



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

Contact Name and Telephone Number: Patrick A. Mancuso (973) 831-3354

Reporting Period: 3rd Quarter (July/August/September 2004)

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 continued to meet with municipalities in the Wanaque River Watershed Basin to create the wetland/water resource priority based open space acquisition list.

B) Two of the seven municipalities within the Wanaque River Watershed encompass the majority of the watershed. The Township of West Milford and the Borough of Ringwood account for **46%** and **35%** of the watershed respectfully. We recently met with each of these municipalities in hopes of attaining digital tax map data to apply to our GIS analysis. The Township of West Milford developed digital tax maps, but was initially hesitant to share this information. As a result of discussions between EPA and NJDWSC, it was determined that the Federal Government has the right to reproduce, publish or otherwise use, or authorize others to use, for federal purposes data first produced under an award. Since data first produced by NJDWSC are printed maps, award condition #13 refers to printed maps and other materials produced by NJDWSC and refers to work produced by an awardee for which EPA funding has been used in the production

of such work. West Milford subsequently agreed at a recent meeting to allow NJDWSC access to the data pending a signed data sharing agreement. The Borough of Ringwood is much more eager to help but none of its tax map information is in digital format. We are exploring other options with Ringwood at this time.

C) The municipalities in the Wanaque River Watershed Basin include: Bloomingdale, Mahwah, Oakland, Pompton Lakes, Ringwood, Wanaque, and West Milford.

D) **ACTION ITEM:** Schedule meetings with the other municipalities within the watershed with the goal of obtaining digital tax map data

Task 2: Public Seminars:

A) Stephen J. Souza, Ph.D., president of Princeton Hydro, LLC, will be conducting three (3) public Seminars scheduled for October 4, 2004, February 14, 2005 and June 2005 (date to be announced). The Seminars will take place at the Passaic County Community College, Wanaque Academic Center, in Haskell, New Jersey. Elected and appointed officials as well as the general public will be invited.

Task 3: Website:

A) A new web page was set 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 will contain 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 and 2 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 1, Issue 3 which will be published and distributed by Nov. 2004.

2) Location: County: Passaic
Watershed: Wanaque River

3) Contact Information:

Name: Patrick A. Mancuso

Organization: North Jersey District Water Supply Commission

Address: 1 F. A. Orechio Drive

Wanaque, NJ 07465

Telephone: (973) 831-3354

Fax: (973) 831-5847

Email: pmancuso@njdwsc.com