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PLANTING TREES AT ESSEX COUNTY PRESBY MEMORIAL IRIS GARDENS

As if the dazzling display of irises now in full bloom at the Presby Gardens weren't enough, volunteers from the garden joined Essex County Executive Joseph N. DiVincenzo, the NJ Devils, PwC US, and the New Jersey Tree Foundation on May 28 to plant 60 new trees and bushes as part of their "Pucks for Parks" initiative. The greenery, including varieties such as Silver Linden, Hawthorne, Redbud, Ginkgo, Serviceberry, Magnolia, Weeping Beech, Scholar Tree, Lilacs, Fringe Tree and Sweet Pepper Bush, will help bolster the iris population by enhancing natural pollination activity and providing additional pollination avenues in the popular garden. The trees will also help support the Garden's educational arbor program, which was started in 2001.



Photo by Daniel Cocchi, Graphic Designer and Presby Garden Staff Member

Pictured are Presby Garden Director Claudia Kolster and Presby Board Member Pat Hewitt placing Gator Bags around the newly planted trees. These bags are placed so that the trees can be watered until they are established.

Located at the base of the seven-and-a-half acre Mountainside Park, the Presby Memorial Iris Gardens contain over 14,000 irises of approximately 3,000 varieties and produce over 100,000 blooms over the course of the season.

For more information, visit www. <http://presbyirisgardens.org/wordpress/>.

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