

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
DIVISION OF WATERSHED MANAGEMENT

ADOPTED AMENDMENT TO THE SUSSEX COUNTY WATER QUALITY
MANAGEMENT PLAN

Public Notice

Take notice that on July 12, 2007, pursuant to the provisions of the New Jersey Water Quality Planning Act, N.J.S.A. 58:11A-1 et seq., and the Statewide Water Quality Management Planning rules (N.J.A.C. 7:15-3.4), an amendment to the Sussex County Water Quality Management Plan was adopted by the Department of Environmental Protection (Department). The amendment was submitted by the Sussex County Department of Engineering and Planning, Division of Planning. This amendment will recognize in the Sussex County-Wide Wastewater Management Plan (WMP) the existing Lake Mohawk Golf Course in Sparta Township with changes summarized below. The Lake Mohawk Golf Course is located on Lots 1.01 and 1.02, Block 80. The golf course is bounded on the south, east and north by West Shore Trail.

The existing Lake Mohawk Golf Course consists of an 18-hole golf course; a club house with a dining room, grill room, and lockers with restrooms; and a maintenance shed. The dining room has a seating capacity of 121 patrons and the grill room has a seating capacity of 79 patrons. The dining area was expanded in size in 2006 through the relocation and renovation of the interior meeting room and dining room. However, the seating capacity did not increase as a result of the expansion. Membership in the facility is limited to a maximum of 235 members by its charter. The existing golf course facilities discharge to two existing septic systems with a measured discharge of 1,495 gallons per day (gpd). The first septic system receives the wastewater from the dining room, grill room and locker

rooms and the second system receives the wastewater flow from the kitchen that serves the grill room and the dining room. The existing maintenance shed is not connected to either septic system.

The Lake Mohawk Golf Course will demolish the existing maintenance shed, which also stores the golf carts, and construct a new maintenance building to be served by its own septic system. The septic system for the new maintenance building will have a projected wastewater flow of 300 gpd. The Lake Mohawk Golf Course will also construct a new pro-shop with golf cart storage. To accommodate this construction, which will be located on the site of the second existing septic system, the second system will be removed and replaced with a new septic system that would accommodate the wastewater from the kitchen as well as the flow from the pro-shop and the golf cart storage. At the conclusion of the construction, the golf course and related facilities will be served by three septic systems. As a result of the new construction, the total projected wastewater flow for Lake Mohawk Golf Course calculated in accordance with N.J.A.C. 7:9A-7.4, is 5,350 gpd.

This amendment has been reviewed in accordance with Executive Order 109 (2000) and N.J.A.C. 7:15-5.18. The Department has determined that no environmental analyses were required since the project scope did not reach the thresholds which trigger the environmental assessment analyses; however the proposed maintenance building is located within Landscape Project Rank 4 (State Endangered) for critical forested habitat for the Indiana Bat. In order to protect against disturbing the Bat habitat, the approval of the amendment is conditioned upon a prohibition against clearing of the forest from April 1st to November 15th. Also, in accordance with Freshwater Wetlands Letter of Interpretation (LOI) file number 1918-04-0010.1 (FWW-040001), there are exceptional value wetlands

onsite which require a 150 foot buffer. There will be no disturbance of the wetlands or their buffers as a result of this proposed project.

This amendment proposal was noticed in the New Jersey Register on April 2, 2007 at 39# N.J.R. 1317(a). One comment was received on this amendment from Florham Park Resident, Barbara Sachau during the comment period and is summarized below with the Department's response.

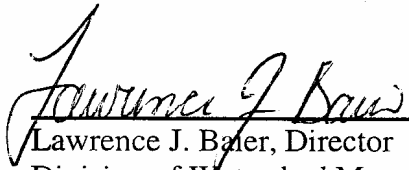
Comment: The commenter is opposed, in general, to the large volume of water usage required for golf course irrigation, its impact on available water resources and to the perceived expansion to the existing Lake Mohawk golf course. The commenter expresses the opinion that the water allocated for golf courses irrigation is excessive and should not be approved by the Department unless in conjunction with reclaimed water for beneficial reuse (RWBR) such as the use of treated wastewater for irrigation purposes.

Response: The applicant has requested a Water Quality Management Plan amendment in accordance with the procedures established in the Water Quality Management Planning rules, N.J.A.C. 7:15. The WQM planning process focuses on determining the extent of sewer service in relation to treatment facility location, capacity and the protection of water and water related resources.

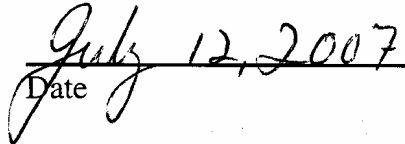
This amendment, for the construction of two new subsurface disposal systems to serve an existing kitchen and a new maintenance facility and pro-shop, satisfied the requirements of the WQMP amendment process. The planned construction will not increase or change in any way the amount of water currently used for irrigation. If a golf course is proposing the expansion of water used for irrigation the Department will encourage RWBR.

Accordingly, the Department has determined that adoption of the proposed amendment is appropriate.

This amendment represents only one part of the permit process and other issues may need to be addressed prior to final permit issuance. Additional issues which may need to be addressed may include, but are not limited to, the following: compliance with stormwater regulations; antidegradation; effluent limitations; water quality analysis; exact locations and designs of future treatment works (pump stations, interceptors, sewers, outfalls, wastewater treatment plants); and development in wetlands, flood prone areas, designated Wild and Scenic River areas, or other environmentally sensitive areas which are subject to regulation under Federal or State statutes or rules.



Lawrence J. Baier, Director
Division of Watershed Management
Department of Environmental Protection



Date