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Township Earns Community Greening Award

LOWER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP (November 7, 2008) - Lower Providence Township received a 2008 Community Greening Award from the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society during ceremonies held November 2 at the Society's headquarters in Philadelphia.

The Township was honored for the naturalization of a stormwater basin located on Still Meadow Road in the Collegetown section of the township. The project was part of the conversion of Township-owned stormwater basins from existing mown grass landscapes to naturalized wet meadow and native plant communities.

"The goal of naturalizing existing stormwater basins is to maintain the overall design of the basin while increasing environmental, aesthetic and economic benefits," said Michael Siegel, director of the township's Community Development Department. He explained that deeper root systems of trees, shrubs and wildflowers encourage water infiltration, helping to recharge ground water tables and increase stream base flows.

The award, a collaboration of PHS and Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful, recognizes individuals, garden clubs, civic associations, businesses, municipalities and community groups who have created and maintained public green spaces that enhance their communities. Lower Providence was one of 77 winners were selected from a record 101 entries from throughout Pennsylvania and communities in New Jersey and Delaware.

"We would like to congratulate all of the Community Green Award participants for the impact they have made in their communities," said Blaine Bonham, executive vice president of PHS. "Studies show quality green spaces enhance the health, beauty and economic vitality of an area and often serve as meeting places. This award represents a mark of excellence."

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