



COUNTY OF BERGEN
DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

One Bergen County Plaza • 4th Floor. • Hackensack, N.J. 07601-7076
Tel. (201) 336-6446 • Fax (201) 336-6449

Kathleen A. Donovan
County Executive

Robert S. Garrison, Esq.
Acting Director

May 2011

Re: Bergen County Open Space, Recreation, Farmland & Historic Preservation Trust Fund

2011 Funding Round

Dear Applicant:

Funds for the 2011 funding round of the Bergen County Open Space, Recreation, Farmland & Historic Preservation Trust Fund will be made available for land acquisition, historic preservation and municipal park development projects. We are pleased to extend an invitation to all interested municipalities to apply now for Trust Fund grants.

Since 1999, the Bergen County Trust Fund program has assisted municipalities and nonprofit organizations in the acquisition of open space for recreational and conservation purposes, historic and farmland preservation, as well as the development of outdoor recreational facilities. The County of Bergen continues this commitment to preserve Bergen County's natural resources, improve parks, and is proud to be able to continue the tradition of partnering with its municipalities and nonprofit organizations to serve the people of our county

Trust Fund Application Materials & Information

The Department of Planning and Economic Development administers the Trust Fund program and has made available all application forms, and current rules & regulations, on its Trust Fund homepage website, which can be found at: www.co.bergen.nj.us/planning/os.

Available Funding for 2011

The Board of Freeholders have set the 2011 open space tax rate at ¼ of 1 cent per \$100 of total County equalized real property valuation, which is estimated to collect approximately \$4.3 million. The approved allocations for the Trust Fund Programs are as follows: 70% County Program is approximately \$3.01 million and 30% Municipal Program is approximately \$1.29 million. The amount available for the Municipal Program will be further allocated into its six (6) Subregional Planning Areas. All of these amounts may be adjusted pending the actual amount of open space tax collected.

Project requests and approvals will be made using these newly available funds, as well as supplemental funding from prior project cancellations and withdrawals.

Important Deadlines

- **Application Deadline for All Trust Fund Program Categories** – Completed applications, including all required attachments, must be **received** by the Department of Planning and Economic Development or the Division of Cultural & Historic Affairs by **4:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 1, 2011**. Please follow application instructions.
- **Appraisal Reports – For land acquisition projects**, an appraisal is to be conducted in accordance with the Trust Fund **appraisal procedure policy** statement and must be submitted to the Department of Planning and Economic Development by **4:00 p.m. on Friday, September 30, 2011**. The Post Appraisal Project Finance Sheet (page 19 of the application) – must be prepared **AFTER** your appraisal has been completed and submitted to the Department of Planning and Economic Development with your appraisal report(s) by **4:00 p.m. on Friday, September 30, 2011**.

Important Information about Appraisals and Funding Amounts for Open Space Land Acquisition

The County of Bergen does not provide 100% of the acquisition cost of the open space property. The County limits its Trust Fund award grant, when combined with all other identified funding amounts and sources such that the total of all identified acquisition monies does not exceed your **appraised value**. See “Section 9: Trust Fund Award Limits” in *[The Open Space Partnership of Bergen County: County Program Policy and Procedures Manual](#)*, which can be found on the Department’s website.

Additional Information

Questions on the application requirements can be directed to Robert Abbatomarco at (201) 336-6442 or by email at RAbbatomarco@co.bergen.nj.us.

Specific questions on Historic Preservation applications can be directed to T. Robins Brown, at (201)336-7294 or by email at RBrown@co.bergen.nj.us.

A copy of this letter can be found on the Department’s website.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Robert A. Abbatomarco

Robert A. Abbatomarco
Executive Director
Open Space Trust Fund



**2011
BERGEN COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS
RESOLUTION**

MEMBERS	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
DE NICOLA	✓			
FELICE	✓			
GANZ				✓
HERMANSEN	✓			
McPHERSON				✓
MICHELL	✓			
DRISCOLL, CHAIRMAN	✓			
TOTALS	5	-	-	2

Resolution No. 413-11
 Date: April 20, 2011
 Page: 1 of 2
 Department/
 Division: Department of Planning & Economic
 Development/Division of Open Space
 Purpose: Establishing the Property Tax
 Assessment Rate for the year 2011
 Bergen County Open Space,
 Recreation, Farmland and Historic
 Preservation Trust Fund at one-fourth
 of one cent per One Hundred Dollars
 (\$100.00) of total County equalized
 real property value.

Offered by: HERMANSEN
 Seconded by: FELICE
 Approved by: _____

Account No. _____
 Contract No. _____
 Dollar Amount: _____
 Prepared By: RG/as BK

Certified as a true copy of a Resolution adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders on above date at the Regular Meeting by: *Karen Mastriano*
Karen Mastriano, Clerk, Board of Chosen Freeholders, Bergen County, New Jersey

WHEREAS, the electorate of Bergen County did approve on November 4, 2003, the Bergen County Open Space, Recreation, Farmland and Historic Preservation Trust Fund; and

WHEREAS, the ballot question, as approved, allows the governing body of Bergen County to fund the Trust Fund by allocating a rate not to exceed one cent (\$0.01) per One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) of total County equalized real property valuation; and

WHEREAS, the ballot question, as approved, designated seventy percent (70%) of the monies raised shall be used for the acquisition and improvements of land for conservation and recreation purposes, for the acquisition of farmland for farmland preservation, for the capital improvement of county-owned park facilities, and for the acquisition or upgrade of qualified historic preservation facilities; and

WHEREAS, the ballot question, as approved, designated thirty percent (30%) of the monies raised shall be used for the acquisition and improvement of municipal outdoor recreation/conservation facilities; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Chosen Freeholders hereby establishes the Bergen County Open Space, Recreation, Farmland and Historic Preservation Trust Fund Property Tax Assessment Rate for 2011 at one-fourth (0.25) of one cent (\$0.01), or \$0.0025 per One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) of total County equalized real property value.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, copy of this resolution shall be distributed to the Bergen County Tax Administrator, Bergen County Treasurer, and the Bergen County Department of Planning and Economic Development.