

DRAFT 12.28.09

*Borough of Raritan*  
*Somerset County, New Jersey*

*OPEN SPACE &  
RECREATION PLAN*

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*Adopted \_\_\_\_\_, 2010*



## Raritan Borough Planning Board

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*The original of this document was signed and sealed in  
accordance with N.J.S.A. 45:14A-12.*

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## I. Executive Summary

This Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP) has been prepared to help guide future open space acquisitions and recreational development in Raritan Borough. It has been prepared in conformance with the New Jersey Green Acres guidelines for participation in the Planning Incentive Program and with the Municipal Land Use Law for adoption as an element of the Borough's master plan. The plan consists of: a set of goals, an inventory of existing open space and recreation facilities; a recreation and open space needs analysis; and an action plan for the preservation and expansion of the open space and recreation system.

Raritan's 2005 master plan describes the Borough as "a small, fully developed municipality measuring approximately 2.0 square miles in area and... characterized as a mature, suburban community with a varied land use pattern that has evolved from its geography, regional location, and development trends." The Borough's compact development, cohesive neighborhoods and location within a vibrant and growing regional center completes the sense of community lacking in many of today's subdivisions. Due to Raritan's density and limited available land, the Borough has recognized a need to ensure recreational opportunities for its residents both within the Borough and in surrounding municipalities via linkages to surrounding recreational opportunities such as the Somerset County Raritan River Greenway Corridor, and Orlando Drive Greenway project.

With only about 4% of the parcel acreage in Raritan considered vacant, there is minimal opportunity for preserving additional open space or creating new recreation land. In a mature town such as Raritan, the concept of open space sometimes needs to be redefined. The vision of large green spaces, although desirable, is not always practical. The OSRP therefore offers the following general recommendations:

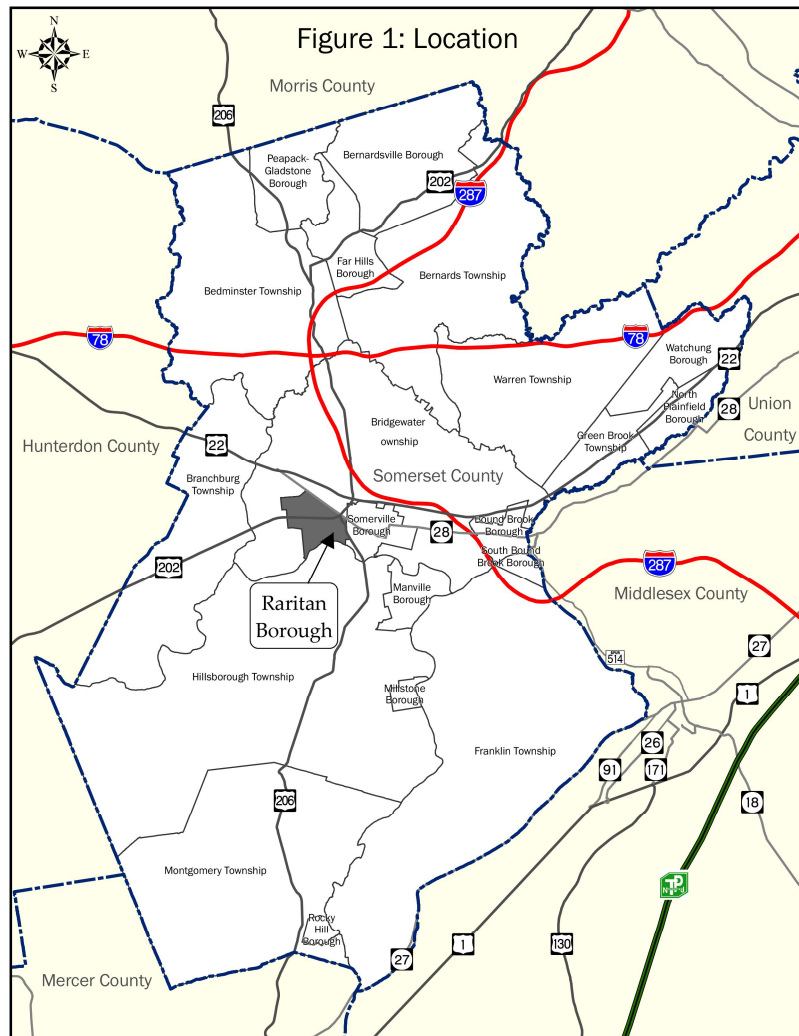
- Make the most efficient use of the Borough's existing parks and recreation facilities,
- Identify opportunities for new open space, no matter how small, associated with development and redevelopment projects or surplus properties such as abandoned rail beds,
- Maintain the urban forest, and
- Install public art.

Additionally, Raritan has access to a very unique open space and recreation opportunity in the form of the Raritan River that can be the hallmark of the Borough's open space and recreation system.

## II. Planning Context

### A. Regional Setting

The Borough of Raritan is centrally located in Somerset County and is one of twenty-one municipalities in the County. The Raritan River flows east to west at the southern border of the Borough. Bridgewater Township forms the north and west borders, with Hillsborough Township to the south and Somerville Borough to the east. Raritan is within the New York / Newark metropolitan area, and is a partner in the Bridgewater – Raritan – Somerville Regional Center. Raritan is situated at or near the convergence of several major highways including Interstate 287, US 22, 202 and 206 and NJ 28.



## B. Population

In 1970, Raritan had a population of 6,691 residents. By 1990, the population had dipped to 5,798, but since then has risen steadily to an estimated 7,289 in 2008. The North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority (NJTPA) forecasts continued growth in the Borough reaching a population of 7,830 by 2035.

**Table II-1**  
**Total Population - Raritan Borough**

Year	Total Population
1970	6,691
1980	6,128
1990	5,798
2000	6,338
2008 US Census estimate	7,289
2035 NJTPA forecast	7,830

## C. Existing Land Use

Map 1 illustrates the generalized land use pattern in Raritan. As seen in Table II-2, residential is the largest single land use category at 39% of the parcel acreage. This is followed closely by the industrial category (32%) which accounts for the large corporate facilities straddling Route 202. Residential and industrial are followed by commercial (15%), public/charitable/exempt (10%) and vacant (4%).

**Table II-2**  
**Generalized Land Use**

Existing Land Use Category	Parcel Acres	Percentage
Residential	440.60	40
Commercial	168.90	15
Industrial & Railroad	335.90	31
Public School	22.10	2
Public Property	75.21	7
Church, Charitable & Other Exempt	10.50	1
Private Vacant Land	42.65	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,095.77</b>	<b>100</b>

With the exception of the corporate campuses, Raritan is substantially "built-out," with existing open space scattered throughout the Borough in relatively small parcels of land. Privately owned open space exists in the northern-most portion of Borough in the form of forested land and wetlands connected to the Ortho Clinical Diagnostics facility.

## INSERT MAP 1 LAND USE

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### III. Goals

The Borough's open space and recreation goals center around acquiring or improving properties to be dedicated to open space and recreational use, ensuring public access to the river and waterways, creating more active and passive recreation opportunities and expanding upon existing resources, protecting sensitive environments and habitats, upgrading public amenities, preserving historic properties and adding indoor facilities. The specific goals of the Open Space and Recreation Plan are as follows:

1. Preserve, maintain and develop a comprehensive open space and recreation system that provides active and passive recreation opportunities for all age groups and ability levels.
2. Identify opportunities to expand open space and recreation opportunities through acquisition, easements, donations, shared services, interagency cooperation and redevelopment agreements as they become available.
3. Pursue funding through Federal, State and County agencies to help acquire, maintain and improve recreation and open space facilities. Work with non-profit organizations and private property owners to acquire direct title, deed restrictions, and conservation easements for open space.
4. Work to address recreational deficiencies in underserved areas and neighborhoods.
5. Support the efforts of the Regional Center Partnership to create open space areas within the designed Regional Center and its member communities.
6. Continue to work with Somerset County to expand the greenways program, which provides for public areas along the Raritan River, North Branch, and Green Brook waterways.
7. Preserve the Borough's community forest resource to improve air and water quality, reduce energy costs, increase property values, improve citizen health and beautify the Borough.
8. Preserve the Borough's natural resources to protect water quality, manage stormwater, reduce the potential for flood damage, protect endangered habitats, and provide open space.



## IV. Open Space and Recreation Inventory

The Borough of Raritan contains several recreation and open space properties that are under public ownership. As summarized in Table IV-1 and illustrated on Map 2, there are approximately 75 acres of open space and recreational land in the Borough. A Recreation and Open Space Inventory (ROSI), which is a listing of all parcels held by a municipality for recreation and conservation purposes, has been included in Appendix A of this Plan. There are no federal or state owned open space or recreation facilities in Raritan.

**Table IV-1**  
**Existing Parks and Recreation Summary**  
**Raritan Borough**

<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>Approximate Acreage</b>	<b>% of Total</b>
Federal	-0-	-0-
State	-0-	-0-
Somerset County	22	29%
Municipal	41	55%
School Properties	12	16%
<b>Total</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>100%</b>

*Source: NJDEP Green Acres Open Space Database modified by  
Borough of Raritan Tax Records*

### A. Municipal

The majority of open space and recreational land in Raritan is municipally-owned. Raritan owns several active and passive recreation parcels which are described in more detail below and illustrated on Map 2. The three primary recreation facilities include:

1. *Basilone Park* is a heavily wooded area located between Centre Street and Old York Road and consists of 14.66 acres. Basilone provides seasonal recreation opportunities including a swimming pool located at Woodmere Street, and a children's arts and crafts program.

2. *Frelinghuysen Park* is located between Sherman Avenue and Railroad Avenue near Route 206. It is a 4.16 acre parcel containing three baseball/softball fields, two basketball courts, one tennis court, a swimming pool, playground and pavilion area.
3. *Raritan Valley Park*, located at the bank of the Raritan River, offers an important link to the greenway intended for this corridor. Amenities included on the 16.91 acres of land include a golf driving range, a natural buffer to the river, and a playground at Orlando Drive and Mill Street.

**Table IV-2**  
**Summary of Municipal Open Space / Recreation Holdings**  
**Raritan Borough**

Name	Location	Block/Lot	Acres)	Amenities
Basilone Park	Centre St. & Woodmere St.	62/2; 66/1; 67/1	14.66	forested land, swimming pool
Cardinal Woods Park	Cardinal Way	1/4.22	4.01	playground, open field
Elizabeth Avenue Park	Elizabeth Ave.	10/1; 10/10	0.8	ballfield
Frelinghuysen Park	Sherman Ave. & Railroad Ave.	58/5; 59/1-2; 59/9.01	4.16	ballfields, basketball/tennis courts, playground
Raritan Valley Park	Raritan River North	116.02/9-11	16.91	golf range, wooded land, playground
	Railroad Ave. @ train station	56/10	0.10	open space adjacent to parking
	Third St. & Gaston Ave.	79/2	0.26	open space adjacent to 3 <sup>rd</sup> St.
	West End Ave.	30/9	0.28	open space
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>41.18</b>	

Source: Borough of Raritan

## B. Somerset County

Somerset County owns approximately 21.76 acres of parks and open space including the Basilone Monument, the First Avenue Tennis Courts, and Duke Island. Somerset County's Raritan River greenway initiative will provide a major opportunity for creating a continuous recreational greenway along the riverbank.

**Table IV-3  
Summary of County Open Space / Recreation Holdings  
Raritan Borough**

Name	Location	Block/Lot	Acres	Amenities
Basilone Monument	Somerset St.	102/1	0.17	Monument, parking, river access
First Ave Tennis Courts	1 <sup>st</sup> Ave. & 5 <sup>th</sup> St.	54/2	0.42	2 tennis court
Open Seating Area	1 <sup>st</sup> Ave. & Tilman St.	53/3 - 5	0.40	path, benches
Duke Island	Old York Rd.	117/6 - 8	18.39	n/a
Mill Street Tracts	Mill St. & Canal St.	114/1; 115/1	1.27	n/a
Railroad Lots	1 <sup>st</sup> Ave. & 2 <sup>nd</sup> Ave.	54/3; 54/16	0.15	n/a
n/a	Mill St. & Orlando Dr.	116.02/5; 116.02/6	0.96	n/a
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>21.76</b>	

Source: Raritan Borough Tax Records

### C. School Properties

Students in Raritan attend the joint Bridgewater-Raritan school system. There is one public school in Raritan, the John F. Kennedy Primary School. The former Washington School is currently used for administrative offices, but still offers recreational facilities on its grounds.

1. The *John F. Kennedy Primary School* (K-4) is owned by the Bridgewater Township Board of Education and the Borough of Raritan, and contains 3.2 acres of active recreational space in the Borough including a track, 2 basketball courts, playground, swing-set area, softball diamond, and other play/field areas. These recreational facilities and athletic fields are shared with the students who are part of the district, including Bridgewater Township.
2. The former *Washington School* is owned by Somerset County and used for administrative offices, but offers the following recreational facilities on approximately 9 acres: four softball fields with backstops, lights and bleachers, a playground area, and general play/field areas.

## INSERT MAP 2 OPEN SPACE SYSTEM

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## V. Open Space and Recreation Needs Analysis

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) identifies two sets of standards to quantify the recreational land needs for each level of government. The standards serve as minimum guides for measuring the effectiveness of recreational open space programs being implemented by the various public sector levels. The recreation lands needs derived from these two sets of standards represent the amount of land that should be dedicated as public open space with the ability to provide direct public recreation use.

It should be noted that these standards focus primarily on “recreational” lands and do not factor in open space protected solely for environmental or agricultural purposes that does not provide for direct public use. Although non-recreation space may protect important resources such as prime farmland, wildlife habitats, and areas with natural, scenic, cultural or historic features, they are not used for estimating the amount of open space required for recreation purposes.

### A. Acres per Population Method

The first set of standards, “*acres per population method*,” is used to determine the amount of existing recreation open space needed to meet short term and immediate demand based on current population figures. This method generates higher recreation land requirements as the population increases. The recommended standard for municipal open space is 8 acres per 1,000 population.

#### *Short Term Needs Based on Population Standards*

The Borough’s 2008 U.S. Census population estimate of 7,289 residents was used to analyze the present short-term need for open space in Raritan Borough. The total population was multiplied by the acres per population standard.

For example:  $7.289 \text{ (Total municipal population/1,000)} \times 8 \text{ (Municipal standard)} = 58.3$  acres of recommended municipally-owned recreational lands. As indicated earlier, the Borough maintains approximately 41.2 acres of recreational land thereby yielding a deficiency of approximately 17 acres.

## B. Balanced Land Use Guidelines

The second set of standards, "*balanced land use guidelines*," calculates the recreation open space needs that will result from existing and new development and should be viewed as a long-term goal for public land acquisition. In contrast to the acres per population technique, the balanced land use approach defines land as a finite resource for which there are other legitimate competing uses. It takes into account the fact that the open space demand is generated by the development of land itself.

The balanced land use approach is based on the amount of *developed* and *developable* land relative to the amount of *non-developable* land. It identifies the proportions of the total land area of the state that should be preserved for state and federal open space and the proportion of developed and developable land within a county or municipality that should be preserved as recreation land by those respective levels of government. The recommend standard for municipal open space is 3% of the developed/developable area of the municipality.

Land is classified as either developed/developable or undevelopable based on NJDEP criteria. Developed/developable areas include existing development, parks and open space, and vacant land; and exclude federal and state-owned lands, the Pinelands Preservation Area and freshwater wetlands, which make up the undevelopable category.

### *Long Term Needs Based on Balanced Land Use Goals*

Using the NJDEP formula, it has been determined that of the 1,305.6 acres (2.04 square miles) of land in the municipality, a total of 1,255.8 acres have been or are capable of being developed. The remaining 49.8 acres of non-developed lands include Federal, State and otherwise environmentally constrained lands. It should be noted that the NJDEP standards focus primarily on "recreational" lands and do not factor in open space protected solely for environmental or agricultural purpose that does not provide for direct public use.

**Balanced Land Use Calculation**

Developed / Developable Land	Balanced Land Use Municipal Standard	Municipal Open Space Goal	Existing Municipal Open Space	Surplus
1,255.8 ac.	3%	37.7 ac.	41.2 ac.	+3.5 ac.

## VI. Resource Assessment

Raritan has prepared a Natural Resource Inventory (NRI) to help serve as a basis for the OSRP. The NRI identifies and describes the physical, cultural and biological features of the Borough including its topography, climate and soils, historically significant sites, types of vegetation, groundwater and surface water resources, wetlands, existing land use, and infrastructure. In summary, Raritan Borough, in spite of its developed nature, still contains several environmentally sensitive resources within its borders. Map 3 identifies the lands that contain one or more of the resources identified in the NRI.

It is evident from the NRI that the greatest concentration of sensitive natural resources is along the Raritan River and its tributaries. Resources include historic sites, forested land, endangered habitat, wetlands, and floodplains. The Raritan River Greenway initiative, which the OSRP supports, will foster the preservation of those resources.

## INSERT MAP 3 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSTRAINTS

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## VII. Action Plan

The action plan provides direction for the orderly and coordinated execution of the OSRP. The action plan indicates how the Borough intends to address OSRP needs and goals based on the abilities of the community and fiscal constraints. As noted earlier, only about 4% of the parcel acreage in Raritan is considered vacant, leaving minimal if any opportunity for preserving additional open space or creating new recreation land. In a mature town such as Raritan, the concept of open space sometimes needs to be redefined. The vision of large green spaces, although desirable, is not always practical. Open space, or the notion of greening a community and providing breaks in a densely developed landscape, can however, be woven into the fabric of the community through the use of street trees, pocket parks, small plazas and sitting areas, and the installation of public art in civic spaces.

The OSRP therefore offers the following general recommendations:

- Make the most efficient use of the Borough's existing parks and recreation facilities,
- Identify opportunities for new open space, no matter how small, associated with development and redevelopment projects or surplus properties such as abandoned rail beds,
- Maintain the urban forest, and
- Install public art.

Additionally, Raritan has access to a very unique open space and recreation opportunity in the form of the Raritan River that can be the hallmark of the Borough's open space and recreation system.

### ➤ Improvements to the Existing System

The Borough is planning substantial improvements to the Frelinghuysen Park pool. The Frelinghuysen Pool, built approximately 50 years ago, is a small wading pool with outdated infrastructure and support facilities. The intent is to replace the wading pool with a full-sized pool for use by both adults and children. The new facility will include a new 75' x 57' pool with a maximum depth of six foot, concrete decking, fencing, restroom and concession stand, supply and maintenance building, sun pavilions, and benches and chairs.

The OSRP recommends that an advisory group be formed to consider the condition of each of the Borough's parks and prepare a short and long-term action plan for specific park improvements. A broader endeavor could include an analysis of the opportunities and

constraints related to each park's location, configuration, accessibility, unique onsite conditions, and funding options, and preparing a conceptual master plan for each park.

➤ **New Open Space**

The advisory group mentioned above should also evaluate any surplus lands connected to public rights-of-way such as streets, highways, utilities, and railroads, and any publically-owned vacant land for potential use as open/civic space or pedestrian/bicycle trails.

As a general policy, properties that are impacted by natural or other disasters, abandoned, or exhibit severe deterioration should also be evaluated for possible acquisition for open space through fee simple purchase, easement, or donation. This policy should be applied especially to properties abutting existing open space. Environmentally sensitive lands such as wetlands should also be evaluated as potential open space candidates.

The OSRP also recommends that the open space requirements in the Borough's development ordinances be revisited to ensure that large scale residential and commercial projects provide quality open/civic space that meets the following criteria: (a) the space is strategically located to be attractive and easily accessible to either the tenants or the general public, as opposed to being placed on the "leftover" portion of the parcel; and (b) the space is of adequate dimension to provide amenities such as play equipment, sitting areas, or public art, as opposed to narrow or oddly shaped landscape strips. In other words, the planning and design of the open space should be as integral to the project as the planning and design of the building. Any future redevelopment plans should include requirements for public open/civic space that meet the same criteria.

Any surplus lands connected to public rights-of-way such as streets, highways, utilities, and railroads should be evaluated for potential use as open/civic space or pedestrian/bicycle trails. Properties, especially those abutting existing open space, that are impacted by natural or other disasters, abandoned, or exhibit severe deterioration, should be evaluated for possible acquisition through fee simple purchase, easement, or donation.

➤ **Raritan River Greenway**

The Raritan Borough Master Plan and Somerset County Regional Center Strategic Master Plan have identified the Raritan River as a major recreation resource and the most significant natural resource and potential recreation amenity in both the Borough and the Center. Development of the Greenway is a centerpiece of the Regional Center Vision Initiative. Major components of this project include:

- Creation of a regional active and passive recreation complex serving the Regional Center and its member municipalities.
- Provision of active recreation facilities including ballfields, courts and walking/biking trails.
- Establishment of open space areas and passive recreation opportunities including seating, viewing areas and wooded land.
- Expansion of riverfront access for fishing, canoeing and other water related activities.

Between Orlando Drive and Canal Street there are several parcels of vacant land, including Lots 1 and 2 of Block 115, owned by Somerset County and Duke Farm Foundation respectively between Mill and Loomis Streets, and Lot 1, Block 114, owned by the County between Loomis and Nevius Streets, across from the industrial uses along the river. In addition, the Woolen Mills project will provide an additional large tract of riverfront property (Block 116.01, Lot 12.01) to the Borough, cleaned up and restored to its natural state, for use as both active and passive recreation. It is recommended that the Borough create a new Open Space and Recreation District (OS/P) specifically designed to address these lands. Properties within the OS/P should be used for active and passive recreation, public monuments and art, landscaped buffers between zoning districts, and other uses or facilities that promote public use and enjoyment of these lands.

Several parcels within the Orlando Drive Corridor are owned by Duke Farm Foundation, including Block 116.02 Lot 1 and Block 117, Lot 2, located on either side of the Nevius Bridge, which is now being renovated to a pedestrian bridge. Each of these properties contains buildings which now appear to be vacant and unused. Because of their location on the River at the pedestrian bridge, they have good potential for tourist/recreation related activities. As the Greenway expands, either would provide a good location to service recreational activities, such as bicycle sales/rental/repair, boat rental, trail information and shuttles, food and equipment sales. Either would also make a good local interest museum site, particularly related to the Duke Estate and local history.

#### ➤ Bicycle, Pedestrian and Greenways System

In June 2009, the Somerset County Planning Board completed the Somerset County Regional Center Pedestrian, Bicycle and Greenways Systems Connection Plan, which is supported by the Raritan OSRP. The goal of the plan is to create a more walkable and bicycle-friendly Regional Center while improving environmental quality. The County plan establishes a strategic framework to guide policies, programs and actions of the three municipalities that make up the Regional Center, which includes Somerville, Raritan, and portions of Bridgewater. *(A copy of the*

*Pedestrian, Bicycle and Greenways Systems Connection Plan is available from the Somerset County Planning Board.)*

The County plan proposes a Conceptual Greenways System of roadways and off-road trails that, with improvements for walking and bicycling, connects key public destinations and neighborhoods in the Regional Center. The plan also includes nine “linkage improvement concepts” to advance the system, focusing on improving bicycling and walking connections to specific sites such as downtowns, shopping centers, transit stations, schools, parks and recreational sites.

The County plan identifies three such linkage concepts in Raritan:

- R1 - Connecting Somerset Street to Raritan Mall via Somerset Street, Route 206 and Orlando Drive.
- R-2 – Connecting First Avenue to Somerset Shopping Center via First Avenue, Prospect Place, Lynwood Street and Route 28.
- R-3 – Connecting proposed residential development on Tillman Street to First Avenue, downtown Raritan and Raritan Train Station.

Maps and details of each proposed linkage concept are provided in the appendix of the OSRP.

The Peters Brook and Raritan River Greenways are identified as the heart, or “spine” of the Conceptual Greenways System. Designated roadways (Green Corridors) extend from the Peters Brook and Raritan River Greenways to primary destination areas and open space resources. The County plan identifies the following opportunities to develop additional off-road trail connections that can contribute to bicycle and pedestrian circulation and improve access to public destinations in Raritan:

- Trail along active NJ Transit Raritan Valley Line, with extensions to Bridgewater Towne Center and Vanderhaven Farms.
- Trail connecting Route 28 and Route 22 through the Ortho Office Park.
- Trail from Vones Lane/Barbieri Court to Route 202 through Ortho Office Park.
- Trail following existing footpath along Raritan River behind golf course between Nevius Street and Route 206.

#### ➤ Community Forestry Management Plan

The Borough ought to consider adopting a community forestry management plan, which could be incorporated into this OSRP at a future date. The community forestry management plan is

enabled by the New Jersey Shade Tree and Community Forestry Assistance Act. In addition to establishing the Community Forestry Council, the act enables New Jersey's communities to reduce or eliminate their exposure to litigation due to the decline of the community tree resource. The basis for this protection is a properly planned local community forestry program implemented through a state approved management plan, as well as municipal participation in the state's Training Skills and Accreditation Program.

The community forestry management plan is an essential guide to successfully achieving a healthy and safe community forest. By developing and implementing a management plan for a town's shade trees, the Borough's tree program can become more proactive and efficient resulting in a decrease in tree maintenance and removal costs, shortened response time to citizen requests for work and a decrease in hazardous tree situations. The community forestry management plan includes the following elements:

- Mission Statement
- Goals and Objectives
- Liability Statement
- Community Overview
- Community Forestry Program Administration
- Community Map
- Training Plan
- Public Education/Awareness/Outreach
- Statement of Tree Budget
- Statement of Plan Implementation 2007 to 2011

The goals of the community forestry management plan are as follows:

1. To promote general tree awareness and stewardship among residents of the municipality.
2. To improve the community forest resource in the Borough of Rutherford.
3. To improve the health and safety of the community forest.
4. To become a Tree City USA
5. Enhance the community's awareness of the value provided by the community forest.
6. Recruit members to serve on a shade tree committee early in the planning period.
7. Review and recommend an updated shade tree ordinance if deemed necessary by the shade tree committee.
8. Develop resources to create an active tree replacement program and provide alternate and innovative funding sources for tree planting and maintenance programs.

9. Provide training for urban and community forest care to 1-2 Borough employees and 1-2 volunteers from the community in order to maintain certification.
10. Address the importance of the community forest in the Borough's master plan and redevelopment plans.
11. Improve accessibility, aesthetic and recreational opportunities in the area surrounding the Passaic River through restoration and redevelopment programs.
12. Advocate cooperation between the Rutherford Board of Education, St. Mary School, Chamber of Commerce, Master Gardeners, civic groups (Elks Club, Women's Clubs), Rutherford Downtown Partnership, and the Department of Public Works.
13. Complete a comprehensive inventory of all street and park trees, which will be covered under the community forestry plan.

The Community Forestry Management Plan applies primarily to the public realm – street trees, parks and public lands. Trees within the private realm also contribute to the community forest and should also be afforded similar protections and management strategies. To that end the OSRP recommends that the City consider adopting a tree protection and replacement ordinance to ensure a holistic approach to maintaining the community's forest.

#### ➤ Public Art

Public art can make communities more attractive and create memorable experiences for its residents and visitors, improve the community's landscape and quality of life, and celebrate community identity and cultural diversity. Gateways, shopping districts, public buildings and parks, and transit stations are all potential candidates for permanent or semi-permanent installations of public art. There are a variety of methods that a municipality can use to integrate public art into the development of the community including advisory boards and coordination with private institutions, non-profit and community organizations. A municipal arts council is one such example.

To assist in this effort, the City can solicit the assistance of the New Jersey State Council on the Arts (NJSCA) and the Somerset County Cultural and Heritage Commission. The NJSCA administers a comprehensive grant program in conjunction with County Arts Councils and offers financial assistance to individual artists, non-profit organizations, and government entities to aid in operational costs of an organization, exhibitions, and festivals. The NJSCA conducts technical assistance workshops throughout the state to familiarize prospective grant applicants with the various organizational grant programs of the Council.

## VIII. Public Participation Summary

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## APPENDIX A

Linkage Concepts  
From Somerset County Regional Center Pedestrian,  
Bicycle & Greenways Systems Connection Plan  
June 2009



## APPENDIX B

### Borough of Raritan Recreation and Open Space Inventory (ROSI)

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**EXHIBIT 1 to DECLARATION**  
**RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE INVENTORY**

A Local Unit which receives a loan or grant from the State of New Jersey, Office of Green Acres shall not dispose of, or divert to a use for other than recreation and conservation purposes, any lands (1) acquired or developed with Green Acres or Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund assistance or (2) held by the Local Unit for recreation and conservation purposes at the “time of receipt of Green Acres funds” (the restricted lands) N.J.S.A. 13:8A-47. The primary purposes of this recreation and open space inventory (ROSI) are to document all restricted lands and to provide notice of the restrictions to title searchers.

***Instructions***

All restricted lands must be described on the completed ROSI by their block and lot identification numbers as shown on the current, official tax map and specify whether or not each parcel is funded or unfunded parkland. The Local Unit shall submit a tax map current as of the date of Green Acres application showing each parcel of parkland listed on the ROSI, with the approximate boundaries of each such parcel clearly marked in colored ink. Staff knowledgeable of the Local Unit’s land use regulations and the uses of its land holdings must complete this ROSI. If only a portion of a current tax lot is to be restricted, the phrase *part of* or *portion of* shall be used on the ROSI. Deletion or omission of lands listed on previously submitted ROSI’s is prohibited without prior written approval of the Office of Green Acres (See N.J.A.C. 7:36-20.3).

The completed ROSI must be duly executed and certified by the Local Unit’s Chief Executive Officer and planning board chairperson (or equivalent). The page number and the total number of pages in the completed ROSI must be entered at the top right corner of each page.

All pages, including this Page 1 and the following Page 2, of the ROSI must be submitted.

***Special Notes***

Lands held by school boards, parking authorities, housing authorities, and similar public agencies without primary recreation or conservation responsibilities should not be inventoried unless they are also held for recreation and conservation purposes by the Local Unit.

If lands held by the Local Unit for recreation and conservation purposes are omitted from this ROSI by mistake, inadvertence, or otherwise, such lands shall be subject to the same terms and conditions, covenants, and restrictions as they would be if they were included. This ROSI, as completed and duly executed, shall be incorporated into, and be a part of, both (1) the Green Acres Project Agreement and (2) the Declaration of Encumbrance.

***Recommendations***

The Local Unit’s planning board, and other boards or commissions, are encouraged to participate in the preparation and review of this ROSI. When preparing the ROSI, the listed parcels of parkland should be confirmed by reference to the tax maps that are required to be submitted as part of the Green Acres application (See N.J.A.C. 7:36-6.4(a)3ii or 12.4(a)4ii).

The Local Unit’s governing body and planning board should designate, with appropriate descriptive labels, all lands listed on this ROSI in any revision or update of the following master plan elements: recreation plan, conservation plan, and land use plan.

The Local Unit’s governing body should officially and permanently dedicate all lands held for recreation and conservation purposes. However, failure to do so shall have no effect on the validity of the Declaration.

Rev. 1/29/99

## EXHIBIT 1 to DECLARATION

RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE INVENTORY***Definitions***

For the purposes of this ROSI, the following definitions shall apply whenever the quoted words, or a form of the word are used:

“Declaration” means the recordable, written instrument executed by the Local Unit which declares that all of the Local Unit’s funded and unfunded parklands are subject to Green Acres restrictions.

“Development” means any improvement or physical alteration designed to expand or enhance the use of parkland for recreation and conservation purposes.

“Funded parkland” means parkland that a Local Unit has acquired or that a Local Unit has developed with Green Acres funding.

“Held” means owned, leased, or otherwise controlled (by the Local Unit for recreation and conservation purposes).

“Lands” means real property, including improvements, rights-of-way, riparian and other rights, easements, privileges, and any other rights or interests in, relating to, or connected with real property.

“Local Unit” means a municipality or county, or other local political subdivision of this State, or any agency thereof whose primary purpose is to acquire, administer, protect, develop, and maintain lands for recreation and conservation purposes.

“Parkland” means land acquired, developed, and/or used for recreation and conservation purposes.

“Recreation and conservation purposes” means the use of lands for parks, natural areas, forests, camping, fishing, reservoirs, water reserves, wildlife preserves, hunting, boating, winter sports and similar uses for either public outdoor recreation or conservation of natural resources, or both, pursuant to the Green Acres Bond Acts. This term also includes the use of historic areas pursuant to P.L. 1974, c.102; P.L. 1978, c.118; P.L. 1983, c.354; P.L. 1987, c.265; P.L. 1989, c.183; P.L. 1992, c.88; and P.L. 1995, c.204; and the use of historic buildings and structures pursuant to P.L. 1992, c.88 and P.L. 1995, c.204; and the use of ecological and biological study areas pursuant to P.L. 1989, c.183; P.L. 1992, c.88; and P.L. 1995, c.204.

“ROSI” mean the listing of all parcels of land held by a Local Unit for recreation and conservation purposes at the time of receipt of Green Acres funds, including a description sufficient to identify each such parcel.

“Time of receipt of Green Acres funds” means at all times beginning on the date of the letter from the Department under N.J.A.C. 7:36-6.7 or 12.5 notifying the Local Unit of the amount of the Green Acres funding award and ending on the date of receipt of the first transmittal of Green Acres funds.

“Unfunded parkland” means parkland, other than funded parkland, that is held by the Local Unit for recreation and conservation purposes at the time of receipt of Green Acres funds.

***Legislative References***

N.J.S.A. 13:8A-1 et seq.; N.J.S.A. 13:8A-19 et seq.; N.J.S.A. 8:A-35 et seq. (as amended and supplemented); N.J.A.C. 7:36-1 et seq.; 16 U.S.C. 460 s.1 et seq.

**EXHIBIT 1 to DECLARATION  
RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE INVENTORY**

Local Unit: Raritan Borough

County: Somerset

NOTE: All lands held for recreation and conservation purposes (1) must be described by their block and lot identification numbers as shown on the current, official tax map and (2) keyed to a current, legible, official map of the Local Unit and current tax map of Local Unit. The official map used for this ROSI is named Open Space and Recreation System and is dated \_\_\_\_\_, 2010.

**Developed and Partially Developed Lands Held for Recreation and Conservation Purposes**

(\*If necessary, use the first page following & after Page 4 for additional developed and partially developed lands)

<u>Key</u>	<u>Municipal Location</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Block</u>	<u>Lot</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Funded/Unfunded</u>
1.	Center St. & Woodmere St.	Basilone Park	62	2		
			66	1		
			67	1	14.66	
2.	Cardinal Way	Cardinal Woods Park	1	4.22	4.01	
3.	Elizabeth Ave.	Elizabeth Ave. Park	10	1&10	0.80	
4.	Sherman & Railroad Avenues	Frelinghuysen Park	58	5		
			58	1&2		
			59	9.01	4.16	
5.	Raritan River North	Raritan Valley Park	116.02	9-11	16.91	

**Subtotal of Acres** on this page .....40.54

**Total Acres** of developed and partially developed lands from all pages of this ROSI 40.54

**EXHIBIT I to DECLARATION**  
**RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE INVENTORY**

Local Unit: Raritan Borough

County: Somerset

NOTE: All lands held for recreation and conservation purposes (1) must be described by their block and lot identification numbers as shown on the current, official tax map and (2) keyed to a current, legible, official map of the Local Unit and current tax map of Local Unit. The official map used for this ROSI is named Open Space and Recreation System and is dated \_\_\_\_\_, 20 \_\_\_\_.

**Wholly Undeveloped Lands Held for Recreation and Conservation Purposes**

(\*If necessary, use the second page following & after Page 4 for additional wholly undeveloped lands)

<u>Key</u>	<u>Municipal Location</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Block</u>	<u>Lot</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Funded/Unfunded</u>
A.	Train Station	none	56	10	0.10	
B.	Third St. & Gaston Ave.	none	79	2	0.26	
C.	West End Ave.	none	30	9	0.28	

**Subtotal of Acres** on this page .....0.64

**Total Acres** of wholly undeveloped lands from all pages of this ROSI: 0.64

**CERTIFICATION:** I HEREBY CERTIFY that this Exhibit 1 to Declaration, comprising four total pages, is a complete and accurate listing of all lands held by the Local Unit, as of this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20 \_\_\_\_, for recreation and conservation purposes during the time of receipt of Green Acres funding. This ROSI is being submitted to Green Acres as part of the project entitled \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Executive Officer of Local Unit

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Planning Board Chairperson (or equivalent)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**This Certification is to be signed only on this page, Page 4, of EXHIBIT 1 to DECLARATION.**