



TOWNSHIP OF HILLSBOROUGH

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News Release

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Hillsborough Township Awarded \$10,000 Sustainability Grant *One of Only Eight Town in New Jersey to Receive Funding*

Hillsborough Township was awarded a \$10,000 Sustainable Jersey grant funded by the PSEG Foundation. Four \$20,000 grants, eight \$10,000 and twenty \$2,000 were distributed to a variety of projects including reclaiming paved surfaces for community gardens, protecting community tree cover, water conservation, green infrastructure, natural resources protection, park revitalization, promoting healthy lifestyles and green team capacity building.

"Thank you to all those individuals responsible, including our Business Advocate David Kois, for his dedication to applying for these grants on behalf of the Township," stated Mayor Frank DelCore.

"These grants support green teams and municipalities working to bring innovative sustainability projects forward that will shape the future of their residents for years to come," said Donna Drewes, who co-directs Sustainable Jersey with Randall Solomon. She extended her congratulations to all of the towns that received grants. "The grants will also help build capacity as municipalities move sustainability programs forward," Drewes said.

The PSEG Foundation has contributed over one million dollars in funding to the Sustainable Jersey Small Grants Program. "Environmental, social, and economic issues are the cornerstone to the PSEG Foundation's support and we are committed to leading the communities in which we serve towards a more sustainable future," said Ellen Lambert, President of the PSEG Foundation. "These projects will have a lasting impact to neighborhoods throughout New Jersey."

Proposals were evaluated by an independent Blue Ribbon Selection Committee. The Sustainable Jersey grants are intended to help municipalities make progress toward a sustainable future in general, and specifically toward Sustainable Jersey certification. Currently, 77 percent or 434 of New Jersey's 565 municipalities are participating in the municipal certification program.

"Hillsborough will be using this grant to develop a conservation easement parcel database detailing the location, type of easement, owner and size. The information from this database will then be incorporated into the Township's digitized parcel-based ArcGIS mapping for community outreach and education focusing on the importance of the natural resources protected by the municipally held easements," stated Committeewoman Gloria McCauley, Liaison to the Sustainable Hillsborough Steering Committee.

"Land preservation continues to be a top priority in the Township, a complete inventory and GIS mapping of our existing conservation easements will help maintain and coordinate Hillsborough's open space planning initiatives," added Mayor DelCore.

The grant presentation was made earlier this month, where Business Advocate David Kois and Administrator Anthony Ferrera accepted the grant on behalf of the Township.

About Sustainable Jersey:

Sustainable Jersey is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that provides tools, training and financial incentives to support communities as they pursue sustainability programs. Currently, 77 percent, or 434 of New Jersey's 565 municipalities are participating in the municipal certification program and 163 school districts and 428 schools are participating in the new Sustainable Jersey for Schools certification program.

Sustainable Jersey's partners include the New Jersey State League of Municipalities, Sustainability Institute at The College of New Jersey, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities Clean Energy Program. Program underwriters include the Geraldine R. Doge Foundation, New Jersey Board of Public Utilities Clean Energy Program and the Surdna Foundation. The 2016 Sustainable Jersey Small Grants program for municipalities is funded by PSEG Foundation and the Gardinier Environmental Fund. South Jersey Gas and New Jersey Natural Gas are Platinum Sponsors. NJM Insurance Group is a Gold Sponsor, Bayshore Recycling is a Silver Sponsor and the Bronze Sponsors are Investors Bank, Covanta, Energy Solve, JCP&L, GovPilot and Solar City.