



Winning Photos

Over 300 entries were received in the 2010 Freehold SCD Photo Contest. Photographers were asked to capture subjects promoting the beauty and uniqueness of the natural environments found in Middlesex and Monmouth Counties.



“Morning Music” (above) by Terri Walliczek, of Shrewsbury, won the \$200 1st prize.



Ray Yeager, of Toms River, won the 2nd prize of \$100 for “Reservoir Dock.” (left)

Andy Beldowicz, of Freehold Township, won 3rd prize for “7 Presidents Sunrise” (right) earning the \$75 prize.

Honorable Mention went to Ryan Struck of Atlantic Highlands for “Looking Out.”



Judging was challenging as there were so many wonderful entries. Thank you to all the participants in this year’s contest.

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\$2,000 College Scholarships Awarded

Freehold SCD Board of Supervisors awarded three local college students with scholarships this past summer.

Charlie Buscaglia, District Chairman presented each student with a \$2,000 check and a certificate of achievement. "It's our privilege to provide scholarships to students who plan to work to conserve our natural resources," said Buscaglia.

Laura Sears, Kendall Park, received the Neal W. Munch Scholarship. Laura is a student at

the University of Delaware pursuing a degree in wildlife conservation.

Stacy Brody, of Tinton Falls, is a plant and agriculture science major at the School of Environmental and Biological Sciences at Rutgers. She received the Mac Clark Scholarship.

Michael Varco, Metuchen, received the Bill Schauer Scholarship. Michael is also attending the School of Environmental and Biological Sciences majoring in environmental

policy, institutions and behavior.

2010 marks the 31st consecutive year that Freehold SCD has awarded scholarships to students from Middlesex and Monmouth Counties who major in conservation related fields.

Scholarships will be awarded in 2011 and applications will be available in December on our website at www.freeholdscd.org or by calling our office at 732-683-8500.



Photo Credits: Paul Califano

Three Scholarship Winners Announced

(left l-r) Laura Sears, Michael Varco and Stacy Brody received \$2,000 scholarships from Freehold SCD

Tonon is Outstanding Technical Achievement Award Winner

(below l-r) Frank Minch, Charlie Buscaglia, John Tonon and Secretary of Agriculture Douglas Fisher



Staff News

John Tonon, Resource Conservationist II, received the Outstanding Technical Achievement Award at the New Jersey Association of Conservation Districts Annual Conference. John has been with the Freehold District for 22 years and has distinguished himself as

a team player interested in the success of all our programs. John reviews and inspects Colts Neck, Hazlet, Holmdel, Keansburg, Keyport, Middletown and Union Beach.

Karen Rowe, Public Education Specialist, was recognized at the

NJACD Annual Conference for 15 years of service to the Freehold District.

Mark Alliston, Resource Conservationist II and **Andrea Farparan**, Secretary, were each recognized for five years of service.

Conservation Stewardship Deadline Extended

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) announced the ranking period cut-off for producer applications in NRCS's Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) has been extended to January 7, 2011.

"We're extending the deadline for applications to CSP to provide agricultural and forestry producers more time to complete their applications," said New Jersey State Conservationist Tom Drewes. "We also hope the extension will permit even more producers to participate in this program.

The CSP program provides many conservation benefits including

improvement of water and soil quality, wildlife habitat enhancement and adoption of conservation activities that address the effects of climate change.

All producers are encouraged to apply for this program which offers payments to producers who maintain a high level of conservation on their land and who agree to adopt higher levels of stewardship. Eligible lands include: cropland, pasture land, and non-industrial forestland.

A CSP self-screening checklist is available to help producers determine if CSP is suitable for their operation and includes details on the eligibility requirements.

The checklist is available from local NRCS offices or online at: http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/new_csp/csp.html.

Barb Phillips, USDA - NRCS

Freehold SCD wishes Tom Drewes a Happy Retirement!

2011 NJ Flower & Garden Show

Be sure to visit the NJ Conservation Partnership display at the NJ Flower & Garden Show February 17-20 at the NJ Convention Center in Edison. The show theme is Gardens on Broadway!

Trout in the Classroom

We are now into our fourth year in the Trout in the Classroom Program and currently have 15 schools, one environmental center and one community college raising brook trout.

Working in partnership with the NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife and Trout Unlimited, we have provided a program designed to connect students to real-life water quality, fish and wildlife issues. Raising fish, from eggs to release, helps students gain a sense of stewardship for wildlife and our natural resources.

We estimate that over 1,700 young trout have been released in NJDEP permitted waters over the past three years through our Trout in the Classroom tanks.

2010-211 TIC Participants Middlesex County

South River Middle School
Middlesex County Vo-Tech HS
Voorhees Elementary
Warnsdorfer School
Dunellen High School

Monmouth County

Middletown High School South
St. Jerome School
Eisenhower Middle School
Swimming River School
Freehold Intermediate School
Greenville School
Voyagers Community School
St. Rose High School
Our Lady of Mount Carmel
Shrewsbury Borough School
Manasquan Reservoir Environmental Center
Brookdale Community College
@ Sandy Hook Station



(above) Students observe their trout during release at the Forest Resource Education Center. (below l-r) Ken Devory and Holly Posna Reynolds release trout into the Toms River



Photo Credits: Paul Califano

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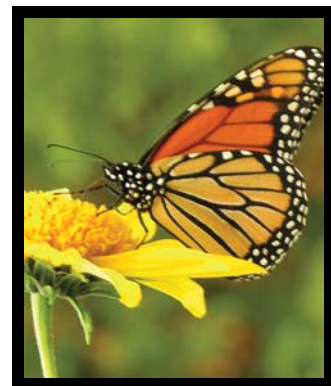
**Serving Middlesex & Monmouth
Counties Over 72 Years**



Editor: Karen B. Rowe

"Student response to the seed growing activities was wholeheartedly enthusiastic. When the plantings germinated and seedlings appeared, they acted like proud parents."

— Middle School Teacher



Apply for Plants for Pollinators Kit

We are looking for 10 Middlesex or Monmouth County teachers to join the Plants for Pollinators in the Classroom Program to have their students learn about native plants and pollinators in the classroom and beyond.

Selected teachers will receive, for FREE, an indoor growing kit (plant stand, grow bulbs, potting soil and seeds) to explore plant growth, conduct experiments and raise pollinator plants.

Pollinators play a significant role in the production of over 150 food crops in the United States — among them apples, almonds, blueberries, cranberries, kiwis, melons, pears, plums and squash. An estimated 90% of flowering plants depend on bees and other insects, as well as bats and birds for pollination.



The Plants for Pollinators (PPIC) program is designed to help Middlesex and Monmouth County students discover the importance of pollinators and to study the relationship between plants and pollinators.

A Resource Kit will be provided to help students learn about native pollinators and how to create a schoolyard pollinator garden. Student-raised plants are to be planted in the school's garden or a suitable community location.

Participating classes will also receive a selection of ready-to-plant pollinator plants to enhance the school or community garden.

Suggested lesson plans, tip sheets, resource material, and a NJ Butterfly Pocket ID Guide are also included in the **PPIC** kit.

This program is FREE of charge, but supplies are limited. Selected teachers will be required to submit two short status reports on the highlights of the program and how PPIC helped to meet Core Curriculum Content Standards, where applicable.

Call our office or visit our website at www.freeholdscd.org for the PPIC application. The application deadline is January 31, 2011.

