Presented to Bayer
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Goal of the program

Program Goal:
The goal of the Rutgers RFBP of Morris County is to work with businesses to adopt various sustainable practices that reduce their environmental impact on local waterways. These practices will not only improve water quality and help reduce flooding, but will also promote wildlife habitat and provide economic benefits to the business and the community.
Objectives of the program

The River Friendly Business Program (RFBP) of Morris County is a voluntary certification program to encourage businesses to adopt specific conservation and stormwater management practices aimed at reducing environmental impact on local waterways. There are four categories: stormwater management, water conservation, lawn maintenance and wildlife management.
Components of the program

• 1) Stormwater Management,
• 2) Water Conservation,
• 3) Lawn Maintenance, and
• 4) Wildlife Management.
**Stormwater Management: The Road to Disconnection**

**Objective:** Reduce Connected Impervious Area by 20% on site:

**Baseline Required Actions:**
- Delineate impervious and pervious areas
- Identify areas of impervious surface that are currently disconnected.
- Host one educational stormwater management workshop/event for employees.

**Site-Specific Options:**
- There are several options to assist in achieving this objective or reducing connected impervious surfaces by 20% such as
  - installing rain gardens,
  - bioswales,
  - pervious pavement,
  - rainwater harvesting system,
  - tree boxes or
  - another stormwater management practice that fits within your site conditions.

All systems are not suitable for all sites, and varying methods to achieve disconnection and infiltration will be based on the site specific considerations such as soil permeability.
Rain Gardens

Rain Water Harvesting
Outdoor Water Conservation

Objective: Optimize outdoor irrigation of lawns and landscapes to conserve water

Baseline Required Actions:

Assess lawns and landscape areas to determine the amount of irrigated turf, trees, shrubs, and other landscape plants.
Assess outdoor irrigation systems to determine how often they run, under what conditions they run, and how much water they put out.

Site-Specific Options:

Option 1) Reduce outdoor water use by 15%
Option 2) Update irrigation controllers to smart controllers on 80% of the landscape
Option 3) Maintain 70% of the landscape without irrigation
Option 4) Demonstrate that you are already optimizing irrigation of outdoor landscapes
Rain Garden

A rain garden can be used as an attractive landscape feature that does not require supplemental irrigation. Photo credit: Christine Boyajian, Rutgers Cooperative Extension Water Resources Program.
Lawn Maintenance: A Greener Corporate Campus

Objective: To reduce traditional lawn by:
Converting 20% of traditional lawn to either a "low-mow" area or a meadow, or
Converting 10% of traditional lawn to either a "low-mow" area or a meadow and implement an Integrated Pest Management Program or follow a certified organic lawn care program, and assuring that the nutrients are at the lowest possible level.
Lawn Care Maintenance

**Baseline Required Actions:**

- Provide a landscape plan that includes the amount of lawn area in square feet. The site map should include delineation of areas of high maintenance/high visibility versus areas of lesser maintenance requirements and visibility.
- Have a soil test conducted if there has not been a soil test conducted within the last three (3) years.
- Provide a lawn maintenance schedule that includes “typical” watering, fertilizer application and herbicide application (including frequency, dosage and type).
- Assure that all lawn areas follow Best Management Practices for nutrients and water management:
  - One educational workshop/event with employees on Residential Sustainable Lawn Practices.
- Develop a Fertilizer application plan that follows the NJ Fertilizer Law and the Rutgers Cooperative Extension Guidance in “How to Protect Water Quality and Have a Beautiful Lawn: Ten Steps to Proper Fertilization” FS#29
- If there is a pond on the site: Creation of Habitat with urban ponds. These ponds can be a source of nuisance wildlife such as Canada goose populations or they can be planted to provide a buffer and provide a seed source for native birds and a safe haven for small fish and other aquatic life.
Lawn Care Maintenance

Photo of an urban pond buffer, Morristown, NJ. Photo credit, Pat Rector, Rutgers Cooperative Extension.
Lawn Care Maintenance

- **Site-Specific Options:**
- Option 1) Create a low-mow area consistent with the Rutgers, Snyder Research Farm “Back Acres” Guidance.
- Option 2) Development and Implementation of an Integrated Pest Management Program to reduce landscape chemical applications.
- Option 3) Install a meadow area to replace an area of lawn.
- Option 4) Organic Land Care
Objectives: Enhance onsite wildlife habitat by:

• Reducing the total area of turf lawn by 10% and replacing with native vegetation,

• Enhancing habitat quality with additional habitat features (nest boxes, etc.), AND

• Reducing/controlling invasive species on-site and replacing with native vegetation.
Baseline Required Actions:
- Submit a current site plan, delineating building locations, driveways and walking paths, topography, and other site features (stormwater basin, picnic area, etc).
- Identify current vegetation types on-site (turf lawn, woodland, foundation plantings. To the extent possible, create a species inventory of existing vegetation.
- Identify areas of existing habitat and potential areas for habitat enhancement.
- Schedule one workshop aimed at educating landscape management personnel on how to maintain natural landscapes.
Join Us the Morning of April 17th!

The River Friendly Business Program is a voluntary certification program for Morris County businesses to demonstrate their commitment to the environment. The goal of the program is to have businesses adopt environmentally friendly practices that will help protect the waters of Morris County, while improving their bottom line. Additionally, grant funding is available to eligible businesses within the Troy Brook watershed to implement practices and participate. Through the certification program Cooperative Extension of Morris County and Rutgers Cooperative Extension Water Resources Program will provide participating businesses with technical assistance and guidance for implementing practices.

Mayor James R. Barberio of Parsippany-Troy Hills Township will discuss green infrastructure projects installed in the Township. The Mayor will talk about the impact of the rain gardens that are just outside his window at the Municipal Building and the effect of projects located at the Department of Public Works facility.

Dr. Christopher Obsanji will discuss a suite of actions businesses can take in the four focus areas of the river friendly program: stormwater management, water conservation, environmentally friendly lawn maintenance, and promoting desirable wildlife habitat.

Breakfast Meeting Location
Sheraton Parsippany Hotel
This year's breakfast meeting will be hosted in the Skyland Suite of the Sheraton Parsippany Hotel. Click here for directions.

A formal breakfast is provided.

www.water.rutgers.edu

This event is organized by Cooperative Extension of Morris County. Please contact WetLabs for tickets, location, and any questions.
Grant funding available

- Through NJ DEP 319(h) grant we are able to assist in partnership with businesses within the Troy Brook watershed to complete stormwater management projects on their property. Regretfully Bayer is within the Whippany watershed, but not within the Troy Brook watershed.

- We are able to help provide some engineering details and educational assistance.
The Environmental Stewardship Initiative Initiative and Goals

• The Environmental Stewardship Initiative is a recognition program developed by Compliance & Enforcement for use by all NJDEP programs that conduct compliance assurance inspections.

• The goal of this initiative is to encourage regulated entities to improve their environmental performance beyond the minimum requirements of existing rules & regulations.

• The program is broad in scope and covers a diverse spectrum of environmental stewardship and sustainable related practices.

• The intent is to showcase the achievements of members of the regulated community and serve as an information resource to encourage others to follow. **Our goal is to encourage the regulated community to evaluate their current operations and consider incorporating stewardship initiatives wherever possible.**
NJDEP is willing to provide Stewardship recognition to Rutgers River Friendly Businesses!
What about municipalities?

- Often the question is asked what is expected of a municipality?
- We hope municipalities will join with us in helping to promote the program.
- Recognize businesses that have voluntarily gone above and beyond the required to do more to help restore clean and healthy waterways in the town.
- The Mayor of Parsippany-Troy Hills has endorsed the Rutgers River Friendly Business Program and committed to provide in a public ceremony an award to businesses that complete the Rutgers River Friendly Program. Other townships have also committed to recognition of businesses.
Township participation

• Businesses we have spoken to have unanimously indicated that they would appreciate, Rutgers recognition.

• But the recognition of the township as a business that has voluntarily gone above and beyond the required to do more to help restore clean and healthy waterways in the town means a lot.

• Having the mayor/town council provide a plaque or award in a public ceremony is little enough for the Township but important to a business.
• We are working with other businesses in the Troy Brook watershed through this grant program.
• This detention basin is perfectly designed to address stormwater management.

• It receives stormwater from the majority of the site and provides space for it, reducing flooding on site, and then allows it to travel to the nearest stream.

• The channel assures that the water does not percolate slowly or reduce pollutants.

• A naturalized basin can provide many benefits.
Irrigation schedule

Sometimes things are documented but not particularly neat or computer generated.

We are interested in accuracy. We understand that this may be the documentation you have. That is fine. As long as it is an accurate reflection of the irrigation schedule.
• There is potential for some businesses to achieve River Friendly Business Certification by early next spring!!!!
• They are moving ahead, full steam, they are choosing projects that can provide them double points, and they were already well on their way.

Credit for some completed projects
Contact information

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Overview http://njaes.rutgers.edu/pubs/publication.asp?pid=E346a

Guidance document
http://njaes.rutgers.edu/pubs/publication.asp?pid=E346b