

Rain Gardens Public Program

Water, Plants & Soil - Gardening on the Barrier Island

May 30th, 7PM - 9 PM

**Presented by the Seaside Park Environmental Committee and the SSP DPW
Council Chambers, 5th and Central Aves., Seaside Park**

Introduction: Ann Hayes

- welcome to the audience
- Introduction of Council members present, Mayor and town officials
- overview of Environmental Committee projects
- highlight the importance of controlling storm water runoff to protect the health of the Barnegat Bay
- welcome presenters

Presenters:

Dr. Steven Yergeau, Ph.D.

Environmental & Resource Management Agent for Ocean and Atlantic Counties

topic: 'Rain Gardens and Sustainable Landscapes with Native Plantings'

- Storm water as a source of non-point pollution and impact on waterways
- pervious vs. impervious ground coverage
- benefits of plants to slow water flow, absorb nutrients, sequester carbon
- How homeowners can use Rain Gardens for control of storm water runoff
- understanding depth, size and location of rain garden
- appropriate plants, plant location within the garden, soil amendments
- inflow and outflow of water sources
- additional benefits of native plants as habitat
- public and private rain garden projects

Q&A for Dr. Yergeau

Becky Laboy, M.Ed.

Education Outreach Specialist

Ocean County Soil Conservation District

topic: "Healthy Soil and Native Plant database"

- The importance of healthy soil as the foundation of a healthy garden,
- Using the Jersey-Friendly Yards website
- Native plants (perennials, shrubs and grasses) for a barrier island yard or garden.
- Rain Gardens to control erosion and storm water runoff
- Importance of Native Plants for habitat and biodiversity

Q&A for Becky Laboy

Raffle for 10 Native Grass plants supplied by the Ocean County Soil Conservation District

Closing - Ann Hayes

- Distribution of educational handouts on Native Plants and conservations
- Distribution of Native Plants to Seaside Park residents for use in home gardens along with information on planting sites and conditions
(300 plants from Pinelands Nursery, Columbus NJ)