



Happy Holidays!



Wishing you a happy and healthy holiday season from our family to your family!

We would like to thank you for another great year in 2016!
Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to
working with you in 2017!

From all of us at the Rutgers Cooperative Extension (RCE) Water

Urban Innovation: Build Collaborative Partnerships across University, Community, and Civic Leaders

On November 29-30, 2016, Rutgers Cooperative Extension and the Water Resources Program held the Northeast Regional Urban Extension Conference - Urban Innovation: Building Collaborative Partnerships across University, Community, and Civic Leaders at the Paul Robeson Center, Rutgers University-Newark. The goal of this two day conference was to build collaborative partnerships across sectors to address the challenges faced in our urban communities across the northeast.

Larry Katz, Director of Rutgers Cooperative Extension, and Robert Goodman, Executive Dean of Agriculture and Natural Resources in the School of Environmental and Biological Sciences, welcomed the participants and addressed the need for the university and Extension to be ready to embrace the future as urban areas are changing rapidly. For over 100 years Extension has had the obligation to extend the land-grant university research and knowledge to people across the state, which includes traditional and nontraditional audiences. It is important that Extension professionals address the shifts from rural to urban demographics.

Nancy Cantor, Chancellor of Rutgers University–Newark, echoed this message by encouraging participants to accept the challenges and overcome them. She highlighted the role of universities as anchor institutions in their communities that collaborate with partners from all sectors of the economy to fulfill higher education’s promise as an engine of discovery, innovation, and social mobility.



During the two day conference, professionals from across disciplines of Cooperative Extension faculty, government officials, and local stakeholders came together to highlight research and projects that are helping to build more resilient, sustainable, and healthy urban communities. Over 40 programs were selected for seminars to represent the impact Cooperative Extension is making in urban environments. Each seminar was aimed at



addressing the opportunities to build collaborative partnerships, explore emerging urban issues, discover innovative technology for outreach, explore innovative funding practices, and address the challenges of urban programming.

The conference was attended by 132 attendees, with representatives from Cornell University, Michigan State University, Monmouth University, Ohio State University, Penn State, Pitzer College, Rutgers University, University of Connecticut, University of Delaware, University of Maryland, University of Rhode Island, University of the District of Columbia, Washington State University, West Virginia State University, and the WSU Metropolitan Center for Applied Research & Extension. Although 68% of the attendees represented universities, 12% were from the public sector, 11% were nonprofit organizations, and 9% were from the private sector.



The conference proved to be a great success and received positive remarks by all attendees. Many of us left the conference with new relationships across states. We hope this conference will become a platform for other states across the nation to celebrate the successes and highlight the emerging needs of our urban communities. With Nancy Cantor's remarks in mind, we hope that attendees learned about the role of Extension and the importance of universities as anchor institutions that are willing partners for all of our community members to be innovative and collaborative in addressing the needs of the community.



Presentations and program are available on the conference website to download, please [click here](#).



Upcoming Events and Conferences

**Complying with New Jersey Stormwater Regulations
Workshop on January 26, 2017**



Join the professional staff from the Rutgers Cooperative Extension (RCE) Water Resources Program at this workshop hosted by the Raritan Headwaters and sponsored by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection. The program will highlight steps to guide you and your municipality to ensure that new development is in compliance with the New Jersey stormwater management regulations. We will also focus on the importance and benefits of inventorying your municipality's stormwater infrastructure while complying with the state's municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) permits.

Register today at \$15 per person to attend the workshop on **Thursday, January 26th** from **3:00-5:00 pm**. [Click here](#) to register for this workshop hosted at the [Fairview Farm Wildlife Preservation - Brick Cottage Boardroom](#), 2121 Larger Cross Road, Bedminster, New Jersey.

Please also note this is the first in the Raritan Headwaters Seminar Series: Watershed Tools for Local Decision-makers. To learn more about the seminar series, contact Kristi MacDonald at (908) 234-1852, ext. 322 or email kmacdonald@raritanheadwaters.org.

RCE Water Resources Program | New Brunswick, NJ 08901 | M-F 8:30 - 4:30pm



Rutgers Cooperative Extension Water Resources Program | 14 College Farm Road, New Brunswick, NJ 07719

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