



## **Congratulations Dr. Obropta!**



Please join the Rutgers Cooperative Extension (RCE) Water Resources Program in congratulating Christopher C. Obropta, Ph.D., P.E. on his promotion to Extension

Specialist I in Water Resources and Professor I in the Department of Environmental Sciences at the Rutgers School of Environmental Biological Sciences!

Congratulations Chris!

## **Green Infrastructure Municipal Outreach and Technical Assistance Program in partnership with Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission**



On May 12th, the RCE Water Resources Program participated in Municipal Day at Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission (PVSC) in Newark, New Jersey. This annual event brings together representatives from the many communities served by PVSC to provide information on current programs, updates on new PVSC initiatives, and partnership opportunities. The RCE Water Resources Program was invited to share an update on our green infrastructure partnership with PVSC. This program, now in its fourth year, provides planning assistance and technical guidance to communities looking to explore new stormwater management approaches. Municipal Day was a great opportunity to meet municipal representatives and discuss planning efforts to contact and partner with us as we continue working throughout the 48 communities served by PVSC.

Planning is just one of the components of this program. Education and outreach workshops are delivered throughout the service area. On June 15th, the RCE Water Resources Program held a green infrastructure training program to highlight lessons learned in green infrastructure strategies that work in New Jersey, how to retrofit green infrastructure in urban centers, and the associated costs of implementation and maintenance of these systems. Approximately 30 participants attended this workshop with representation from municipal governments, nonprofits, community organizations, professional engineers, and academic institutions. The training had an overall positive response by all participants, and the presentations are available to download on our program website. For more information on the Green Infrastructure Municipal Outreach and Technical Assistance Program, please contact either [Jeremiah Bergstrom](#) or [Rosana Da Silva](#) and visit the program website by [clicking here](#).

## **Municipal Action Teams are Moving Green Infrastructure into Action Across the State of New Jersey Update**

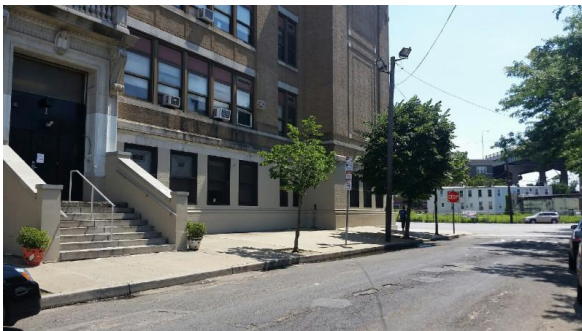
Municipal action teams have been formed to foster collaboration and collective action that helps the municipality speak with a common voice and achieve a common goal while advocating for green infrastructure. Detailed below is an update on the various municipal action teams across the state.

The **Camden SMART** (Stormwater Management and Resource Training) partners convened the Camden Environmental Summit on June 14th. With over 200 attendees, the event focused on recognition of environmental leadership from youth and young adults.

Partners are looking forward to planting and completion of an additional ten green infrastructure projects this summer. Finally, the partners are kicking off a rain barrel distribution program for city residents. This program is being led by the CCMUA in partnership with Pennsylvania Horticultural Society and is funded through a grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation.

**Harrison's Municipal Action Team** partners are working on a mission statement and logo that will highlight all future green infrastructure projects in the town. The team is moving forward with a green infrastructure project at the public library as the town's first demonstration project. The team is asking organizations in town to participate in the action team; if interested, please contact Mo Kinberg at 510-452-7178.

**Gloucester City Environmental Partners** met on June 21st and are working to prioritize green infrastructure demonstration projects. NJDEP has awarded a 319(h) grant to the Camden County Soil Conservation District which will fund the implementation of multiple projects throughout the city. Over the next several months the partners will be surveying and preparing concept designs for projects at schools and other public properties to divert stormwater runoff from the combined sewer system.



The **Jersey City Make It Green Team** partners continued to discuss green infrastructure projects and policies that will be implemented during the Year of Water. Jersey City Municipal Utilities Authority has awarded a contract to move forward with the implementation of green infrastructure practices at the front entrance of the Michael Conti Public School #5. The team also invited the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection to become educated on the city's combined sewer overflow permit and the requirements under the permit on public participation. To learn more about the Year of Water, please [click here](#).

The **Trenton Green Infrastructure** partners are working in partnership with the Green Team and Trenton City Planning Department to move forward on several initiatives including demonstration green infrastructure projects at city schools and development of a city-wide stormwater management plan. The next meeting will be held in July, and



partners are coordinating efforts to engage city representatives and other civic organizations.

**Perth Amboy SWIM** (Stormwater Infrastructure Management) partners are working together to design and implement green infrastructure projects at Washington Park, City Hall, and two municipal parking lots this year. On June 12th, the City of Perth Amboy awarded a contract to Z Brothers Concrete Contractors, Inc. for the construction of the two porous asphalt municipal parking lots this summer. SWIM is also working on finalizing construction schedules for Washington Park and City Hall. The partners recently met on June 15th for their monthly meeting and continue to meet regularly on the 3rd Thursday of every month.

Technical assistance provided to these municipal action teams by the RCE Water Resources Program is funded in part by the Surdna Foundation with support from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and our local partners. For more information about the New Jersey Technical Assistance Program for Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) communities, please [click here](#).

## Upcoming Events

### Jersey Water Works 2017 Membership Meeting



The second annual Jersey Water Works Membership Meeting will bring together more than 100 attendees on July 18th at the New Jersey City University School in Jersey City.

Join JWW to brainstorm ways to make faster progress, celebrate the work of the collaborative and its members, and learn

from national experts. [Register today](#) and stay tuned for a full agenda and speakers! You can learn more about Jersey Water Works and last year's meeting by [clicking here](#).

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

