



LONG ISLAND
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Carmans River Watershed Comprehensive Preservation & Management Plan Recommendations

The following are recommendations identified by the Technical Advisory Committee, the Study Group and members of the environmental and civic communities, proposed by the Long Island Pine Barrens Society, for adoption in the final plan.

- 1) Establish the watershed boundary on the basis of the 50-year time of travel for east and west; the groundwater divide on the north; and the bay on the south.
- 2) Protect the areas identified on the map prepared by the Long Island Pine Barrens Society.
- 3) Adopt a Chapter Amendment to the Pine Barrens Protection Act of 1993 (ECL 57) to accomplish the protection goals of the plan.
- 4) Identify those parcels that should be protected by acquisition, using town and county funding.
- 5) Rezone all government holdings in the watershed to “conservation.”
- 6) Re-zone private land in the zero-to-two year time of travel zone to five acres.
- 7) Re-zone private land in the two-to-five year time of travel zone to two acres.
- 8) Produce a Transfer of Development Rights program using the entire town as a receiving area but capping the permissible increase in density for any one project at ten percent to limit yield impacts on any individual community. Use the Pine Barrens Credit Clearing House to administer the TDR program.
- 9) Require purchase of Pine Barrens credits at the rate of 15 percent for development in the Pine Barrens and a commensurate contribution to the Macchia fund for projects outside the Pine Barrens.
- 10) Acquire fee title of existing agricultural lands which are proximate to the river, even if the development rights have already been secured.
- 11) Prohibit down-zoning anywhere in the watershed.

- 12) Ensure that cumulative impacts of all development in the watershed are assessed.
- 13) Remediate existing sources of groundwater and surface water contamination.
- 14) Adopt more restrictive discharge standards for sewage treatment plants and require the use of alternative denitrifying systems in all new individual systems.
- 15) Enhance protections afforded by the Wild, Scenic and Recreational Rivers Act.
- 16) Enhance protections for surface waters on the part of the Suffolk County Department of Health Services.
- 17) Produce restoration plans for currently degraded areas within the watershed.
- 18) Implement a plan of regular monitoring of milestones and scientific water quality benchmarks which if not obtained would trigger new, more protective regulations.
- 19) Adopt a 1.25ppm standard for nitrogen to protect surface waters as advanced by Dr. Jordan of The Nature Conservancy.
- 20) Review control of invasive species to obtain more environmentally-friendly approaches.
- 21) Install fish ladders as required and consider dam removal where ecologically indicated.
- 22) Provide a mechanism to update the protection plan in response to water quality monitoring data, post-adoption of the plan.
- 23) Prevent Brookhaven Zoning Board of Appeals from granting variances which are inconsistent with the purposes of the plan.
- 24) Provide adequate staff for administration of the protection program.