

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **BRIDGEWATER TO TURN TEAL IN SEPTEMBER** **MAYOR HAYES SIGNS PROCLAMATION TO SUPPORT OVARIAN CANCER AWARENESS**

#### ***The Earlier the Diagnosis - The Better the Prognosis***

During the month of September Bridgewater residents will notice teal ribbons tied on trees and poles throughout the Township in an effort to raise awareness about ovarian cancer. Mayor Dan Hayes has signed an official proclamation that recognizes September as National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month and announces the Township's participation in the Turn the Towns Teal Campaign.

Turn the Towns Teal is a national campaign to promote awareness of ovarian cancer and its silent symptoms. Community participants, designated as "volun-teals," will tie teal ribbons throughout the Township upon request of homeowners and businesses and hand out information cards that list potential symptoms and risk factors linked to ovarian cancer. A Turn the Towns Teal "Ribbon-Tying" ceremony has also been scheduled to take place in the courtyard of the Bridgewater Municipal Complex on Wednesday, 24 September at 6:00 PM. The ceremony will promote ovarian cancer awareness while providing an avenue for community support for individuals and families that have been impacted by the disease. All participants are reminded the ceremony is a tobacco-free event as per Township Ordinance.

Ovarian cancer is the fourth leading cause of cancer-related death among women in the United States. Each year more than 20,000 women are diagnosed with the disease. Approximately 1 out of every 69 women born today will be affected by ovarian cancer in their lifetime. If detected in its early stages, survival from ovarian cancer is 90-95 percent. Subtle symptoms such as bloating, pelvic or abdominal pain, back pain, unusual fatigue and persistent gastrointestinal upsets may be signs and if persistent should be brought to the attention of a gynecologist.

To request a teal ribbon for your residential property or business during the campaign or for more information on the "Ribbon Tying" event please contact the Health Department by email at [health@bridgewaternj.gov](mailto:health@bridgewaternj.gov) or by telephone at (908) 725-5750. For more information about Turn the Towns Teal please visit their website at [www.turnthetownsteal.org](http://www.turnthetownsteal.org).