



News Release

Contact:

Jo-Ann Munoz
Director of Communications
Delaware & Raritan Greenway
609-924-4646 ext. 25
jmunoz@delrargreenway.org

For immediate release:

Grand Opening of Greenway Meadows Park and Preview of *The Greenway Center* will be held on Saturday May 22

Princeton, NJ, May 3, 2003 – Princeton Township and Borough, Princeton Recreation Department and Delaware & Raritan Greenway, central New Jersey's land trust, invite the public to get to know two of Princeton's newest landmarks – Greenway Meadows Park and *The Greenway Center*.

The former Robert Wood Johnson Estate, renamed Greenway Meadows Park, was preserved by D&R Greenway in partnership with Princeton Township and numerous private supporters in 2001. The park consists of 55 beautifully landscaped acres planted with large specimen trees and includes a magnificent high point with the best view of the Sourlands from all of Princeton. 43 of the park's acres are dedicated to passive uses with walking trails and open meadows that are perfect for informal picnicking, kite flying or playing Frisbee. The remaining 12 acres consist of softball and soccer fields and a playground and restrooms are adjacent to the active recreation area. According to Princeton Township Mayor Phyllis L. Marchand, "Greenway Meadows Park is perfect blend of passive and active land use. The recreational needs of all of our citizens from toddlers to seniors can be met by a visit to this magnificent park. It is truly a multi-faceted gem, especially enhanced by the presence of the Greenway Center."

When the property was preserved, D&R Greenway retained five acres encompassing two historic barns. D&R Greenway is renovating the larger structure, which will soon become *The Greenway Center*. As a focal point for land preservation in New Jersey, *The Greenway Center* will offer programs and resources to municipalities, grassroots organizations and other groups to assist them in protecting and effectively managing land. D&R Greenway will provide hands-on education, technical assistance and direct action to help these organizations achieve their goals. *The Greenway Center* will also provide a home for D&R Greenway.

An example of adaptive reuse, the renovation of the circa 1900 barn will retain many of its original structural details including the hand-hewn timber frame. Noted architect Jerry Ford of Ford 3 Architects LLC is the designer of *The Greenway Center*.

“We are so pleased that this one hundred year-old barn, located in the middle of a spectacular preserved landscape, will have a new life helping to support the work of land preservationists throughout the state,” commented Linda J. Mead, Executive Director of D&R Greenway. “Greenway Meadows Park is a textbook example of the importance of leveraging partnerships and public and private funding sources in making preservation dreams a reality. It will be inspiring to have *The Greenway Center* overlook this lasting legacy.”

The Grand Opening Celebration of Greenway Meadows Park and the *Preview of The Greenway Center* will take place on Saturday, May 22, 2004 from 10:00 am – 12:00 noon. Greenway Meadows Park is located on Rosedale Road opposite Johnson Park School. Admission is free and all are welcome. A press conference and the opening ceremonies are scheduled for 10:30 am.

For more information, please contact the Princeton Recreation Department at 921-9480 or D&R Greenway at 924-4646.

About Delaware & Raritan Greenway

Celebrating 15 years of land preservation successes, Delaware & Raritan Greenway is central New Jersey’s regional land trust. Their mission is to safeguard the water quality, environment and livability of our area by permanently preserving its watershed lands and large-scale landscapes. Since 1989 D&R Greenway has preserved 6,800 acres of land valued at \$129.5 million.

For the second year in a row Charity Navigator, America’s premier evaluator of independent charities, has awarded D&R Greenway four stars – their highest rating – for excellence in the area of strong fiscal management.

