

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
DIVISION OF WATERSHED MANAGEMENT

ADOPTED AMENDMENT TO THE UPPER RARITAN WATER QUALITY  
MANAGEMENT PLAN

Public Notice

**Take notice** that on **DEC 22 2008**, 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 (WQM) Plan was adopted by the Department. This amendment also modifies the Somerset County/Upper Raritan Wastewater Management Plan. This amendment, submitted on behalf of Duke Farms, allows for a new wastewater treatment system utilizing discharge to groundwater. This treatment system will serve the proposed visitor's center, four office buildings, and a residence that are part of an improvement project on the Duke Farms site. These are currently existing structures that are to be renovated for their new uses. The visitor's center, office buildings, and residence will be located within a small portion of the much larger 2,740 acre Duke Farms property which is located west of Route 206 and south of the Raritan River in Hillsborough Township, Somerset County. The improvement project's structures and proposed wastewater treatment service area is located on an approximately 14 acre section of the Duke Farms property that is within Block 142, Lot 9 and is located south of Duke Parkway West, west of a tributary to the Dukes Brook, north of the gravel walkway that is in back of the existing dairy barn, and east of the blacktop driveway adjacent to existing cottage # 35.

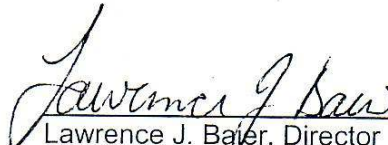
A portion of the Duke Farms property, that does not include the improvement project, is designated as sewer service area of the Somerset Raritan Valley Sewerage Authority in the Somerset County/Upper Raritan Wastewater Management Plan (WMP). The remainder of the property includes 27 structures that operate under a Sanitary Subsurface Sewage Disposal System General Permit (T-1 permit). The existing structures in the improvement project area are currently served by two T-1 permitted septic systems and have a current combined total flow of approximately 3,060 gallons per day (gpd). These systems would be decommissioned and the proposed discharge to groundwater treatment system will be re-authorized under a New Jersey Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NJPDES) discharge to groundwater permit. The

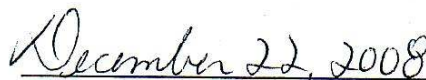
projected wastewater flow of all of the improvement project's components, calculated in accordance with N.J.A.C 7:14A-23.3, is 19,350 gpd.

This amendment has been reviewed in accordance with Executive Order 109 (2000) and N.J.A.C. 7:15-5.18. This evaluation determined that the threshold for Executive Order 109 (2000) (EO109) was not triggered, therefore alternative and environmental impact analyses were not required.

This amendment proposal was noticed in the New Jersey Register on July 7, 2008 at 40 N.J.R. 4243(a) and no comments were received during the comment period.

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.

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

  
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Date