



Grantee Organization Name: North Jersey District Water Supply Commission

Grant Number: X7 -982727-00-0

Project Title: Wetland Acquisition Priorities for the Purpose of Source Water Protection in the Wanaque River Watershed Basin

Project Period: 01/01/2004-12/31/2005

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Reporting Period: 1st Quarter (January, February, March 2005)

1. **Project Description:** The purpose of the project is to develop a land acquisition plan in which priority wetland and transition areas would be held as open space for the purpose of source water protection solely by the North Jersey District Water Supply Commission (NJDWSC) or in cooperation with state, county or local agencies. This project will focus on, and also include an analysis of the role of wetlands in controlling NPS runoff, analysis of existing state and local wetland regulations and a public education program.

Task 1: Develop a wetland/water resource priority based open space acquisition list (and Final Report) using criteria developed in consultation with the stakeholders for Watershed Management Area 3 (WMA 3) {of which the Wanaque River Watershed is part}.

- A) NJDWSC staff utilized 2002 orthoimagery available from the State of NJ to identify those undeveloped parcels greater than 10 acres in size within West Milford Township. An analysis of those parcels using the water resource data produced from the watershed characterization of WMA's 3, 4, and 6 has been completed and prioritized. We also obtained the data created by Rutgers University that was utilized in delineating the boundaries of New Jersey's Highlands Water Protection and Planning Act and have plans on using this data to cross reference our analysis.

We are currently analyzing the data we obtained from Morris Land Conservancy covering a portion of Ringwood. Upon completion, this

information will be integrated with the data from West Milford.

We are still in the process of collecting information on properties within the municipalities of Bloomingdale, Pompton Lakes, and Wanaque from other parties involved in land preservation.

- B) The New York municipalities in the Wanaque River Watershed Basin include:

Town of Warwick, Village of Greenwood Lake, Town of Tuxedo, Village of Tuxedo Park, Town of Ramapo.

In a preliminary search for water resource and tax map data it appears that there is sufficient information to conduct a similar analysis to that which was done by the stakeholders of WMA's 3, 4, and 6 in the New Jersey portion of the Wanaque River Watershed. All of the GIS datasets available in New Jersey don't seem to be available in New York but we hope it will be enough to complete a successful water resource analysis.

C) **ACTION ITEM:** Further investigate available New York State GIS data and acquire all that would apply to water resources. Begin planning an analysis of the New York data that would mirror the Water Resource Mapping completed for the watershed characterization of New Jersey's WMA's 3, 4, and 6.

Task 2: Public Seminars:

- A) Stephen J. Souza, Ph.D., president of Princeton Hydro, LLC, conducted the second of three Seminars on Stormwater Rules and Regulations on February 14, 2005 at the Passaic County Community College, Wanaque Academic Center, in Haskell, New Jersey. Elected and appointed officials as well as the general public were invited. Representatives from West Milford, Ringwood, Wanaque, Bloomingdale, Pompton Lakes, Mahwah and Oakland attended. Participants representing Ridgewood, Roxbury, Lake Hopatcong Commission and the Greenwood Lake Commission also attended.

Task 3: Website:

- A) A web page entitled "The Wetland Acquisition Priorities for the Purpose of Source Water Protection in the Wanaque River Watershed Basin" has been established. The address is:

<http://www.njdWSC.com/prbwmp/wapp/index.htm>.

The site contains topics that NJDWSC will communicate to the Wanaque River Watershed stakeholders as well as dates and details about upcoming seminars and events.

- B) A mailbox (wappinfo@njdWSC.com), for the purpose of sending and receiving information through the site has been created.

- C) A GIS link to direct Web Page users to the "Maps and downloads" section

of the Passaic River Basin Watershed Management Program website

<http://www.njdwsc.com/prbwmp/maps.htm> has also been created.

D) The Wetlands Acquisition Project Newsletter in PDF format has been made available at: <http://www.njdwsc.com/prbwmp/wapp/newsletter.htm>.

Task 4: Newsletter:

Volume 1, Issues 1, 2 and 3 and Volume 2 Issue 1 of "Every Drop Counts" have been published and circulated to local municipalities and libraries within the Wanaque River Watershed Region. We are presently working on Volume 2, Issue 2 which will be published and distributed by April 2005.

2) Location: County: Passaic
Watershed: Wanaque River

3) Contact Information:

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