

## Proclamation

## By The County Executibe

## Recognizing Rutgers Master Gardeners of Mercer County Class of 2020

Whereas, the County of Mercer recognizes and celebrates the educational accomplishments of our residents; and

Whereas, the Rutgers Master Gardeners of Mercer County holds its annual Graduation and Awards Ceremony on November 16, 2022 at the Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Mercer County; and

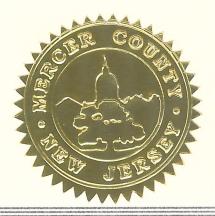
Whereas, the Rutgers Master Gardeners of Mercer County is a group of volunteers trained and certified by Rutgers Cooperative Extension to provide educational programs and activities in support of environmentally responsible home gardening; and

Whereas, the 14 members of the graduating Class of 2020 were required to put in 60 volunteer hours, including 30 hours on the Helpline, which all accomplished; and

Whereas, the shutdowns caused by the COVID-19 pandemic beginning in March 2020 made it impossible for the Class of 2020 to obtain their volunteer hours within a year's time frame, but they persevered and were able to finally graduate in November 2022; and

Whereas, the members of the graduating class are a valuable addition to the certified Rutgers Master Gardeners of Mercer County, with each graduate offering a different perspective and talent, which helps generate innovative ideas that benefit the program,

Now, Therefore, I, Brian M. Hughes, Mercer County Executive, do hereby congratulate the Rutgers Master Gardeners of Mercer County Class of 2020, and thank them for assisting the home gardeners of the Greater Mercer County community.



BRIAN M. HUGHES

MERCER COUNTY EXECUTIVE