



Township of Howell

(732) 938-4500

Howell Township \$750,000 Open Space Grant!!!!

The Governing Body is happy to announce that the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Preservation Trust fund has approved a \$750,000 grant to Howell Township, for the acquisition of open space under the Green Acres Program.

Community Development Director Jim Herrman, helped to lead the efforts with his team to secure this grant, received notification of the new grant from the Governor's office and the NJ Department of Environmental Protection.

Deputy Mayor Nicastro stated, "We are extremely happy to be successful in obtaining \$750,000 Green Acres matching grant which will help fund preservation of desired Township properties. These funds are very competitive and very important in helping Howell Township continue our ambitious initiative to acquire and preserve open space in Howell. Preservation of open space and farmland remains a top priority of this administration and a key element for maintaining recreational opportunities, a healthy and desirable environment and ecosystem, and a positive balance of open land for the community."

According to Councilwoman Pauline Smith, "the \$750,000 in grant funds will be used by the Township to acquire additional open space listed in the Howell Township Open Space and Recreation Plan. We are very anxious to acquire the Pierce property consisting of 116+ acres which has been identified as environmentally sensitive and is near the South branch of the Squankum Brook which is now a pristine brook that provides drinking water for many people. In addition, this property is across from Bear Swamp Natural Preserve and will expand this area. The Mayor and Council would like to thank our staff, professionals and many committee volunteers who participated in this process".

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