

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
DIVISION OF WATERSHED MANAGEMENT

ADOPTED AMENDMENT TO THE UPPER RARITAN WATER QUALITY  
MANAGEMENT PLAN

Public Notice

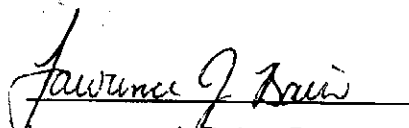
**Take notice** that on **OCT 08 2003**, pursuant to the provisions of the New Jersey Water Quality Planning Act, N.J.S.A. 58:11A-1 et seq., and the Statewide Water Quality Management Planning rules (N.J.A.C. 7:15-3.4), an amendment to the Upper Raritan Water Quality Management Plan was adopted by the Department of Environmental Protection (Department). This amendment, submitted on behalf of Neshanic Valley Golf Course, located at Block: 77, Lots: 23, 23.01, 23.02, 23.03 & 23.04 on South Branch Road, Branchburg Township allows the Somerset County Park Commission to build a 27 hole and 9 hole golf course with associated learning center, clubhouse and maintenance center covering 419.4 acres. Neshanic Valley Golf Course will utilize an onsite discharge to groundwater disposal system to accommodate the wastewater from the golf course, an existing County Park house and all associated facilities with the exception of Block 77, Lot 23.01. Block 77, Lot 23.01 will be set aside to preserve endangered and/or threatened species habitat. The total projected wastewater to be discharged from both the new and existing development is 12,540 gpd.

This amendment proposal was noticed in the New Jersey Register on June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2003 at 35 N.J.R. 2747(b) and no comments were received during the comment period.

This proposed amendment has been reviewed in accordance with Executive Order 109 (2000) and N.J.A.C. 7:15-5.18. It was determined that a Nonpoint Source Pollutant Loading Analysis, Point Source Pollutant Loading Analysis, Endangered and/or Threaten Species Habitat Analysis, Consumptive/Depletive Water Use Analysis and Riparian Corridor Analysis were necessary. The applicant will implement Best Management Practices (BMPs) including the addition of vegetative filtration strips, detention ponds and enhanced vegetation. The Nonpoint Source

Pollutant Loading Analysis determined that implementation of these BMPs and an Integrated Pest Management Plan would result in an overall decrease in nonpoint source pollutant loadings. The Point Source Pollutant Loading Analysis will be conducted through the NJPDES Discharge to Ground Water permit review. The Endangered and/or Threaten Species Habitat Analysis was met by setting aside Block: 77, Lot: 23.01, which is 67.25 acres of undeveloped land that is classified as Endangered and/or Threaten Species Habitat along the South Branch of the Raritan River. No development will occur on this property. The Consumptive/Depletive Analysis was satisfied as part of the Water Allocation Permit review. The Neshanic Valley Golf Course proposes to withdraw up to 15 million gallons monthly from the South Branch of the Raritan River and discharge within the same watershed. The Riparian Corridor Analysis was satisfied by enhancement of the riparian buffers via planting of native grasses, trees and establishment of no-mow zones.

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: 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

October 8, 2003  
Date