



GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE in New Jersey



AMERICORP PROJECTS

TYPE OF GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE:

RAIN BARREL

LOCATION:

New Jersey Audubon Scherman Hoffman Wildlife Sanctuary, Bernardsville, New Jersey

ORGANIZATION:

New Jersey AmeriCorps Watershed Ambassadors Program

DESCRIPTION:

Kelsey Barbella, New Jersey AmeriCorps Watershed Ambassador in WMA 8, the North and South Branch Raritan Watershed, has hosted and participated in several rain barrel projects during her 2012-2013 term of service. She has not only assisted Rutgers in their "Build Your Own Rain Barrel" workshop, but this was her second time running a rain barrel workshop. Kelsey partnered with the Bernardsville Green Team as part of one of their Sustainable Jersey initiatives. NJ Audubon graciously donated their space, barrels were donated by Ocean Spray, and Raritan Headwaters Association was also another sponsor. Nineteen rain barrels were constructed during the workshop. Overall, Kelsey designed, facilitated, and oversaw the workshop to give the community the right education and tools needed to conserve water in their local watershed.

IMPACT:

Educated community members about stormwater management, protecting local watersheds, water conservation inside and outside their homes, and the benefits and uses of rain barrels. Those involved were able to construct their own rain barrels to bring home and install. A total of 19 rain barrels were constructed which are estimated to save 26,000 gallons of rainfall a year from stressing our local rivers and streams.

Watershed Ambassadors are available to lead additional workshops in your community. Contact information for your local Ambassador can be found at www.nj.gov/dep/wms/bear/amicorps_contact_info.htm

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