

PRESS RELEASE

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Woodbine—Mayor William Pikolycky is pleased to announce that the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection in partnership with Sustainable Jersey will be presenting a woodlands management workshop “Opportunities to Protect and Enhance Trees in Sustainable Communities” at the Woodbine Municipal Building, 501 Washington Avenue, September 29 from 9 to 11 a.m.

Following a Welcome by Woodbine Mayor William Pikolycky, topics and presenters will be:

Overview of Sustainable Jersey Woodlands Tools (Donna Drewes, Community Planner, Municipal Land Use Coordinator at The College of New Jersey); NJ DEP's Community Forestry Program (Todd Wyckoff, Assistant Regional Forester, New Jersey Forest Service - Community Forestry Program, NJ DEP); Using Computerized Mapping to Protect and Enhance Tree Resources (Alec McCartney, NJ DEP, Community Forestry Program); Woodland Protection Ordinance (Steve Chisholm, President, NJ Board of Tree Experts and Chair Jackson Township Shade Tree Commission).

A question and answer period will follow. 2 Community Forestry Program Continuing Education Credits are available (1 CEU/contact hour)

As of 2007, urbanized land covered 30 percent of the state and surpassed forest land as the dominant land-use type in New Jersey. The Garden State now has more acres of buildings, parking lots and lawns than it has of upland forests - including the Pinelands and all the state's parks and reserves.

Fortunately, communities are beginning to recognize the very tangible benefits that trees provide in the urban environment. Healthy trees reduce air and noise pollution, provide energy-saving shade and cooling, furnish habitat for wildlife, enhance aesthetics and property values, and are an important contributor to community image, pride, and quality of life.

This workshop will offer tools and resources to communities that want to protect and enhance their trees and woodland resources, including information about the DEP's Green Communities Grant, how to use computerized mapping software to protect and enhance resources and what to consider when developing a woodland protection ordinance.

“I encourage everyone interested to attend this informational workshop, and remind those municipalities with approved management plans that this is an opportunity to gain CEUs,” added Mayor Pikolycky.