

Black Bear Trash Can Pilot Program

NJDEP Division
of Sustainable
Waste
Management

NJDEP Fish &
Wildlife



BIOLOGY & BEHAVIOR

- **Opportunistic omnivores**
- **High caloric needs**
- **Strong sense of smell**
- **Bears are attracted to the human derived food sources found in residential areas**
- **Habituation**

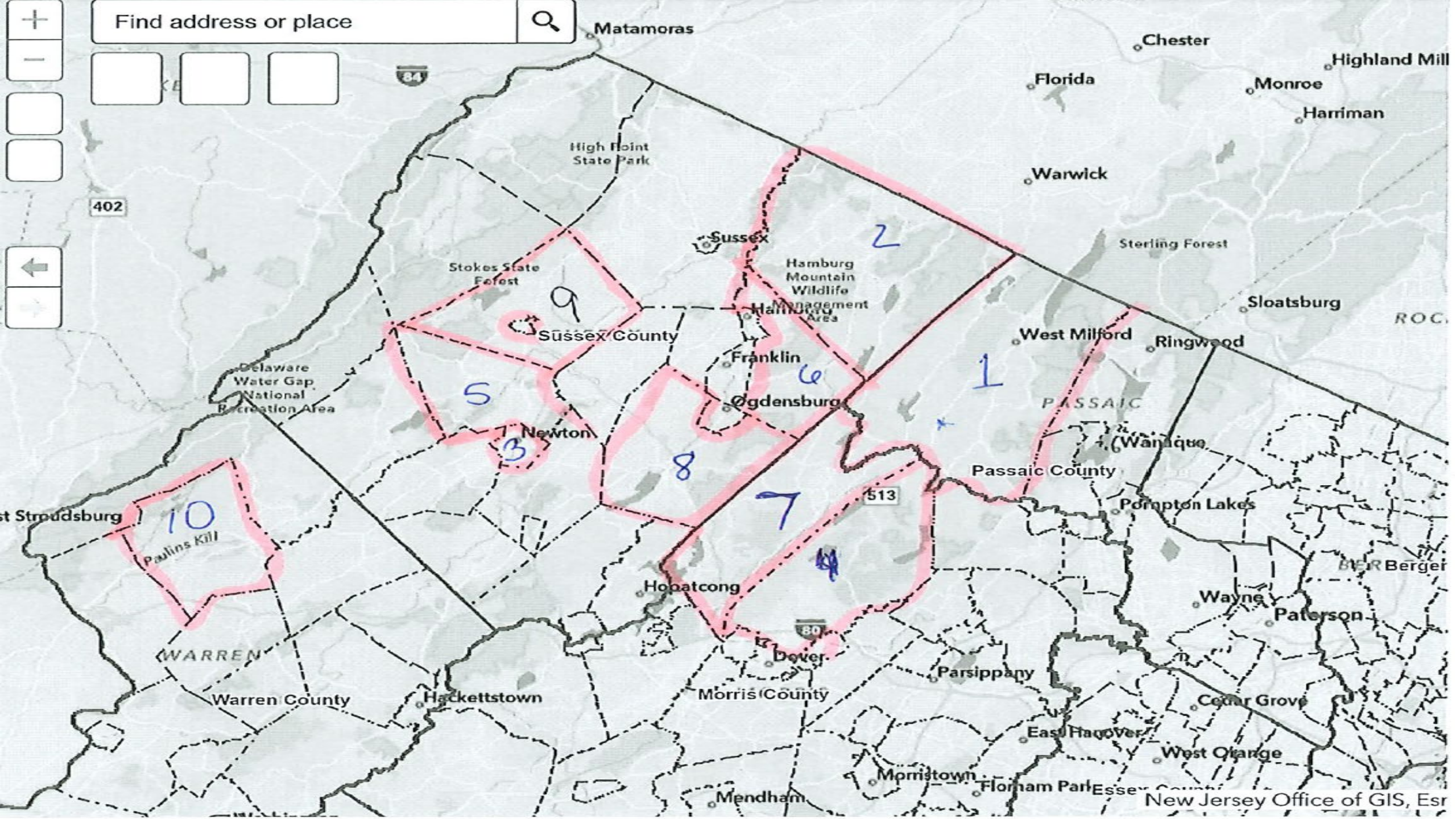




The New Jersey Department of
Environmental Protection
has received \$500,000 to develop a pilot
program encouraging the use of certified
bear-resistant trash cans in municipalities
with a high rate of bear/human interaction

Bear Incidents 2018- 2023

Municipality	County	Number of Garbage Incidents
West Milford Twp	Passaic	78
Vernon Twp	Sussex	78
Newton Town	Sussex	43
Rockaway Twp	Morris	34
Hampton Twp	Sussex	33
Hardyston Twp	Sussex	32
Jefferson Twp	Morris	31
Sparta Twp	Sussex	29
Frankford Twp	Sussex	26
Blairstown Twp	Warren	26





We have identified 6 municipalities that are interested in participating in the pilot program

The funding must be encumbered by June 2024 and distribution of BRC's is expected to be in March – April of 2024

CAUTION

DO NOT PLAY IN OR AROUND OR OCCUPY THIS EQUIPMENT

PRECAUCIÓN

NO JUEGUE EN ORO ALREDEDOR DE ESTE EQUIPAMIENTO. NO OCUPES ESTE EQUIPAMIENTO.

The Pilot Program

Manual Hauling

Automated Hauling

- **Data collection comparing manual and automated BRC's**
 - **Through resident surveys, we will assess effectiveness of pilot program**

- \$300,000 towards manual BRC's split between 4 municipalities

- \$200,000 towards automated BRC's split between 2 municipalities

The Pilot Program

Manual Hauling

- Hampton Twp
- West Milford Twp
- Jefferson Twp
- Sparta Twp

Automated Hauling

- Rockaway Twp
- Hardyston Twp

- Focus on high incident neighborhoods & truck routes

Certified Bear-Resistant Trash Cans

Manual/Semi-Automated



32 GAL



Certified by the Interagency
Grizzly Bear Committee.

Automated



64 GAL



Certified Bear-Resistant Trash Cans

Manual/Semi-Automated

- 32-gal Toter™ Bear-Resistant Can
Approximately \$150 per BRC
 $\$300,000 \text{ (-shipping)} / \$150 = 1,810 \text{ BRC's}$
 $1,810 / 4 \text{ towns} = 453 \text{ BRC's each town}$

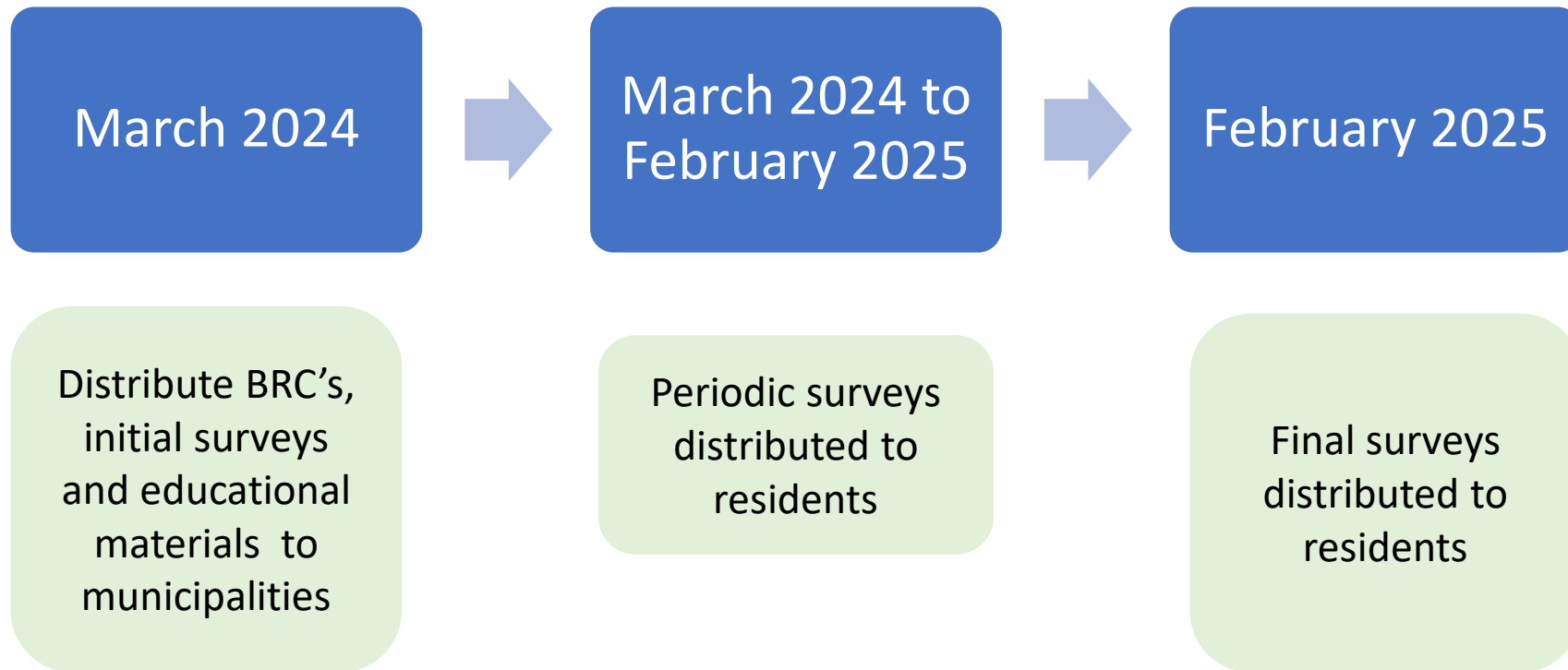
Automated

- 64-gal Toter™ Bear-Resistant Can
Approximately \$250 per BRC
 $\$200,000 \text{ (-shipping)} / \$250 = 738 \text{ BRC's}$
 $738 / 2 \text{ towns} = \sim 369 \text{ BRC's each town}$

Data Collection

- Surveys to residents receiving BRC's
 - Residents will be asked to report effectiveness of BRC's and bear activity in residential areas where BRC's are distributed
 - Initial survey before pilot
 - Repeated periodically throughout a 1 year timeframe
- After first year, surveys will be used in conjunction with NJDEP F&W bear incident data to analyze efficiency of pilot program
- Residents within each town where BRC's are not distributed, will be identified to act as a “control group” in each municipality
- Department's WARN-DEP Hotline
 - Bear incidents

Proposed Timeline of Pilot Project



Questions?

