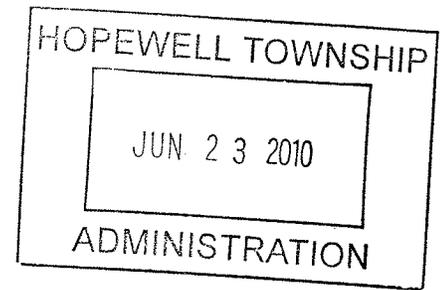




State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

BOB MARTIN
Acting Commissioner

KIM GUADAGNO
Lt. Governor

Division of Parks and Forestry
New Jersey Forest Service
501 E. State Street, P.O. Box 404
Trenton, NJ 08625
Tel. # 609-292-2532
FAX# 609-984-0378

Paul Pogorzelski
Township Administrator
201 Washington Crossing-Pennington Road
Titusville, NJ 08560

June 11, 2010

Dear Paul Pogorzelski:

Congratulations! I am pleased to advise you that after our review, the New Jersey Forest Service has concluded that Hopewell Township-Mercer's plan meets the standards set forth by the State and New Jersey Community Forestry Council and is approved for 2010 through the 2014 calendar year.

The major goal of the state's Community Forestry Program is to educate all municipalities and counties in the state about the benefits of developing their own distinctive Community Forestry Management Plan. As these plans develop, the health of the tree cover will improve, the number of trees will increase and the awareness of our state's residents will rise.

A management plan is an essential guide to successfully achieving a healthy and safe community forest. One of the major points of the Shade Tree and Community Forestry Act is to enable New Jersey's communities to reduce or eliminate their exposure to litigation due to the drastic decline and poor condition of the community tree resource. The basis for this protection is a properly planned local community forestry program implemented through a state approved management plan – as well as a municipal or county participation in the Training skills and Accreditation Program.

If you are a participant of the Forest Service grant program, the next step would be to submit your expenditure report and financial documentation for reimbursement within 30 days. Please find the enclosed certificate of approval and a signed certification by the State Forester within your management plan.

Sincerely,

Michael V. D'Errico
State Coordinator
Community Forestry

Attachment
c: file, Mayor