MEDIA RELEASE

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BRIDGEWATER MAYOR DAN HAYES ANNOUNCES TREE SEEDLING DISTRBUTION FOR TOWNSHIP 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 at the public events listed below. 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. Please plan to bring along a bag or container to retrieve the seedlings. Residents are encouraged to plant the seedlings within two days after pick-up. Additional distribution dates may be announced in case of postponement for inclement weather.

- Saturday April 29 2:00 PM 5:00 PM Arbor Day Ceremony Bridgewater Municipal Complex – Kid Street Park – 100 Commons Way
- Saturday May 6 11:00 AM 3:00 PM Bridgewater "Eco-Blast" Fair Bridgewater Municipal Complex – Kid Street Park – 100 Commons Way

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.

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 <u>health@bridgewaternj.gov</u>. For information on additional seedling distribution locations visit <u>www.forestry.nj.gov</u> or <u>www.facebook.com/newjerseyforests</u>.