

## **Camp Heart Kids Enjoy Duke Farms Fishing Derby**

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On June 9, 2007, Hillsborough's Camp Heart group joined with other children from The Newark Conservancy (JFK School) and the Organization for Autism Research to enjoy a day of fishing at the annual Fishing Derby sponsored by Duke Farms. For many of the children, it was their first opportunity to catch a live fish and to learn more about aquatic ecosystems and preserving the environment.

All junior fishermen left with their own fishing poles, bait and t-shirts. Everyone received fishing lessons, courtesy of the experts from the New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife (NJDFW) and local volunteers. All poles, bait and food were donated by local organizations and businesses.

"The Fish and Wildlife Derby at Duke Farms offers these children a unique opportunity," stated Mayor Anthony Ferrera, a board member of the Organization for Autism Research. "So often, children with special needs are segregated from their siblings and families. During this event, the children were able to fully participate as a family – and they all loved it."