

# Township Open Space Program wins State Planning Award

On April 24, 2009, the Franklin Township Open Space Program was awarded an "Achievement in Planning Award" from the New Jersey Planning Officials in the category of "A municipality achieving a special project which makes a significant contribution to planning."



## 2009 Achievement in Planning Awards

### *Municipalities*

#### Franklin Township

##### *Open Space Program*

Within its 47 square miles, 34 percent of Franklin's land base is preserved. As exceptional as this achievement is, what's really unique is the township's management of its open spaces. Through the ambitious efforts of the Township Council and the Open Space Advisory Committee, extensive greenways were preserved, with large meadows managed as native grassland habitat that now attract endangered, threatened, and/or species of concern. For this project, 24 Eagle Scouts contributed kiosks, trails, interpretive literature, bait boxes and benches throughout the greenways. Additionally, a Pathways and Trails Plan was recently adopted as a Master Plan Element, prescribing a linked network of trails that will expand the current trail network of over 50 miles of trails.

