

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **PRESS RELEASE**

**DATE OF EVENT: MARCH 24, 2009**

**CONTACT: JOHN HALL, (860) 346-6657, ext. 13**

### **ECO-FRIENDLY LAWN AND GARDEN EVENT**

Join members of Project Green Lawn and The Jonah Center for Earth and Art on Tuesday, March 24 from 6:30 – 9 p.m for a practical program about **Greening Your Yard Naturally: Safe Lawns, Native Landscapes and Edible Gardens**. The program will take place, at First Church of Christ, Congregational (UCC), 190 Court Street in Middletown.

A panel of experts will offer short presentations on Growing An Organic and Healthy Lawn; Alternatives to Lawns & Landscaping with Native Plants; Starting a Vegetable Garden; and Using Edibles in Your Landscape. Panelists include Susan Holland with Natureworks; Bettylou Sandy from CT-NOFA; Patrice Barret, a local Community Gardener; and Vivian Felten with USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service and the Ecological Landscaping Network.

An “Ask the Experts” session after the panel will provide the opportunity to ask individual questions. In addition, information about eco-friendly yard care, and landscaping supplies and products will be on display and for sale before and after the program. Exhibitors include Agway, Home Depot, Natureworks, the Connecticut Chapter of the Northeast Organic Farmers Association (CT-NOFA), City of Middletown Recycling Office and Project Green Lawn, Connecticut River Coastal Conservation District, and The Jonah Center. Information tables and products will be available starting at 6:30 pm.

For more information, contact The Jonah Center at (860) 346-6657 ext 13.

Project Green Lawn is a City of Middletown public awareness campaign to encourage residents and businesses to maintain healthy lawns free of chemicals that are harmful to people, pets and the environment. It is a collaborative project of the Middletown Public Works Department, Recycling Advisory Committee and Conservation Commission, with support and assistance from the Connecticut River Coastal Conservation District and The Jonah Center.