



CONTACT: Karen Livingstone or
Public Information
(732) 842-4000 ext. 4256
klivings@monmouthcountyparks.com

Andrew Spears
Visitor Services
(732) 842-4000 ext. 4247
aspears@monmouthcountyparks.com

PARK SYSTEM HONORS NJ DEP GREEN ACRES PROGRAM

LINCROFT — Each year the Monmouth County Park System’s Thompson Park Day, held October 16th, celebrates the best things about parks – bringing communities together, being active and enjoying nature. This year it also celebrated the 50th Anniversary of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection’s Green Acres Program during a small ceremony. Inside the Visitor Center, officials from towns throughout the county joined Freeholders Lillian G. Burry and Amy A. Mallet as Board of Recreation Commissioner Chair Edward J. Loud presented Richard Boornazian, Administrator for the Green Acres Program, with a proclamation honoring the milestone.

The ceremony recognized the Green Acres Program as a national leader in open space preservation and allowed officials to express their gratitude for its support in Monmouth County. Highlights included Freeholder Burry presenting a proclamation declaring October 16 Green Acres Day in Monmouth County and Park System Director-Secretary James J. Truncer reading a letter from U.S. Senator Frank R. Lautenberg. The honors were received by the Green Acres Program with grace.

“I’d like to express my sincere appreciation to Monmouth County and its Park System for recognizing the Department of Environmental Protection’s Green Acres Program’s 50th anniversary at Thompson Park Day,” said DEP Commissioner Bob Martin. “The Christie Administration is committed to the preservation of the State’s valuable natural resources. The open space acquisitions and recreational development opportunities funded by Green Acres are critical to sustaining a high quality of life in the nation’s most densely populated state.”

Since 1961, the Green Acres Program has helped to preserve over 1.2 million acres of the state's natural landscape, protecting water quality and wildlife habitat and providing parks, beaches, historic sites and natural areas to enjoy. Locally, it has given Monmouth County towns and non-profit organizations a total of \$189,587,008.74 for parks and open space. The county has received almost \$58 million of funding through the Green Acres Program, which has helped purchase more than half of the Park System's 15,030 acres.

To learn more about the Park System, please visit www.monmouthcountyparks.com or call the Park System at (732) 842-4000. For persons with hearing impairment, the Park System TTY/TDD number is 711. The Monmouth County Park System, created in 1960 by the Monmouth County Board of Chosen Freeholders, is Monmouth County's Open Space, Parks, and Recreation agency.

#



PICTURED - Officials gather to celebrate 50 years of the NJ Green Acres Program. 1-r:Barbara McMorrow, Maria Wojciehowski, Freeholder Amy Mallet, former Freeholder John D'Amico, Freeholder Lillian Burry, NJ Green Acres Representatives Richard Boornazian, Martha Sapp, Theresa Caruso, Renee Jones, Larry Fink, Bd. of Rec. Commissioner Ed Loud and Park System Director James J. Truncer.