

**Borough of Fanwood  
MEDIA RELEASE**

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**Borough of Fanwood Awarded Sustainable Jersey Grant  
*\$5,521 Provided to Fund Community Awareness Projects***

**Fanwood, NJ (October 8, 2013)** – Sustainable Jersey representatives announced today that Fanwood has been awarded a Sustainable Jersey Small Grant. Fanwood is one of just fifteen municipalities in New Jersey to apply to receive a Sustainable Jersey Small Grant at the \$10,000 level. The 2013 Sustainable Jersey Small Grants Program funded by the Walmart is providing \$380,000 in grants to local governments for sustainability projects.

Fanwood Mayor Colleen Mahr says, “I am gratified that the Borough Fanwood has been selected to receive 2013 funds from the Sustainable New Jersey Program. In an era of diminishing state funding, it is difficult to fund quality of life programs. Because of Sustainable New Jersey we have established a volunteer “Green Team”. They have been successful in raising community awareness about direct actions we can all take to improve the environment, to live healthier lives and to husband our local natural resources. This new round of funding will help build on past efforts, institutionalize some of the successful past programs and hopefully take us to the next level of “Silver” certification. The Fanwood Green Team is determined to make a difference in Fanwood and this new grant is a welcome boost to their efforts.”

The winners of the grants have projects that provide sustainable solutions to everyday challenges. Organic curbside waste recycling, storm water runoff solutions, innovative bioswales, water conservation, sustainable landscaping, wildlife interaction plan, community gardens and more have been added to the list of initiatives that the Sustainable Jersey Small Grants program is funding.

“Walmart is incredibly proud of the success of the Sustainable Jersey Small Grant Program,” said Philip Serghini, Director of Public Affairs for Walmart in New Jersey, “In a few short years Walmart has funded over \$1 million to the municipalities of our State to advance our commitment to environmental sustainability.”

A core element of the Sustainable Jersey program is to direct funding and resources to municipalities to aid them in making progress. Currently, 70 percent of New Jersey’s towns and cities (398 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.”

### **2013 Recipients of \$10,000 Sustainable Jersey Project Grants**

1. Boonton Township: Natural Resource Inventory
2. Byram Township: Conservation Easements Commitment
3. Fanwood Borough: Sustainability Community Education and Outreach Initiative (\$5,521)
4. Fort Lee Borough: Community Garden
5. Haddonfield Borough: Green Building and Sustainability Master Plan Element
6. Hamilton: Rain Garden Demonstration & Water Conservation Education Program
7. Lambertville: Turning Food Scraps and Biological Wastes into Green Power
8. Middletown Township: Grazing Goats for Poricy Park
9. Milltown Borough: Sustainable Education Program
10. Montgomery Township: Bicycle Safety - Pilot Program
11. Mount Olive Township: Conservation Easement Preservation Management
12. Nutley Township: Water Conservation Challenge
13. Raritan Township: 24/7 Accessible EV Charging Station Installation
14. Stratford: School & Community Environmental Education Project
15. Summit: Summit Free Market Permanent Structure

FANWOOD is an independent borough, 1.3 square miles in size, population 7,300, in Union County, New Jersey. The town is located about 25 miles west and slightly south of Newark

### **ABOUT SUSTAINABLE JERSEY**

Sustainable Jersey is a certification program for municipalities and schools in New Jersey. Launched in 2009, Sustainable Jersey is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that supports community efforts to reduce waste, cut greenhouse gas emissions, and improve environmental equity. It provides tools, training and financial incentives to support and reward communities as they pursue sustainability programs. 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. Currently, 398 of New Jersey’s 565 municipalities are participating and 116 municipalities have achieved Sustainable Jersey certification. 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 sponsors include the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, the Surdna Foundation, Walmart, PSEG, South Jersey Gas, New Jersey Natural Gas, Church and Dwight, Covanta Energy, Energy Solve, Terhune Orchards, United Water, Bayshore Recycling, EcoMatters, Waste Management of New Jersey, Phoenix Advisors, Concord Engineering and the New Jersey Food Council.

Website: [www.SustainableJersey.com](http://www.SustainableJersey.com)

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/SustainableJersey>

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