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2012 Sustainable Jersey Small Grant Recipients

For the fourth year, Sustainable Jersey provided funding to local New Jersey governments for sustainability projects. The 2012 Sustainable Jersey Small Grants Program is funded by PSEG. In partnership with PSEG, Sustainable Jersey awarded: four (4) \$20,000 grants, eight (8) \$10,000 grants, and twenty (20) \$2,000 capacity building grants. A neutral Blue Ribbon selection committee composed of uncompensated experts and public figures selected winners

2012 Recipients of \$20,000 Sustainable Jersey Project Grants

<u>Municipality</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Project</u>
Hoboken <i>Sustainable Jersey Certified</i>	Hudson	City of Hoboken Green Infrastructure Demonstration Project
Island Heights	Ocean	Innovative Bioswale
Middle Township <i>Sustainable Jersey Certified</i>	Cape May	Middle Township Water Conservation Project
Princeton <i>Sustainable Jersey Certified</i>	Mercer	Organic Curbside Waste Program

2012 Recipients of \$10,000 Sustainable Jersey Project Grants

<u>Municipality</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Project</u>
Chester Township & Chester Borough <i>Sustainable Jersey Certified</i>	Morris	Community Visioning Project
Galloway Township <i>Sustainable Jersey Silver Certified</i>	Atlantic	Sustainable Landscaping Certification and Mini-Grant Program
Gloucester Township <i>Sustainable Jersey Certified</i>	Camden	"Growing" Our Green Team Projects
Hightstown	Mercer	Storm Water Management Solutions
Maurice River Township	Cumberland	Maurice River Open Space and Recreation Plan
Mt. Olive Township <i>Sustainable Jersey Certified</i>	Morris	Community Gardens at South Branch Preserve

<u>Municipality</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Project</u>
Park Ridge <i>Sustainable Jersey Certified</i>	Bergen	Wildlife Interaction Plan- Electric Lake and Pascack Brook
West Amwell <i>Sustainable Jersey Certified</i>	Hunterdon	West Amwell Conservation Easement Program

2012 Recipients of \$2,000 Sustainable Jersey Capacity-Building Grants

(Capacity Building Grant funds are intended to be used for operating support and direct expenses for Green Teams to implement Sustainable Jersey programs and do not have to be project specific)

1. BOONTON TOWNSHIP, Morris County
2. BURLINGTON CITY, Burlington County
3. CAMDEN, Camden County
4. CRANFORD, Union County; Sustainable Jersey Certified
5. FRENCHTOWN, Hunterdon County
6. GLASSBORO, Gloucester County
7. HADDON TOWNSHIP, Camden County; Sustainable Jersey Certified
8. HAMILTON TOWNSHIP, Mercer County
9. HAMMONTON, Atlantic County; Sustainable Jersey Certified
10. HOWELL TOWNSHIP, Monmouth County
11. MADISON, Morris County; Sustainable Jersey Certified
12. MAYWOOD, Bergen County
13. MENDHAM TOWNSHIP, Morris County
14. MOUNTAIN LAKES, Morris County; Sustainable Jersey Certified
15. NORWOOD, Bergen County
16. OCEAN CITY, Cape May County; Sustainable Jersey Certified
17. OCEANPORT, Monmouth County; Sustainable Jersey Certified
18. ORADELL, Bergen County
19. PINE BEACH BOROUGH, Ocean County
20. RIVER EDGE, Bergen County; Sustainable Jersey Certified

2012 Project Profiles

The 12 winners of the \$20,000 and \$10,000 grants have proposed projects that provide sustainable solutions to everyday challenges. Organic curbside waste recycling, storm water runoff solutions, innovative bioswales, water conservation, sustainable landscaping, wildlife interaction plan, community gardens and more have been added to the list of initiatives that the Sustainable Jersey Small Grants program is funding.

\$20,000 Project Grants

Hoboken, Hudson County (\$20,000) - City of Hoboken Green Infrastructure Demonstration Project

Hoboken achieved Bronze Level of Sustainable Jersey Certification in 2011

The City of Hoboken will work in collaboration with the Rutgers Cooperative Extension (RCE) Water Resources Program to identify and prioritize opportune locations for storm water curb extensions. The RCE Water Resources Program will assist in the design of storm water curb extensions and selected locations and the City of Hoboken will install two demonstration curb extensions. This demonstration project will help inform and evaluate the potential for green infrastructure solutions to urban storm water runoff challenges and the results will be shared with other urbanized communities throughout the region.

Rain garden curb extensions will help us reach two of our top sustainability goals: to alleviate flooding by capturing stormwater runoff and to further promote walking by creating safer pedestrian crossings...We are excited to partner with the Rutgers

Cooperative Extension Water Resources Program to implement this green infrastructure demonstration project. —Mayor Dawn Zimmer, Hoboken

Island Heights, Ocean County (\$20,000) - Innovative Bioswale

Island Heights hopes to transform over 37,000 square feet of public parking lot medians adjacent to the Barnegat Bay Estuary, an estuary of national significance, into innovative bio-swales incorporating native plantings, public information, and local art. This completed project will be a beautiful, functional, and adoptable example of a green technology for homeowners, borough officials, neighboring towns, and county bureaucrats.

I commend the Island Heights Environmental Committee and our Green Team on pursuing and winning this 2012 Sustainable Jersey Small Grant. The funding will enable us to implement a project that otherwise would not have been possible. This grant will make a big difference for our small community and I support the efforts of our committed townspeople. As the only winning town still pursuing our Sustainable Jersey Certification, I am grateful we were chosen for one of only four \$20,000 grants. Island Heights is a small yet geographically significant coastal community and I look forward to the completed innovative bioswale which will address storm water problems and non-point source pollution issues that affect not only Island Heights, but all of us who share the coast and who care about the health of our waters. – Mayor Jim Biggs

Middle Township, Cape May County (\$20,000) - Middle Township Water Conservation Project

Middle Township achieved Bronze Level of Sustainable Jersey Certification in 2011

Middle Township is committed to preserving the highest quality water and reducing the export of freshwater out of basins in support of meeting water supply needs and natural resource protection. Reclaimed Water for Beneficial Reuse ("RWBR") involves taking what was once considered waste product, giving it a specialized level of treatment and using the resulting high-quality reclaimed water for beneficial uses.

This is great news for Middle Township from Sustainable Jersey. I am very pleased that they have decided to fund the extremely beneficial water reuse project. The use of gray water reduces the amount of potable water distributed to the multi-use fields at the rear end of the Davis Sports Complex in Goshen. It also reduces the amount of fertilizer needed, and the amount of wastewater generated, transported, and treated at wastewater treatment facilities. In other words, water reuse saves water, energy, and money. Recycling gray water saves fresh potable water for other uses, reduces the volume of wastewater going to septic systems and wastewater treatment plants, and increases infrastructure capacity for new users. The bulk of this project was previously funded by the USD. With this funding in place, this component of the project can now track the savings with the installation of a meter manhole for monitoring the reclaimed water usage. – Mayor Dan Lockwood

Princeton, Mercer County (\$20,000) - Organic Curbside Waste Program

Princeton achieved Bronze Level of Sustainable Jersey Certification in 2011

Sustainable Princeton, working with the Princeton Public Works department, proposes to create and implement a full-fledged marketing and education campaign to increase participation in Princeton's organic curbside food waste program from the current 400 participating households to 1,500 households by April 2014. This participation level represents approximately 20 percent of the 7,100 eligible households in their community. The grant will enable the development of a well-researched and designed marketing campaign and the dedication of key staff support to implement the campaign with development of a marketing plan and community education and staff support by Sustainable Princeton to oversee the project and implement the marketing and public outreach efforts.

\$10,000 Project Grants

Chester Township & Chester Borough, Morris County (\$10,000) - Community Visioning Project

Chester achieved Bronze Level of Sustainable Jersey Certification in 2010

Chester Township and Borough's Green Teams will work together to conduct "Community Visioning" in order to address some critical questions about their future. How do their residents envision life in Chester the next decades? Addressing these issues in a timely manner and they will seek to find solutions to revitalize their town that combines the desires of the community with sustainable economic growth.

Chester, like many towns in New Jersey, is at a crossroads. We very much appreciate the support of Sustainable Jersey which will help us produce a community vision and road map for the future of Chester. With inputs from residents, businesses, and civic groups and the full support of our governing body and professionals, we will craft a vision which will put us on the best path to growing the long term health and vitality of the Chester community. —
Mayor Bob Davis

Galloway Township, Atlantic County (\$10,000) - Sustainable Landscaping Certification and Mini-Grant Program

Galloway Township achieved Silver Level of Sustainable Jersey Certification in 2010

Many properties in Galloway Township subscribe to the "Green Lawn/Chemical-Laden/Exotic Plant" mentality which is overwhelming the community. These practices are not only harmful to the homeowners and business owners of said properties; they also have ramifications for the Township as a whole: polluting ground water systems, air, and depriving native wildlife of valuable habitat. Galloway has been running an awareness campaign to educate property owners about the value of sustainable landscaping that has spurred much interest. They hope to take this campaign to the next level and provide incentives to those who wish to convert all or part of their yards to native species plants and reduce their lawn size. These incentives would also include building native rain gardens to remediate runoff on their properties.

Galloway Township is proud to be one of the first Silver-Certified towns by Sustainable Jersey and to be the recipient of this \$10,000 grant. This grant will pay to extend The Task Force for a Sustainable Galloway's mission to promote more Sustainable Landscapes in the Township. These landscape transformations will not only create valuable wildlife habitat, but will also act as water conservation measures and provide stormwater protection. —
Mayor Don Purdy

Gloucester Township, Camden County (\$10,000) – "Growing" Our Green Team Projects

Gloucester Township achieved Silver Level of Sustainable Jersey Certification in 2012

Grant funds will be used to facilitate a rain garden installation on the grounds of the municipal building. The chosen location is ideal because it will address an existing drainage issue and prevent major erosion problems in the future. The funds will also be used to support their Farmers' Market, expand the Green Team, improving the Green Fair and several items to enhance the Community Garden.

This grant from Sustainable Jersey will continue to help make Gloucester Township a leader in sustainability. Our grant will help improve our Farmer's Market, Green Fair and our new rain & community gardens. --
Mayor David Mayer

Hightstown, Mercer County (\$10,000) -Storm Water Management Solutions

The Borough of Hightstown Environmental Commission in conjunction with the Borough of

Hightstown Housing Authority will construct three different storm water management solutions at the Housing Authority to be used as an educational site to support the newly created storm water ordinance that has been adopted in Hightstown.

The Borough of Hightstown is very fortunate to have obtained the \$10,000 Sustainable Jersey Small Grant...We would also like to thank our Environmental Commission for the work they did in preparing the application for this grant. The grant will allow us to build a demonstration storm water run-off site on the Housing Authority property that will benefit members of our community into the future. -- Mayor Steven Kirson

Maurice River Township, Cumberland County (\$10,000) - Maurice River Open Space and Recreation Plan

The Township of Maurice River finds that it is in need of a comprehensive Open Space and Recreation Plan. The Township has various natural resources and open spaces. These areas will better serve the Township's residents if identified and future recreation and open space needs are assessed.

Maurice River Township is excited to have been selected to receive the 2012 Sustainable Jersey Small Grant. It will be instrumental in our efforts to provide sustainability to our community. Maurice River Township has a vast array of natural resources and this grant will help in our endeavors to provide public access to these resources as well as evaluating processes to protect our woodland resources. -- Mayor Kathy Ireland

Mt. Olive Township, Morris County (\$10,000) - Community Gardens at South Branch Preserve

Mount Olive Township achieved Bronze Level of Sustainable Jersey Certification in 2009

The Land Conservancy of New Jersey is collaborating with the Township of Mt. Olive to create a community garden on property acquired by TLC-NJ. The land is in close proximity to a 1000+ unit apartment complex (which qualifies as a low/moderate income census area), other residential areas and the Middle School. With the growing demand for food supplies from our local food back and growing low income population we feel this would be a wonderful opportunity to let residents grow fresh fruit and vegetables to supplement their diet as well as save them money. Funds would be used for an irrigation well.

Sustainable Jersey is supporting a wide range of projects that benefits public involvement and education. Our community garden will be a fresh start for many who are unable to have a garden where they live. -- Mayor Greenbaum

The Land Conservancy of New Jersey is proud to partner with Mount Olive Township and Sustainable Jersey to provide local residents with an opportunity to enjoy the benefits of organic gardening near their homes," said David Epstein, Land Conservancy President. "The community garden is located within the South Branch Preserve which will also provide local residents with opportunities to enjoy gardening, hiking, and fishing in the South Branch of the Raritan River. -- David Epstein of TLC-NJ

Park Ridge, Bergen County (\$10,000) -Wildlife Interaction Plan - Electric Lake and Pascack Brook

Teaneck achieved Park Ridge achieved Bronze Level of Sustainable Jersey Certification in 2011

The Borough of Park Ridge is planning to create a Wildlife Interaction Plan for the Electric Lake area and Pascack Brook which extends through the center of the borough. In the past ten years, there have been numerous projects to improve the infrastructure of the Lake and Brook, including the rebuilding of the Hydro Dam, creating a Historic Museum at the Hydro Electric building, and installing a new Footbridge over the Pascack Brook. These projects have enhanced the Infrastructure of Electric Lake, the historic value of Park Ridge and have created improved accessibility in the area for the community; however they have not focused on integrating a Wildlife Interaction Plan to sustain the environment for wildlife.

Park Ridge is honored to be a recipient of this grant award from SJ. The Boro Hall Staff, the governing body and our Green team have worked hard to keep Park Ridge an environmentally friendly community thru multiple projects and efforts this year. The recent re-certification of Park Ridge as a Bronze level Sustainable Community and the award of this grant are evidence of our efforts. The grant award will help greatly in our efforts to enhance the health of Electric Lake Pond through the creation of a wildlife interaction plan. Thank You SJ! -- Mayor Terence P. Macguire

West Amwell, Hunterdon County (\$10,000) - West Amwell Conservation Easement Program
Washington Township achieved Bronze Level of Sustainable Jersey Certification in 2011

West Amwell Township has continued in their efforts to regularly monitor and ensure the continuation of conservation easements within the Township. To that end, the Township has prepared an initial inventory of existing conservation easements and seeks to establish stewardship program to protect the valuable resources and educate landowners as to their care and importance to the Township and region.

Our Green Team, led by Cathy Urbanski, worked long and hard to make West Amwell Township a certified green community. The Sustainable Jersey Small Grant reflects that diligent and noteworthy work. With over 5,500 acres of preserved land in West Amwell Township, we will use this grant to monitor the easements that protect these properties. We hope to make them more accessible and enjoyable for the people of the municipality and state. Congratulations to our Green Team. -- Mayor George A Fisher