

# TOWNSHIP OF MANSFIELD GREEN TEAM



## Mansfield Township's Green Team Schedules Another Rain Barrel Constructing Workshop for the Fall

Saturday, June 7<sup>th</sup>, the Green Team under the Mansfield Township Environmental Commission of Warren County NJ held a successful rain barrel workshop. The intent of the event was to bring more awareness to nonpoint source pollution and illustrate how the use of rain barrels is an effective means of reducing it. Matt Barr presented the education portion of the workshop; he is an AmeriCorps NJ Watershed Ambassador for the Musconetcong Watershed Association in Asbury. Liz Jackson of the NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife provided additional education on the importance of backyard wildlife and a tour of native plants of NJ. The constructing portion of the workshop was a group effort from the Green Team led by Don Proefrock. The workshop was held in the Pequest Fish Hatchery. Several rain barrels were built and are now out at people's properties for installation. A rain barrel will be on display at the Municipal Building and at this year's Community Day scheduled for June 21<sup>st</sup> from 1 pm to 5 pm to build awareness and encourage registration for the next upcoming event.

Learning that we all have ways to reduce pollution is important. Nonpoint source pollution is ongoing. It is important for individuals to understand our impact to the water quality of Warren County and the Highlands region. Reducing runoff, fertilizers, pesticides, and herbicides are all important ways to reduce this type of pollution. The rain barrel initiative is funded via a grant Sustainable Jersey and sufficient budget remains for conducting a second constructing workshop in the Fall. This project is aligned with the mission of the Green Team in supporting the earning of points toward certification in 2015 with Sustainable Jersey. The Green Team also provided reusable bags funded by "Clean Communities" to kick off the Township's "Reusable Bag Education" program another action item to earn points toward the 2015 recertification with Sustainable Jersey.

A special thank you to all our Mansfield Volunteers who made this event a success, including Donald Proefrock, JoAnn Fascenelli, Constance Adasavage, Bob Jewell, Shirley Kocher (Township Committee), as well as Brad, Dawn and Chris Smith.

The next Rain Barrel workshop is scheduled for **Sunday, September 21<sup>st</sup> at 1 p.m.** The N.J. Division of Fish and Wildlife Pequest Trout Hatchery & Natural Resource Education Center will again host this educational and hands on workshop at 605 Pequest Rd., Oxford, NJ07863. A donation of \$10 per barrel is requested to cover the cost of parts and supplies for the rain barrel conversion.

Online Registration: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0b45adab2daafd0-rain2>

Phone or Email Registration: JoAnn Fascenelli, 908-689-6151 x116 or [jf@mansfieldtownship-nj.gov](mailto:jf@mansfieldtownship-nj.gov)

Visit our township website: [www.mansfieldtownship-nj.gov](http://www.mansfieldtownship-nj.gov)

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