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## **Highlands Council, Regional Plan Association Team Up For Regenerative Design Conference**

*Conference to be held June 18<sup>th</sup> at Morristown-Beard School*

CHESTER, N.J. – The New Jersey Highlands Water Protection and Planning Council is partnering with the Regional Plan Association to discuss the practice of “regenerative design” – redevelopment projects to enhance not only the environment, but also the community’s economy and character. Regenerative design provides opportunities to achieve improvements over time, as communities naturally evolve.

“The Highlands Regional Master Plan emphasizes the need for well-designed redevelopment and restoration projects, to improve the Highlands Region for current and future residents and businesses and to protect the water supplies of over 5 million New Jersey residents,” said Eileen Swan, Highlands Council Executive Director. “These actions can be implemented by individual homeowners, developers and redevelopers, municipalities and others. This conference will showcase many innovative ideas from New Jersey and other states and countries that may be useful to the Highlands.”

At the conference, which will be held June 18 from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Morristown-Beard School (70 Whippany Road, Morristown), national experts will join staff of the Highlands Council and the Regional Plan Association to discuss opportunities and methods for regenerative design and development, from individual parcels to region-wide efforts.

The New Jersey Highlands Regenerative Design Conference is free but registration is required; for more details, go to <http://www.rpa.org/regen>. The conference is designed for all Highlands stakeholders and anyone interested in exploring the concepts of regenerative design.

The conference is supported with grants from the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, the Leon Lowenstein Foundation, the New Jersey Office of Smart Growth, and the U.S. Green Building Council – NJ Chapter.