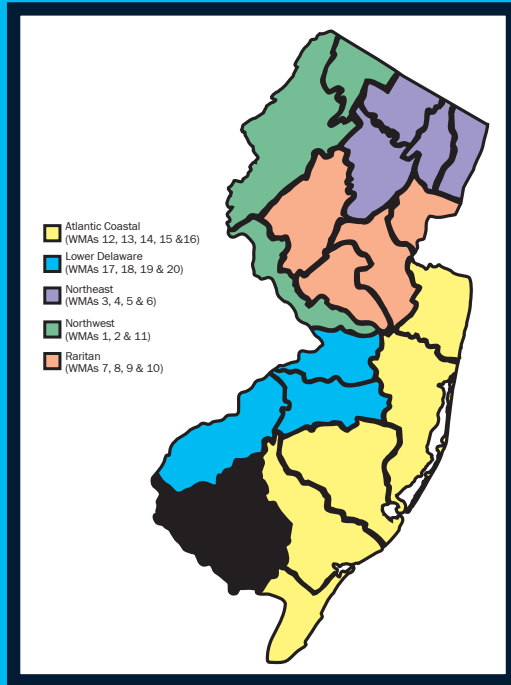


# Watershed Management Area 17

## Maurice, Salem, Cohansey



Watershed Management Area 17 (WMA 17) includes the Cohansey River, Maurice River, Salem River and Alloway, Dividing, Manantico, Manusmuskin, Miles, Mill, Stow and Whooping Creeks. This area includes portions of Atlantic, Cumberland, Gloucester and Salem Counties, over 39 municipalities and encompasses 885 square miles.

The Cohansey River is nearly 30 miles long, draining 105 square miles of eastern Salem County to the Delaware Bay. This is an area of very low relief, which results in numerous small tributaries. Sunset Lake and Mary Elmer Lake are among 20 major impoundments in this drainage basin. The main land use of this watershed is agriculture, but much of this land is forested.

The Maurice River has a drainage area of 386 square miles and meanders south for 50 miles through Cumberland County to the Delaware Bay. The major tributaries of this river are Scotland Run, Manantico Creek, Muskee Creek, Muddy Run and the Manumuskin River. There are about 20 major lakes in this area, with Union Lake being the largest. The principal land use in this watershed is agriculture.

The Salem River drains an area of 114 square miles and flows 32 miles from Upper Pittsgrove Township west to Deepwater, then south to the Delaware River. The area lies within Salem County, the major population center being Salem City. Much of the lower portions of the river are tidal. Major tributaries of the Salem River include Mannington Creek, Game Creek, Majors Run and Fenwick Creek. Land use in this watershed is about 40% cropland, with the rest being woodland, tidal/freshwater marsh, urban and pasture.

Nonpoint sources of water pollution range from agricultural activities such as tree harvesting, crop production and animal pastures to urban runoff from construction, septic systems and urban surfaces.

### WMA 17 Partnerships:

- ▶ Cumberland/Salem Soil Conservation District
- ▶ Rutgers Cooperative Extension



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

# Watershed Management Area 17

## Maurice, Salem, Cohansey

This factsheet is a snapshot of the workplan for Watershed Management Area 17.

**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:

- ▶ Upper Salem River (under development)
- ▶ Upper Cohansey River (under development)

### Priority Segment for Restoration

- ▶ Salem River headwaters to Memorial Lake

### TMDL Implementation Priorities:

- ▶ Salem River
- ▶ Major Run

### Active Grant Projects:

- ▶ Stormwater Management and Combined Sewer Overflow Abatement Bond - Upper Cohansey River Watershed Management Project
  - Cumberland/Salem Soil Conservation District and Rutgers Cooperative Extension
- ▶ Parvin Branch and Tarkiln Brook Assessment, Monitoring and Environmental Education
  - Citizens United to Protect the Maurice River and It's Tributaries
- ▶ Phase I Upper Salem River Characterization
  - Cumberland/Salem Soil Conservation District and Rutgers Cooperative Extension
- ▶ Watershed Restoration Plan for the Upper Salem River Phase 2
  - Cumberland/Salem Soil Conservation District and Rutgers Cooperative Extension
- ▶ Watershed Restoration Plan for the Upper Cohansey River
  - Cumberland/Salem Soil Conservation District and Rutgers Cooperative Extension
- ▶ National Fish & Wildlife Federation Grant - Biofilter Pond on Harrow Run
  - Cumberland/Salem Soil Conservation District and Rutgers Cooperative Extension



For more information on Watershed Management Area 17, contact Mike Haberland,  
WMA 17 Area Manager at (609) 633-7714 or email Mike.Haberland@dep.state.nj.us

For more information on New Jersey's 20 Watershed Management Areas visit [www.nj.gov/dep/watershedmgt](http://www.nj.gov/dep/watershedmgt)