



What is WLM?

The Watershed and Land Management Program (WLM) works to preserve and improve New Jersey's environment by protecting natural resources and communities within them from environmental threats. Their focus on the land helps us meet their goals of protecting water quality and public safety.

What is a Watershed?

A watershed is an area of land where all the rain and snowmelt flows into the same river, lake, or stream. It acts like a natural bowl, collecting and moving water from higher elevations to lower elevations. Some examples of watersheds in NJ include the Passaic River Watershed, the Delaware River Watershed, and the Raritan River Watershed.

Importance of Land Use

How we use our land is important because it affects where we live, work and play. Protecting land ensures we have green spaces for recreation and wildlife habitats, prevents pollution from harming land and water areas, and keeps our communities safe from floods and the effects of climate change including sea level rise.

Protecting Communities

Through permits, WLM ensures development does not negatively impact environmentally sensitive areas such as wetlands, streams, forests, beaches and dunes. WLM staff actively restore and enhance environments that human activities have degraded or impacted. Managing stormwater, dams, tidal areas and overseeing large-scale flood protection projects is another way that WLM helps protect our watersheds and its inhabitants.

