## 2021 NEW JERSEY

# SUSTAINABILITY SUMMIT



Sustainability Champions Showcase

Monday, May 17, 2021



## Navigating Zoom



Use the chat feature to respond to presenter questions and share your thoughts with others.

Respond to a presenter question, click on this icon.

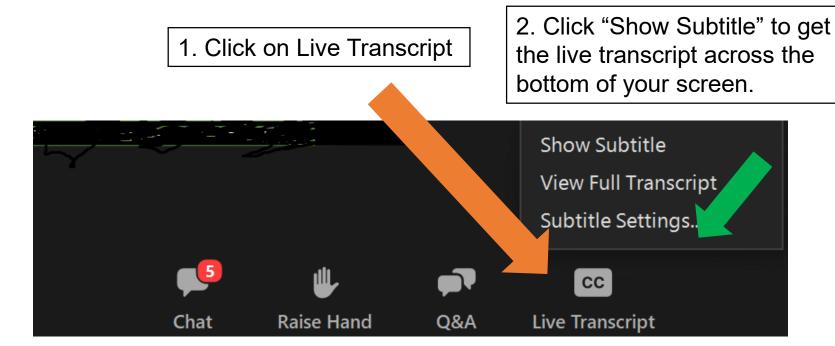
Use Q&A for questions for the presenters. You can also "like" questions to move them up on the list.





## Navigating Zoom







## **Announcements**



- June 6 municipal certification deadline
- June 21 school certification deadline
- FREE technical assistance for one community to develop a Water Story (<u>sustainablejersey.com/grants</u>)
  - Tues, 5/18, 1pm Enhance Community Water Resources
     Through Water Gold
- \$75,000 in grants for resiliency & environmental stewardship projects in Atlantic City Electric territory (<u>sustainablejersey.com/grants</u>)



## 2020 Sustainability Champions



Large Munic pality:
Woodbridge Township,
Middlesex County

Elementary School:

Ramtown School,

Howell Township, Monmouth County

Medium Municipality: **Madison Borough**,
Morris County

High School:

Raritan High School,

Hazlet Township,

Monmouth County

Small Municipality: **Island Heights Borough**, Ocean County

Middle School:

Winslow Township Middle School,

**Camden County** 

Municipal Champions award videos and certification reports:

https://www.sustainablejersey.com/certification/annual-awards/sustainability-champions/

School Champions award videos and certification reports:

https://www.sustainablejerseyschools.com/certification/annual-awards/sustainability-champions/

## PROGRAM UNDERWRITERS

## SUMMIT SPONSORS





















Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Jersey

























## More Sustainability Summit events to come!



- List of Summit events with registration bit.ly/SustainabilitySummit21
  - o Trivia Night − 5/18 at 7:30pm, \$150 team prize
  - o Building a Sustainable Workplace Culture − 5/19 at 1:00pm
  - Sustainable Jersey Tag Teams 5/19 at 7:00pm
  - o Sustainable Jersey for Schools Goes Digital − 5/21 at 10:00am

 Recordings of Summit events – will be posted by 5/28. www.sustainablejersey.com > Resources > Presentations > Sustainability Summit



## Questions?

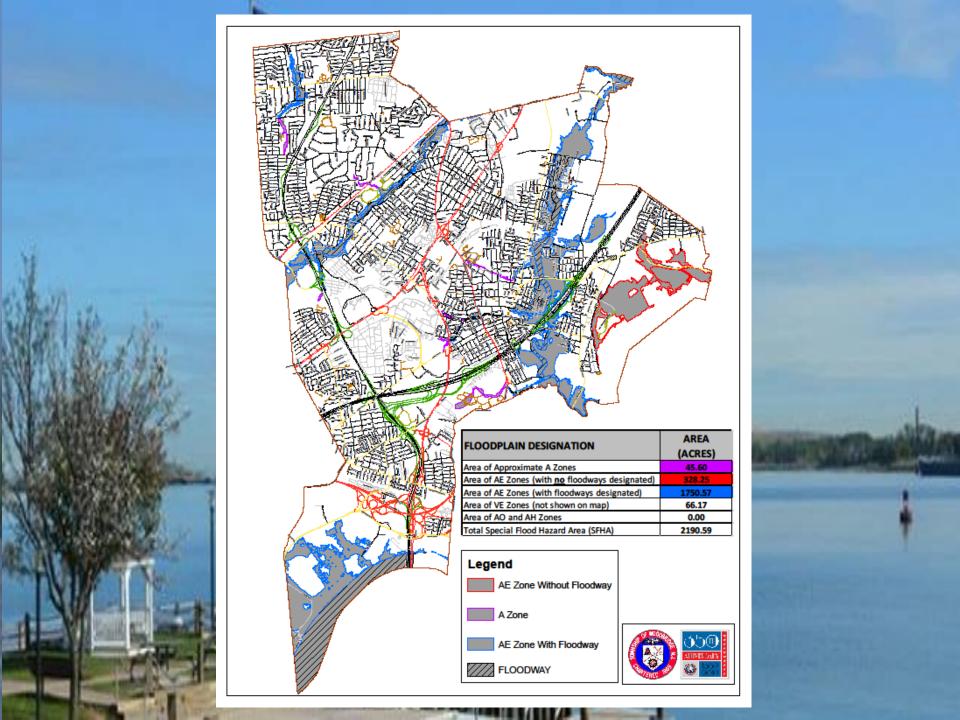


- Samantha McGraw Program Manager
  - o mcgraws@tcnj.edu
  - o 609-771-2855

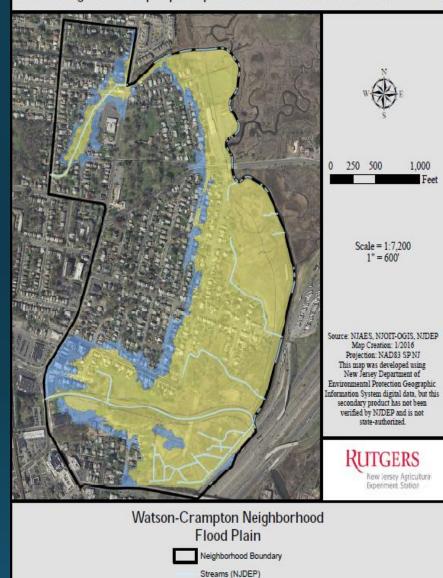
- Véronique Lambert Program Coordinator
  - o lambertv@tcnj.edu
  - o 609-771-3427



May 17, 2021 **Incorporating Nature-Based Solutions Into Comprehensive Mitigation & Resilience** Thomas C. Flynn, M.P.A., CFM Floodplain Manager / CRS Coordinator Township of Woodbridge, N.J., Division of Engineering Mayor, John E. McCormac Email: Thomas.Flynn@Twp.Woodbridge.NJ.US Email: Thomas. Flynn@Twp. Woodbridge. NJ. US Mayor, John E. McCormac

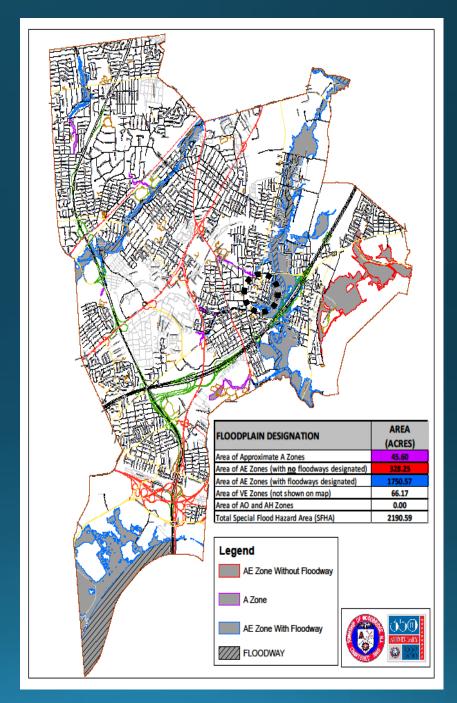


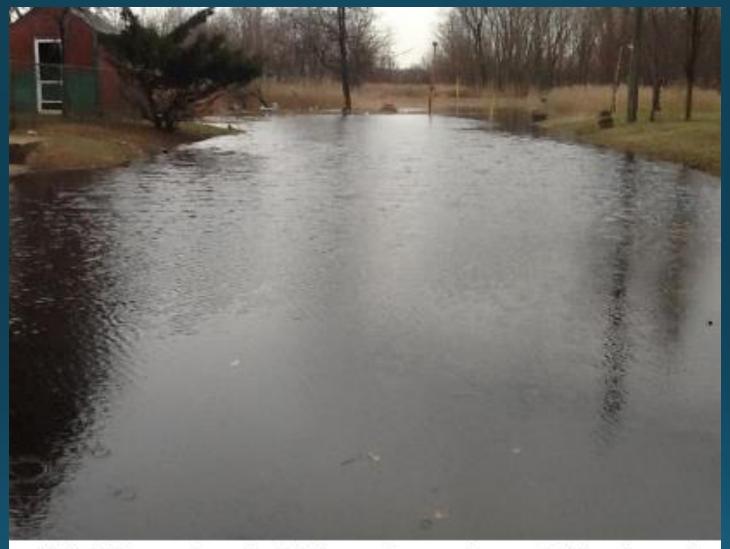
#### Woodbridge Township Open Space and Flood Plain Restoration Plan



100 Year Flood Plain

500 Year Flood Plain

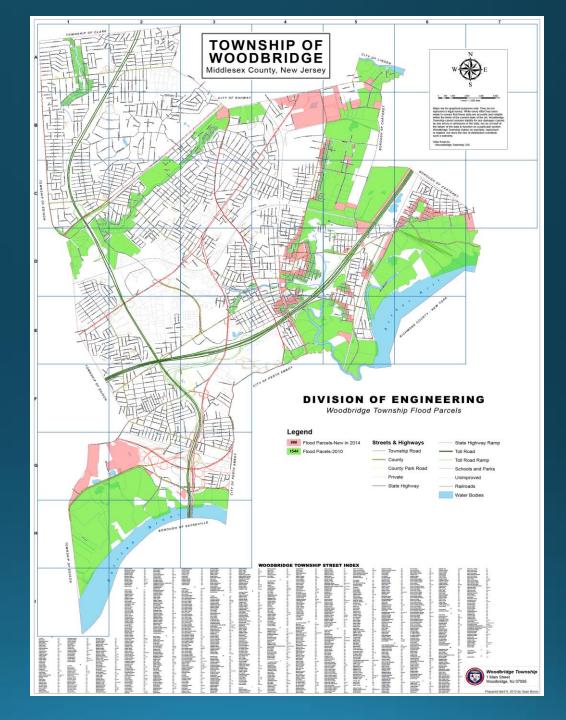


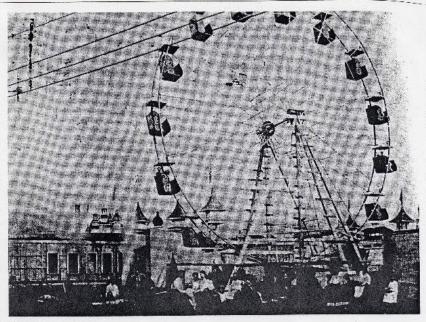


Heidelberg Ave. in Watson Crampton neighborhood

# Potential impacts associated with floodplain development

- Alters the dynamics of flooding
- Building and infrastructure damage
- Could compromise sensitive natural areas





Ferris Wheel, Boynton Beach.

## BOYNTON BEACH

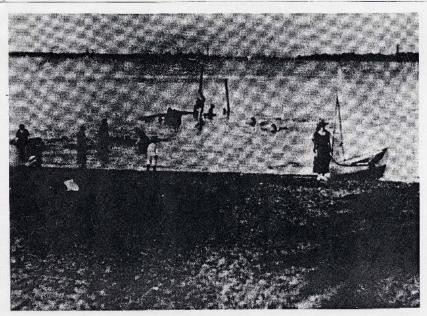
At the turn-of-the-century, Boynton Beach was one of the most popular resorts along the Middlesex County coast. An issue of the Central Monthly, (c.1900), a promotional publication of the Jersey Central Railroad, was titled "Boynton Beach, N.J., An Ideal Day Summer Resort." and denicts vacationers arriving by train, trolley, bicycle and ferry. According to the author,"The Jersey Central Railroad accommodated excursion parties from New York City, and before the time of the railroad, large ferryboats docked at the landing unloading crowds of folks who had come to spend the day bathing, fishing or just relaxing under the trees on an all-day's picnic spree." Picnic groves, bath houses, a jetty, dance pavilion, a gently sloping beach and more than 100 rowhouse for hire made Rounton Reach



Hopefully, the story that follows will give plausibility to the expression, "The Good Old Days," as it referred to life at the turn of this century. At that time, the township of Woodbridge, in Middlesex County, A C. W. Boynton, an entrepreneur from Maine, built a brick and tile manufactguring plant in the Sewaren section of Woodbridge, near the mouth of Woodbridge Creek on the Staten Island Sound (Arthur Kill). The land extended north toward Smith Creek and included the beach

Boynton erected bath houses on the beach and developed the adjoining land into groves. Good transportation and a perfect setting made prosperity inevitable.

Left over from earlier days was a dock at the foot of Ferry Street, A



Boynton Beach.

## The Good Ol' Days

after 1844 and there was scheduled service to Boynton Beach from Perth Amboy, Elizabeth and New York.

There was also trolley service from Elizabeth. Service from Westfield to Perth Amboy also had a stop at Sewaren. A coach line that connected with major inland coach lines also served the beach in its earlier days. Of course, parking was also provided for the more affluent, who arrived at the beach in their buggies. The Central Railroad extended their line from Elizabeth to Sewaren.

During its heyday, the beach provided the best and safest swimming on the Kill, at both high and low water, and fishing, clamming and oystering were ideal.

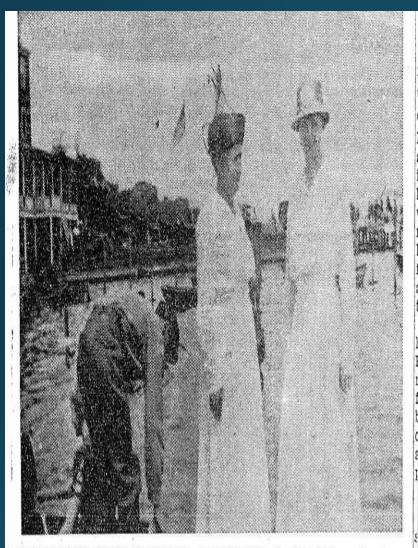
An annual event carried down from the days of the Indians was "Salt Water Day." Originally, it was just a day set aside for swimming and eating oysters; but by the 1900s, it had involving all the facilities.

Steamboat service faded out early in the century, primarily because of the terrible safety record. Boats, often facing heavy winds and currents, overloaded their woodburning heaters, which caused numerous boiler explosions. Land transportation, especially speedy, safe and frequent rail service, also improved.

The area continued to prosper until just prior to World War I. In 1917, The Dance Pavilion burned, along with most of the other buildings. The Sewaren Hotel had burned to the ground a few years carlier. About the same time came the first hints of water pollution in the area as well as development of better shore areas.

Photographs from the collection of the Woodbridge Township Public Library and Albert Housman, courtesy of the The houses along Cliff Road occupied the most fashionable location, and most were built in some variation or modification of the Shingle Style, with eelectic Queen Anne and Colonial Revival elements evident as well. The houses at the northern end of West Avenue were similar but less grandiose, while the houses at the opposite end of that streete were modest, working-class dwellings with few high style features.

Although actual intrusions are few, the resort feeling of Boynton Beach has been destroyed by industrialization and pollution. Many of the houses along Cliff Road are poorly maintained and some have lost architectural integrity, largely because of superficial changes. Nevertheless, the district is the only remaining evidence of the once-thriving resort industry along the Middlesex coast, and has the largest collection of Shingle

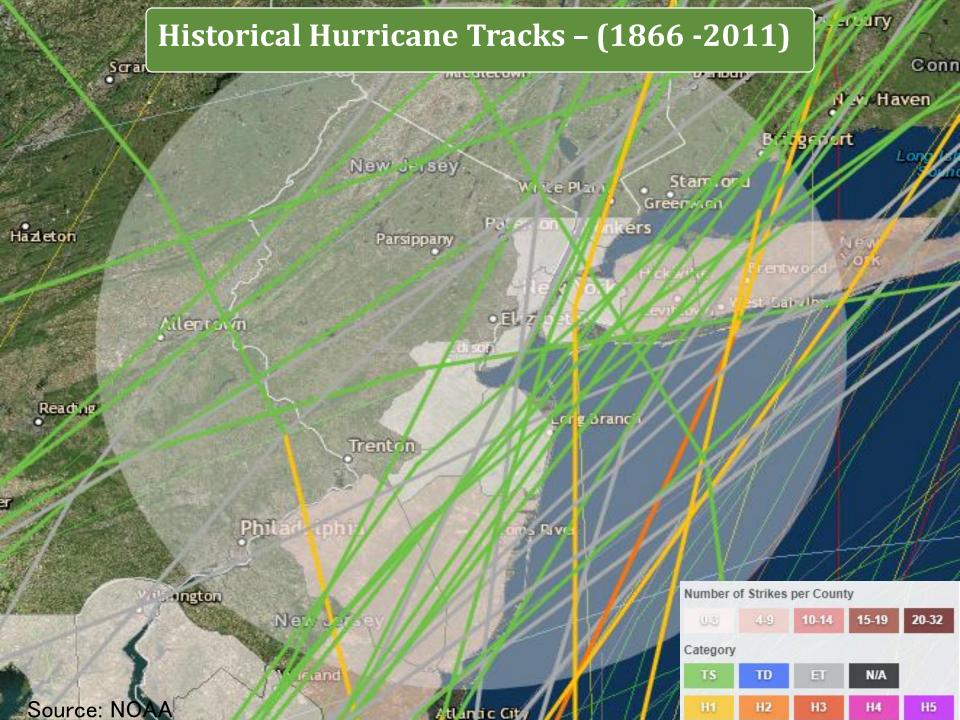


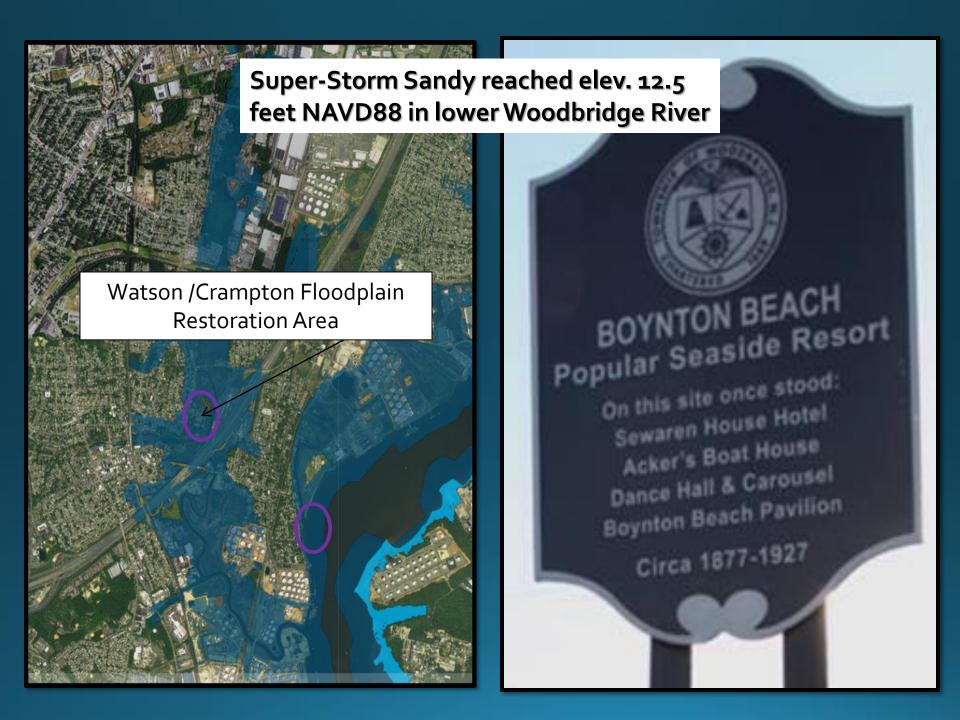
A DAY AT THE BEACH: Dressed in the height of fashion for July 1915, are Mrs. James Blair and daughter, standing on the dock at Sewaren Hotel, prior to boarding a boat for a trip around Staten Island. Many Township residents enjoyed the facilities at Boynton Beach during the first two decades of the century.



down to Boynton Sunday, and it makes a nice little trip from newark. Would have run down to Perth ambay only our time was limited. We made the run in 3 1/4 hours against tide. Yours truly











## Remembering Super-Storm Sandy

## Reshaping Resilience

- The misleading 100-year storm
- ABFE's & PFIRM's
- Restoring the Shore





## Development of Codes, Ordinance, Regulations, and Design Standards

&

#### Permit and Application Process Quality Improvements

For the Township of Woodbridge

Middlesex County

New Jersey

#### POST SANDY PLANNING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

New Jersey Department of Community Affairs

Office of Local Planning Services

August 12, 2016

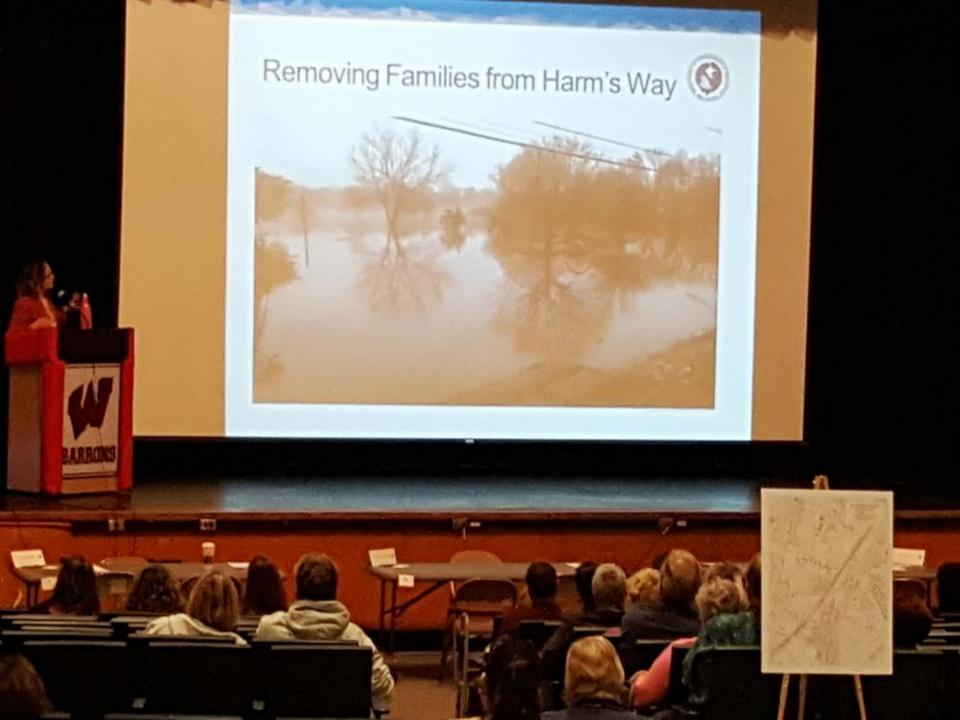
Prepared by:



Heyer, Gruel & Associates

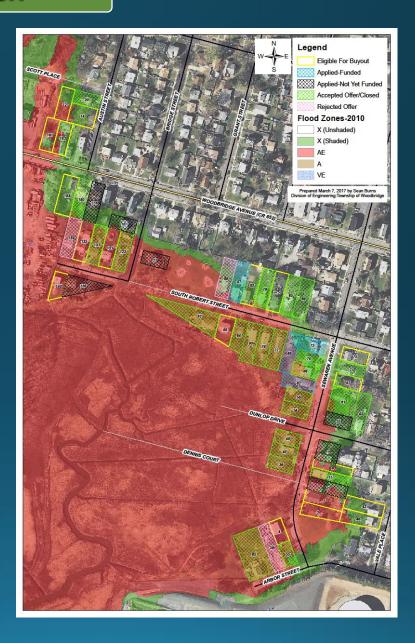
Community Planning Consultants
236 Broad Street, Red Bank, NJ 07701

(732) 741-2900



## Sewaren





## Colonia

## Legend Eligible For Buyout Applied-Funded Applied-Not Yet Funded Accepted Offer/Closed Rejected Offer Flood Zones-2010 X (Unshaded) X (Shaded) Prepared March 7, 2017 by Sean Burns Division of Engineering:Township of Woodbridge

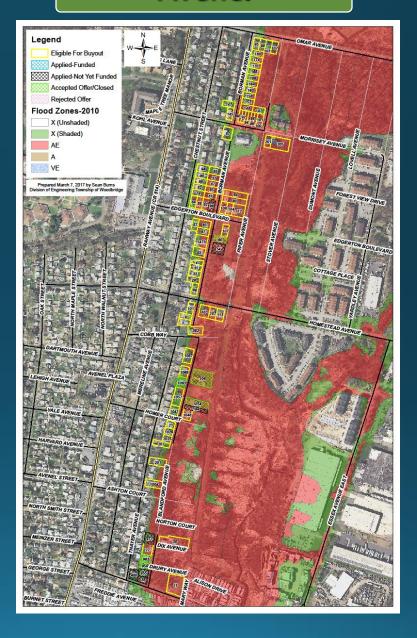
## **Port Reading**



## **Woodbridge Proper**



## **Avenel**



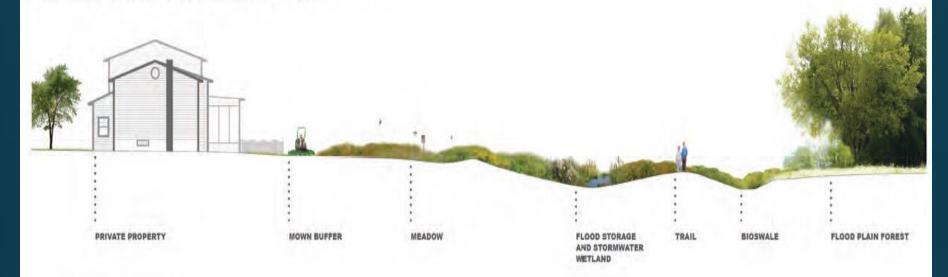




Rutgers Cooperative Extension (RCE) developed a floodplain restoration plan for the area focusing on:

- 1) Protect safety and health of Township residents
- 2) Restore the natural function of the floodplain to promote storage and infiltration of stormwater in appropriate areas, particularly during significant storm events.

#### **LOW-MAINTENANCE MANAGEMENT ZONE:**



#### **RESTORATION ZONE:**

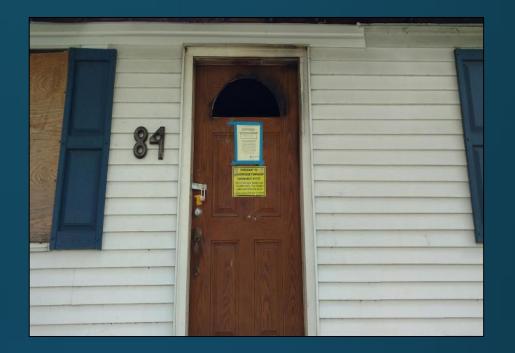




## Local Level Floodplain Management

## **Four Main Strategies**

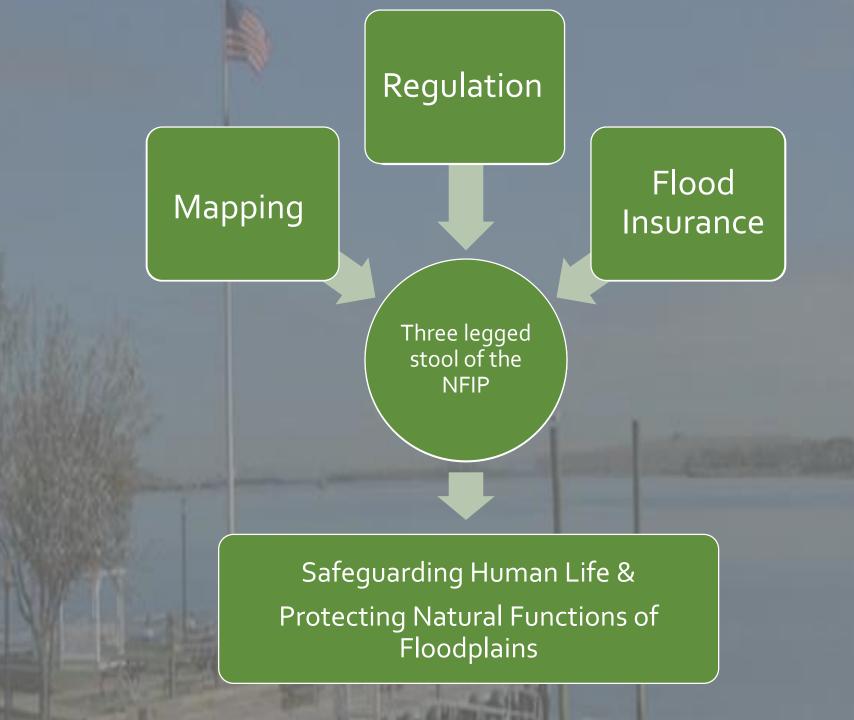
- 1. Modify human susceptibility to flood damage
- 2. Modify the impact of flooding
- 3. Modify flooding itself
- 4. Preserve and restore natural functions of floodplains





## The Unified National Program for Floodplain Management

- Regulations in high hazard areas
- Building codes / flood resistant design
- Acquisition and relocation
- Modifying / retro-fitting
- Controlling storm water run-off
- Providing self-help to property owners



### What about the locals?



# Six Ways for Township Property Owners to Become More Flood Resilient







#### 1. KNOW YOUR FLOOD HAZARD

Woodbridge Township has areas of special flood hazards located in the AE, A, Coastal A, and VE zones. You can locate Special Flood Hazard Areas in your neighborhood by looking at the Flood Insurance Maps online at FEMA's Map Service Center. Or for detailed FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) determinations based on a street address contact the Woodbridge Township Division of Engineering for personal assistance: 732.602.6057.

#### 2. INSURE YOUR FLOOD-PRONE PROPERTY

Most homeowner's policies do not cover costly flood damages, so flood insurance is recommended, even in areas that do not normally flood.

#### 3. PROTECT PEOPLE FROM FLOODING HAZARDS

Always heed official flood warnings, and never walk or drive through flooded areas - especially running water.

#### 4. PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY

Install flood vents in your foundation walls to protect them from storm damage and lower your flood insurance premiums.

#### 5. BUILD RESPONSIBLY

When you build on or repair a property within or near flood hazard areas, you must comply with the NJDEP Flood Hazard Area Control Act Rules and the Township's Floodplain Management ordinances. Be sure to obtain all necessary permits before construction. Contact the Division of Engineering (732-602-6057) for questions regarding designing and permitting projects in Special Flood Hazard Areas.

#### 6. PROTECT NATURAL FLOODPLAIN FUNCTIONS

Help your Township preserve its natural floodplains and wetland buffers to reduce flooding impacts and improve water quality.

John E. McCormac Mayor

To Learn More About Flood Protection and Community Rating System... Visit: http://ww.twp.woodbridge.nj.us/635/Floodplain -Management

1 Main Street

Woodbridge NJ 07095 Phone: 732-634-4500

E-mail: thomas.flynn@twp.woodbridge.nj.us

## Flood Insurance Study Report

- Hydrology
- Background about community
- Review of flood problem
- Hydraulics
- Peak discharge of flood levels
- Profile and data tables
- Etc.

FLOODING SOURCE		PLOODWAY			BASE FLOOD WATER SURFACE ELEVATION			
CROSS SECTION	DISTANCE 1	WIDTH (FEET)	SECTION AREA (SQUARE	MEAN VELOCITY (FEET PER	REGULATORY	WITHOUT FLOODWAY	WITH FLOODWAY	INCREASE
			FEET)	SECOND)	(FEET NGVD)			
South Branch								
Rahway River								
(continued)								
M	2.563	230	1,080	2.5	25.1	25 - 1	25.3	0.2
N	2.657	200	1,060	1.9	25.8	25.8	26.0	0.2
0	2.771	193	1,202	1.6	26.2	26.2	26.4	0.2
P	2.864	303	1,339	1.5	26.5	26.5	26.7	0.2
. Q	2.934	155	700	2.8	26.8	26.8	27.0	0.2
R	3.028	170	698	2.8	27.6	27.6	27.8	0.2
s	3,123	146	798	2.5	28.5	28.5	28.7	0.2
T.	3.163	300	1,561	1.3	28.9	28.9	29.1	0.2
Ü.	3.280	240	1,064	1.9	29.3	29.3	29.4	0.1
v	3.324	225	1,043	1.9	29.8	29.8	29.9	0.1
· w	3.400	232	1,192	1.7	30.3	30.3	30.4	0.1
×	3.494	220	769	2.6	30.7	30.7	30.8	0.1
Y	3.589	440	1,839	1.1	31.4	31.4	31.5	0.1
z	3.684	425	1,564	1.3	31.7	31.7	31.9	0.2
AA	3.797	450	1,395	1.4	32.3	32.3	32.5	0.2
AB	3.847	425	1,471	1.3	32.6	32.6	32.8	0.2
AC	3,956	219	723	2.7	34.3	34.3	34.4	0.1
						- a,		
				1	1			

I<sub>Millos</sub> above confluence with Rahway River

SEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

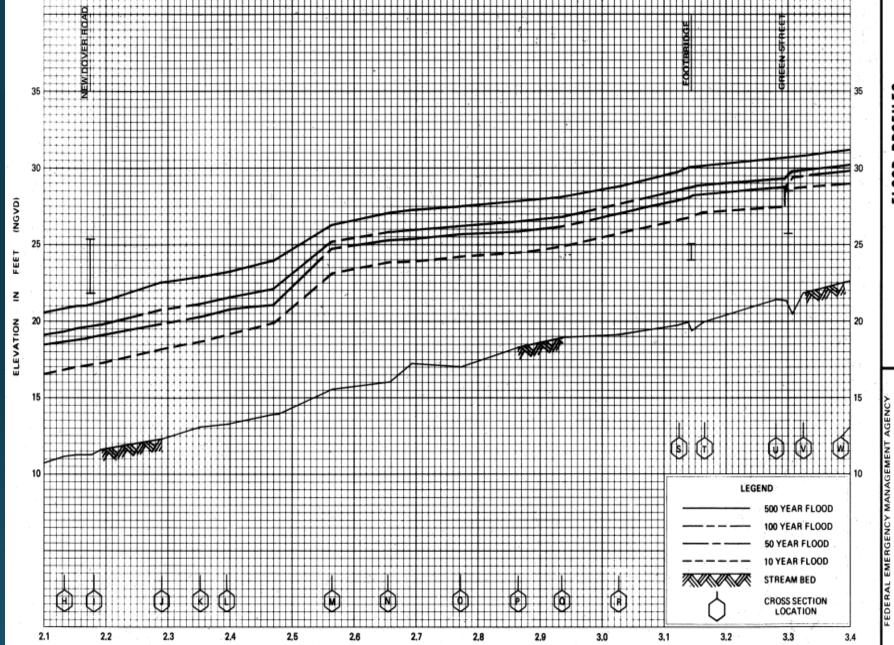
TOWNSHIP OF WOODBRIDGE, NJ

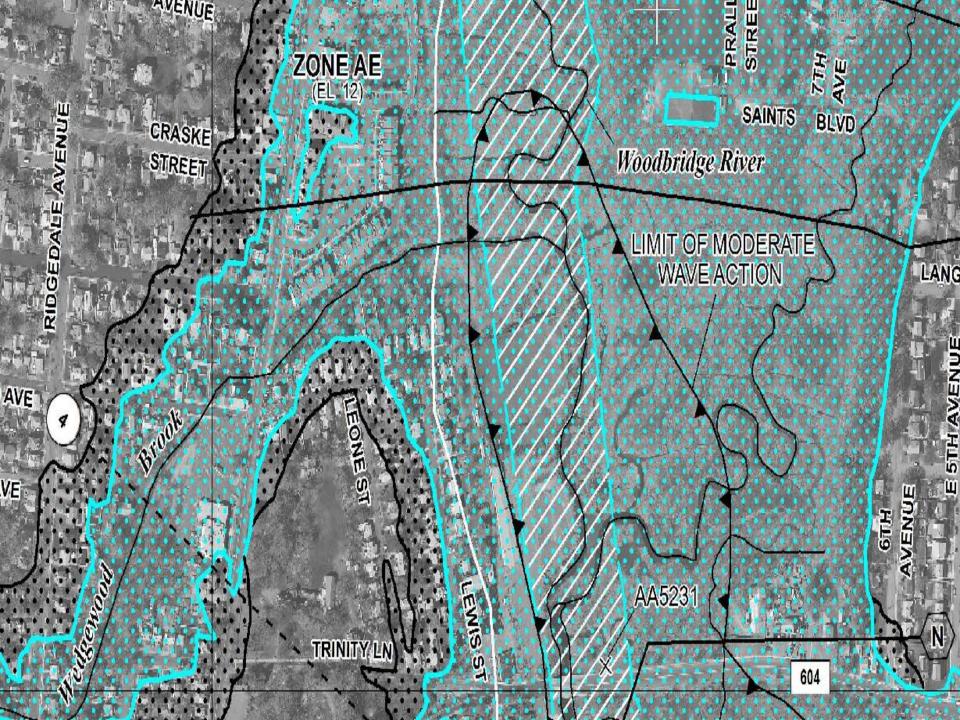
(MIDDLESEX GO.)

FLOODWAY DATA

SOUTH BRANCH RAHWAY RIVER

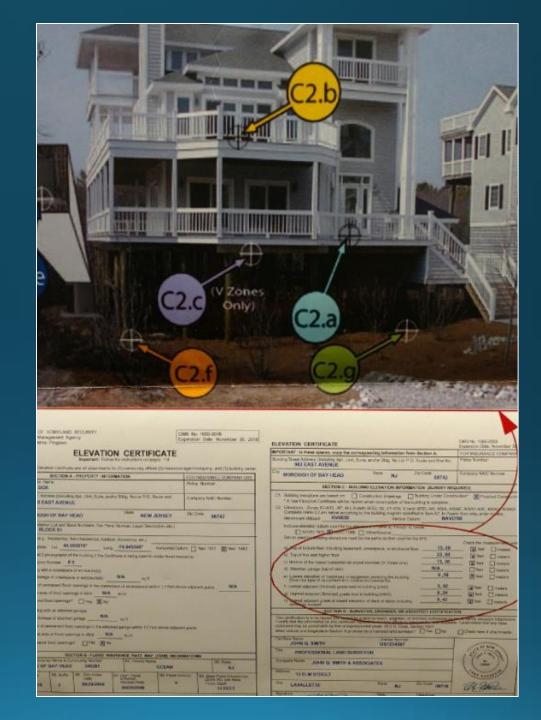






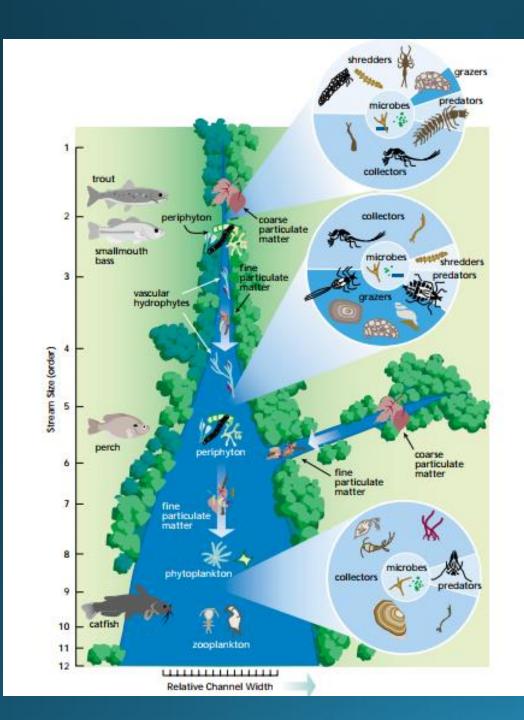
# Community Outreach and Property Protection Assistance Meetings

- EC Review
- Retrofitting
- Natural Functions of Floodplains
- Etc.



#### What about the *other* locals...





Preserve and restore natural functions of floodplains

- Biodiversity
- Flood Storage
- Ecosystem services

Photo credit: FISRWG (10/1998). Stream Corridor Restoration: Principles, Processes, and Practices.



In 2016, Woodbridge Township and RCE began implementation of Phase 1 of the restoration plan, removing ~2 acres of impervious surface, planting 50 native trees, and installing 3 acres of native warm-season meadow. In 2017, the team removed ~5 acres of *Phragmites australis* and restored 8 acres of native woodland through invasive species management and the planting of 1,000 native trees and shrubs. In 2019 over 4,00 native trees and shrubs were installed.

## Closing Thoughts

and the state of t



Exploring new approaches to solving old problems



Preserve, Restore, & Recreate



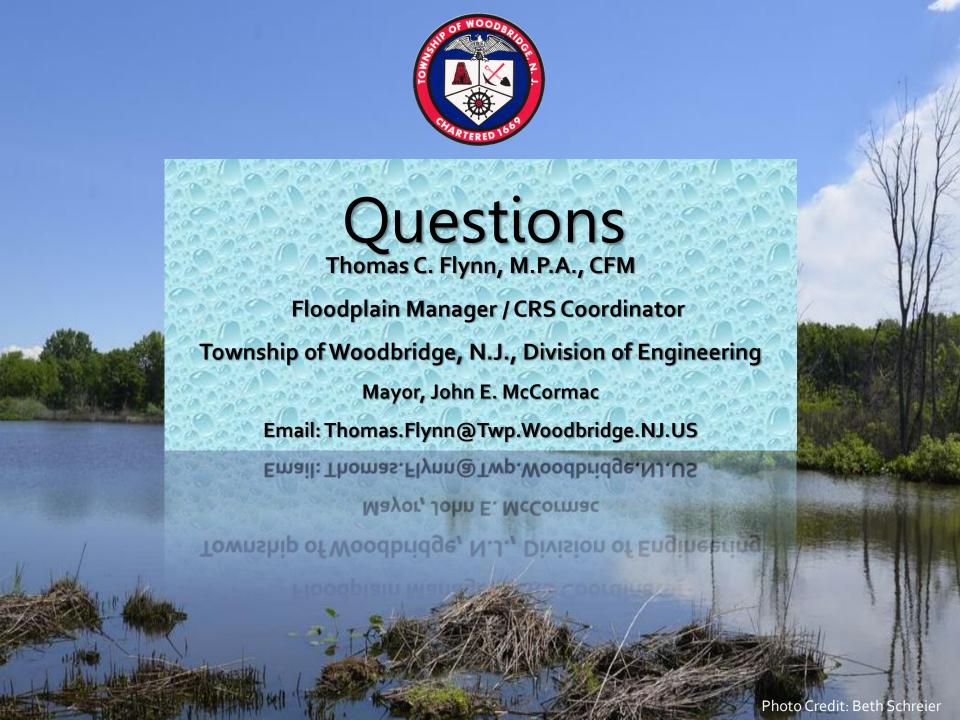
Filter & absorb floodwaters



More readily able to rebound after storm events



Protect human life and property



# Our Sustainability Journey at RHS

Raritan High School May 17, 2021

## Raritan High School 2020 High School Sustainability Champion Award

Raritan High School was recognized on Sept. 15 by the Ewing-based nonprofit organization, The Sustainable Jersey for Schools program. Raritan High School was additionally honored with silver distinction for board leadership and planning, reduced carbon footprint, indoor air quality and energy efficiency. They have also received the 2020 High School Sustainability Champion Award.

#### In An Unused Courtyard...



#### **Students Began To Make Positive Change!**









Our school Green Team had a vision to enhance the outdoor environment with a focus on student learning and engagement...

#### **Outdoor Environmental Learning Center was created!**







## Enhancements Initiatives

#### Composting



Collaboration with cafeteria diverting food waste from landfill

## Larger Garden Beds



Grow variety of food crops and provide pollinator plants

#### **Our first Greenhouse!**



Fabrication Lab Students designed and constructed tables out of repurposed pallets

#### **Pollinator Garden**



Attract beneficial pollinators to support healthy ecosystems

# Waste Reduction Efforts

#### Reusable Trays in Cafeteria



Idea came from
 Environmental Club Students

Thanks to Sustainable
 Schools and PSE&G for
 generous \$10,000.00 grant to
 purchase trays, carts and
 upgrade existing dishwasher

#### Program spread to several schools in district!











#### **Sustainability Lessons Learned**

## Buy In from all Stakeholders!

(ex. Board of Education, Central Office/Building Administration, Students, etc.)

#### **Develop a Team!**

This is too big for just one person! - ensures long term stability of the project.

#### **Apply for Grants!**

(Sustainable Schools & other organizations)

#### Network!

If you build it, help will come!

outside organizations are eager to help (Ex. Environmental Commission, Rutgers Master Gardeners, Boy Scouts)

#### **Questions and Contact Information**

Mr. Joseph Annibale jannibale@hazlet.org
Twitter: @JosephAnnibale

Mr. Mike Miller mmiller@hazlet.org
Twitter: @HazletSciSup

Mrs. Cathy Samaniego csamaniego@hazlet.org

Dr. Andrew Piotrowski apiotrowski@hazlet.org
Twitter: @RaritanHigh

Mr. Kevin Cable kcable@hazlet.org
Twitter: @CableBiologyRHS

## Virtual Internships

**An Innovative Community Project** 

Presented by

### Sustainable Madison

**Advisory Committee (SMAC)** 



May 17, 2021



What???
No summer jobs
for students?

Green Madison NJ



#### Our Appeal via

- Social Media
- Press Release
- Boro website

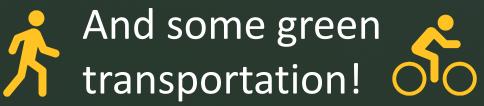
Headline:
Want to raise
a hand for
sustainability?

Results:
10+ volunteers
8 mentors

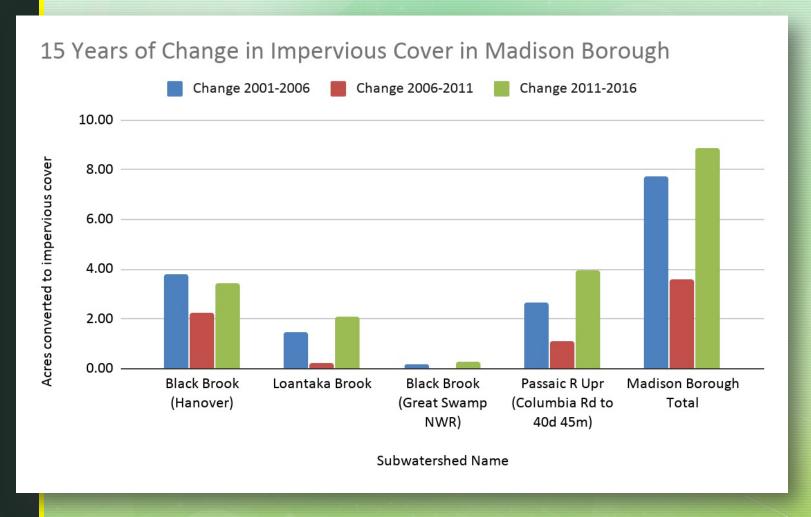
#### "Meeting" the Challenge



- Zoom intro meetings
- Emails
- Zoom check-ins
- Emails
- Zoom presentations



#### Project: Impervious Cover Assessment



Actions: Green
Infrastructure Planning
& ERI Update

Intern: Brett Cheadle
Drew University
Environmental Studies

Mentor: Lisa Jordan SMAC member & Dir., Spatial Data Center, Drew U.

Overall, impervious coverage increased from 16.61% in 2001 to 17.34% in 2016.

Passaic River subwatershed has greatest impervious cover, > 20%.

#### Project: Green Infrastructure Assessments



Actions:

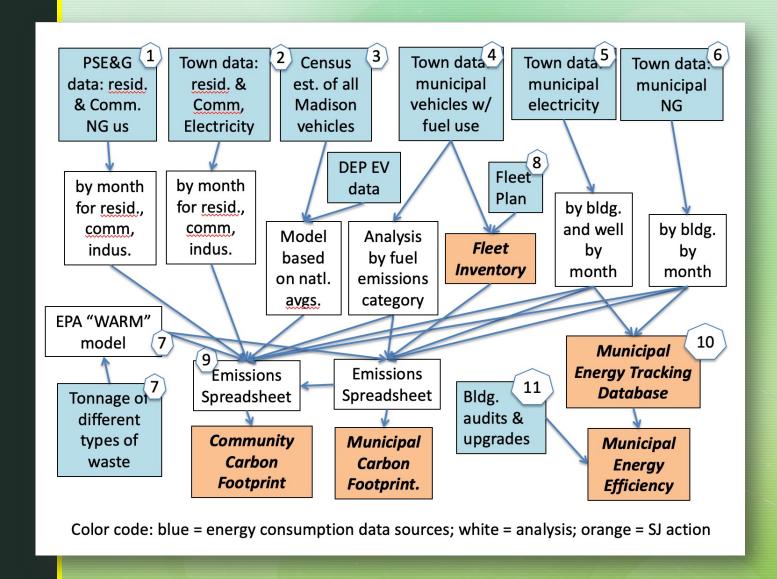
Green Infrastructure Planning & Implementation

Intern:

Dylan MacDonald, Vassar College Cognitive Science

Mentor: Kathleen
Caccavale, Chair, SMAC

#### Project: Data Collection & Analysis — Energy & GHG



Actions:

- Municipal Energy Tracking
- Municipal Energy Efficiency
- Fleet Inventory
- Municipal Carbon Footprint
- Community Carbon Footprint

#### Interns:

- Max Drucker, Economics,
   Drew U
- Christian Wong, Computer
   Science, U of Michigan

Mentor: Peter Fried, SMAC energy guru & Professor of Physics, NYU

Note: Drew Interns Also Assisted in 2019: Yuki Takada and Xiping Wei

## Notes on path 11: -The path by Memorial Park, once you get to the bend at the entrance of the woods, there is a lot of -there should be Summerhill Par isn't the cleares parking lot are

#### 2020 High School Student Projects

#### Gibbons Pine Rain Garden Stewardship:

Henry McCann

Mentor: Marilyn Musielski, SMAC & Garden Club

#### **Walking Tour Updates:**

Meredith Weiner, Zoe Baumann, Niamh Kane Mentor: Kathleen Caccavale, Chair, SMAC

#### Tree Inventory:

Meredith Weiner (also Leah O'Gorman, Temple U.)

Mentor: Gene Cracovia, SMAC & Shade Tree

#### **Pedestrian Audit:**

Jacob Jordan

Mentor: Lisa Jordan, SMAC & Drew



INTRODUCTION

mon when dealing with environmental

action, especially when it includes topics such as climate change,

action, especially when it includes topics such as similare to environmental racism, ableism, anti-indigeneity, classism, environmental प्रवासन, प्रमालकान, प्राप्त मार्ग्यस्थानसम् प्रवासन्तरम् अध्यक्षिम् warfare, political turmoit, mass extinction, and more. Here's some

#### 2021 and Beyond

#### **Green Vision Forum:**

- 3<sup>rd</sup> annual forum for students to present their green visions to Borough officials
- 2021 first virtual event
- Presenters from Madison public schools, Fairleigh Dickinson U. & College of St. Elizabeth's

#### **Drew Action Scholars Virtual Town Hall:**

- 1st year students presented on environmental initiatives they will pursue over multiple years
- Interviewed SMAC and EC members for input

#### SMAC Mentoring for High School Internship Program

Current project: BOE Fleet Inventory mentored by Peter Fried, SMAC



#### In Conclusion

By sharing our town's story of innovative community engagement during COVID-19, we hope to inspire other green teams to recruit and collaborate with young people in creative, productive ways that further environmental stewardship.

NEW JER

LETTER: Young interns boost Madison 'green' initiatives

Oct 17, 2020 💂 0

EDITOR: The chairpersons of Madison's "green" committees and our Borough Council liaison, Maureen Byrne, would like to thank the amazing interns who lent us their talents this summer.

Many had summer plans that were canceled due to COVID-19. We are proud to have been able to use their skills to contribute data to Sustainable Jersey projects and lay the groundwork for the upcoming revision of our







fostering community partnerships and a school-wide sustainable mindset



WINSLOW TOWNSHIP
MIDDLE SCHOOL

**Green Team** 

2020 SUSTAINABILITY CHAMPION

#### MEET OUR TEAM

#### Ms. Stella Nwanguma, Principal

Ms. Portia Kiett, Green Team Chairperson

Mr. Ross Cruz, Environmental STEM Teacher

Mr. Michael Weppler, Green Team Points Chair

Mrs. Jessica Glatz, Green Team Publicity Chair







#### COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

- NEA / NJEA
- Sustainable Jersey for Schools
- Sodexo: Local Produce
- Rutgers University:
   NJ Expanded Nutrition Program
- AtlantiCare: Healthy Schools Healthy Children
- Local Businesses for outdoor classroom materials











#### COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Empowered & PowerSave Schools with the Alliance to Save Energy

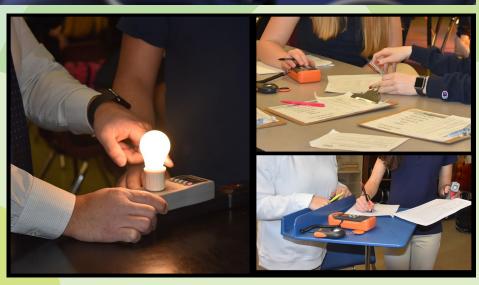
• Students perform energy audits in school & at home and propose energy saving measures.











\$287.71

#### COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS



- C.H.A.T. (Camden Center for Youth Development)
- Eagles Nest Mentoring Program
- WTMS Community Nights
- WTMS Home and School Association







#### SCHOOL-WIDE SUSTAINABILITY

District Initiatives led by Superintendent Dr. H. Major Poteat

- Solar panels
- Purchase of renewable energy
- Installation of high efficiency lighting and energy efficient windows.



#### SCHOOL-WIDE SUSTAINABILITY

#### Faculty & student led school-wide initiatives

- Unified Arts Department painted student bathrooms with SEL based messages
- Planning a bottle cap mural for our courtyard garden
- Marker and printer toner recycling programs
- Calendar of Movement
- Healthy Cooking digital recipe book







#### SCHOOL-WIDE SUSTAINABILITY

#### Social Emotional Learning (SEL)

- Student Advisory
- "Mindful Mondays" sponsored by our Guidance Department
- "Wellness Wednesdays" sponsored by our school nursing staff.
- Staff & student wellness programs & upgraded weight room.











#### Math

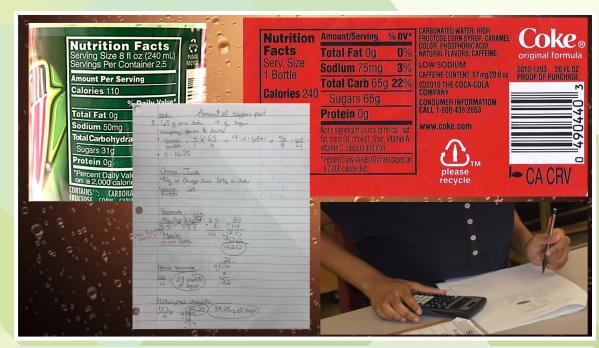
- Utilizing proportions to calculate the amount of sugar packs in drinks
- Recycling statistics

### Language Arts

- Essays highlighting issues that single use plastics create
- Readings & written reflections on current environmental concerns

#### Social Studies

 Analyzing census data and population trends and discussing effects of population change





#### **Unified Arts**

- Artwork depicting the plastic problem
- Artwork utilizing recycled materials
- Graphic Design posters for World Food Day
   & Earth Day
- Graphic Design created graphics for Green Team
- Computer & Coding projects centered on environmental issues

#### Health & P.E.

- Student created exercise
   videos during pandemic
- Focus on nutrition and mental health









#### Science

- Tower Gardening
- Use of hydroponic growing techniques
- Upcoming Greenhouse curriculum
- Chopped food challenge
- Study of environmental issues









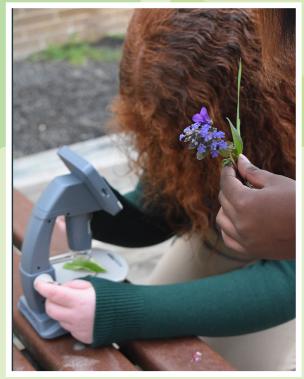
#### Outdoor Classrooms

- Maintained by our Environmental STEM classes
- Bernzomatic Courtyard, Pond Courtyard, Greenhouse (under construction)
- Utilized by Art for life drawing, Mathematics for measurements and calculations, Science for studying biodiversity and ecosystems, Guidance & CST for garden therapy











#### Environmental STEM

- Project based curriculum aligned with Sustainable Development Goals
- Focuses on raising awareness of local and global environmental issues and challenging students to develop real-world solutions to address these issues.









# Learning ANDLIVING Sustainably

fostering community partnerships and a school-wide sustainable mindset

WINSLOW TOWNSHIP
MIDDLE SCHOOL

Green Team

# Ramtown School 2020 Elementary Sustainability Champion

"The Earth is a fine place and worth fighting for."
- Ernest Hemingway





### Ramtown School's Overarching Goals for Sustainability

- GREEN T.E.A.M.-Together Everyone Achieves More
- School-based Impact
- Community Outreach
- Task-Oriented
- Specific, Deliberate, Focused
- Student, Staff, Community -Invested

#### Ramtown School's 2 Highlights of Certification Process

- Social Emotional Learning
- Innovative Projects



## Social Emotional Learning

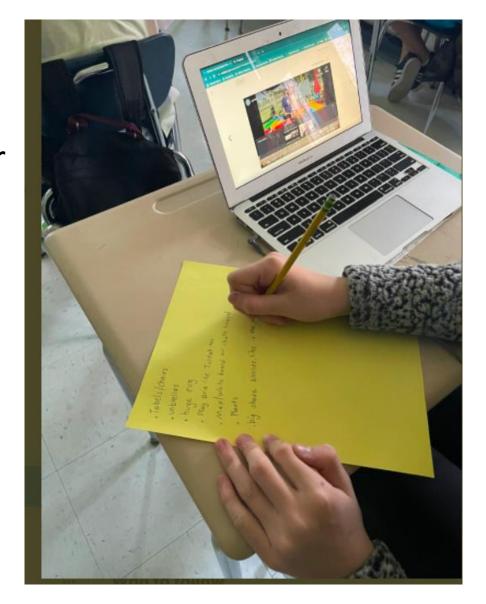
- Students, Staff, Community Needs Assessment
- Morning Meeting Purposeful Connections to Start the Day
- Wellness Grant: A Room to Breathe: A Place for Relaxation and Rejuvenation
- School-wide Endeavors (Fun Fridays, World Kindness Day, Wear Red Day)
- Daily SEL Activities
- Focus Classroom Lessons (Guidance, Anti-Bullying, Social Media)
- Equity, Culture, Climate, Be the Light and Change You Seek





## **Innovative Projects**

- Aeroponic Gardens with Master Gardener
- Anti-Idling Campaign
- STEAM Curriculum Connections
- Green Energy Audit Teams
- Outdoor Classroom Design
- Say No to Straws
- Semper Fido
- Education for Sustainability Examples



# From Classroom to Community One TEAM...One Dream

- Veterans Day Assemblies
- Opening Day/Thanksgiving Lunches
- Enrichment Days
- STEAM Days
- Former Ramtown Students Give Back (Eagle Scouts)
  - Bird Houses
  - Bat Boxes
  - Landscaping Planters
  - Fitness Trail
  - Sustainable Gardens



# Borough of Island Heights

# A community of volunteers and our journey to community sustainability











Population: 1,691

12 + Volunteer Groups

Our goal: To create cooperative opportunities between community groups.

## **Volunteering in IH**

IH Environmental Committee
IH First Aid Squad
IH Friends of the Library
IH Grade School PTO
IH Volunteer Fire Company
IH Recreation Committee
IH Cultural & Heritage Association
IH United Methodist Church (Food Pantry)
John F. Peto Museum
Ocean County Artist Guild
Ocean County Master Composter Program
Scout Troops





## Make your green team grow!

Anyone can volunteer

Love new ideas

Give every idea a try

Local talent

Empower you team

Collaborate!

## Island Heights Earth Day

Clean-up
Bioswale planting
Seedling giveaway
Zero Waste Station
Used Toy Drive
Scavenger Hunt

Saturday, April 24th 9 am to 2 pm







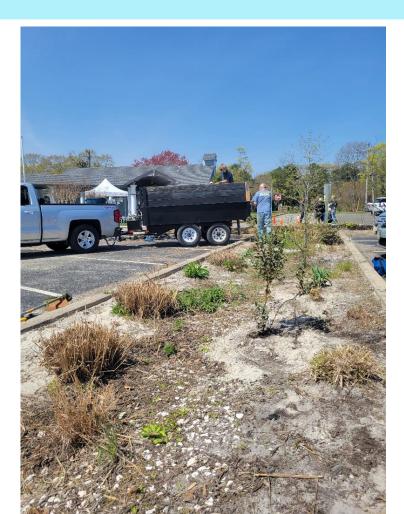








### Bioswale: Green Infrastructure Project





Funded by a SJ and PSEG grant

New plants added with a mini grant from the Native Plant Society of NJ

Giving back native grasses



## Zero Waste + Micro collections







"Don't wait on perfect conditions for success to happen; just go ahead and do something."



Dan Miller

# Thank you!





### **Tanara Hall**

Island Heights Environmental Committee & Green Team



