

# Linden City Greenway and Hawk Rise Sanctuary



**An Opportunity  
For Community  
Collaboration**

# Background

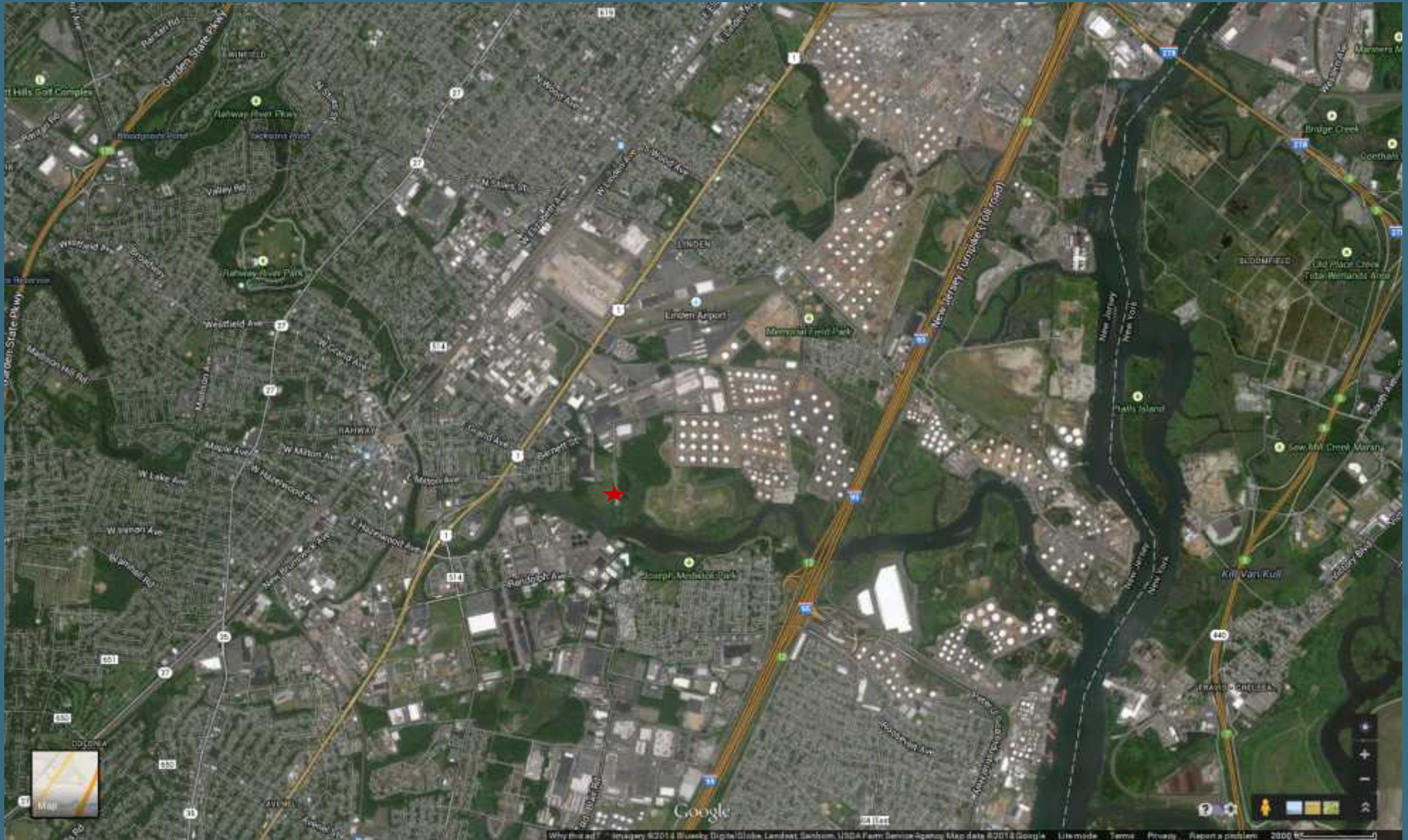
- Over 10 years in the development.
- Original documents prepared by the Linden Board of Education and the City of Linden in 2003 to focus on: restoration, research and educational opportunities.
- Administrative Consent Order (ACO) executed by NJDEP and City of Linden on April 25, 2007

# Agreement Highlights

- Closes landfill, addresses environmental problems at the site and explores alternate energy generation
- Creates permanent preserve at the site totaling approx. 145 acres.
- Implements a wetlands mitigation/enhancement plan for approx. 50 acres of wetlands around the landfill.
- Establishes an escrow account outside of the City's operating budget to fund a not-for-profit to develop and provide environmental education/interpretive programs
- Requires NJDEP to provide up to \$1 million of natural resource damage money for design and construction of public access areas.



# Where is Hawk Rise?



**Hawk Rise Sanctuary is located on Range Road in Linden, NJ. As seen on the map, the sanctuary is adjacent to the closed Linden Municipal Landfill and bordered by the New Jersey Turnpike, US Route 1, the Rahway River and Lower Road.**

# City of Linden's Vision



**“A greenway along the Rahway River that provides wildlife habitat as well as accessible open space for passive nature recreation and ecosystem study.”**



# NJ Audubon



- As part of the ACO agreement, the City of Linden established an MOU with NJ Audubon
- Oldest & largest conservation organization in NJ
- Over 22,000 members
- Mission realized through education, stewardship, research and government relations
- Statewide with 6 staffed nature centers, 2 regional offices (Wattles Stewardship Center and Trenton Policy Office), 1 programming site (Duke Farms), 2 project sites (Hawk Rise and Petty's Island) and 36 wildlife sanctuaries.

# Focal Areas

- Public Access & Interpretive Trails
  - Habitat Stewardship
  - School-based Programming
  - Community-based Programming
- 

# Public Access & Interpretive Trails



- Park entrance with 2 informational kiosks and picnic tables
- Approximately 1 mile of handicapped accessible trails
- Approximately 1 mile of additional trails are proposed
- 11 interpretive signs located throughout the park
- 2 additional informational signs in development



# Public Access & Interpretive Trails



# Habitat Stewardship

- Deer ex-closure installed March 1, 2014 as per Forest Stewardship Plan
- Continued bird monitoring – 5 years of data
- Monitoring of invasive plants
- Habitat restoration inside deer ex-closure
- Continued work restoring the salt marsh





# School-based Programming



- Full support of the Linden Board of Education.
- Support from local industry such as Infineum
- Over 900 5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade students visited in May
- Provides teachers with support needed to teach about their community.

# Community Programming

A suite of hikes, events and programs are regularly offered for free to the public.



 **NEW JERSEY AUDUBON**  
NJ Audubon Programs

New Jersey Audubon is hosting public programs for all ages at Hawk Rise Sanctuary.

To register for a program please contact:  
Scherman Hoffman Wildlife Sanctuary  
Phone: 908.766.5787

**Field Trip**

**SONGBIRD WOODLAND SEARCH**  
*Led by Scott Barnes, Director – All Things Birds*  
Thursday, May 15 – 9:00 a.m. to 11 a.m.  
Search for thrushes, vireos and warblers in this urban oasis of Maples, Oaks and Sweet Gum. We will also go to the Rahway River overlook to search for a variety of shorebirds. Hawk Rise is noted for its Swainson's Thrushes and warbler varieties.  
Location: Hawk Rise Sanctuary, Range Road, Linden, NJ  
Cost: Free

**Events**

**HAWK RISE COMMUNITY AND SCOUT SERVICE DAY**  
*Led by Kelly Wenzel – Project Coordinator-Urban Education*  
Saturday, June 7 - 9:00 a.m. to Noon  
Help New Jersey Audubon catalog and remove invasive plants and revive the forest with new native plants. Before you plant, learn about why we are keeping the deer out, research in the forest and how you can be more involved in forest stewardship. Tools, gloves and water provided. Dress for the weather and wear boots or heavy shoes. Children must be accompanied by an adult.  
Location: Hawk Rise Sanctuary, Range Road, Linden, NJ  
Cost: Free

**Family Program**

**MOTHS OF NEW JERSEY PRESENTATION AND FIELD EXPERIENCE**  
*Led by Blaine Rothausser – President, BR Environmental*  
Saturday, July 26 – 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.  
Join us to celebrate National Moth Week! First we will have a presentation on the "Moths of New Jersey" followed by a field survey for nocturnal moths. The presentation will begin at 7pm and end shortly after 8pm. The moth survey will begin at 8:30pm and last as long as people would like to stay. We suggest that you bring a lawn or beach chair for the field study portion. Presentation site may be different than field study site – confirmation given upon registration. Registration is required.  
Location: Hawk Rise Sanctuary, Range Road, Linden, NJ  
Cost: Free

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**NEW JERSEY AUDUBON**



# Other things happening at Hawk Rise...



The City of Linden has installed Six (6) park benches throughout the park.

In November 2013 Jack Pecoraro completed his Eagle Scout by building this teaching station.



Olivia Ruppel is completing her Gold Award by building a geocache trail, sign and public program.



NJ Audubon trained Linden Facilities Management Staff on invasive plant identification and management as well as trail maintenance.

# Questions?



## Contacts:

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