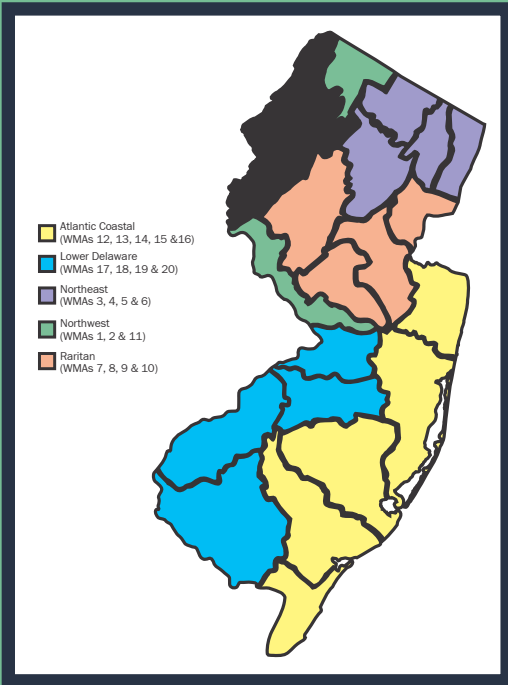


Watershed Management Area 1

Upper Delaware



Watershed Management Area 1 (WMA 1) includes portions of Sussex, Morris, Hunterdon, and all of Warren Counties. It contains 54 Municipalities. This area, also known as the Upper Delaware River Watershed, encompasses 746 square miles in the mountainous northwestern corner of the state, within the Valley and Ridge and Highlands physiographic provinces.

Within Area 1, there are six major drainage basins: Delaware River, Flat Brook, Paulins Kill, Pequest River, Lopatcong and Pohatcong River Drainage, and the Musconetcong River. These drainage basins flow in a southeasterly direction to the Delaware River, providing an outstanding recreational resource for trout production and maintenance, as well as habitat for an abundance of wildlife including threatened and endangered species.

Each part of Area 1 has its own characteristics. The 65 square-mile Flat Brook watershed lies within state parks and forest boundaries as well as the Delaware Water Gap Recreation Area. The Flat Brook and its tributaries continue to be among the highest quality surface waters in the state.

The Paulins Kill watershed has the most developed centers of this rural area but it is well recognized for its agriculture and forested area. The water quality ranges from fair to good.

There are many recreational areas in the the Pequest River watershed with land use heavily forested and agricultural. As with other watersheds in the northwestern part of the state, there is increasing residential and commercial development.

Pohatcong Creek runs 28 miles in Warren County. Both the Pohatcong River and Lopatcong Creek are known for their agricultural features. Water quality is impacted by both agriculture and suburban development.

The Musconetcong River runs from Lake Hopatcong to the main stem of the Delaware River. The watershed contains some developed areas but also many forests and farms. Popular with fishermen, the river is an important recreational fishing resource.

Area 1 has been impacted by suburban development over the past decades. As pollution from farming activities such as runoff from crop lands and animal holdings decline, these problems are being replaced with increasing effects of suburban/urban runoff. The result is increased stream temperatures and elevated levels of sediment, bacteria and phosphorus.

WMA 1 Partnerships:

- ▶ Clean Water Action Committee
- ▶ Delaware River Basin Commission
- ▶ Garden State Grazing Coalition
- ▶ Lake Hopatcong Commission
- ▶ Lake Musconetcong Regional Planning Board
- ▶ Lake Shawnee Association
- ▶ Liberty Township Environmental Commission
- ▶ Mountain Lake Community Association and Watershed Advisory Group
- ▶ Musconetcong Watershed Association
- ▶ New Jersey Farm Bureau
- ▶ New Jersey Forest Service, NJDEP
- ▶ Northeast Organic Farming Association of New Jersey (NOFA)
- ▶ NRCS, North Jersey RC&D Council
- ▶ Rutgers Cooperative Extension
- ▶ Sussex County
 - Agricultural Development Board
 - Board of Agriculture
 - Department of Engineering and Planning
 - Office of GIS
- ▶ Swartswood State Park
- ▶ Swartswood Lake Watershed Association
- ▶ Upper Delaware Watershed Management Project
- ▶ Wallkill River Watershed Management Group
- ▶ Warren County Soil Conservation District



New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
 Division of Watershed Management
 Bureau of Watershed Planning

Watershed Management Area 1

Upper Delaware

This factsheet is a snapshot of the workplan for Watershed Management Area I.

Watershed Plans are regional/areawide in scope (i.e. not a study of one location); detail specific projects or management measures to be implemented to achieve the goals of the plan; and set forth a prioritization of the projects or measures identified in the plan. The Department has identified a **Priority Segment for Restoration** in each watershed management area. Funding was provided to conduct a basic characterization and assessment of the segment and to identify restoration projects to address a specific parameter of concern (i.e. fecal coliform). Since 2003, the Department has prepared and adopted hundreds of Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) documents to address the impaired waters of the state. **TMDL Implementation Priorities** represent the Bureau of Watershed Planning's focus for implementing the adopted TMDLs. **Active Grant Projects** represent current projects with which the Bureau of Watershed Planning is actively involved. Many of these projects are funded through the Federal 319(h) Nonpoint Source Program.

Watershed Plans:

- ▶ Swartswood Lake (under development)
- ▶ Lake Hopatcong (approved Restoration Plan)
- ▶ Musconetcong River (under development)
- ▶ Paulins Kill River (under development)

Priority Segment for Restoration:

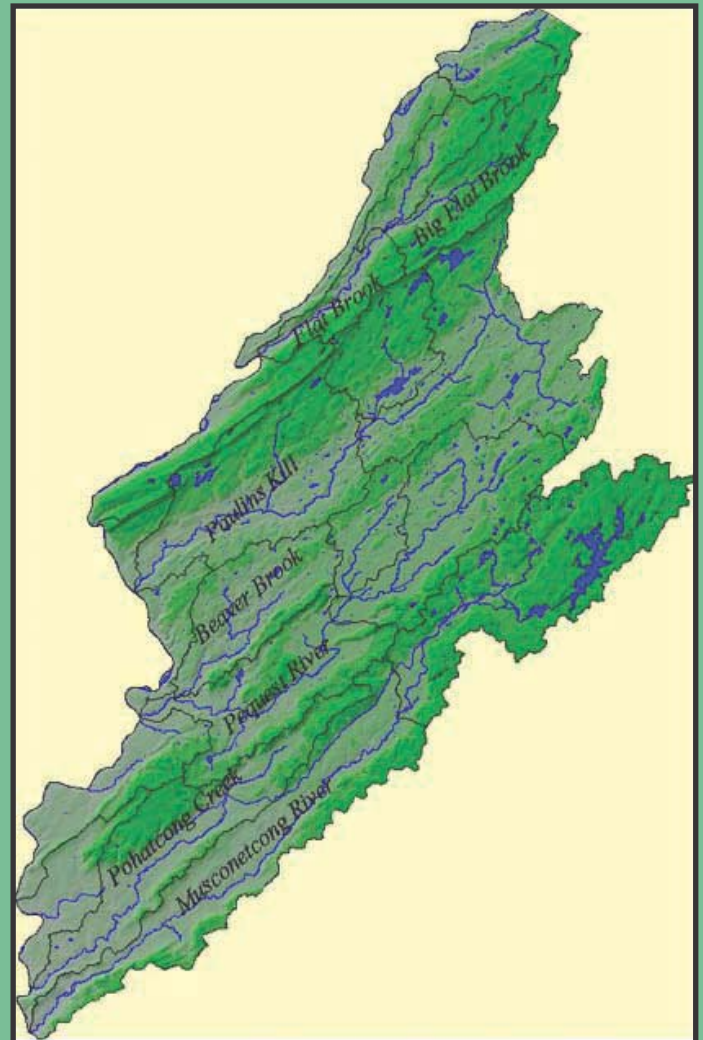
- ▶ Lower Musconetcong - Lebanon Township to Greenwich Township

TMDL Implementation Priorities:

- ▶ Upper Musconetcong Watershed Total Phosphorus (Lake Hopatcong & Lake Musconetcong)
- ▶ Lower Musconetcong - Lebanon Township to Greenwich Township Fecal TMDL

Active Grant Projects:

- ▶ Restoration Plan for the Paulins Kill Headwaters to Balesville:
Three Phased Approach
 - Sussex County Municipal Utilities Authority and Wallkill River Watershed Management Group
- ▶ Swartswood Lake Watershed Diagnostic Assessment and Regional Stormwater Management Plan
 - Swartswood Lakes and Watershed Association
- ▶ Stormwater BMP Implementation for Lake Hopatcong
 - The Lake Hopatcong Commission
- ▶ On-site Wastewater Management Planning for Lake Shawnee, Jefferson Township
 - Jefferson Township
- ▶ Watershed Restoration and Protection Plan for the Musconetcong Watershed - Hampton to Bloomsbury
 - North Jersey Resource Conservation and Development
- ▶ Swartswood Lake Stormwater Implementation Project
 - NJDEP's Division of Parks and Forestry



For more information on Watershed Management Area I, contact Dana Cartwright,
WMA I Area Manager at (609) 292-2051 or email Dana.Cartwright@dep.state.nj.us
Or visit the project's website at www.upperdelaware.org

For more information on New Jersey's 20 Watershed Management Areas visit www.nj.gov/dep/watershedmgt