

# **The Accomplishments of State Preservation Programs**

*A Compilation of Reports, Plans and other Studies Detailing Land Preservation, Farmland Preservation and Historic Preservation Accomplishments with State Funding in New Jersey*

*A Project of the New Jersey Conservation Foundation*

*in cooperation with*

*New Jersey- Keep It Green Coalition*

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## **Introduction**

The Garden State Preservation Trust (GSPT) is a national model for financing land conservation and one of the largest state-run efforts ever launched in the United States. The GSPT serves as the financing authority to secure funds for the state Green Acres Program, Farmland Preservation Program, and the New Jersey Historic Trust. The accomplishments of the Trust as well as the economic and environmental benefits realized in New Jersey because of the GSPT are measurable and remarkable.

Voters on November 3, 1998, approved Public Question #1 amending the New Jersey Constitution to dedicate \$98 million a year from the Sales and Use Tax for land preservation, historic preservation and park development. The dedication began in 1999 and continues until 2029. The objective was to fund a ten-year preservation program. The final 20 years of the dedication were in place to cover the debt payments on bonds that would be issued during the ten-year acquisition program to finance the appropriation. The acquisition period ends in 2009. Yet the work of land and historic preservation is unfinished. Unmet needs remain, and taking care of the lands and properties already preserved is one of those pressing needs.

To this end, the New Jersey Conservation Foundation in cooperation with the New Jersey- Keep It Green Coalition has developed a series of white papers about the statewide benefits, accomplishments and future needs for continued state funding for open space and farmland preservation, restoration and stewardship of natural and recreational areas, and historic preservation. This paper represents a compilation of research reports, studies, and plans that detail the accomplishments of open space and farmland preservation, restoration and stewardship of natural and recreational areas, and historic preservation.

## **Summary**

New Jersey has a total land area of 4.8 million acres. About 31% (1.5 million acres) have been developed with houses, commercial establishments, roads, utility infrastructure and industries. Nearly the same amount (29%; 1.4 million acres) represents preserved farmlands and open space. Over half (60%) of New Jersey's land use decisions have already been made. Yet, the state still has two million acres which are "up for grabs"—land that can either be preserved as a farm, forest or park or developed with structures.

The Green Acres Land Conservation Program was established in 1961 with a financial commitment of \$60,000,000 for the acquisition of open space in New Jersey. During the next 34 years, citizens continued to support the program by approving nine bond issues totaling \$1.4 billion dollars<sup>1</sup>. In 1998 the voters approved a referendum that amended the state constitution and provided a dedicated source of funding for the program that would last ten years. Known as the Garden State Preservation Trust Act, this legislation committed \$98 million per year from existing sales tax revenues until 2029 to fund open space, farmland and historic preservation efforts. These revenues were dedicated to preservation efforts for the first ten years of the program, which has expired, with the revenues dedicated to debt service from 2009 to 2029 on \$1.15 billion in bonds issued during the first ten years.

New Jersey's solid commitment to conservation is second only to California and Florida. And considering the dimensions of the Garden State, the Garden State Preservation Trust represents the largest State commitment to conservation for a geographic area of this size in the history of the nation.<sup>2</sup> Despite the many accomplishments in the areas of open space acquisition and farmland and historic preservation—as discussed in this paper—a stable source of funding has eluded the program since 2007, when a one-year stop-gap bond measure of \$200 million was placed on the ballot and approved by voters. Those funds have been allocated by state agencies and will be appropriated by mid-2009. New Jersey voters have consistently chosen to support preservation funding. Voters have shown unwavering support since 1961 by approving every statewide ballot measure to fund open space, farmland and historic preservation efforts.

Since 1985, the state has partnered with municipalities, counties and non-profit conservation groups through the Green Acres Program, Farmland Preservation Program and NJ Historic Trust, achieving the following:

- 1,224,491 acres of open space<sup>3</sup> preserved creating 324,366 acres of Wildlife Management Areas in 120 areas<sup>4</sup> and 430,928 acres of state parks (42 sites), forests (11 sites), recreation areas (3 sites), natural areas (42 sites), marinas (6 sites) and historic sites (>50).<sup>5</sup>
- 176,435 acres of farmland and 1,810 farms preserved<sup>6</sup>
- 29% of New Jersey's land area preserved<sup>7</sup>
- 29,254 acres per year preserved under the Green Acres Program since its establishment in 1961, compared to 15,000 acres developed per year<sup>8</sup>
- 532 historic sites received preservation funding since 1981<sup>9</sup>
- 288 miles of trails added to the New Jersey Trails System since the implementation of the New Jersey Trails Act in 1974<sup>10</sup>

Additionally, the passage of the Garden State Preservation Trust Act in 1998 brought the state's management of funds for open space, farmland and historic preservation under the supervision of one entity, the Garden State Preservation Trust (GSPT). Since 1998, the **rate** of land and historic preservation has significantly increased compared with prior years.

- Open Space preservation increased from 13,341 acres per year to 37,123 acres per year (178% increase)<sup>11</sup>

- Farmland preservation increased from 4,015 acres per year to 12,086 acres per year (201% increase)<sup>12</sup>
- Historic preservation increased from 19 grants per year to 39 grants per year (105% increase)<sup>13</sup>

### **New Jersey: U.S. Leader in Preserving Land and History**

While these numbers represent New Jersey's financial commitment to the preservation of these open space, farmland and historic resources, there are a number of initiatives that the state has taken to encourage local open space preservation efforts. Beginning with the 1971 Green Acres Bond issue, local governments were provided with Payments-in-Lieu of Taxes from the General Fund to help offset losses of tax revenue from state supported preservation efforts. In Fiscal Year 2007, over \$9 million (\$9,067,783.39) was paid to 268 local entities from this program.<sup>14</sup> In 1989, the State passed legislation enabling counties and municipalities to establish Open Space Trust Funds as an allocation of property taxes<sup>15</sup>. As a result, as of December 2008, all 21 counties and 238<sup>16</sup> municipalities have implemented open space taxes.

Over time, the scope of the state's preservation funding has broadened to include historic and farmland preservation, recreation, the development of urban parks and the purchase of properties for flood protection. The first two bond issues, passed in 1961 and 1971 totaled \$140,000,000 and funded state and local acquisitions. The Bond Act of 1974 permitted the funding of recreational development. In 1978, the bond issue specified that 25% of the funds would be directed toward projects in urban areas. In 1987, \$25,000,000 of the Green Acres Bond was expanded to include capital projects at historic sites and farmland preservation. In 1995, "Blue Acres" funding was added to the Bond Act to enable the purchase of flood prone areas on the Passaic River. To date, over 350,000 acres of state, county, municipal and nonprofit-held open space have been preserved and hundreds of public parks have been developed with Green Acres funds.<sup>17</sup>

During this time period, the role of nonprofit land conservancies expanded and these groups were involved in the preservation of additional acres of land within the State. At least 73 nonprofits have had an active presence in New Jersey land acquisitions during the past 60 years.<sup>18</sup>

On a national level, New Jersey is ranked second in the nation for state funding for open space preservation<sup>19</sup>. In fact, New Jersey's expenditures on open space preservation have far exceeded those of comparable states in the region. From 1988 until the present, the State, every county and 42% of NJ's municipalities have committed nearly \$9 billion for these purposes; during the same period Massachusetts earmarked approximately one billion dollars (11% of NJ's total), Maryland committed 112 million dollars (1% of NJ's total) and Delaware provided 4.2 million dollars (0.05% of NJ's total).<sup>20</sup>

This paper discusses the evolution of the state's role in implementing preservation programs and incentives that protect of New Jersey's natural, historic and recreational facilities. These initiatives have resulted in the preservation of nearly 1/3 of the lands in the state, the development of new and refurbished urban parks, the preservation of hundreds of historic sites and the establishment of hundreds of miles of trails.

It must be mentioned that this paper is categorized in the manner by which GSPT funds are distributed-- by the distinct agencies that nominate sites and disburse open space, farmland and historic preservation funds from the GSPT and who publish statistics about their activities.

However, there are many examples in New Jersey where GSPT has helped preserve individual sites that incorporate any combination of significant open space features, agricultural resources and sites that exemplify important periods in the state's cultural history. One example is the Dvoor Farm in Raritan Township. Its preservation was possible through a partnership among the Hunterdon Land Trust Alliance, Raritan Township, Citizens for Parkland, the South Branch Watershed Association, and Green Acres. The farm includes a Dutch stone farmhouse constructed in 1790 and three barns that represent the history of barn building in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The farm's ownership dates back to the William Penn family. Subsequent owners were befriended by the local Lenni Lenape tribe whose Chief was buried in a full tribal ceremony on the farm. The Dvoor Farm is a critical connection in a greenway of parkland along the Mine Brook in Raritan Township. Current uses include a "producers" only farmers market for local farmers to market to local consumers. Future uses include a working farm based on the Community Supported Agriculture model, and tours and public programs related to the historic buildings and property.<sup>21</sup> Partnerships among funding agencies have become nearly standard practice when preserving land in New Jersey.

### **Milestones of New Jersey's Commitment to Preservation**

New Jersey established the nation's first County Park Commission in 1895. Sixty acres of land were acquired in Newark for the construction of Branch Brook Park.<sup>22</sup> In 1903, New Jersey established its first state historic site, the Indian King Tavern Museum in Haddonfield.<sup>23</sup> The state's commitment to preserving open space occurred in 1905 with the designation of New Jersey's first state forest and in 1914 with the acquisition of the first state park. However, it was not until the 1950's, when land use evolved into sprawling patterns of growth, that the importance of open space preservation became apparent to the public.<sup>24</sup> The growing public awareness of the adverse impacts of sprawl and a desire for more outdoor recreational opportunities resulted in the passage of the first Green Acres Bond Referendum in 1961.

Four years later, the State published its first Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP). This document is an eligibility requirement for grants from the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund for open space acquisition and facility development<sup>25</sup>. This report validated the importance of open space preservation and the public's desire for more recreational opportunities. SCORPs are due every five years to maintain eligibility for federal grants.

The State Legislature created the New Jersey Natural Lands Trust in 1968 as an independent agency with the mission to preserve land in its natural state for enjoyment by the public and to protect natural diversity through acquisition of open space. The Trust receives most of its landholdings through donations and manages its lands for the conservation of endangered species habitat, rare natural features and significant ecosystems. Recreation is encouraged if the activity does not adversely impact the natural communities. Education is also a large part of the Trust's mission.

In 1971, the State implemented the Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) program that provided compensation to municipalities to offset the loss in tax revenues from open space acquisitions.

The New Jersey Trails System Act of 1974 authorized the Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) to establish a *State Trails System*. In 1975, the New Jersey Trails Council was established as a lay advisory board to the NJDEP and the Department of Transportation. The Council was authorized to undertake a study and devise a plan for a coordinated system of trails.<sup>26</sup> Today, there are over 600 miles of trails within the State Park System.<sup>27</sup> With the passage of the third Green Acres Bond, also in 1974, monies were established to fund recreational facilities.

In 1981, the Farmland Preservation Program was established. This program purchased the development rights on farmland and funded best management practices for soil and water conservation on agricultural lands. The program was initially funded with a \$50 million dollar bond. Two years later the State Agriculture Development Committee (SADC) was formed to administer the program. The SADC also receives funding for preservation from the Garden State Preservation Trust (GSPT). As of September, 2008, a total of 169,981 acres of farmland and 1,741 farms have been preserved.<sup>28</sup>

The State passed legislation in 1989 that permitted counties and municipalities to levy taxes for the purpose of preserving open space. Since that time, all 21 counties and 238 municipalities have established an open space tax.<sup>29</sup>

In 1998, the voters of New Jersey supported by a margin of 66%, the establishment of The Garden State Preservation Trust that would commit \$98 million dollars per year for a 30-year period to fund open space, farmland and historic preservation and outdoor recreation. However, the original funding dedicated towards acquisition and preservation is now entirely allocated towards debt service from the bond measures through the remainder of the 30-year period.

In 2001, the Garden State Greenways (GSG) project was launched, partnering the Green Acres Program with the Walton Center for Remote Sensing & Spatial Analysis at Rutgers University and the New Jersey Conservation Foundation. The project utilized GIS technology to map the remaining patches of forests, grasslands, wetlands, agricultural soils, and beach dunes in New Jersey. GSG creates a planning framework to encourage interconnection of protected lands throughout the state and provides local governments and non-profits with planning tools for the preservation of open spaces within their communities. Garden State Greenways information has helped to inform a number of important plans such as the NJDEP's Open Space Master Plan, the Department of Agriculture's Strategic Mapping for Farmland Preservation, the State Trails Plan, the State Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan, and the State Development and Redevelopment Plan.<sup>30</sup>

### **Public Support for Preservation Funding**

In statewide referenda, New Jersey voters have supported all twelve public questions that have been on the ballot, from the inception of the Green Acres Program, through 2007. The chart below summarizes the approval percentages by county for each ballot measure. It must be pointed out, however, that the funding approved in the 2007 referendum has been

fully spent or committed to projects that are expected to close soon. State funding for any new preservation projects does not exist at this time.

## SUMMARY OF APPROVAL PERCENTAGES <sup>31</sup> 1961 - 2007 Public Questions on Funding

County	1961	1971	1974	1978	1981	1983	1987	1989	1992	1995	1998	2007	YES	NO
Atlantic	65%	67%	59%	53%	67%	63%	64%	72%	72%	65%	57%	45%	11	1
Bergen	60%	70%	55%	56%	63%	61%	61%	72%	74%	71%	71%	56%	12	0
Burlington	59%	66%	62%	63%	66%	62%	65%	76%	72%	70%	68%	60%	12	0
Camden	59%	60%	57%	62%	59%	57%	60%	72%	75%	67%	68%	64%	12	0
Cape May	58%	59%	54%	52%	63%	62%	64%	70%	71%	65%	63%	49%	11	1
Cumberland	53%	59%	45%	35%	56%	51%	56%	61%	65%	56%	56%	50%	9	3
Essex	62%	76%	60%	57%	65%	66%	66%	76%	75%	72%	69%	61%	12	0
Gloucester	52%	58%	56%	56%	61%	57%	62%	71%	77%	68%	65%	64%	12	0
Hudson	62%	63%	56%	63%	65%	66%	61%	70%	75%	68%	65%	65%	12	0
Hunterdon	31%	56%	48%	49%	66%	61%	64%	72%	67%	71%	73%	49%	8	4
Mercer	57%	67%	54%	57%	65%	66%	66%	72%	72%	71%	68%	60%	12	0
Middlesex	61%	66%	55%	56%	58%	61%	62%	71%	71%	66%	65%	53%	12	0
Monmouth	58%	63%	57%	60%	62%	66%	68%	71%	71%	69%	65%	52%	12	0
Morris	63%	75%	57%	56%	61%	63%	65%	77%	72%	70%	72%	49%	11	1
Ocean	56%	63%	55%	54%	58%	58%	56%	64%	67%	66%	57%	44%	11	1
Passaic	56%	64%	43%	51%	57%	53%	58%	66%	70%	68%	66%	54%	11	1
Salem	49%	43%	39%	43%	53%	48%	54%	56%	63%	57%	63%	63%	7	5
Somerset	63%	69%	58%	57%	63%	62%	68%	77%	73%	69%	68%	50%	12	0
Sussex	49%	54%	44%	38%	59%	48%	61%	72%	72%	66%	71%	46%	7	5
Union	63%	75%	56%	53%	60%	61%	62%	70%	72%	67%	65%	53%	12	0
Warren	56%	44%	40%	39%	60%	50%	57%	67%	70%	63%	59%	47%	8	4
<b>STATEWIDE</b>	<b>59%</b>	<b>67%</b>	<b>55%</b>	<b>56%</b>	<b>61%</b>	<b>61%</b>	<b>62%</b>	<b>71%</b>	<b>72%</b>	<b>68%</b>	<b>66%</b>	<b>54%</b>	<b>226</b>	<b>26</b>

### Open Space Preservation

The Mission Statement of the Green Acres Program is both comprehensive and elegant:

*To achieve, in partnership with others, a system of interconnected open spaces, whose protection will preserve and enhance New Jersey's natural environment and its historic, scenic, and recreational resources for public use and enjoyment.*<sup>32</sup>

True to its mission, the Program has been involved in the preservation of over 1.2 million acres of open space since its inception in 1961.<sup>33</sup> These transactions occurred in partnership with other governmental and non-profit entities. They have included both conservation easement purchases and fee simple acquisitions. The purchases have reserved land for state Wildlife Management Areas, State Parks and many municipal, county and non-

profit parks and preserves. Table 1 below indicates the open space purchases that have occurred since the inception of the Green Acres Program.

**TABLE 1**

**Total Preserved Open Space and Farmland In New Jersey (acres)<sup>34</sup>**

	<b>Acquired by May, 1997<sup>35</sup></b>	<b>Acquired since May, 1997</b>	<b>Total as of June 30 2008</b>
Federal Lands		7,036	114,036
State Lands		168,388	738,388
Local Lands-Green Acres Funding		44,135	189,135
Local Lands-Non Green Acres		20,245	20,245
Non Profit Lands-Green Acres funding		28,559	60,559
Non Profit Lands-Non GA		12,732	12,732
Other		14,229	14,229
Donated		9,433	9,433
Pinelands Development Credits		35,379	48,433
<b>Subtotal - Preserved Open Space</b>	<b>867,054</b>	<b>340,136</b>	<b>1,207,190</b>
<b>Farmland Preserved</b>	<b>35,312</b>	<b>132,440</b>	<b>167,752</b>
<b>Total Preserved Open Space</b>	<b>902,366</b>	<b>472,576</b>	<b>1,374,942</b>
Current State Open Space Projects in Progress:			11,550
Farmland Projects In Progress :			16,721
<b>Acquisition Projects In Progress:</b>			<b>28,271</b>

During the first 36 years that the Green Acres Program (GAP) had been in effect, its funding was been derived from various bond acts that were passed from time to time. During this period, lands were preserved at a rate of 25,065 acres per year. In 1998, a dedicated source of funding was approved for the Program with the passage of the Garden State Preservation Trust (GSPT) Act. This legislation dedicated \$98 million dollars per year for 30 years to fund open space, farmland and historic preservation, and park and recreation development. This dedication was used to leverage the sale of 1.15 billion dollars in bonds whose proceeds were used to make purchases during the first 10 years of the program. The open space purchases that have occurred since the passage of the Act have occurred at a rate over 39,000 acres per year, accelerating the previous rate by over one and a half times.



The following section summarizes the Green Acres Program’s (GAP) contribution to the preservation of thousands of acres of land since the establishment of the GSPT. The program funds state acquisitions and partnership acquisitions with municipalities, counties and non-profits towards local and regional preservation efforts.

**State Acquisitions**

A summary of the state open space acquisitions that have been accomplished with GSPT funds is shown in Table 2. The GSPT Act required that 50% of the GAP monies be allocated to state acquisition projects and that the remainder be allocated to funding local and non-profit purchases.

**TABLE 2**

**State Acquisitions Accomplished with GSPT Funding of the Green Acres Program**

<u>Year</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Cost</u>
2000	19,274	\$40,195,320
2001	20,151	\$70,715,358
2002	24,767	\$57,662,635
2003	10,771	\$47,440,092
2004	15,872	\$61,901,676
2005	32,219	\$84,731,457
2006	120,798	\$84,729,114
2007	8,183	\$58,600,738
2008	4,053	\$39,402,801
<b>Total</b>	<b>256,088</b>	<b>\$545,379,192</b>

Although these purchases are classified as state acquisitions, they occurred in partnership with other agencies and entities (although only the state’s contributions are shown). The significance of these partnerships cannot be overstated. According to the GAP’s Land Preservation Plan:

*It is hard to imagine open space preservation in New Jersey without partnerships. In fact, it has become common practice to seek partners to leverage funding, share project responsibilities or assist in land management activities.<sup>36</sup>*

The plan sets forth the following goal:

*To foster partnerships with local governments, the conservation community, private sector and federal government through funding, planning, and technical assistance.<sup>37</sup>*

An example of a multiple-party partnership in which the GAP participated was the January, 2004 purchase of the Stafford Farm in Camden County. According to the Trust for Public Land’s website:

*The 140-acre Stafford Farm in Voorhees Township, New Jersey will now serve the public as parkland while a portion continues as a working farm. Funding for the \$20.6 million purchase was made available from public and private sources, including Voorhees Township, the State Agriculture Development Committee, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Green Acres Program, Camden County Open Space Preservation Trust Fund, William Penn Foundation, and private donations to the Trust for Public Land. The land was purchased from the Stafford family, which had owned the farm for more than 225 years.*<sup>38</sup>

Six partners representing state, county, municipal and non-profits contributed financial and logistical support in order to preserve a working farm that is also a historic landmark and a resting stop for migratory birds. Several development offers for the property had been proposed. The property is now jointly owned by the State of New Jersey and Voorhees Township for the public’s benefit as a place for hiking, birding and historical education.

**Local Acquisitions**

The Green Acres Program includes a component for local acquisitions. From the Program’s website:

*Green Acres provides low interest (2%) loans and grants to municipal and county governments to acquire open space and develop outdoor recreation facilities. Green Acres works with local governments from the time of application through project completion. Over 80,000 acres have been protected and hundreds of recreation development projects throughout the state have been financed through Green Acres' Local and Nonprofit funding program. Green Acres also provides matching grants to nonprofit organizations to acquire land for public recreation and conservation purposes*<sup>39</sup>

The Garden State Preservation Trust Act mandates that 50% of the GAP monies be utilized for local and non-profit acquisitions. Table 3 lists state contributions towards county and municipal acquisition projects between 2000 and 2008, and the acres preserved.

**TABLE 3**

**Local Acquisitions Accomplished with GSPT Funding of the Green Acres Program**<sup>40</sup>

<u>Year</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Cost</u>
2000	4,923	\$32,815,134

2001	5,210	\$52,431,210
2002	6,546	\$58,925,980
2003	3,952	\$43,981,718
2004	3,134	\$40,628,534
2005	3,743	\$53,169,592
2006	4,480	\$50,057,239
2007	3,107	\$68,055,767
2008	2,031	\$30,863,817
<b>Total</b>	<b>37,126</b>	<b>\$430,928,991</b>

The Green Acres Program also instituted the Planning Incentive Grant program in 1996 for local governments that have enacted open space trust funds and have prepared an Open Space and Recreation Master Plan. These grants provide a preferential grant of 50%, compared to non-qualifying local government entities that receive up to a 25% match for land acquisition for open space or recreation purposes.<sup>41</sup> To date, 225 municipalities and 21 counties collect funding for dedicated open space trust accounts. Table 4 is a listing of county and total municipal-by-county open space trust fund taxes collected in 2008.

**TABLE 4**

**County and Municipal Dedicated Land Preservation Programs 2008**<sup>42</sup>

Atlantic County	\$11,653,279	
3/23 Municipalities		\$ 528,824
Bergen County	\$18,276,751	
28/70 Municipalities		\$ 5,629,405
Burlington County	\$20,401,095	
16/40 Municipalities		\$ 7,820,394
Camden County	\$ 8,440,651	
7/37 Municipalities		\$ 2,067,037

**TABLE 4 (continued)**

Cape May County	\$ 5,474,089	
0/16 Municipalities		
Cumberland County	\$ 940,746	
0/14 Municipalities		
Essex County	\$14,124,612	
9/22 Municipalities		\$ 1,669,159
Gloucester County	\$11,221,473	
11/24 Municipalities		\$ 2,384,817
Hudson County	\$ 6,671,126	
1/12 Municipalities		\$ 588,092
Hunterdon County	\$ 7,536,000	
16/26 Municipalities		\$ 5,358,352
Mercer County	\$14,308,060	
8/13 Municipalities		\$ 5,579,803
Middlesex County	\$32,998,516	
10/25 Municipalities		\$ 6,537,154
Monmouth County	\$19,111,319	
19/53 Municipalities		\$ 9,893,412
Morris County	\$43,603,708	
28/39 Municipalities		\$12,277,859
Ocean County	\$13,068,360	
12/33 Municipalities		\$ 4,534,502
Passaic County	\$ 5,629,052	
7/16 Municipalities		\$ 1,616,392
Salem County	\$ 1,081,782	
7/15 Municipalities		\$ 574,897
Somerset County	\$18,911,879	
13/21 Municipalities		\$18,329,284
Sussex County	\$ 5,321,306	
12/24 Municipalities		\$ 1,020,085
Union County	\$11,601,547	
2/21 Municipalities		\$ 328,726
Warren County	\$ 8,293,526	
16/22 Municipalities		\$ 2,472,089
<b>Total 21 Counties</b>	<b>\$278,668,878</b>	
<b>Total 225 Municipalities</b>		<b>\$ 89,210,283</b>

**Total County & Municipality \$367,879,161**

All of these groups are eligible for the Planning Incentive Grants from the Green Acres Programs provided they have also submitted an Open Space and Recreation Plan to the State.

This program would allow towns and counties to leverage their open space purchases with 50% matching grants providing the GAP is adequately funded.

**Non-Profit Acquisitions**

The Green Acres Program is mandated by the GSPT Act to dedicate 50% of its funding activity to local and non-profit land acquisitions. Table 5 lists the GAP’s contributions toward non-profit preservation projects between 2000 and 2008. To date, there are at least 107 non-profit land conservation groups in New Jersey that have received Green Acres funding. Collectively, these groups have been involved in the preservation of over a quarter of a million acres of land in the State. Green Acres began awarding grants to nonprofit conservancies in 1989.

**TABLE 5**

**Non-Profit Acquisitions Accomplished With GSPT Funding**<sup>43</sup>

<u>Year</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Cost</u>
2000	979	\$ 5,785,847
2001	1,658	\$ 7,295,655
2002	1,934	\$ 9,690,759
2003	4,723	\$11,761,446
2004	3,204	\$10,090,728
2005	3,790	\$13,515,784
2006	3,200	\$ 7,257,300
2007	782	\$10,839,167
2008	1,849	\$ 5,729,419
<b>Total</b>	<b>22,119</b>	<b>\$81,996,105</b>

Table 6 lists about one-third of the nonprofit conservation organizations active in the state and represents a sampling of land trusts, nonprofit organizations dedicated to land conservation. Unless indicated by an endnote, the trusts are members of The Land Trust Alliance and the figures are as reported on the LTA website<sup>44</sup>. “Preserved Acres” includes both land owned in fee simple and land for which an easement may be held by the trust. This list is by no means complete; rather, it is meant to illustrate the growth and variety of these organizations. The acreage shown is not necessarily an addition to acres listed in previous tables.

**TABLE 6**

**Land Trusts Active in New Jersey**<sup>45</sup>

<b><u>Date Founded</u></b>	<b><u>Organization</u></b>	<b><u>Preserved Acres</u></b>
1897 (approx.) <sup>46</sup>	NJ Audubon Society	2,252
1955	The Nature Conservancy	56,000 <sup>47</sup>
1959	Upper Raritan Watershed Ass'n	1,294
1960	NJ Conservation Foundation	121,473
1968	NJ Natural Lands Trust	29,444
1969	Passaic River Coalition	1,001 <sup>48</sup>
1969	Friends of Princeton Open Space	617
1972	Trust for Public Land – NJ	23,000 <sup>49</sup>
1972	Save the Environment – Moorestown	59
1977	Monmouth Conservation Foundation	4,500
1981	Land Conservancy of New Jersey	14,000
1982	Appalachian Trail Conference – NJ	952
1984	Schiff Natural Lands Trust	440
1987	Friends of Hopewell Valley Open Space	3,525
1987	Lawrence Township Conservation Fnd	64
1989	Delaware & Raritan Greenway	7,144
1990	Harding Land Trust	251
1990	Ridge and Valley Conservancy	1,650
1990	South Jersey Land and Water Cons. Trust	1,128
1991	Edison Greenways Group	40
1991	Washington Twp Land Trust of Morris Co.	10
1991	Rancocas Conservancy	903
1992	Edison Wetlands Association, Inc	301
1993	Tewksbury Land Trust	40
1994	Forked River Mountain Coalition	59
1996	Hunterdon Land Trust Alliance	2,358
1998	Keep Conservation Foundation	83 <sup>50</sup>
1999	Meadowlands Conservation Trust	1,519
<b>Total</b>		<b>274,107</b>

**Examples of Open Space Preservation Successes**

Open space, farmland, historic or recreational preservation almost always results in a success story—benefitting many and in several ways. The Stafford Farm purchase, mentioned above, preserved an active farm, provided new recreational and educational opportunities for the community and protected a large forested area that served as a resting place for migratory

birds. The willing seller, the Stafford family, purchased the property over 200 years ago from a personal guard of George Washington; its preservation helped protect the site's historic significance, national heritage and the community's character. It will help maintain the ecology of migratory birds and other species. It will be a permanent buffer against sprawl. Will anyone miss the residential or mixed residential/commercial developments that were proposed for this 140-acre site?

From the GAP Success Stories web page:

*Green Acres State Acquisition funds were used to acquire 350 acres in Stillwater Township, Sussex County. Acquisition of this property links the 2,472-acre Swartswood State Park with the 1,518-acre Trout Brook Wildlife Management Area. The expanded 4,340-acre greenway will provide habitat for wildlife such as bobcat and black bear. Preservation of this tract buffers Swartswood Lake, Little Swartswood Lake and the limestone formations of the Kittatiny Valley.*<sup>51</sup>

From the Land Preservation Plan:

*A recent Land and Water Conservation Fund project, Wildcat Ridge, demonstrates the potential for partnership projects statewide. Located in Rockaway Township in Morris County, this 295 acre addition to Wildcat Ridge Wildlife Management was the number one conservation priority for the Township. The site contained portions of the Beaver Brook wetlands, recognized by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service as a priority wetland. Located approximately 200 feet from the Township's sole source aquifer, preservation of the site was critical for the protection of Rockaway's water supply. As the property owner was asking \$7 million for the site, it was apparent that the acquisition of the property was beyond the means of any one agency. It was possible though, to preserve the site with multiple partners.*<sup>52</sup>

Project linking historic and open space preservation:

*Located in Knowlton Township, Warren County, the Ramsayburg Homestead property consists of a house, tavern, and numerous outbuildings on an approximately 12-acre site along the Delaware River. The homestead is a late 18<sup>th</sup> century Georgian style wood-frame structure, significant for its association with the timber rafting trade. The house was used as a tavern for rafters traveling on the Delaware River. James and Adam Ramsay acquired this property, which already included a tavern, in 1794. They continued to operate the tavern and established a store, around which a hamlet grew, catering to both river and road traffic. Unoccupied for many years, the original Ramsay House and its barns and outbuildings were threatened with demolition because of neglect. The State Division of Parks and Forestry acquired the property in 2002 for Delaware River access with funds from the Green Acres program. The Township leases the historic tavern, raising funds for restoration and interpretation.*

### **Farmland Preservation**

The New Jersey Agricultural Retention and Development Act passed in 1981, establishing the Farmland Preservation Program. Also that year, the Farmland Preservation Bond Act of 1981 was approved and it designated \$50,000,000 for the purchase of development rights of agricultural lands and to fund soil and water conservation practices. The State Agriculture Development Committee (SADC) was established two years later and was tasked with implementing the Farmland Preservation Program.

*The SADC administers the Farmland Preservation Program, providing grants to counties, municipalities and nonprofit groups to fund the purchase of development easements on farmland; directly purchasing farms and development easements from landowners; and offering grants to landowners in the program to fund up to 50 percent of the cost of soil and water conservation projects . It also administers the Right to Farm Program, oversees the Transfer of Development Rights Bank, and operates the Farm Link Program, which helps connect farm owners with farmers seeking access to farmland and farming opportunities.*<sup>53</sup>

In 1989, the Green Acres Bond Act specified that portions of the bond funds could be used for farmland preservation purposes. Every Bond Act since that time has included funding for farmland preservation. During the 18 years from 1981 until 1999, 60,221 acres of farmland on 421 farms were preserved. With the enactment of the GSPT in 1998, a dedicated source of funding for farmland preservation was established. The GSPT designated that \$36,800,000 per year, for 30 years, be dedicated to farmland preservation. Consequently, from 2000 to 2008, 108,733 acres of farmland were permanently preserved. This represents a rate of acquisition of 12,081 acres per year, 3.5 times greater than occurred before the GSPT was established. Individual farms were preserved at a rate that was 8 times greater during the GSPT years. Table 7 summarizes the farmland preservation that occurred with this funding.



TABLE 7

**Farmland Acquisitions Made with GSPT Funding of the Farmland Preservation Program**<sup>54</sup>

<u>Year</u>	<u>Farms</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Cost</u>
2000	87	11,239	\$ 31,016,801
2001	123	14,816	\$ 45,341,170
2002	161	13,154	\$ 55,181,712
2003	257	19,908	\$ 78,687,410
2004	166	12,985	\$ 71,687,410
2005	99	8,905	\$ 47,981,272
2006	153	10,152	\$ 92,094,635
2007	178	10,788	\$ 96,838,838
2008	80	6,826	\$ 63,231,418
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,304</b>	<b>108,773</b>	<b>\$581,665,762</b>

As of March 31, 2009, 176,435 acres of farmland in 1,810 farms have been preserved in the State.<sup>55</sup>

**Examples of Farmland Preservation Successes**

In addition to administering funding for farmland preservation, the SADC also provides 50% matching grants to farmers who wish to implement soil conservation and soil erosion control strategies. The Gambino Farm, a preserved farm in Pohatcong, Warren County, is an example of how these and other conservation measures have been implemented.

This 103-acre property was preserved with SADC funds in 2002. At that time, the property was actively farmed but was suffering substantial soil loss during storm events. In consultation with the Natural Conservation Resource Service, the owners installed several erosion control grass strips. The landowner established vegetation on these strips that provide habitat for grassland birds. They continued to keep 85 acres in rotation crops but set aside 10 acres for the production of grapes for wine-making. They are in the process of converting the vineyard acreage into an organic operation.

**Historic Preservation**

*“Established in 1967, the New Jersey Historic Trust is the only nonprofit historic preservation organization in New Jersey created by state law. The Trust officially became a DCA affiliate in November 2002, in an effort to better realign the state’s smart growth initiatives with historic revitalization. Its mission is to advance historic preservation in New Jersey for the benefit of future generations through education, stewardship and financial investment programs that save our heritage and strengthen our communities.”*<sup>56</sup>

The New Jersey Historic Trust, however, did not receive funding until 1987 when \$25,000,000 was earmarked for these purposes. In the 1992 and 1995 Green Acres Bond referenda, monies were permitted to be used for historic preservation purposes as well. However, the establishment of the GSPT established a dedicated source of funding for historic preservation. The Trust set aside \$6,000,000 per year for 10 years for historic preservation planning and renovations. Table 8 lists the total number of sites funded by the Trust, total number of grants awarded, and total dollars funded, by county.

**TABLE 8**

**Historic Preservation Sites and Funding Summary by County**<sup>57</sup>

<b><u>County</u></b>	<b><u># Sites</u></b>	<b><u># Grants</u></b>	<b><u>Total Funding</u></b>	
Atlantic	7	9	\$ 2,939,345	
Bergen	18	28	\$ 6,193,147	
Burlington		32	48	\$ 6,755,987
Camden		24	32	\$ 4,118,588
Cape May		11	20	\$ 4,774,075
Cumberland	19		28	\$ 4,743,358
Essex		39	56	\$13,970,718
Gloucester		10	14	\$ 1,658,552
Hudson		20	27	\$ 8,310,692
Hunterdon		18	27	\$ 3,776,118
Mercer	41	47		\$14,694,902
Middlesex		23	29	\$ 6,041,821
Monmouth		33	46	\$12,253,447
Morris		31	45	\$ 7,582,803
Ocean	17		18	\$ 3,325,016
Passaic	14	19		\$ 4,990,992
Salem		13	17	\$ 2,134,646
Somerset		21	26	\$ 4,906,004
Sussex	5		7	\$ 715,183
Union		23	31	\$ 6,022,522
Warren	16		21	\$ 2,564,306
<i>Multiple Counties</i>	1		1	\$ 50,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>436</b>	<b>596</b>	<b>\$122,522,222</b>	

**Examples of Historic Preservation Successes**

Two preservation projects are particularly notable because they are examples of urban rehabilitation or adaptive re-use, in an urban environment with existing infrastructure, preserving architectural design and craftsmanship of a particular period of cultural experience,

enhancing community character and adhering to the principal that “the greenest building is the one already built.”

### *Essex County Courthouse*

#### *City of Newark, Essex County*

The Essex County Court House is a grand example of civic architecture from the American Renaissance period, which expressed a noble vision of the role of the arts in public life. Built in 1906, the courthouse is the work of the renowned Cass Gilbert, architect of the famous Woolworth Building and the U.S. Custom House in Lower Manhattan.

The grant funds helped interior preservation work, including restoration of the ornamental plaster, murals, stained glass, millwork, stone floors, stairs, balustrades and lighting fixtures of the major public spaces. An earlier grant funded exterior restoration of the marble building including cleaning, repairing, and repointing masonry, restoring windows, and conserving statuary.

The Courthouse has been awarded a national preservation award from the Victorian Society in America, a local preservation award from the North Jersey Chapter of the Victorian Society, a preservation award from New Jersey Historic Sites Council and the Donald T. Dust Recognition Award for 2005 from the Newark Preservation and Landmarks Committee.

The marble and limestone building was designed by Cass Gilbert, the architect of the Woolworth Building in New York City and the U.S. Supreme Court in Washington, DC. Opened in 1907, the Historic Courthouse won widespread acclaim for its neoclassical facades, grand rotunda and large-scale murals. Gutzon Borglum’s “Seated Lincoln” statue was placed in front of the Courthouse in 1911. The building and bronze statue are both on the National Register of Historic Places.<sup>58</sup>

### *Rogers Locomotive Frame Fitting Shop*

#### *City of Paterson, Passaic County*

The Roger's Locomotive Factory was a leading manufacturer of railroad locomotives from 1833 to 1919. Its surviving buildings are among the most visually prominent and best preserved of the industrial structures within Paterson's Great Falls / “Society for Useful Manufactures” National Historic Landmark District. The vacant Frame Fitting Shop, constructed around 1881, is the central building of the former works.

The Trust grant funded exterior restoration and enabling systems in the building's \$6.3 million adaptive use as the “Frank Lautenberg Transportation Opportunity Center.” The center provides transportation, education, day care and administrative services to immigrant and welfare-to-work residents to assist them in gaining employment in the region.<sup>59</sup>

## **State Parks and Recreation**

The state owns and manages over 700,000 acres of open space lands in New Jersey. Depending on the management entity, the lands are managed to accomplish different goals. *State Wildlife Management Areas* are wild places to explore in New Jersey. Administered by the Division of Fish and Wildlife, these multiple-use public lands are managed for fish and wildlife habitat and a variety of wildlife-associated recreation. While hunting and fishing are probably the two activities most associated with these areas, wildlife management areas are

also prime locations for birding, wildlife viewing and photography, cross country skiing, hiking and mountain biking. Managed by the Division of Parks and Forests, the state's parks, forests and historic sites link people to New Jersey's special outdoor places. These areas invite the public to explore the outdoors. Facilities developed on these sites promote active recreation pursuits, interpretation of historical and natural features, and commemoration of historical occurrences.

The Green Acres Program's statistics do not categorize funds spent on recreational development with the State Park Service. The state lands provide numerous outdoor recreational opportunities. The Division of Parks and Forestry manages 430,928 acres parks, wildlife management areas and recreational areas and historic sites. These acreages are summarized in Table 9.

**TABLE 9**

**Acreage by Land Use of Lands Under the Jurisdiction of NJDEP**  
**Division of Parks and Forestry**

<b><u>Number</u></b>	<b><u>Land Use</u></b>	<b><u>Acreage</u></b>
39	State Parks	121,494
11	State Forests	249,829
1	Individual Natural Areas	1,522
3	Recreational Areas	6,331
20	Historic Sites	65
2	Burial Grounds	
4	State Marinas	94
18	Miscellaneous Areas	8,092
6	Conservation Easements	37,318
4	Reservoir Sites	6,183
<b>Total 108</b>		<b>430,928</b>

In addition to these state owned lands, there are 120 Wildlife Management areas that total 324,366 acres. Of this total area, 213,765 acres were purchased solely with Green Acres Program Funding.<sup>60</sup> As shown in Table 10, NJ residents and tourists heavily use these areas.

**TABLE 10**

**State Park and Forest Attendance**  
**July 1, 2005 – June 30, 2006**

<b><u>State Park (SP) / State Forest (SF)</u></b>	<b><u>Attendance</u></b>
---------------------------------------------------	--------------------------

Allaire SP/Spring Meadow Golf Course	554,050
Barnegat Lighthouse SP	431,758
Bass River SF	113,755
Belleplain SF	427,624
Brendan T. Byrne SF/Wharton SF	1,372,611
Cape May Point SP	564,378
Cheesequake SP/Leonardo Marina	1,044,176
D & R Canal SP/Washington Crossing SP	2,390,492
Farley Marina	390,948
Forked River Marina	14,490
Fort Mott SP/Parvin SP	372,756
Fortescue Marina	61,231
Hackelbarney SP	239,587
High Point SP/Swartswood SP	385,950
Hopatcong SP	340,450
Island Beach SP	1,257,008
Kittatinny Valley SP/Jenny Jump SF	181,013
Liberty SP	4,276,422
Monmouth Battlefield SP	297,877
Ringwood SP/Wawayanda SP	908,178
Round Valley Recreation Area	350,018
Spruce Run Recreation Area/Voorhees SP	825,789
Stokes SF/Worthington SF	1,042,980
<b>Total</b>	<b>17,843,541</b>

### Parks and Recreation Success Stories

Whittingham Wildlife Management Area is a site that provides recreational opportunities, natural resource protection and conservation of threatened and endangered species. The site contains 1,917 acres in Fredon and Green Townships in Sussex County. The site contains forested and emergent limestone wetlands and various types of uplands. It also contains the Springdale and First Time Fen Natural Heritage Priority Sites. There are documented occurrences of a number of threatened and endangered species including the American Bittern and the Pied Billed Grebe<sup>61</sup>.

Additionally, in July 2008 several stands of a rare wildflower, never before documented in the state, were found on this site. The flower is known as the fern-leaf scorpion flower and its occurrence in this WMA is 300 miles away from the next closest incidence of the plant.

Further, this site provides birding, hunting and fishing opportunities. The Mid-Atlantic Game and Fish website ranks this WMA as one of the top three public lands for New Jersey deer hunting. This site also hosts the annual Appalachian Bowmen's Spring Archery Rendezvous.

### Urban Parks

Beginning with the 1978 Green Acres Bond Act, urban areas were specifically targeted to receive program funding. The GSPT Act also specified that a certain percentage of Green Acres purchases include acquisition and development projects located in densely populated counties. The data from the GAP acquisition closings indicate that this has occurred in the designated areas. The extent of urban park funding and restoration cannot be accurately gleaned by analyzing the Green Acres Program Acquisition data. This may be due in part that poorer urban communities are not able to raise the GAP's requirement of matching funds. However, several urban park success stories can shed light on the trend to establish and restore parks in these areas.

#### *Park Plaza, City of Newark, Essex County*

On May 29, 2006 the Green Acres Program presented Essex County with \$6.5 million dollars to demolish an existing, outdated parking garage in order to create the first new park in the city in 80 years. According to the Essex County website:

*The County's current two-story parking garage on Wickliffe Street will be demolished to make way for the 2.7-acre Park Plaza. The open space will be beautifully landscaped with trees and bushes, and have walking paths, benches and a gazebo. Fencing will be installed around the perimeter of the park and ornamental archways will enhance the park's entrances.*

#### *Rahway River Parkway, City of Rahway, Union County*

The Green Acres Program Land Preservation Plan describes the following urban park project that provides an urban park and removes housing from flood prone areas at the same time.

*Natural resource restoration projects are another area where partnerships can play a role. In the City of Rahway, 11 homes located close to the Rahway River had a history of serious flooding. With funding from several public and private agencies and organizations, the homes were acquired, demolished and removed. The 4.5 acre site was regraded, ponds created and planted with native vegetation. The land has been transferred to Union County as part of Rahway River Parkway.*

### Trails

*The New Jersey Trails Program was established with the passage of the New Jersey Trails System Act in 1974, laying the groundwork for a network of trails that provide for outdoor recreation and an appreciation of the outdoor, natural and remote areas of New Jersey. The act charged the Department of Environmental Protection with the task of establishing a trails plan, accomplished in 1984 and updated in 1996. The plan established a foundation for certain trails to be included in the State Trails System after a*

*review of all long distance trails in the state. Aiding the Trails Program is the New Jersey Trails Council, an advisory body to the Department consisting of citizens with interests in different types of trail use, representatives from conservation or recreation organizations, and other state agencies. With the establishment of the federal Recreational Trails Program Act in 1993, the New Jersey Trails Program administers grants that provide for trail development and restoration, as well as education about the natural and cultural resources found along trails.*<sup>62</sup>

Since the passage of the New Jersey Trails System Act in 1974, the following trails have been designated as part of the New Jersey State Trails Plan:

- Appalachian Trail, 70 miles for hiking
- Batona Trail, 49 miles for hiking and cross-country skiing
- Delaware and Raritan Canal State Park, 70 miles for multiuse
- Paulinskill Valley Trail, 27 miles for multiuse
- Sussex Branch Trail, 20 miles for multiuse
- Belleplaine State Forest Trail System, 42 miles for multiuse
- Cedar Creek, 12 miles for canoeing and kayaking
- Wells Mills Park Trails System of Ocean County, 16 miles for multiuse
- Wharton Water Trails, 52 miles for canoeing and kayaking

The Sussex Branch and Paulinskill Valley Trails were established on the trestles of two former railroads: the Sussex and the New York Susquehanna and Western Railroads. This represents an adaptive reuse of nearly 50 miles of two well-graded linear paths<sup>63</sup>.

In addition to these trails, the NJDEP State Parks website indicates that there are over 600 miles of trails throughout the State Park and Forest system properties.<sup>64</sup> These include several large trail systems throughout the state:

- Allaire State Park, 23 miles of trails
- Allamuchy Mountain State Park, 50 miles of trails
- Monmouth Battlefield State Park, 25 miles of trails
- Ramapo Mountain State Forest, 26 miles
- Ringwood State Park, 55 miles

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- <sup>1</sup> New Jersey, Department of Environmental Protection, Green Acres Program, 2008 – 2012 *New Jersey Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP)*, November 2007.
- <sup>2</sup> Press Statement, Garden State Preservation Trust, September, 2004
- <sup>3</sup> Acreage Report dated 6/30/08 prepared by NJDEP Green Acres Program
- <sup>4</sup> <http://www.nj.gov/dep/fgw/wmland.htm>
- <sup>5</sup> New Jersey, Department of Environmental Protection, Green Acres Program, 2008 – 2012 *New Jersey Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP)*, November 2007; Acreage Report for Lands Under the Jurisdiction of the NJDEP, Division of Parks and Forestry as of July 1, 2008 prepared by Natural and Historic Resources, Office of Resource Development
- <sup>6</sup> SADC website, <http://www.nj.gov/agriculture/sadc/farmpreserve/progress/stats>
- <sup>7</sup> <http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/34000.html> Land Area of New Jersey equals 7,417 square miles or 4,746,880 acres.
- <sup>8</sup> New Jersey, NJDEP, Green Acres Program, 2008-2012 *New Jersey Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP)*, November 2007
- <sup>9</sup> New Jersey Historic Trust, *2008 Annual Report*
- <sup>10</sup> New Jersey Trails Plan Update, New Jersey Department of Transportation and Department of Environmental Protection, January 2008, page 11 and <http://www.state.nj.us/dep/parksandforests/natural/njtrails.html#factsheet>
- <sup>11</sup> NJDEP Green Acres Acreage Report, 6/30/08
- <sup>12</sup> NJFPP Acreage Report
- <sup>13</sup> <http://www.njht.org/dca/njht/funded/>
- <sup>14</sup> <http://www.nj.gov/dep/greenacres/pilot.htm>
- <sup>15</sup> P.L. 1989, Chapter 30 (NJSA 40:12-16 et seq.), <http://www.state.nj.us/dca/lgs/lfns/98lfns/98htms/mc98-2.htm>
- <sup>16</sup> [http://www.nj.gov/dep/greenacres/pdf/osfp\\_municipal.pdf](http://www.nj.gov/dep/greenacres/pdf/osfp_municipal.pdf)
- <sup>17</sup> Trust for Public Land website, [http://www.tpl.org/tier3\\_cdl.cfm?content\\_item\\_id=882&folder\\_id=706](http://www.tpl.org/tier3_cdl.cfm?content_item_id=882&folder_id=706)
- <sup>18</sup> Land Trust Alliance website, [http://www.ltanet.org/landtrustdirectory/alpha.tcl?state\\_id=newjersey34#local](http://www.ltanet.org/landtrustdirectory/alpha.tcl?state_id=newjersey34#local)
- <sup>19</sup> Land Preservation Plan, page 4
- <sup>20</sup> Trust for Public Land website, <http://www.conservationalmanac.org/landvote>
- <sup>21</sup> Hunterdon Land Trust Alliance website, [http://www.hlta.org/dvoor\\_farm.php](http://www.hlta.org/dvoor_farm.php)
- <sup>22</sup> <http://sections.asce.org/newjersey/parks.html>
- <sup>23</sup> Email statement from Ron Emrich, Exec. Dir., Preservation NJ, to author, Feb, 2009
- <sup>24</sup> <http://www.state.nj.us/dep/greenacres/challenge.htm>
- <sup>25</sup> 2008 – 2012 SCORP, page 5
- <sup>26</sup> New Jersey Trails Plan Update, 2007
- <sup>27</sup> <http://www.state.nj.us/dep/parksandforests/parks/>
- <sup>28</sup> SADC website, <http://www.nj.gov/agriculture/sadc/farmpreserve/progress/stats>
- <sup>29</sup> [http://www.nj.gov/dep/greenacres/pdf/osfp\\_municipal.pdf](http://www.nj.gov/dep/greenacres/pdf/osfp_municipal.pdf)
- <sup>30</sup> Garden State Greenways website, <http://www.gardenstategreenways.org/uses.htm>
- <sup>31</sup> GSPT website, [http://www.state.nj.us/gsppt/pdf/Conservation\\_Public\\_Questions\\_1961-2007.pdf](http://www.state.nj.us/gsppt/pdf/Conservation_Public_Questions_1961-2007.pdf)



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<sup>32</sup> GAP website, <http://www.nj.gov/dep/greenacres/>

<sup>33</sup> Acreage Report dated 6/30/08 prepared by NJDEP Green Acres Program

<sup>34</sup> *ibid*

<sup>35</sup> The acreage report did not include all available figures for this column.

<sup>36</sup> GAP State Land Acquisition Program, *2005-2007 Land Preservation Plan*, NJDEP, 2004

<sup>37</sup> *ibid*

<sup>38</sup> TPL website, [http://www.tpl.org/tier3\\_cd.cfm?content\\_item\\_id=13683&folder\\_id=629](http://www.tpl.org/tier3_cd.cfm?content_item_id=13683&folder_id=629)

<sup>39</sup> <http://www.nj.gov/dep/greenacres/trust.htm>

<sup>40</sup> Cost includes only the state funds provided to assist local government and nonprofit conservation organizations in land preservation projects. The figures do not include the local and nonprofit contributions towards projects

<sup>41</sup> NJDEP Green Acres Program Open Space and Recreation Plan Guidelines

<sup>42</sup> NJ Dept. of Community Affairs website, [http://www.state.nj.us/dca/lgs/taxes/08\\_data/08taxes.xls](http://www.state.nj.us/dca/lgs/taxes/08_data/08taxes.xls)

<sup>43</sup> Cost includes only the state funds provided to assist local government and nonprofit conservation organizations in land preservation projects. The figures do not include the local and nonprofit contributions towards the projects.

<sup>44</sup> Table 6 includes a number of organizations that have contributed to the preservation of land in NJ yet are not included in the LTA list. These groups are footnoted below.

<sup>45</sup> [http://www.ltanet.org/landtrustdirectory/alpha.tcl?state\\_id=newjersey34#local](http://www.ltanet.org/landtrustdirectory/alpha.tcl?state_id=newjersey34#local)

<sup>46</sup> <http://njaudubon.org>

<sup>47</sup> <http://www.nature.org/wherewework/northamerica/states/newjersey/work/>

<sup>48</sup> <http://www.passaicriver.org/whatwedo.html>

<sup>49</sup> [http://www.tpl.org/tier3\\_cd.cfm?content\\_item\\_id=22432&folder\\_id=629](http://www.tpl.org/tier3_cd.cfm?content_item_id=22432&folder_id=629)

<sup>50</sup> <http://www.keepconservation.com/index.htm>

<sup>51</sup> [http://www.nj.gov/dep/greenacres/success\\_images/harte.html](http://www.nj.gov/dep/greenacres/success_images/harte.html)

<sup>52</sup> [http://www.nj.gov/dep/greenacres/lpp\\_05\\_07.pdf](http://www.nj.gov/dep/greenacres/lpp_05_07.pdf)

<sup>53</sup> SADC website, <http://www.state.nj.us/agriculture/sadc/about/>

<sup>54</sup> <http://www.state.nj.us/agriculture/sadc/farmpreserve/progress/stats/preservedsummary.pdf>

<sup>55</sup> <http://www.nj.gov/agriculture/sadc/farmpreserve/progress/stats/acres.pdf>

<sup>56</sup> <http://www.nj.gov/dca/news/news/2008/approved/080204.html>

<sup>57</sup> Draft report, NJHT Grants 1990- 2008. Final report, including project, municipality and county breakdowns will be available on NJHT website, <http://www.njht.org/dca/njht/funded/>

<sup>58</sup> <http://www.njht.org/dca/njht/funded/sitedetails/essexcountycourthouse.htm>

<sup>59</sup> <http://www.njht.org/dca/njht/funded/sitedetails/rogerslocomotiveframefittingshop.html>

<sup>60</sup> <http://www.nj.gov/dep/fgw/wmaland.htm>

<sup>61</sup> <http://www.njaudubon.org/Tools2.Net/IBBA/SiteDetails.aspx?sk=3057>

<sup>62</sup> <http://www.nj.gov/dep/parksandforests/natural/njtrails.html>

<sup>63</sup> <http://www.njskylands.com/pkkitt.htm>

<sup>64</sup> <http://www.state.nj.us/dep/parksandforests/parks/>