The EARTH Center's mission is to provide sound, research-based information to meet the needs of Middlesex County residents.

DIRECTIONS:

from Route 287
* Take exit for Route 1 South
* Follow directions for Route 1

from Route 1
* Take Route 1 to Route 130 South
* At 6th Light make left onto Davidson's Mill Rd. (a BP Connect Station is on corner)
* Make right onto Riva Ave. after second small bridge
* Park entrance is on the left
* Follow entrance road all the way back until you see our new building

from Route 18
* Take Cranbury Rd (Rt. 535) in E. Brunswick
* Make right onto Davidson Mill Rd
* Make left onto Riva Ave (just before bridge)
* Park entrance is on the left
* Follow entrance road all the way back until you see our new building

from Garden State Parkway
* Take Exit 130, Route 1 South
* Follow directions for Route 1

from NJ Turnpike
* Take Exit 8A (Cranbury, Jamesburg)
* Follow signs for Route 32 West
* Take Route 130 North (New Brunswick)
* Look for BP gas station on left
* Make a right onto Georges Road
* Make a right onto Riva Ave
* Follow Riva Ave down and around the Mill Pond
* Park entrance is on the right
* Follow entrance road all the way back until you see our new building

more directions available at www.co.middlesex.nj.us/extensionservices

Agriculture Dept.
732-398-5262

Master Gardener Helpline
732-398-5220

Thanks to

Middlesex County
Board of Chosen Freeholders

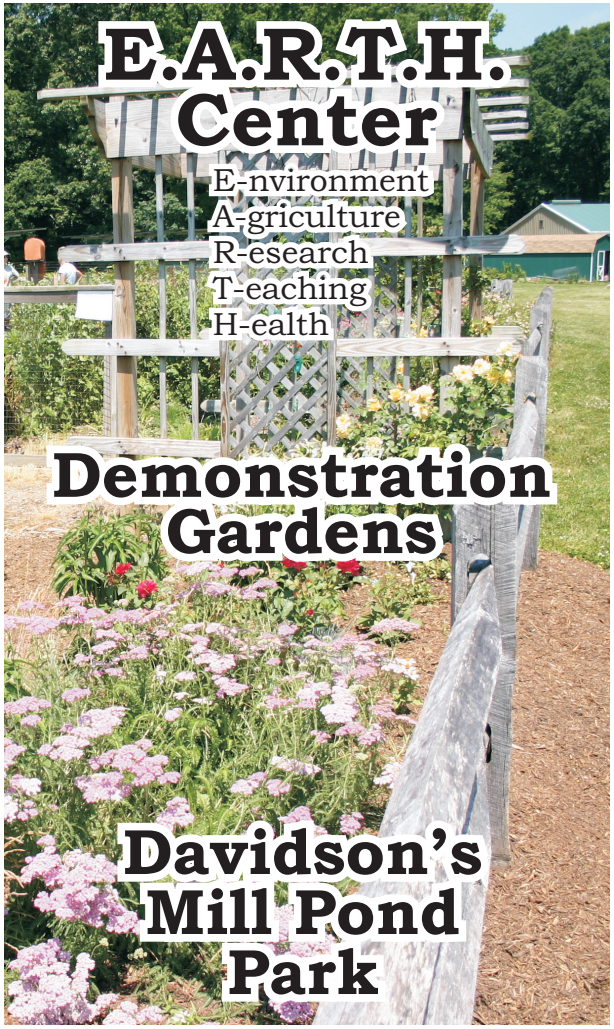
Department of
Parks & Recreation

Division of Solid Waste
Management

Department of
Public Property

Cooperating Agencies: Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and County Boards of Chosen Freeholders. Rutgers Cooperative Extension, a unit of the Rutgers New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station, is an equal opportunity program provider and employer.

RUTGERS
New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station
Cooperative Extension Middlesex County



E.A.R.T.H. Center

E-nvironment
A-griculture
R-esearch
T-eaching
H-ealth

Demonstration Gardens

Davidson's Mill Pond Park

Located at
42 Riva Ave
South Brunswick, NJ

www.co.middlesex.nj.us/extensionservices

Middlesex County's office of Rutgers Cooperative Extension and its Agriculture Department's Master Gardeners can be found in Davidson's Mill Pond Park, South Brunswick, surrounded by 400 acres of parkland, woods and gardens. The Extension office (dubbed the EARTH Center) was finished in 2004 after demonstration gardens were already installed by anxious Master Gardener volunteers and extension staff .

Community groups and Garden Clubs can learn best practices in our vegetable display garden.

Compost Display Area

We feature the myriad of compost bins available on the market today. Also displayed are bins that gardeners can make with low cost materials. The EARTH Center hosts workshops on composting during the spring and fall. Free! For info on these call **732-745-4170**, sponsored by the Middlesex County Division of Solid Waste.

Circle of Thyme Herb Garden

Our 13-bed herb garden was installed in 2004, by our Master Gardeners with a generous donation from Clayton Block. Each bed has an individual theme that changes yearly. Visitors can encounter a variety of culinary and ornamental herbs that thrive in local conditions.

The Butterfly House

Filled with plants and flowers that attract and nourish butterflies native to our area, the butterfly house was built in 2009. Visitors can get up close and personal with these winged wonders while learning how to attract them to their yards.

Rain Garden

Our Rain Garden, built in cooperation with Rutgers Water Quality experts, shows homeowners that a simple landscape addition can do wonders for filtering and recharging our groundwater reserves.

Garden for the Hungry

All of the produce from this youth volunteer tended garden will be donated to and distributed by Elijah's Promise.

Master Gardeners Shade Garden

Designed and installed by Master Gardeners in 2005, this garden contains plants that tolerate shady conditions. The shade garden is located right outside of our Master Gardeners ranch house, home to the MG Helpline.

Vegetable Display Garden

Over 1000 sq. ft of garden was established in 2004. Walkways and raised beds using recycled plastic lumber were added in 2007. Here, visitors can encounter vegetables from around the world as well as staples of New Jersey farms. Cultural techniques such as mulches, staking and harvest methods are featured. Master Gardeners work to cultivate an outdoor classroom where residents gain an enhanced respect for local agriculture. Within the vegetable garden is the Beneficial Insect Attracting Garden, featuring plants to attract insects which feed on pest species. The aim is to use predation to eliminate pests, rather than poisonous pesticides.

Low Maintenance Turfgrass Area

These trial turf plots demonstrate that different seed varieties will require different maintenance levels and yield different results. Discover what grasses will work best in your yard conditions.

Landscape Tree Walk

Thanks to donations by local nurserymen, dozens of shade, ornamental & fruit trees have been added to the park. These named varieties allow residents to see how trees, added to their landscape, will mature. The tree display area also provides a place to teach proper pruning and culture techniques.

Looking to learn more about these topics?
Contact us for a tour at 732 398 5262.