



Pamela Dymek <pdymek@eastamwelltownship.com>

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## Fwd: NJDEP Weekly Update

1 message

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**Municipal Clerk** <clerk@eastamwelltownship.com>  
To: Pamela Dymek <pdymek@eastamwelltownship.com>

Fri, May 27, 2022 at 3:11 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Nanneman, Emily [DEP]** <Emily.Nanneman@dep.nj.gov>  
Date: Fri, May 27, 2022 at 2:28 PM  
Subject: NJDEP Weekly Update  
To: Nanneman, Emily [DEP] <Emily.Nanneman@dep.nj.gov>

Good Afternoon Mayors and Municipal Officials,

Happy Friday! I hope you all have a wonderful long weekend and get the chance to go outside and explore some of NJ's great state parks for free! As a reminder, state offices will be closed Monday, May 30 for Memorial Day. In the event of an environmental emergency, please call DEP's toll-free hotline 1-877-WARNDEP.

### **Local Government Clean Communities Grant Awards Announced**

NJDEP is distributing \$21.4 million in Clean Communities grants this year, an approximate \$700,000 increase over 2021's disbursement. In total, the DEP is awarding nearly \$19.1 million to eligible municipalities and \$2.3 million to the state's 21 counties. Clean Communities grants are funded by a legislated user-fee on manufacturers, wholesalers and distributors that produce litter-generating products. The nonprofit New Jersey Clean Communities Council oversees the reporting requirements for the program. Disbursements are based on housing units and miles of municipally owned roadways.

Activities funded by Clean Communities grants include volunteer litter cleanups, litter-related education, and cleanups of stormwater systems that can disperse trash into streams, rivers and bays; volunteer cleanups of public properties; adoption and enforcement of local anti-littering ordinances; beach cleanups; public information and education programs; purchases of litter collection equipment such as receptacles, recycling bins, anti-litter signs and graffiti removal supplies; and reusable bags to promote New Jersey's single-use plastics law.

*For a full list of the municipal and county grant awards, visit <https://www.njclean.org/coordinators/grant-funding>*

To read the full press release, [click here](#).

### **Governor Murphy Announces Free Entry to State Parks Beginning Memorial Day Weekend**

Governor Phil Murphy announced that as of Memorial Day Weekend, entry to all New Jersey state parks, forests, and recreation areas will be free of charge this summer. Presented in the FY 2023 budget proposal, the one-year state parks fee holiday is one of several fee waivers and programs designed to advance affordability and opportunity in New Jersey.

Park entrance fees will be waived for all visitors, regardless of state residency. Anyone who already purchased a 2022 annual State Park Pass will automatically receive a full refund. Other individual park fees remain in place, including but not limited to camping, interpretive programs, and mobile sport fishing permits.

For more information and to read the full press release, [click here](#).

## **DEP Commissioner LaTourette Declares Jersey Shore and Lakeshores Ready for Summer**

NJDEP Commissioner Shawn M. LaTourette says New Jersey is ready for a stellar summer season following a review of water quality monitoring and visits to both the Jersey Shore for the Annual State of the Shore event in Asbury Park and to Greenwood Lake, Lake Musconetcong and Lake Hopatcong ahead of Memorial Day weekend, the unofficial start of the outdoor summer season.

The State of the Shore address is held every year heading into Memorial Day weekend to update the public on the status of beach readiness and water quality monitoring. The annual event is sponsored by the New Jersey Sea Grant Consortium, which is made up of academic institutions and organizations dedicated to coastal and marine research, education and outreach. State of the Shore has taken on even more importance as New Jersey grapples with the adverse impacts of climate change, including coastal erosion and increasingly hot summers.

Visitors can get up-to-date information on all water sampling results and beach notifications by visiting <https://njbeaches.org/>. The public can use this website to get beach status information (open, under advisory or closed), reports, and fact sheets.

For more information and to read the full press release, [click here](#).

## **2022 Recycling Awards Nomination Period Now Open**

NJDEP, in conjunction with the Association of New Jersey Recyclers, annually recognizes excellence in recycling through the annual Recycling Awards. The goal is to highlight the success of agencies, businesses, individuals and others who go beyond the norm to advance recycling and to make these examples available to others who may emulate them. You may nominate yourself, your business/organization, or any other business, individual or organization worthy of recognition.

The deadline for nomination submittals is **July 22, 2022**. Nominations must be for activities that took place in 2021.

You can find the Recycling Award Application, which includes eligibility criteria, award categories, and judging criteria on NJDEP's Bureau of Sustainability Recycling Awards website. For further information, contact Steve Rinaldi in the NJDEP Bureau of Sustainability at [Steven.Rinaldi@dep.nj.gov](mailto:Steven.Rinaldi@dep.nj.gov).

## **Join DEP to Help Determine How New Jersey Invests in Climate Change Solutions**

Want to be involved in New Jersey's coordinated effort to fight climate change?

Join NJDEP, NJEDA, and NJBPU for a free, public informational webinar on **Thursday, June 9, 6:00 – 7:30pm**. The webinar will explain NJ's participation in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) and how YOU can have a say in how NJ will invest millions to fight climate change over the next three years.

Register now!

## **DEP, EPA, I-Bank Announce Water Infrastructure Funding Package Benefitting 5.8 Million NJ Residents**

Last Friday, May 20, at an event with New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) Commissioner Shawn M. LaTourette and other local officials, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Assistant Administrator for Water Radhika Fox announced a \$221 million Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) loan to the New Jersey Infrastructure I-Bank. With this loan, the New Jersey State Revolving Fund (SRF) Program, a partnership between the NJDEP and the I-Bank, is investing in 28 water infrastructure projects to modernize water systems to protect public health and the environment for over 5.8 million people in the State. The New Jersey Infrastructure Bank's pool of SRF projects include 26 drinking water projects that address local challenges, including removing contaminants, preventing leaks, improving system resiliency, and replacing lead service lines. Two wastewater projects will also receive funding.

For more information about the WIFIA program, visit <https://www.epa.gov/wifia>.

To read the full press release, [click here](#).

### ***Funding Opportunity! Community-Based Arts Grant Program***

The New Jersey DEP Coastal Management Program (CMP), in partnership with the New Jersey State Council on the Arts and with funding from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), has created a Community-Based Arts Grant Program to help coastal communities learn more about climate impacts in their community. The Grant Program provides an opportunity for your town to be host to artwork that brings together community organizations, members, and local artists. Through the artwork and community events your residents and visitors of your town can experience visual or physical artwork that represents how the community is being impacted by floods, heat, or other hazards.

Applications are currently being accepted and community-based organizations that meet the criteria should apply. DEP really wants to hear from the organizations in your town, so [please share this opportunity widely](#).

To learn more about the Community-Based Art Grant Program, [click here](#).

DEP is currently accepting applications for funding. The application deadline is **July 8, 2022**.

### ***Funding Opportunity! \$2.2 Million Available in Urban and Community Forestry Grants***

The application period for the Urban and Community Forestry (NJUCF) Grants is open! These competitive stewardship grants will assist municipalities and counties with the maintenance of their urban and community forests.

Funding is available in two categories: (1) Resiliency Planning (up to \$50,000) and (2) Reforestation and Tree Planting (up to \$150,000). There is a 25% match required for all grants. Only accredited communities that participate in the program NJUCF program are eligible to apply for the grants.

An information webinar about the funding opportunity is scheduled for **Thursday, June 2, 2022 at 12:00 pm**. To get the most out of the webinar, it is [highly recommended](#) that you review the 2022 RFP in advance. There is no pre-registration needed. Join the webinar on that day & time by clicking **here**.

For more information on the NJUCF program and details on the grants, [click here](#).

All proposals are **due by July 8, 2022**.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to our office with any questions about this week's update.

Best,

Emily Nanneman (she/her/hers)  
Program Assistant  
NJDEP Office of Local Government Assistance  
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Office: 609-984-0828

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