

**ESSEX COUNTY EXECUTIVE DIVINCENZO INVITES PUBLIC
TO TURTLE BACK ZOO FOR 17TH ANNUAL ESSEX COUNTY OPEN HOUSE**
Fun Activities, Giveaways and Free Admission to Turtle Back Zoo
Highlight Annual Information Extravaganza

West Orange, NJ – Essex County Executive Joseph N. DiVincenzo, Jr. invites the public to attend the **17th Annual Essex County Open House** at Essex County Turtle Back Zoo. The carnival-like event combines games and activities to entertain and provide information to raise public awareness about the programs and services provided by Essex County. The Open House, which includes free admission to Turtle Back Zoo, will be held as follows:

Date: Saturday, June 1, 2019
Time: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Place: Essex County Turtle Back Zoo
560 Northfield Avenue
West Orange, NJ

“Our Annual Open House has become a County tradition that our residents look forward to attending. Hosting this popular event at Turtle Back Zoo is a unique way to make County government more accessible and raise awareness about the many ways we contribute to our residents’ quality of life,” DiVincenzo said.

“While you’re learning about County government, take advantage of the free admission to the Zoo. While you’re there, golf on our miniGOLF Safari miniature golf course, take a ride on our ponies, carousel and miniature train, and enjoy our newest animal habitats featuring giraffes, lions, penguins, flamingos, sea lions, sting rays, jaguars, Gibbon apes, wolves, otters, alligators, reptiles and bears,” the Executive noted. “Turtle Back Zoo is a fantastic family destination that has been recognized by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums, American Humane and the Zoological Association of America for providing the highest standards of animal care. We encourage you to experience a fun-filled, wild adventure at our family-friendly destination,” he added.

The Annual Open House is an opportunity for Essex County employees to display their creativity and enthusiasm and promote their offices and services. Carnival games, treasure chests, prize wheels and trivia tests are some of the creative activities that will make this year’s event exciting. Every County department, division and office, including county-related agencies and authorities, will have information about their functions, and directors and employees will be on hand to answer questions.

Free and ample parking is available on-site and at the Essex County South Mountain Park-N-Ride facility. **Turtle Back Zoo admission and rides on the miniature train are free. Admission to the miniGOLF Safari is \$10 for children and \$12 for adults. Carousel and Pony rides are \$2 each. Feed sticks at the Outback Adventure Aviary are \$2. Fees also apply at the Treetop Adventure Course and Paddle Boating on the Orange Reservoir.** For more information, please call 973-621-4400.