




# CAPE ATLANTIC CONSERVATION DISTRICT

DECEMBER / JANUARY 2024

**Next issue will be out in February!**  
The District's Newsletter will be sent out bi-monthly around the 15th.  
Don't miss them!

Forwarded this newsletter?  
[Subscribe here!](#)



## Keeping Busy at Cape Atlantic

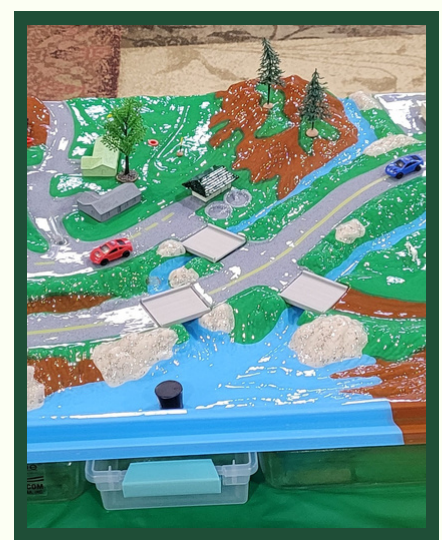
Click the captions below for more information from our [Facebook](#) and don't forget to also follow us on [Instagram!](#)



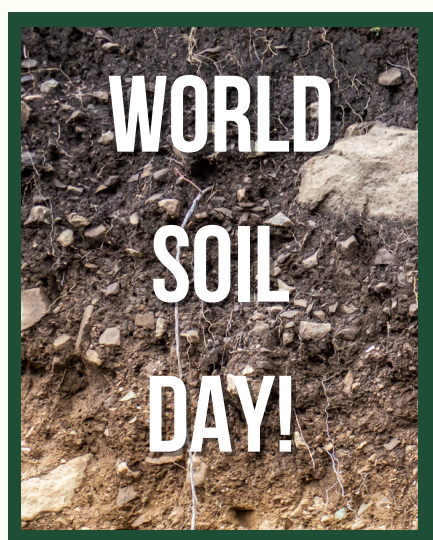
**2024 Envirothon**  
**Current Issues Topic**



**About New Jersey**  
**Soil Conservation Districts**



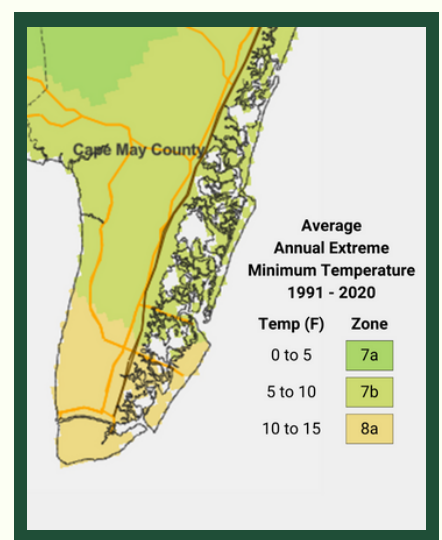
**Learn About Watersheds**  
**Using the Enviroscope**



**Dec. 5th - World Soil Day!**



**Signup for Classroom**  
**Presentations with the District**



**Updates to the Plant**  
**Hardiness Zones**





## 2024 Local Working Group Sessions

The 2024 Cape May County and Atlantic County Local Working Group requests your participation to identify important natural resource issues, concerns, and opportunities. The purpose of this local working group is to provide information to help direct technical and financial resources for conservation programs and efforts locally and across the State. Your insight and input will be very much appreciated. A report of findings will be provided to all participants.

**Tuesday, January 16, 2024, 4:00pm - 6:00pm**

Cooperative Extension Service  
of Cape May County  
355 Court House - South Dennis Rd  
Cape May Court House, NJ 08210

**Thursday, January 18, 2024, 4:00pm - 6:00pm**

Atlantic County Office Building  
6260 Old Harding Hwy  
Mays Landing, NJ 08330

**REGISTER HERE!**

You can also visit [www.capeatlantic.org](http://www.capeatlantic.org) or call 609-625-3144 to register.

**\*\*We look forward to seeing you\*\***



The District would like to congratulate **Rick Dovey** of the Cape Atlantic Conservation District on being elected **President of the NJ Association of Conservation Districts**. This is Rick's first time being elected to the executive board and we are very excited to see where his leadership takes the Association in 2024.

The District would like to congratulate **Cormac Morrissey** on being elected to represent the **Southern region of New Jersey on the State Soil Conservation Committee**. Cormac's knowledge and leadership will be an asset to the Committee and we are grateful to have him representing our region.





## Emergency Watershed Protection Program Informational Meeting

Join the Cape Atlantic Conservation District and the New Jersey Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to learn about the opportunities available for Municipalities through the Emergency Watershed Protection Program.

**Wednesday, January 10, 2024, 1:00pm - 4:00pm**

Atlantic County Office Building  
6260 Old Harding Hwy,  
Mays Landing, NJ 08330

**REGISTER HERE!**

To learn more about the EWP NRCS Program, visit this [link](#).



### NRCS CSP Deadline March 28th

NRCS New Jersey has announced the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) Signups! "Agricultural producers and forest landowners looking to build on conservation efforts while strengthening their operation can apply for technical and financial assistance through CSP and IRA CSP." NRCS accepts applications all year but to be considered for the current funding cycle, apply by **Friday, March 29th, 2024**.

**To learn more about CSP, new opportunities for this fiscal year and the application process, [click here](#).**

## 2023 Ag Networking Roundtable

By: Riley Blankenship

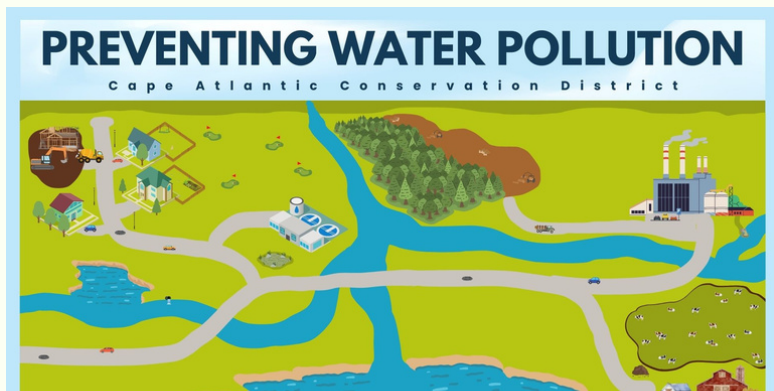
District staff attended the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) 2023 Delaware River Watershed Ag Networking Roundtable held in Pennsylvania. The event was full of great discussion on current programs in the watershed and future opportunities available. The District made good connections with other organizations working in the watershed and came away with new ideas and inspiration. Thank you to NFWF for hosting a great event.



## Classroom Presentations

Did you know the District offers a variety of classroom presentations and activities? With subjects such as watersheds, soils, horseshoe crabs, food chains, NJ wildlife, and more!

Email us at [education@capeatlantic.org](mailto:education@capeatlantic.org) to schedule our visit to your classroom. Have a particular subject in mind you would like to have covered - let us know and we can put together a presentation and activity to bring to your class!



*"Committed to the conservation of our natural resources"*





## Urban Agriculture Focus Group

On December 13th the District held our Urban Agriculture Focus Group. This Focus Group was formed as a response to feedback heard at the 2023 Local Working Groups. This group gathered urban producers, non-profits and government organizations together to discuss urban agriculture concerns that they have. Topics discussed included networking, agriculture education in schools, technical and financial assistance and information / resource sharing.

Thanks to everyone who participated! If you couldn't make it to this Focus Group keep your eye out for some more in 2024!

## 251 section

By: Lauren Tigue

Did you know that sediment is New Jersey's largest water pollutant by volume? Wind and water can cause soil to erode from its current place and in that process, it can pick pollutants up and transport them to our local waterways!

Construction projects with steep slopes have the most potential for erosion and subsequent water pollution. Erosion control matting is an engineering control method most often seen on stormwater basin side slopes or other areas of steep grade. This slope protection structure works as a blanket over the soil to prevent soil erosion while vegetation is being established. Matting creates a mulch-like cover which can also serve as a root anchor and conveys stormwater runoff down to a stable area. This preserves the integrity of slopes onsite and helps reduce the amount of soil particles travelling offsite in stormwater.



Photo by: Glenn Ward





# Happy Holidays

Wishing you all the best during  
this holiday season!

FROM YOUR FRIENDS AT CAPE ATLANTIC

## Contact Us!

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Cormac Morrissey, Treasurer  
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 (609) 625-3144

  @capeatlanticSCD

## Looking Ahead at December and January

### December

- Monday, December 25th
  - Christmas Day, **District Office closed**

### January

- Monday, January 1st
  - New Year's Day, **District Office closed**
- Wednesday, January 10th @ 1:00pm
  - Emergency Watershed Protection Program, at the District Office, Atlantic County Office Building at 6260 Old Harding Hwy. Mays Landing, NJ 08330
- Monday, January 15th
  - Martin Luther King Jr. Day, **District Office closed**
- Tuesday, January 16th @ 4:00pm
  - Cape May County Local Working Group, at the Cooperative Extension Service of Cape May County, 355 Court House - South Dennis Rd., Cape May Court House, NJ 08210
- Thursday, January 18th @ 4:00pm
  - Atlantic County Local Working Group, at the District Office, Atlantic County Office Building at 6260 Old Harding Hwy. Mays Landing, NJ 08330
- Thursday, January 25th @ 8:00AM
  - District Board of Supervisors' Meeting at the District Office, Atlantic County Office Building at 6260 Old Harding Hwy. Mays Landing, NJ 08330