



## MEDIA RELEASE

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## Monroe Township Awarded \$2,000 Sustainable Jersey Grant

**Monroe Township, NJ (March 13, 2014)** – Sustainable Jersey representatives announced today that **Monroe Township** has been awarded a Sustainable Jersey Capacity-Building Grant. The \$2,000 grants are intended to assist community Green Teams as they lead and coordinate the sustainability activities of their community.

The Sustainable Jersey Small Grants Program funded by the PSEG Foundation is providing \$200,000 in grants to local governments for sustainability projects. Since 2009, Sustainable Jersey has distributed approximately \$1,375,000 in grants to New Jersey municipalities to help towns make their communities more livable, environmentally friendly and prosperous.

The winners of the grants have projects that provide sustainable solutions to everyday challenges. Organic curbside waste recycling, sustainability ordinances, hawk habitat restoration, a bike depot for commuters, formation of a regional green team network, a water conservation tax credit, a rain garden and more have been added to the list of initiatives that the Sustainable Jersey Small Grants program is funding.

“PSEG is committed to being a steward of the environment and making meaningful contributions to the communities it serves,” said Ellen Lambert, president of the PSEG Foundation and director – Corporate Responsibility. “We are proud to support this program and to fund projects that will make life better in neighborhoods throughout New Jersey.”

A core element of the Sustainable Jersey program is to direct funding and resources to municipalities to aid them in making progress. Currently, 72 percent of the state's municipalities participating (406 towns across all 21 counties) have registered to become Sustainable Jersey certified. “The impact that these

projects will make in New Jersey is incredible,” said Pam Mount, Chair of the Sustainable Jersey Board of Trustees. “Aiding towns and Green Teams to achieve their sustainability goals by funding green initiatives will have a ripple effect that will benefit us all.”

**Sustainable Monroe Township** was formed in 2013 and is coordinating the Sustainable Jersey Certification process. It is made up of volunteer residents, called the **Monroe Green Team**. We have collaborated with the Monroe Township School District, the Williamstown Sunrise Rotary, the Free Library of Monroe Township and are a resource for the Municipality, the residents, and the business community. We sponsor and participate in related activities on a regional basis, and promote the efficient and responsible use of our land, water, and other natural resources. We engage in community outreach and seek more members to get involved in our efforts. Please get in touch at [monroegreenteam@gmail.com](mailto:monroegreenteam@gmail.com) to join us in making Monroe Township a more sustainable community. Find and “Like” us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/sustainablemonroe](http://www.facebook.com/sustainablemonroe)

#### **ABOUT SUSTAINABLE JERSEY**

Sustainable Jersey, a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that provides tools, training and financial incentives to support communities as they pursue sustainability programs. Currently, over 406 of New Jersey’s 565 municipalities are participating in the sustainability certification program. Sustainable Jersey is one hundred percent voluntary and each town can choose whether it wants to get certified and the actions it wants to do in order to achieve enough points to get certified. In 2014 the Sustainable Jersey for Schools program will be launched in partnership with New Jersey School Boards Association and other statewide educational organizations.

Sustainable Jersey’s partners include the New Jersey State League of Municipalities, The Sustainability Institute at The College of New Jersey, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (BPU). Program underwriters include the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation and the Surdna Foundation. Our Small Grants program is underwritten by Walmart and PSEG. Sponsors include South Jersey Gas, New Jersey Natural Gas, Church and Dwight, Covanta Energy, Energy Solve, Terhune Orchards, Bayshore Recycling, Good Energy, EcoMatters, Spiegle Architectural Group, Waste Management of New Jersey, Pennoni Associates, Inc., Investors Bank, Phoenix Advisors and Concord Engineering.

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