## **MEDIA RELEASE**

FROM: Chris O. Poulsen

Director of Human Services Bridgewater Township (908) 725-5750 – Telephone

health@bridgewaternj.gov - Email

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## BRIDGEWATER MAYOR DAN HAYES ANNOUNCES THE AVAILABILITY OF TREE SEEDLINGS FOR RESIDENTS

## New Jersey Tree Recovery Campaign to Support Township Initiative

Bridgewater Mayor Dan Hayes announces the availability of free tree seedlings for Township residents as part of the New Jersey Tree Recovery Campaign. This program assists communities in the restoration of the tree canopy damaged or destroyed by Superstorm Sandy.

The tree seedling distribution is scheduled to take place on Monday, April 20, 2015, from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM at the Bridgewater Township Senior Citizens Center. The Center is located at 455 Somerville Road, Bridgewater. Seedlings, available on a first come, first served basis, will include instructions on proper seedling storage, care and maintenance. Distribution is limited to a maximum of five seedlings per household. Residents are encouraged to plant the seedlings within two days after pick-up.

The goal of the Tree Recovery Campaign is to distribute over 500,000 tree seedlings to New Jersey residents over the course of the next five years. The local program is a joint effort between the Bridgewater Shade Tree Board (Team Arbor), New Jersey Forestry Services, New Jersey Soil Conservation Districts, Sustainable Jersey, Arbor Day Foundation, Brothers International, BJ's Wholesale Club, Wyndham Vacation Resorts and FedEx.

When properly planted and maintained, trees can be a recognized community asset. Trees can improve the visual appeal of a neighborhood, increase property values, reduce home cooling costs, remove air pollutants and provide wildlife habitat as well as offer other benefits.

For additional information on the local distribution program please contact the Bridgewater Department of Human Services by telephone at (908) 725-5750 or via email at <a href="https://health@bridgewaternj.gov">health@bridgewaternj.gov</a>. For a list of all distribution locations across New Jersey visit <a href="https://www.forestry.nj.gov">www.forestry.nj.gov</a> or <a href="https://www.forestry.nj.gov">www.facebook.com/newjerseyforests</a>.