersey Certified
12. JACKSON TOWNSHIP, Ocean County
13. LIVINGSTON, Essex County; Sustainable Jersey Certified
14. MAPLEWOOD, Essex County; Sustainable Jersey Certified
15. MILLTOWN, Middlesex County
16. MORRIS PLAINS, Morris County
17. NORTH PLAINFIELD, Somerset County
18. NORWOOD, Bergen County
19. PEQUANNOCK, Morris County
20. RIVER VALE, Bergen County; Sustainable Jersey Certified
21. WYCKOFF, Bergen County

About Sustainable Jersey

[Sustainable Jersey](#) is a certification program for municipalities in New Jersey. Launched in 2009, Sustainable Jersey is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that supports community efforts to reduce waste, cut greenhouse gas emissions, and improve environmental equity. Sustainable Jersey is empowering New Jersey towns to build a better world for future generations. It provides tools, training and financial incentives to support and reward communities as they pursue sustainability goals. New Jersey is the first state in the nation to have a comprehensive sustainability program for communities that links certification with strong state and private financial incentives, and a fully resourced program of technical support and training. Sustainable Jersey is 100% voluntary and each town can choose whether it wants to get certified and the actions it wants to do in order to achieve enough points to get certified.

Sustainable Jersey's partners include the New Jersey State League of Municipalities, the Municipal Land Use Center at The College of New Jersey, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (BPU). Program sponsors include the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, BPU, PSEG, New Jersey Natural Gas, Church and Dwight, Covanta Energy, EcoMatters, New Jersey American Water, Real Goods Solar, South Jersey Gas, Terhune Orchards, Waste Management of New Jersey, Atlantic City Electric, Citizens Campaign, Concord Engineering and the New Jersey Food Council.

www.sustainablejersey.com; info@sustainablejersey.com

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