

JERSEY-FRIENDLY YARDS CASE STUDY #7

OceanFirst Bank
10 Leesville Road
Jackson, NJ 08527

Project Goals:

Supplement the pre-existing perimeter garden beds with *Jersey-Friendly* plants. Remove invasive species. Offer a model native plant garden to the community.

Site Assessment:

Leesville Road Branch in Jackson is the newest OceanFirst Bank Branch in Ocean County. Existing landscaping includes a perimeter garden on three sides of the building, constituting 7 different beds, each receiving varying degrees of sun and shade. A soil test revealed the 7.05 soil pH is slightly higher than optimum range for the growth of most perennials, however, the soil pH is buffered by the high level of existing organic matter. Macronutrients are at optimum levels; micronutrients are adequate. The sandy soil has satisfactory levels of electrical conductivity needed for plant nutrient intake.



White Turtlehead (*Chelone glabra*)



“Our staff thoroughly enjoyed watching the creation of the gardens from start to finish. It is something that our customers and employees can enjoy from season to season.” -Lynda Dayton, Vice President, Branch Manager at OceanFirst Bank



Testing the soil is an important step in planning a garden.

This project was funded by Barnegat Bay Partnership.



Actions:

The Jersey Friendly Yards website www.jerseyyards.org was used to identify native perennials that grow well in sandy soil. A variety of plants were selected for the different beds based on the varying degrees of sunlight received. Invasive species such as Japanese Barberry were removed from the landscape. Jersey-Friendly plants were installed among the remaining pre-existing perennials to create a lush and robust garden that offers colorful blooms throughout the season.

Project Leaders:

Becky Laboy and Eileen Miller: OCSCD
Rita and Gwen Varneke: Volunteers



PLANT LIST

Blue Giant Hyssop
(*Agastache foeniculum*)

Eastern Bluestar
(*Amsonia tabernaemontana*)

Blue Wild Indigo
(*Baptisia australis*)

White Turtlehead
(*Chelone glabra*)

Sweet Fern
(*Comptonia peregrina*)

Gaillardia
(*Gaillardia sp.*)

Blazing Star
(*Liatris spicata*)

Great Blue Lobelia
(*Lobelia siphyltica*)

Evening Primrose
(*Oenothera fruticosa*)

Foxglove Beardtongue
(*Penstemon digitalis*)

Moss phlox
(*Phlox subulata*)

Obedient Plant
(*Physostegia virginiana*)

Clustered Mountain Mint
(*Pycnanthemum muticum*)

Showy Goldenrod
(*Solidago speciosa*)

Foam Flower
(*Tiarella cordifolia*)