

Over 160 Acres Preserved in Frelinghuysen Township

Frelinghuysen Township, Warren County, and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection are pleased to announce the preservation of over 160 acres of forested land in the heart of the municipality. A priority of the Township's Open Space Committee and governing body, the purchase and preservation of the properties straddling Route 94 and Lincoln Laurel Road will permanently protect the forest and create an opportunity for trails and hiking in the municipality.

"The preservation of this undisturbed habitat will allow us to enjoy the continued existence of native species at their best," states Robin Randolph, Chair of Frelinghuysen Township's Open Space Committee. She continues, "Frelinghuysen Township is grateful to the Warren County Board of Chosen Freeholders and New Jersey Green Acres for their generous support of this project. Without them, this preservation effort would not have been possible."

A joint project of the Township, County and the State of New Jersey, this project was successfully negotiated and brought to a close through the work and effort of The Land Conservancy of New Jersey, in partnership with the Township.

"Once slated for development, the Frelinghuysen Forest Preserve is a wonderful piece of property and Warren County is thrilled that we could help permanently protect it," explains Corey J. Tierney, Esq., on behalf of The Warren County Department of Land Preservation. "Not only is the 160 acre Preserve easily accessible, but it boasts a beautiful forest with small streams and an existing network of trails leading back to a picturesque pond. The property will be managed by the Township using local volunteers. This will be a tremendous open space resource for all Warren County's residents. It is great to see municipalities, like Frelinghuysen Township, taking ownership of these critical natural areas."

Corey continued, "It takes a lot of hard work by many different people to bring these projects together. We worked closely with the Frelinghuysen Township Open Space Committee and The Land Conservancy of New Jersey who coordinated this acquisition with grants obtained from Green Acres and Warren County's Municipal and Charitable Conservancy Trust Fund. The County's participation, of course, was made possible by our Chosen Board of Freeholders - who deserves special thanks for continuing to support local open space preservation."

The Frelinghuysen Forest Preserve is comprised of two properties owned by relatives who sold the properties together for preservation. This Preserve will offer hiking trails, bird watching platforms, and will be a classroom in nature for recreational hikers, school children and scout groups. This Preserve is large enough to host a large trails network. Habitat for sensitive species, springs, seeps and headwater streams make these properties valuable for natural resource protection. The Preserve can be easily accessed from existing driveways on State Route 94 and Lincoln Laurel Road.