

# Green Business Recognition Program

October 18, 2018

Wall Township Environmental Advisory Committee/Green Team  
New Jersey Natural Gas and Allaire Community Farm Awards



Sean and JoAnn Burney, Allaire Community Farm; Bob Kilmurray, Chair Wilma Morrissey, Anne-Marie Peracchio New Jersey Natural Gas; Freeholder Director Tom Arnone; Ellen Smith; Mayor Tim Farrell; and Greg Wolek



Presentation of Awards

Sean and JoAnn Burney (Allaire Community Farm); Chairwoman Wilma Morrissey; Anne-Marie Peracchio, (New Jersey Natural Gas); Freeholder Director Tom Arnone; and Mayor Tim Farrell

The Wall Township Environmental Advisory Committee Green Team (WTEAC/GT) officially launched their Green Business Recognition Program in 2017. The first two members certified and inducted into the program were Thompson Brothers Farm and Wolek's Garden Cottage.

This year, the Environmental Green Team Advisory Committee was pleased to honor and certify New Jersey Gas and Allaire Community Farm into their 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Green Business Recognition Program. The WTEAC members included Chair Wilma Morrissey, Vice-Chair Bob Kilmurray, Secretary Ellen Smith, and Greg Wolek. This year's certificates were presented by the WTEAC/GT and Monmouth County.



JoAnn Burney reading narrative



Chair Morrissey; introduction welcome



Wilma Morrissey introducing Freeholder Director Tom Arnone and Mayor Tim Farrell





**Freeholder Director, Tom Arnone presenting recognition certificates on behalf of Monmouth County.**



Building on its commitment to environmental stewardship, New Jersey Natural Gas and our parent, New Jersey Resources, have made conservation, energy efficiency and clean energy a core part of its strategy. Dedicated to reducing its carbon footprint, and helping customers do the same, the company has:

- Reduced emissions from its operations by more than 20 percent since 2009 eliminating over 27,000 tons of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>),
- Reduced fleet emissions by 19 percent through the increased use of compressed natural gas and alternative fuel vehicles
  - Implemented practical measures, including recycling and reuse efforts, helping to divert over 1,200 tons of materials from operations from landfills
  - Helped customers save energy, money and eliminate over 2.1 million tons of CO<sub>2</sub> through its Converse to Preserve® program
  - Invested more than \$150 million in energy-efficiency programs that generated over \$371 million in economic activity in the region
  - Assisted 4,368 customers upgrade to energy efficiency with SAVEGREEN Project® rebates and incentives

**NEW JERSEY NATURAL GAS, Anne-Marie Peracchio**

- Helped plant nearly 62,000 trees as a part of its Planting for Our Future program, which has helped eliminated 64,000 tons of CO<sub>2</sub>
- Provided over 5,400 volunteer hours to community organizations, and helped supported 1,800 local nonprofits and their clients

As a responsible corporate citizen, NJR is proud to promote environmental stewardship in its business practices and take a leadership role in promoting environmental excellence for the benefit of its customers and the communities it serves. As an environmentally forward-thinking company, NJR believes the decisions we make today have the potential to change the world for generations to come. Working together, we can make positive change happen.



**ALLAIRE COMMUNITY FARM, Sean and JoAnn Burney**

ALLAIRE COMMUNITY FARM strives to reduce our footprint on the community while implementing and teaching sound environmental practices on our farm. Our goal is to get ourselves and all our guests to reach their highest potential in instituting green initiatives. Our setting enables us to teach our guests the importance of caring for our natural resources. We give them the tools and knowledge they need to then make a positive impact on their piece of the planet.

The farm incorporates educational programs with all our guests. We are always teaching and showing guests how to grow and eat healthy organic food, composting, solar power, recycling, sustainability, volunteerism, exercising, repurposing, pollinating, social responsibility, and personal responsibility.

ACF conducts class trips, seminars, lectures, farm parties, hands on farming activities, animal rescuing and care seminars, pre-employment training, nature walks, bird watching, and hands on farming opportunities.

Our partners, include Wall Township Middle School Green Club, Food pantries, First Energy, Whole Foods, Spring Lake Five, Wall Township High School, Wall Township Recreation, Wall Alliance, Wall Township Police Department and PBA, Old Mill School, Allenwood School, Communication High School, Rugby School, Arc of Monmouth, FRA (Family Resource Association), POAC (Parents of Autistic Children), Fresh Start Program, Monmouth University, local Rotary and Elk organizations ,NJ Natural Gas, Allaire Historic Village, Monmouth County Freeholders, Asbury Park School System, Colts Neck School System, Neptune City School System, Saint James School, Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts of Monmouth and Ocean County.

We utilize and teach watering practices that use minimal wasted or evaporated water. Two of the Techniques we employ include hydroponic and aquaponic growing platforms. Our gardens are rarely watered except when transplanting or seeding new plants. This technique is to give a good root soaking as it is acknowledged that watering everyday promotes minimal root growth thus requiring more water. Irrigation is usually done early or late in the day to avoid evaporation during irrigating.

At Allaire Community Farm we place great value on our environment and the guests and animals that occupy it. We desire to treat both our land and guests with the upmost of care and respect. Our goal is to continually give back to our Community by making a positive impact and being responsible community members.

**Photo Layout:** Chair Wilma Morrissey

**Photos:** Michael Colarusso, County Photographer