



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Tahirih Smith
Sustainable Lawrence
(609) 731-1818
tahirih.smith@gmail.com

**FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
SEVENTH ANNUAL LIVING LOCAL EXPO WILL BE A "ZERO WASTE" EVENT
March 29 at the National Guard Armory in Lawrence, New Jersey**

The 7th annual Living Local Expo in Lawrence on March 29 will be a "zero waste" event. A zero waste event follows sustainable practices to send the least possible amount of waste to the landfill. Recycling, reusing items, and reducing waste are all important components of a zero waste event.

Recycling Stations will be set up for recyclable and compostable materials such as paper cups, food scraps, and plastic water bottles that are generated by the event. Information about Lawrence Township's new food and organic waste composting program will also be on display at the Expo. Visitors can also learn about the negative impacts of single-use plastic bags from the Bag It campaign.

Clear out your clutter and donate items at the Expo for reuse by others. Donate your old bike to The Trenton Bike Exchange, or donate gently used medical equipment to Your Resource. Dress for Success also will be collecting clothes that are suitable for the workplace.

To promote buying local and reduce waste from packaging, the expo will feature a farmers market with local fruits, vegetables, meat, cheeses, food and food products, plants and flowers. Visitors to the expo will have the opportunity to talk with local farmers about the coming season.

Find out about local cheeses, jams, jellies, pickled peppers, desserts, and wonderful flowers. Cooking demonstrations by local chefs will be offered all afternoon. Chef Chris Albrecht of Eno Terra will kick things off with a food demonstration at noon. Terhune Orchards, Yellow Bee Aviaries, Stony Brook Orchids, and 4th Street Foodworks are just a few of the local businesses that will be participating in the expo.

Organized by Sustainable Lawrence in partnership with the green teams from Lawrence, Ewing, Hopewell, and the Mercer County Office of Sustainable Development, the expo will also feature sustainable local businesses, hands-on workshops, and the "Ask your Neighbor" table where visitors can hear how homeowners completed successful energy-efficient home projects.

The Expo will be held Saturday, March 29, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the National Guard Armory, which is located on Eggerts Crossing Road in Lawrence. The event is free and open to the public. In addition to the more than 60 eco-friendly vendors at the Expo, visitors can hear speakers discuss a variety of sustainability issues ranging from local school gardening and science projects, to the future of transportation, to recycling in Mercer County and more.

Several car dealers will bring their hybrid and electric models for a mini show in the parking lot. See a converted electric truck and participate in building an electric bicycle using a simple kit.

Not to forget the arts and sustainability, the Ewing band the TEMPORaries, will be providing live rock music from noon to 2 p.m.

Meet local school representatives and organizations to learn about projects like new biking paths, walking trails, and other community projects. Enjoy a locally prepared lunch, soup, chili, bread, cider, fruit and more from more than a dozen local farms and local food businesses. Bring your whole family, meet your neighbors, enjoy the afternoon and learn how Lawrence Township and Mercer County are becoming more sustainable.