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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Brick Township

Brick Utilities to Host Free Public Education Program at the Brick Reservoir



Brick - The Brick Township Municipal Utilities Authority (Brick Utilities) is pleased to announce a free educational program for the public, *How to Certify Your Yard as Jersey-Friendly*, on Saturday August 22, 2026. The program is being held at the Brick Reservoir as part of Brick Utilities' Weekend at the Reservoir community education program.

Join Caroline McFarland from the Barnegat Bay Partnership, Jessica Pinto from the Ocean County Soil Conservation District, and the Rutgers Master Gardeners of Ocean County as they outline the Jersey Friendly Yards Certification Program and discuss landscaping practices that improve water quality in our local waterways, including the Metedeconk River and Barnegat Bay. They will describe in detail how a sustainable landscape reduces pollution, conserves water, lowers fertilizer costs, and creates valuable habitat for birds, pollinators and other wildlife. Each

participant will receive a free plant to jumpstart their Jersey-Friendly Yard from the Master Gardeners of Ocean County, Inc.

The program runs from 9:00 to 10:30 AM. Class size is limited, so early registration is recommended. Please contact Shari Kondrup via email at skondrup@brickmua.com or telephone at 732-701-4282 to register or obtain more information.

“Weekend at the Reservoir” is a free community education program offered by Brick Utilities. Brick Utilities’ educational programs focus on the importance of the Metedeconk River and the Barnegat Bay to the region, and how to conserve and protect these important water resources.

The Metedeconk River drains into Barnegat Bay and its watershed encompasses ninety (90) square miles in both Monmouth and Ocean Counties. Starting at its headwaters in Freehold, Jackson and Millstone, the river flows eastward through Howell, Lakewood, Wall, and Brick Townships before reaching Point Pleasant Borough and Barnegat Bay.

The Metedeconk River is a critical water resource for the region. It serves as the primary water supply source for Brick Utilities, which provides drinking water to more than 100,000 area residents in Brick Township, Howell Township, Point Pleasant Borough, and Point Pleasant Beach Borough. The river is a major source of freshwater to the Barnegat Bay, one of 28 Congressionally designated estuaries of national significance in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s National Estuary Program.

To learn more about the Metedeconk River Watershed, please visit www.metedeconkriver.org.

For directions to the Brick Reservoir please visit

https://www.brickmua.com/community/reservoir/hours_directions.php.

To learn more about the Barnegat Bay Partnership, please visit <https://www.barnegatbaypartnership.org/>.

To learn more about the Ocean County Soil Conservation District, please visit <https://www.soildistrict.org/>.

To learn more about the Rutgers Master Gardeners of Ocean County, please visit

<https://ocean.njaes.rutgers.edu/master-gardeners/>.

To learn more about Ocean Country Master Gardeners, Inc., please visit <https://www.mgocinc.org/> .

To learn more about Jersey-Friendly Yards, please visit <https://jerseyyards.org/>.

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