Floodplain Restoration Tour - April 23, 2022 **Tour Highlighted Components of** 

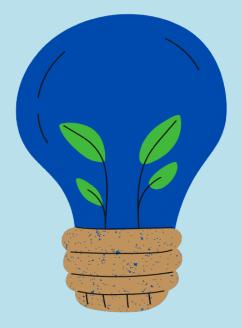




# EARTH DAY/ARBOR DAY CELEBRATION

SATURDAY, APRIL 23,2022

10AM-2PM
TOWN HALL PARKING LOT
1 MAIN STREET, WOODBRIDGE



RAIN BARREL RAFFLE
TREE PLANTING
SEEDLING GIVEAWAYS
RECYCLING
BIKESHARE INFO
CANVAS BAGS
COMPOST BINS
FREE GIVEAWAYS

## ECO-FRIENDLY VENDORS FLOODPLAIN RESTORATION TOUR

Mayor John E. McCormac

#### **Protecting Natural Floodplain Functions**

Photo: Ernie Oros Wildlife Preserve, Omar Ave., Avenel

Credit: Beth Schreier



### Let's Keep Our Waterways and Natural Areas Clean and Pristine

Nuisance flooding during full-moon high tides, heavy rain events, and strong coastal surges during storm seasons have been increasing in velocity, frequency, and intensity. In addition, climactic shifts due to an increase in greenhouse gas emissions continue to show flooding issues climbing higher than predictions. Critical near-shore habitats, wetlands, and upland forests can function as buffers to absorb excess water and wind energy introduced into a watershed.

Natural habitats are the definition of resilient infrastructure, as they are more readily able to rebound after powerful storm events. In addition to providing flood storage capacity, these areas are havens for safeguarding the existing benefits associated with healthy natural areas, such as filtration of nutrient run-off and carbon storage. And, there important ecological features strengthen biodiversity, and provide exciting recreational opportunities.

### Flooded With Favorable Functions

**Vegetation** helps to filter floodwaters and regulate temperatures associated with nearby waterways.

Biological resources are of critical importance, as these areas are located where uplands and aquatic environments meet and produce a diversity of life. According to the Association of State Wetland Managers nearly 70% of wildlife species rely on natural areas typically found within floodplains.



### Protect Yourself/ Property from Flood Hazards

This brochure has been developed to help minimize risk within floodplains, and in order to reduce the amount of flood damage sustained during future flood events. Some areas of Woodbridge Township have been historically susceptible to flooding, and as a result it's important to know how to prepare for, respond to, and recover from a potential flood event. This brochure along with many other helpful flood preparedness and recovery informational materials can be found on the Township's floodplain management website: https://www.twp.woodbridge.nj.us/635/Floodplain-Management.

The information found on this brochure should be used as complimentary quidance materials. This brochure is intended to help provide an overview of key information related to flood risk and vulnerability as per. federal, state and local regulations. However, this brochure does not create liability on the part of the municipality, or any officer, or employee thereof, for any damage that results from reliance on quidance or determinations made by its use. This brochure can be used to help aid decision-making processes with engineers, ecologists, planners, construction officials, and emergency managers. More details are available on the Township's Floodplain Management web page:

https://www.twp.woodbridge.nj.us/635/ Floodplain-Management

#### Build Responsibly and Carry Flood Insurance

If you are in the market to potentially purchase property, you should examine any possibility of a flood hazard BEFORE YOU BUY & BEFORE YOU BUILD, and the need to have flood insurance to protect yourselves and your property. Federal law reguires that a Flood Insurance Policy be obtained as a condition of a federally backed mortgage or loan that is secured by the structure located in an area of special flood hazard, as per the Effective Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) delineation. Although some areas susceptible to flood risk do not require the purchase of flood insurance, it is recommended in order to best minimize financial vulnerability during a potential flood event.

The Township recognizes The New Jersey State Flood Hazard Area (FHA) Control Act Rules, N.J.A.C. 7:13. Please note that in situations where the base flood elevation (BFE) denotes a more protective delineation on the 2014 Preliminary FIRM, the State of New Jersey is using the information as the basis for statewide floodplain development standards. To learn more about the types of N.J. Flood Hazard Area Permit Authorizations, visit our Floodplain Management website and to view the Township's Municipal Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance, including Chapter 22 of the General Ordinance and the Township's Open Space Conservation & Resilience Zone Ordinance (OSC/R Zone),

"For detailed FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) determinations based on a street address contact the Woodbridge Township Division of Engineering for personal assistance: 732-602.6057"

#### **Know Your Flood Hazard**

Woodbridge Township has areas of special flood hazards located in the AE, A, Coastal A, and VE zones. You can locate Special Flood Hazard Areas in your neighborhood by looking at the Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) at FEMA's Map Service Center or or by visiting our FEMA Flood Zones link on the Township's floodplain management webpage. Woodbridge Township contains areas of tidal and fluvial flooding. Never drive down flooded roadways. For your safety, our web pages have links to real-time tide gauge data. The Township of Woodbridge participated in updating the Middlesex County Hazard Mitigation Plan. The plan is designed to help identify local weaknesses and assess ways to potentially combat those issues. Thus, the overall outcome of the plan's development is to reduce devastating effects of future storm events and other natural hazards. The Woodbridge Township Interactive Flood Viewer shows both the 2010 Effective

Please note that the Woodbridge Township Flood Viewer should only be used as a reference. For further flood zone clarification or to request a flood zone designation letter for your property, please contact Thomas C. Flynn, M.P.A., CFM in the Woodbridge Township Division of Engineering.

F.I.R.M. and 2014 Preliminary F.I.R.M.

#### Prepare for a Potential Flood Event

\*Be aware of alternative evacuation routes from your neighborhood.

\*Gather supplies that you might need during a flood event, such as: a "go-bag," battery- powered radio, emergency kit, etc.

\*Plan for how you will care for your pets during a potential flood event.

\*Create a response plan. Visit www.redcross.org to learn more about developing ways to be better prepared. To learn more about what types of flood hazards impact Woodbridge Township visit the Woodbridge Township Floodplain Management webpage located at:

www.twp.woodbridge.nj.us/635/Floodplain-Management.



#### Protect Our Natural Floodplains

Only rain goes down the storm drain. The ability for storm drain systems to function correctly directly relates to minimizing the flood inundation, potential damage sustained during strong rain events, and the reduction of non-point source pollution into our waterways. Natural habitats are the definition of resilient infrastructure, as they are more readily able to rebound after powerful storm events. In addition to providing flood storage capacity, these areas are havens for safeguarding the existing benefits associated with healthy natural areas, such as filtration of nutrient runoff and biodiversity. To learn more about the beneficial functions of natural floodplains ...check out the Township floodplain management webpage: https:// www.twp.woodbridge.nj.us/635/ Floodplain-Management.

#### Floodplain Restoration in Woodbridge

New Jersey Association for Floodplain Management (NJAFM) awarded Woodbridge Township NFAFM's 2017 Outstanding Floodplain Management Award! This award is given annually to recognize an outstanding floodplain management program, project, or activity in New Jersey. The Township has been chosen for effectively helping people escape from harm's way through the Blue Acres program, and additionally focusing on floodplain restoration. The NJAFM Board recognizes the Township's dedication to safety, floodplain management, and progressively working to restore natural floodplain function and habitat with partners from Rutgers Cooperative Extension Wildlife Conservation and Management Program.



#### Woodbridge Township

1 Main Street Woodbridge NJ 07095

Phone: 732-634-4500

E-mail: thomas.flynn@twp.woodbridge.nj.us

To Learn More About Flood Protection and Community Rating System... Visit: http://ww.twp.woodbridge.nj.us/635/Floodplain -Management









John E. McCormac Mayor

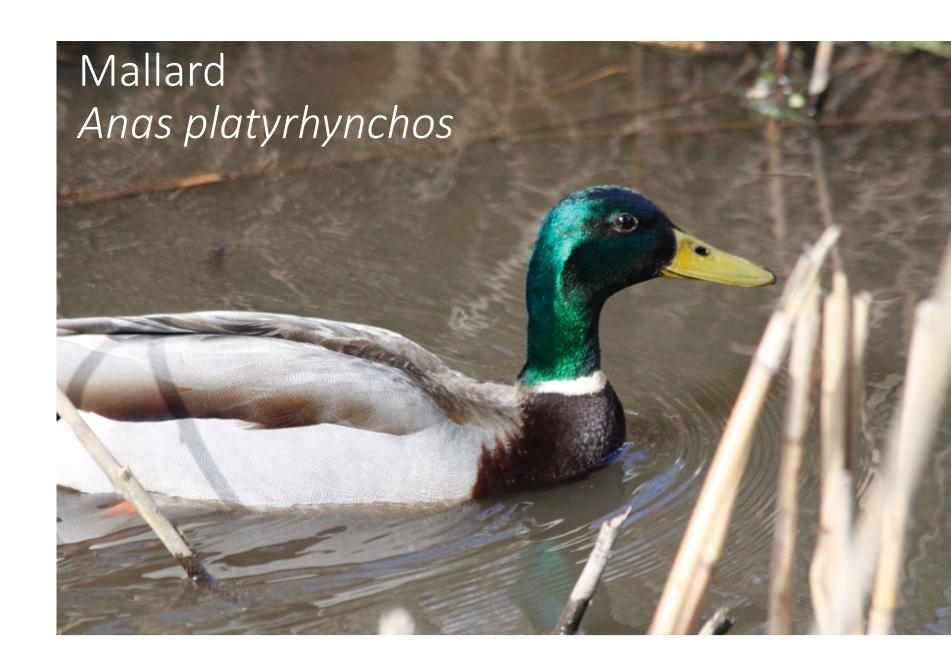






Crown-tipped Coral Fungus Clavicorona pyxidata





Hawk Nest

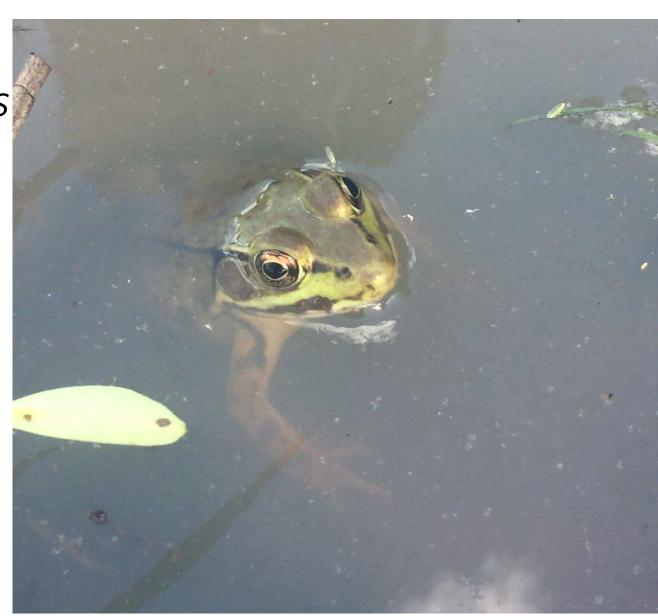








Green Frog
Lithobates clamitans





Cray Fish species Decapoda



Praying Mantis *Mantodea sp.* 



Canada Thistle Cirsium arvense



#### Dogbane *Apocynum cannabinum*



# Red Bracket Fungus *Pycnoporus coccineus*



American Elm Ulnus americana

#### Swamp Dewberry Rubus hispidus



#### Leafy Spurge Euphorbia virgata



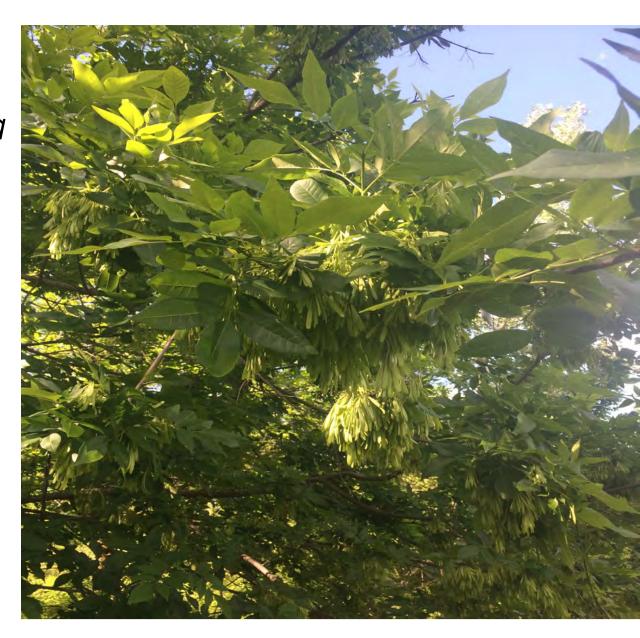
Blue-eyed Grass
Sisyrinchium angustifolium



#### Multiflora Rose Rosa multiflora



Green Ash Fraxinus pennsylvanica



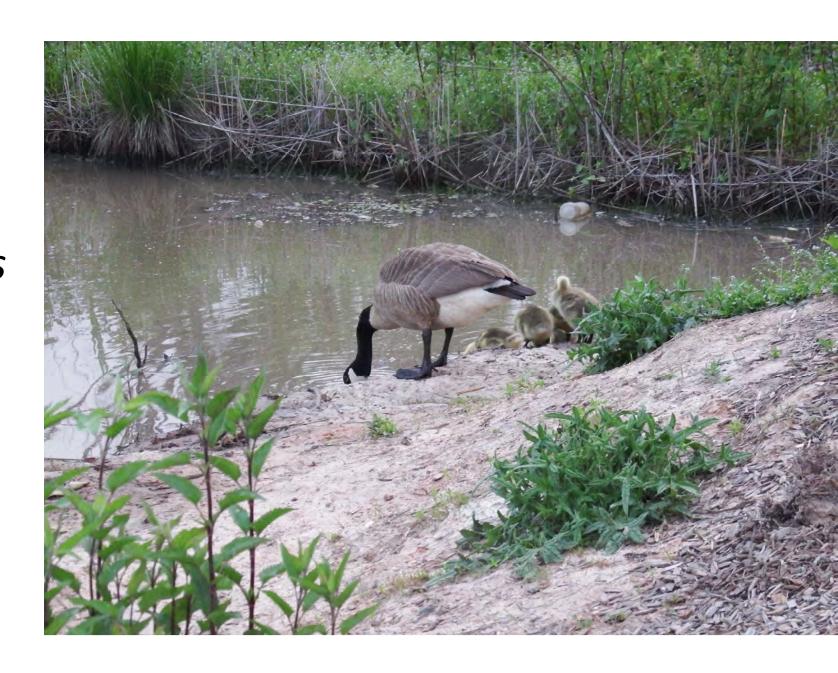
Catfish *Ictalurus sp.* 



American
Bullfrog
Lithobates
catesbeianus



Canada Goose Branta canadensis



Bluegill Sunfish Lepomis macrochirus



#### American Eel *Anguilla rostrata*













American Bullfrog *Lithobates catesbeianus* 







