

Mount Arlington School Student Green Leadership Team Honored by Borough Town Council and Borough Green Team for Rain Garden Installation and Educational Outreach Programs

On October 1, 2019 the Borough Council honored students from Mount Arlington School who led the installation of the Arthur R. Ondish Memorial Rain Garden. The garden is located at the Kadel Drive corner of the school property. The team along with dozens of students worked with field scientists from Rutgers University and the Musconetcong Watershed Association to design the Rutgers University certified garden. The students did extensive research and recruited students to assist with the installation. They also created educational outreach materials including a brochure, display boards, website, and a 16-minute video production. Their goal is to assist businesses and homeowners with installations to help protect the lake. The current rain garden captures runoff from the school parking lot filtering an estimated 30,000 gallons per 1 inch of rain.



Front Group L to R: Jolie Parisi, Ty Eckert, Council Member and Borough/District Green Team Member Andrew Cangiano, PE; Council Member and Borough Green Team Member Nina Galante; Yvonne Ondish; Madalyn Pflug; Borough Administrator/CFO/QPA and Borough/District Green Team Member Caroline Rinaldi; and Ashley Zheng. Council Members L to R: Lee Loughridge and Maria Farris and Mayor Michael Stanzilis.

Superintendent Monica Rowland provided her support and recognition of the student leadership team. The rain gardens plants and materials for the school were funded by a \$2000 grant by Sustainable Jersey for Schools and PSE&G. The rain garden is intended to serve as a demonstration model for others. The school will also provide a special rain garden species plant plot in the nearby Borough Community Garden which was funded by a \$20,000 Sustainable Jersey Municipalities grant.