



MARCH 2023

## WATER PAGES eNEWSLETTER

### Green Infrastructure at Trenton Public Schools



Three rain garden demonstration projects were installed at Trenton Public Schools during a spell of warm weather over the 2022-2023's winter recess. A rain garden of 205 square feet was built at Arthur J. Holland Middle School, managing a rooftop drainage area of 800 square feet and adding a total landscaped area with native vegetation of 300 square feet. A rain garden of 245 square feet was built at Trenton Central High School, managing a courtyard drainage area of 2,135 square feet and adding a total landscaped area with native vegetation of 300 square feet. A rain garden of 1,125 square feet was built at Grace Dunn Middle School, managing a courtyard drainage area of 4,100 square feet and adding a total landscaped area with native vegetation of 1,280 square feet. The rain gardens were designed with over 500 native flowering perennials, shrubs, and groundcovers, boosting pollinator habitat and beautifying the school grounds. These projects were funded by a federal 319(h) grant awarded by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection. These rain gardens join several others completed in Trenton through this grant project, including Joyce Kilmer Elementary School, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Middle School, Hetzel Pool, and Isles, Inc.





## New Jersey's Overburdened Communities ~ A New Jersey Sea Grant Consortium Coastal Adaptation and Resilience Project

Green infrastructure projects for overburdened communities (OBCs) are currently being developed by the Water Resources Program to help improve water quality during storm events. Some of the developing projects are located in South River, Spotswood, Long Pond, and Camden. Each of the project sites were found and selected by our team of Green Infrastructure Champions acting as advocates for their own communities. By the end of the year these municipalities will have a mix of new green infrastructure practices installed!

At this time we would like to highlight the Spotswood green infrastructure project that will be located at the Spotswood Library and headed by Green Infrastructure Champion, Dorian Kerber. This project involves the rerouting of the existing downspouts of the library into an open space in the front of the building where a 675-square foot rain garden will be installed to capture, treat, and filter stormwater from a 2,690-square foot section of the library rooftop.

We can't wait to see what the team of Green Infrastructure Champions are able to accomplish over the coming months in their communities!



**It's not too late to become a Green  
Infrastructure Champion!  
Registration for the 2023 Green  
Infrastructure Champions  
Training Program is STILL open!  
Don't miss out! Register TODAY!**

### Upcoming virtual classes:

- 3/24 "Green infrastructure projects for schools"
- 4/8 "How to design and build a rain garden"
- 4/22 "Retrofitting traditional detention basins with green infrastructure"
- 5/6 "Developing green infrastructure master plans for an entire site or neighborhood"
- 5/20 "Using green infrastructure to promote climate resiliency"

Register here: <https://forms.gle/FNu7gGD29THTRiLHA> or contact Hollie DiMuro at [hdimuro@rutgers.edu](mailto:hdimuro@rutgers.edu) if you are interested in registering!

## **Landscape Makeover Training Sessions ~ Are you interested in creating a creek-friendly yard?**

Join us for a virtual workshop to learn more about rain gardens and how you can



build one at home! When you attend, you'll have the opportunity to sign up for a 30-minute consultation where you'll work one-on-one with a Rutgers engineer and landscape architect to plan a customized rain garden for your property.

Participants who build a rain garden as part of this program may be eligible for a rebate of up to \$650. Rebate availability may vary. Qualifying homeowners are residents of the following areas: Evesham, Pemberton, Lumberton, Mt. Holly, Mt. Laurel, Gibbsboro, Berlin Twp., Berlin Borough, Millville, Vineland, Swedesboro, Woolwich, Mullica Hill, Oldsman Twp., Carney's Point, Egg Harbor\*, Hammonton\*, and Winslow\*.

*\* Rebate only available for lakeside properties*

Workshops as part of the Landscape Makeover Program are open to all, regardless of rebate eligibility.

Two sessions to choose from on April 19, 2023:

4/19/23 at Noon: [Register Here](#)

4/19/23 at 7:00 PM: [Register Here](#)

<https://www.sjwatersavers.org/makeover-sessions/>

SOUTH JERSEY WATER SAVERS  
PRESENTS

# Rain Garden 101

A virtual Information Session  
focused on helping you *beautify  
your property*. Qualifying areas  
eligible for a rebate listed below.

**April 19th at Noon and  
7pm**

Evesham, Pemberton, Lumberton, Mt. Holly, Mt.  
Laurel, Gibbsboro, Berlin Twp., Berlin Borough,  
Millville, Vineland, Swedesboro, Woolwich, Mullica  
Hill, Oldsman Twp., Carney's Point

For Egg Harbor, Hammonton, Winslow rebate is only  
for lakeside properties

Please reach out to [jack@pinelandsalliance.org](mailto:jack@pinelandsalliance.org) for details  
Go to <https://www.sjwatersavers.org/makeover-sessions> to sign up!



2023 NEW JERSEY

# SUSTAINABILITY SUMMIT



May 5, 2023

## NEW JERSEY SUSTAINABILITY SUMMIT

<https://bit.ly/SustainabilitySummit-23>



14 Sustainability-Focused Sessions  
Sustainability Expo  
Networking w/500 Change-makers

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### Rain Garden Native Plant Spotlight ~ Spicebush (*Lindera benzoin*)

Spicebush (*Lindera benzoin*) is a large deciduous shrub, whose small yellow flowers are often an early sign of spring. This shrub is a great option for a rain garden due to its tolerance of a variety of soil moisture and light requirements. In addition to its red berries and yellow fall foliage, Spicebush provides habitat to birds and several species of butterflies and moths, including the Spicebush Swallowtail.

For more information:

Jerseyyards.org native plant database

<https://www.jerseyyards.org/plant/lindera-benzoin/>

Wildflower.org

[https://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id\\_plant=libe3](https://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=libe3)





*Photo credit: Chris Perez, RCE Water Resources Program*

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**RUTGERS**  
**GIVING**  
**DAYS**  
MARCH 20-24, 2023

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