



## **Vote 'Yes' on Nov. 4 ballot question to continue preservation funding**

[Letters to the Editor/The Star-Ledger](#)

*on October 08, 2014 at 9:00 AM*

There are few needs more basic than having access to safe and plentiful drinking water.

Safeguarding our precious water resources in the Highlands is key to meeting this need, particularly in New Jersey, which has the highest population density in the country.

State-funded preservation programs have resulted in the protection of critical land and water resources since the Green Acres program was established in 1961. Unfortunately, funding for key preservation programs like Green Acres, Blue Acres, farmland and historic preservation has run out, putting at risk our drinking water, and decades of preservation gains.

Natural lands in the Highlands region act as a sponge, absorbing rainwater and filtering it to help make it clean for drinking. Land that is paved over cannot absorb rainwater, which then drains into natural waterways, carrying pollutants with it.

On Nov. 4 we can ensure our continued access to safe drinking water by voting “yes” on Public Question No. 2 to dedicate a portion of existing revenues for Green Acres, Blue Acres, farmland and historic preservation without increasing taxes.

Garden State voters have consistently funded preservation programs that keep our drinking water safe. We recognize that water is too precious a resource to risk living without.

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