



Experience Jersey-Friendly Yards!

The Ocean County Soil Conservation District is pleased to be the recipient of a 2017 grant, funded by the Barnegat Bay Partnership, in support of our project, *"Experience Jersey-Friendly Yards"*. This education, outreach and engagement initiative is designed to showcase and promote the *Jersey-Friendly Yards* (JFY) website, www.JerseyYards.org, as an information resource and implementation guide for home gardeners to design, plan and install Jersey-Friendly gardens and landscapes in their own yard. The goal of this project is to properly manage stormwater runoff, reduce non-point source pollution, build healthy soil, implement water conservation practices, prevent negative water quality impacts, build resiliency from storm events due to climate change and sea level rise, and to support stewardship of the natural resources in the Barnegat Bay watershed. This can be accomplished one Jersey-Friendly yard at a time!

A major component of the project is to provide a series of workshops for home gardeners to introduce them to the *Jersey-Friendly Yards* website as a tool to build a healthy yard. Ten (10) applicants residing in the Barnegat Bay watershed will be selected to attend a "training" consisting of a series of three (3) 2-hour workshops, and a 1-hour private consultation of their yard. Upon completion of the "training", each applicant will receive a \$150 value in plant materials and amendments, including a soil test, and compost and mulch as deemed appropriate, for the sole purpose of creating a *Jersey-Friendly* garden or landscape in the selected home gardeners' yard. It is mandatory that selected applicants participate in all 3 workshops, in their entirety, in order to receive the funding. The \$150 value in materials must be used for the sole purpose of creating a Jersey-Friendly garden or landscape in the selected applicants' property, in the Barnegat Bay watershed.

The workshops will take place from 10:30am-12:30pm, at Cattus Island County Park, on:

- Saturday March 10
- Sunday March 18
- Saturday March 24

Interested home gardeners should submit a completed application to education@soildistrict.org postmarked by Saturday, January 13, 2018. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me using my contact information below.

Best regards,
Becky Laboy
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