FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: November 1, 2016 Contact: D'Arcy Rohan Green, (732) 814-3616



The Borough of Bay Head Achieves Sustainable Jersey Certification

Bay Head, NJ – Sustainable Jersey representatives announced in late October that the Borough of Bay Head has met the rigorous requirements to achieve Sustainable Jersey certification. Bay Head is one of 74 towns that have attained certification in 2016 and will be honored at the <u>Sustainable Jersey awards luncheon</u> on Tuesday, November 15 in Atlantic City.

"Bay Head has long been committed to protecting the incredible natural environment in which we live," said Bay Head Mayor William Curtis, "and I am delighted that Bay Head's efforts have been recognized by this certification. I am proud of our Environmental Commission and the other volunteers and residents who have worked to achieve this recognition and who continue to make Bay Head a more sustainable and livable community."

To become Sustainable Jersey certified, Bay Head submitted documentation to show it had completed a balance of the required sustainability actions, meeting a minimum of 150 action points. In addition to reaching 150 points, each certified community had to create a green team and select at least 2 out of 11 priority action options, which Bay Head accomplished by completing a comprehensive assessment of flooding risk in Bay Head and by conducting a prescription drug safety and disposal program.

"Sustainable Jersey is incredibly proud of the 74 New Jersey towns that achieved certification this year," said Donna Drewes, co-director of Sustainable Jersey. "The 198 Sustainable Jersey certified towns demonstrate leadership and are a testament to how much we can accomplish toward the long-term goal of a sustainable New Jersey."

Certified towns excelled in areas such as improving energy efficiency and health and wellness, reducing waste, sustaining local economies, protecting natural resources and advancing the arts. "Collectively the 440 participating Sustainable Jersey towns are a powerful force in New Jersey," said Randall Solomon, co-director of Sustainable Jersey.

A coastal municipality of 0.74 square miles, Bay Head's natural surroundings are interwoven with its history. Resting on a barrier island and disconnected from the mainland by the Point Pleasant Harbor on the north, joined to Barnegat Bay by Scow Ditch on the south, and bordered by the Atlantic Ocean on the east, Bay Head's Twilight Lake also provides an ideal stopover for birds migrating along the Atlantic Flyway. Noted for its historical homes, quaint shops and stores, well-kept gardens, outstanding elementary school, and health and wellness activities, Bay Head remains committed to enriching and sustaining its natural resources.

About Sustainable Jersey

Sustainable Jersey is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that provides tools, training and financial incentives to support communities as they pursue sustainability programs. Currently, 78 percent or 440 of New Jersey's 565

municipalities are participating in the municipal certification program and 218 school districts and 538 schools are participating in the Sustainable Jersey for Schools certification program.

Sustainable Jersey's partners include the New Jersey State League of Municipalities, Sustainability Institute at The College of New Jersey, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities Clean Energy Program. Program underwriters include the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, New Jersey Board of Public Utilities Clean Energy Program and the Surdna Foundation. The 2016 Sustainable Jersey Small Grants program for municipalities is funded by PSEG Foundation and the Gardinier Environmental Fund. South Jersey Gas and New Jersey Natural Gas are Platinum Sponsors. NJM Insurance Group is a Gold Sponsor, Bayshore Recycling is a Silver Sponsor and our Bronze Sponsors are Investors Bank, Covanta, Energy Solve, JCP&L, GovPilot Direct Energy Solar and SolarCity. The Sustainability Summit venue sponsors are Good Energy and Verizon.

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