



MEDIA RELEASE

DATE:

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

THE RACE FOR OPEN SPACE

On (STATION)

Day, Date, Time

NATIONWIDE – NJN and APT take on the issues of sprawl and land-use with *The Race for Open Space*, which airs on [day, date, time]. *The Race for Open Space* is narrated by Charles Gibson, Co-anchor, ABC News *Good Morning America* and *Primetime Thursday*.

The decisions we make today on land-use will affect generations beyond our own children and grandchildren. America is in a race that will shape the future of our lives – a race between development and open space preservation. New housing projects and corporate sites are consuming forest and farmland at an incredible rate. Known as sprawl, this uncontrolled development affects the quality of life on many levels. Sprawl leaves a heavy impact on the land through air and water pollution, habitat destruction for native plants and wildlife, and increased demand on limited resources. Sprawl contributes to the decline of cities and older suburbs and changes the rural landscape forever.

The tug of war between preserving open space and providing homes for families and individuals has created a tension between developers and environmentalists that feels insurmountable. According to research conducted by Rutgers University, based on the current trend, New Jersey will exhaust its supply of buildable land in the next few decades, and may become the first state in the nation to be considered 'built out'. The prognosis is alarming, but there is hope that we will be able to manage development for the good of all through smart growth and open space preservation.

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Funding for *The Race for Open Space* is made possible by the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation. Producer/writer Lynn Kosek Walker, Executive Producer Janice Selinger, Associate Producer/Editor Dari Mandell and Associate Producer/Editor Sia Nyorkor.

NJN Public Television & Radio provides access to award-winning programs and services that serve the informational, cultural and educational needs of New Jersey residents. NJN Public Television, a PBS member, is broadcast over the air on Channels 23 (Camden), 50 (Montclair), 52 (Trenton), 58 (New Brunswick) and all New Jersey cable systems. NJN Public Television also is broadcast in parts of New York, Pennsylvania, Delaware and Connecticut. NJN Public Radio, a NPR member station and PRI affiliate, currently serves New Jersey 24 hours a day, on seven radio stations. NJN Public Radio is broadcast on 89.7 FM/Atlantic City; 88.1 FM/Berlin; 89.3 FM/Bridgeton; 90.3 FM/Cape May Court House; 89.9 FM/Manahawkin; 88.5 FM/Sussex; and 88.1 FM/Trenton. The NJN Web site is located at www.njn.net.

For 41 years, American Public Television (APT) has been a major source of programming for the nation's public television stations. APT has more than 10,000 hours of available programming including Discovering the Real World of Harry Potter, Globe Trekker, Muhammad Ali: Through the Eyes of the World, Nightly Business Report, Rick Steves' Europe, Julia and Jacques Cooking at Home, Ballykissangel, Brian Jacques' Redwall and The Three Tenors Christmas. APT is known for identifying innovative programs and developing creative distribution techniques for producers. In four decades, it has established a tradition of providing public television stations nationwide with program choices that enable them to strengthen and customize their schedules. Press should contact Donna Hardwick at 617-338-4455 ext. 129 or via email to donna_hardwick@aptonline.org. For more information about APT's programs and services, log on to aptonline.org.

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