

## *Why Choose Water Efficiency?*

- An increasing population
- An aging water infrastructure
- Global climate change
- Increasing water and energy costs



# Water Champions

*A Program to Promote  
Water Conservation in Our Schools*



## *Funding and Support*

Participation in this program is being funded through a grant to the Rutgers Cooperative Extension (RCE) Water Resources Program from the USEPA Region 2 Pollution Prevention Program. Technical support is provided by the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station (NJAES) and RCE Water Resources Program.

### **FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

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*“Empowering high school students to  
take action, and have fun while promoting  
a sustainable world.”*

**RUTGERS**  
New Jersey Agricultural  
Experiment Station



## Background

The demands are increasing every year for clean drinking water, while the resources are becoming more limited. Many schools have taken action to protect our resources by reducing water waste and reducing the environmental impacts caused by their school. Schools are also integrating environmental education into the curriculum. Numerous studies have shown that youth involvement is essential for communicating the importance of preserving and protecting our natural resources.

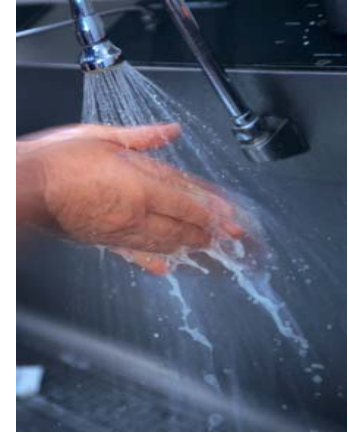
## What is the Water Champions Program?

The Water Champions Program has the potential to place high school students at the center of a stakeholder-driven learning community. Through this learning community, we hope to increase knowledge, skills, and develop new public attitudes that will foster better management and conservation of water resources. Participants of the Water Champions Program will be acting as good stewards by developing a promotional campaign on water conservation within their local community. This campaign will help the public make smarter purchasing decisions and ultimately reduce water usage throughout the community.



*The Rahway Water Champions conduct a water audit at the Waiting Room Restaurant in the City of Rahway, N.J.*

## Water Champions Program Highlights



- Students learn how to conduct an indoor water audit at school and at home.
- Students work in groups to develop a plan for conserving water at the school.
- Funding is available to support bathroom retrofit projects.
- Students learn the importance of water conservation and cost saving/water reducing technologies.
- Students gain experience to recruit local retailers to participate in the EPA WaterSense® Program.
- Students gather data on water efficient technologies and learn how to calculate the reduced volume of water used.
- Students learn how to calculate the cost savings associated with water efficient purchases.
- Students are provided leadership opportunities to share the results of their efforts within their community.