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Water Pages E-Newsletter

Impervious Cover Assessment for Hamilton Township



The Rutgers Cooperative Extension (RCE) Water Resources Program has partnered with Hamilton Township to address stormwater and flooding issues. Part of this effort was to identify and assess impervious areas which cover soils and prevent rainwater from soaking into the ground. Large amounts of impervious areas, like pavement and concrete, can add to flooding issues and

lead to polluted waters.

Over the past year, the impervious surfaces in Hamilton were identified, and the Water Resources Program recommended that Hamilton take these three steps to better manage these surfaces:

1. Eliminate surfaces that are not necessary
2. Reduce or convert impervious surfaces
3. Disconnect impervious surfaces from local waterways

The recommended actions will reduce the amount of impervious cover and help promote absorption of stormwater back into the ground. The Water Resources Program hopes to continue to work with Hamilton Township to implement these recommendations.

For more information on the Hamilton Project visit our website by [clicking here](#) .

[New Jersey Sea Grant Consortium](#) and the RCE Water Resources Program are teaming up to use rain barrels as a partnership project for [New Jersey's Top Ten Beaches 2014](#). The overall goal is to help the environment by having artists beautify rain barrels that help save water and reduce the amount of rainwater that directly enters the storm drain system.

Ten New Jersey artists will be selected to celebrate coastal New Jersey and tourism by painting iconic images of the Jersey Shore. The New Jersey Sea Grant Consortium's 2014 Top Ten Beaches Rain Barrels will be showcased at the **NJSGC 12th Annual State of the Shore Media Event on May 22**. The beautified rain barrels will then roll out on tour around the state throughout the summer and be displayed at selected New Jersey beach communities and special events. This unique program promotes environmental awareness and stewardship of all our coastal and water resources.



New Jersey's Top Ten Beaches has officially begun accepting it's beach ballots. To vote for your top ten New Jersey beaches, please [click here](#)! Voting ends on April 30th, 2014.

Paraprofessional Watershed Restoration Training



The RCE Water Resources Program, through a grant funded by the Dodge Foundation, is offering the Paraprofessional Watershed Restoration Training course to volunteers this spring on March 18th.

During this session, volunteers will learn how to assist with the development of watershed restoration plans. The volunteers will be trained to conduct watershed surveys and to identify potential pollution sources and opportunities to fix problems in the watershed. The trained volunteers will join sixty-six other trained paraprofessionals working with RCE Water Resources Program engineers and scientists to apply their newly developed

skills in local watersheds. Visit our website and register for the spring training today by [clicking here!](#)

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Rutgers University | 14 College Farm Road | New Brunswick | NJ | 07719