





Welcome to

# **On The Road To Water Gold:** Pathways For Protecting & Enhancing Community Water Resources

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WiFi network: Welcome-to-TCNJ | launch browser & follow prompts







# On the Road to Water Gold: Pathways for Protecting & Enhancing Community Water Resources

Introducing SJ Gold Star Standard in Water Jennifer Feltis Cortese, AICP New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Water Resources Management June 21, 2018







# **Sustainable Water Goals**

Drinking water clean and safe for human consumption.

Water quality in streams, lakes & wetlands sufficient to support species & ecosystems; safe for recreation & fishing.

Water supply, including streamflow & groundwater, sufficient for human uses and & ecosystems.

The water system, including infrastructure (drinking, stormwater & wastewater), provides adequate capacity & is resilient to climate change.

Access to water resources universally affordable & fairly distributed.







- The Water Gold Committee is currently developing the standard & new component actions.
- Key actions will track outcomes (performance standards) that reflect progress towards goals.
- One Water: Just as the goals are interrelated, new actions & action updates will cover the range of water resources: drinking water, stormwater, surface, ground & wastewater.





- Work in Progress
- Water Gold Committee formed May 2017
- Goal to have Standard released by June 2019



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- Current Sustainable Jersey Actions with Water Focus:
  - o Stormwater Model Ordinance (soon to be launched)
  - o Green Infrastructure Planning and Implementation
  - o Water Conservation Ordinance
  - o Water Conservation Education
  - Others maybe explored for enhanced water requirements (for example, Green Grounds)









# • Actions Currently Under Development:

- o Utility Services Plan Element
- o Drinking Water Quality Education
- o Lead in Drinking Water
- o Riparian Buffer Ordinance
- o Municipal Water Use Audit
- o Groundwater recharge
- o List continually updated



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# Actions under Consideration

- o Surface Water Quality Monitoring
- Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Plans and Land Use Strategies
- Health and awareness of water quality and testing of private drinking water wells
- o Watershed Management
- o Salt/De-icing Alternatives
- o List continually updated



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# Next Steps

- Continued development of new actions and updates to existing actions
- Consideration of what actions and standards will be required/optional for Water Gold Star Standard
- Consideration of requirements for new and existing actions for Water Gold Star Standard
- o Finalize Water Gold Star Standard and Promote





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# Water Gold Committee



Jennifer Feltis Cortese	NJDEP, WRM Coordination	
Randy Solomon	Sustainable Jersey/TCNJ, Executive Director	
Melanie McDermott	Sustainable Jersey/TCNJ, Senior Researcher	
Linda Weber	Sustainable Jersey/TCNJ, Project Specialist	
Dan Van Abs	Rutgers University; Environment & Clean Water Council	
Andrew Hendry	New Jersey Utilities Association, President & CEO	
Michael Furrey	Agra Environmental & Laboratory Services; NJ AWWA	
Ed DiFiglia	NJ Future, Program Manager	
Margaret Waldock	Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, Program Director	
Ellen Creveling	TNC-NJ, Director Freshwater Programs	
Swarna Muthukrishnan	Clean Ocean Action, Staff Scientist	
Kristi MacDonald	Raritan Headwaters, Director of Science	
Andrew Hendry Michael Furrey Ed DiFiglia Margaret Waldock Ellen Creveling Swarna Muthukrishnan	New Jersey Utilities Association, President & CEO Agra Environmental & Laboratory Services; NJ AWV NJ Future, Program Manager Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, Program Director TNC-NJ, Director Freshwater Programs Clean Ocean Action, Staff Scientist	





# Jennifer Feltis Cortese, AICP NJDEP, Water Resources Management Chair, Sustainable Jersey Water Gold Committee

# jennifer.feltis@dep.nj.gov









# Water Gold Star Standard Preview of Select Actions and Standards

Linda B. Weber, AICP, PP, Project Specialist

Sustainable Jersey

June 21, 2018





# Select Water Gold Actions (existing and pending)

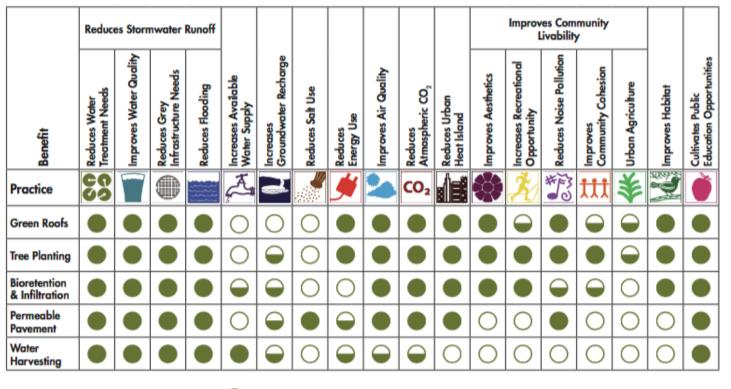
- Green Infrastructure Planning and Implementation
- Stormwater Management Control Ordinance
- Riparian Buffer Ordinance
- Utility Master Plan Element

# Green Infrastructure Benefits



- Reducing stormwater runoff
  - Improving water quality
  - Reducing CSS overflows
  - Reducing flooding

- Increase groundwater recharge
- Reducing heat island
- Improve air quality
- Improve habitat



Maybe

Yes



# **Green Infrastructure Planning**





Tier 1. Impervious Cover Assessment [5 pts]

Use GIS watershed maps Calculate impervious cover and stormwater runoff volumes

Tier 2. Green Infrastructure
Action Plan
[10 or 15 pts]

Set short-term Impervious cover management goal (% or acreage) Identify sites for GI projects Develop concept plans/ project sheets



Tier 3. Green Infrastructure Strategic Plan [20 pts] Set long-term Impervious cover management goal (% or acreage) Identify long-term GI projects Assess the water quantity and quality benefits (modeling)



# **Green Infrastructure Implementation**





Tier 1. Implement Green Infrastructure demonstration Projects [10 pts]

Use GIS watershed maps Calculate impervious cover and stormwater runoff volumes



Tier 2. Implement Green Infrastructure Action Plan [20 pts] Achieve the short-term goals for reducing impervious cover and increasing green infrastructure projects.



Tier 3. Implement Green Infrastructure Strategic Plan [30 pts] Achieve the long-term goals for reducing impervious cover and increasing green infrastructure projects.





Developed by a workgroup of environmental and watershed advocates, organizations, engineers, academics, and planners

Three most significant distinctions between this ordinance and the DEP model ordinance:

- Applicability of the ordinance
- Stormwater retention requirement
- Technical infeasibility provision





# **Applicability of the ordinance**

• What is "major development"?

o Now includes redevelopment and public projects

o Size threshold lowered to ½ acre disturbed land or 1,000 sf impervious coverage (10 pts)

# Option of including "minor development"

- o For projects with a minimum 1,000 sf of disturbed/impervuous land (20 pts)
- o For projects with a minimum of 250 sf of disturbed/impervious land (30 pts)





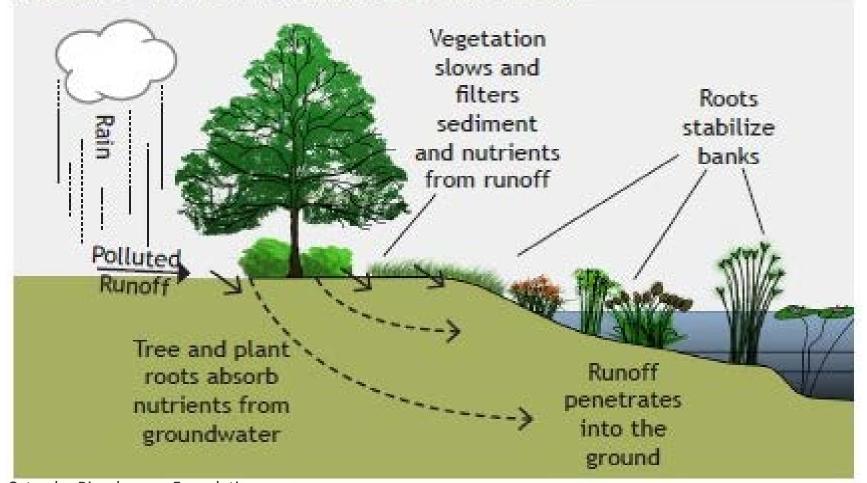
# **Stormwater retention requirement**

- **Major:** Retain 1.25-inch, 2-hour rainfall event on-site using green infrastructure
- Minor: For each 250 sq. ft. of impervious surface, retain 450 gallons of runoff on-site using GI



# What is a Riparian Buffer?





Catawba Riverkeeper Foundation





# **Technical infeasibility provision**

- Alternative compliance: treat 1.5x the volume not recharged or retained on-site
- What conditions could lead to infeasibility?

   Dense development conditions
   High industrial pollutant loadings in runoff
   Adverse hydraulic impacts to water table





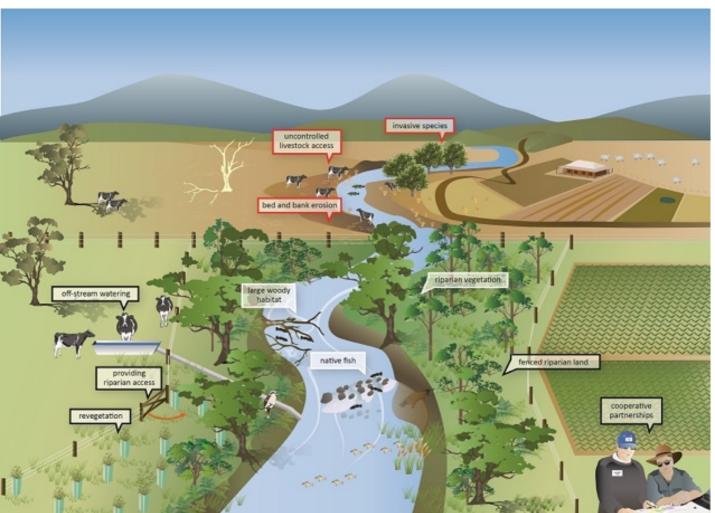
Potential expanded (beyond DEP) requirements in a Sustainable Jersey model ordinance

- •Defines forested buffers
- •Provides additional standards due to steep slopes, soils and/or other physical conditions
- •Required for all major and minor development
- •Other criteria under consideration



# **Riparian Buffer Considerations**









# Inspired by the **One Water** concept of a systems approach to water

# Provides important baseline data for land use regulations

Identifies (and strengthens) the relationship between water planning policy and land use regulations





A new action may require:

•Wastewater utility information: Inventory of utilities, current capacity, future capacity, levels of service.

•Groundwater capacity: Assessment of groundwater deficits and recharge

- •Surface water impairment: (reference to NRI)
- •Water challenges: Analysis of water issues and challenges for quantity and quality
- •Municipal policies/activities: Land use policies and strategies to address low capacity, groundwater deficits and water challenges.





# Story of A Stormwater Management Ordinance

A Case Study: Princeton NJ





### An Opportunity Arises



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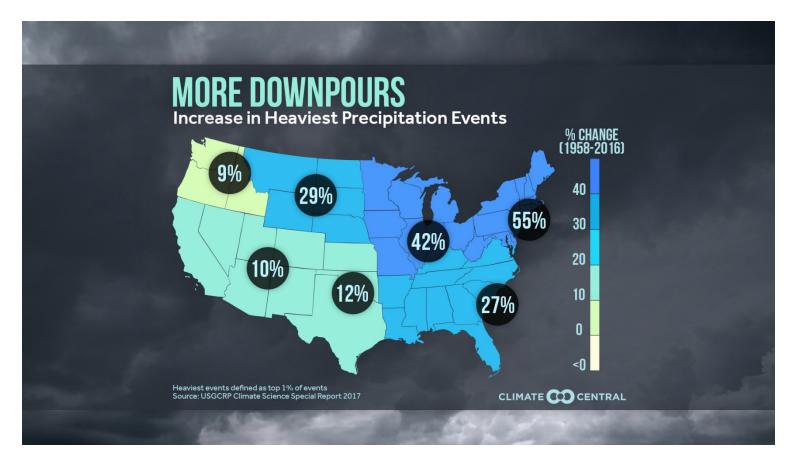
What Did We Need to Know?

- What characteristics of our town's natural and built environment needed to be considered?
- Best practices in stormwater management?
- What were other towns doing?
- How could we educate ourselves and our town government about these quite technical topics?





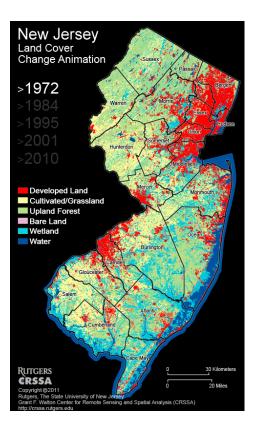
### Extreme Rainfall Events On Rise



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### Development Continues to Expand



Between 1995 and 2012, impervious surfaces in the Millstone Watershed increased by more than 30 percent to 20,878 acres

#### Millstone Watershed in the Raritan Basin



Source: Grant F. Walton Center for Remote Sensing and Spatial Analysis, Rutgers University



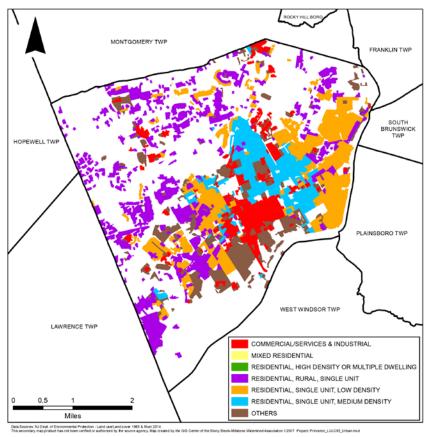


### Land Use Changes- Urbanization of Princeton





Urban Land Use Types for Princeton (1995)



#### **Impervious Coverage:**

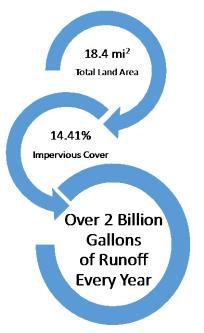
1995: 1521.18 acres
2002: 1598.58 acres
2007: 1634.16 acres
2012: 1644.08 acres

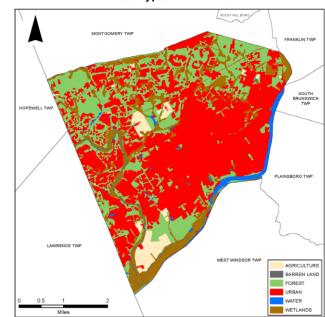
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### Land Use Changes- Urbanization of Princeton

### Impervious Cover in Princeton





Land Use Types for Princeton

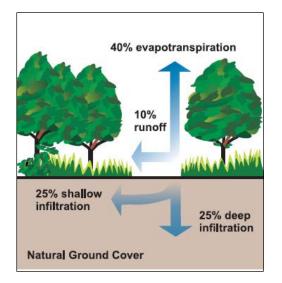


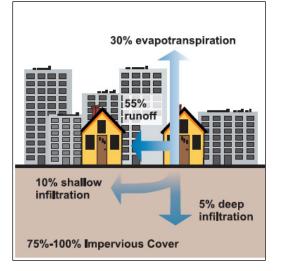


### The Water Cycle has been altered

### "Natural" Watershed

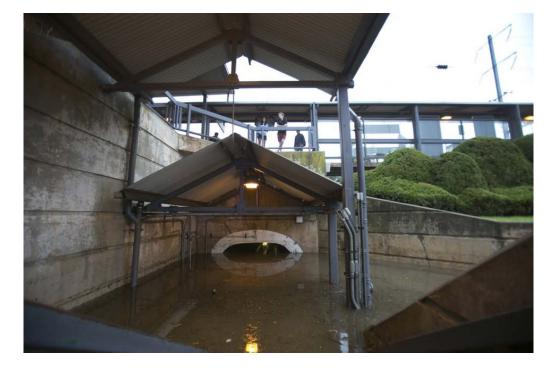
### Urban Watershed





### Extreme Rainfall Events On Rise





# Princeton Junction after 7"+ of rain, July 2016

**34** 34

### Extreme Rainfall Events On Rise







### Route One after Hurricane Irene, August 2011 (7"+)

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# CERTIFIED

### Water Pollution Issues



Phosphorus

E Coli



Aquatic Life



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Stormwater Management

## Old thinking:



# Remove standing water from developed properties as quickly as possible



#### **Problems:**

- Flooding problems are just pushed "downstream"
- Pollutants picked up by stormwater and carried to streams
- Reduction in groundwater "recharge" can harm aquifer

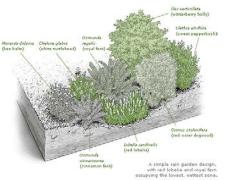


#### Stormwater Management

## New thinking:



#### Retain water on site and infiltrate to groundwater



Rain Gardens



Rain Bladders & Cisterns



#### Vegetated Swales

#### **Benefits:**

- Reduce flooding
- Reduce water pollution
- "Recharge" aquifers

Components of A Stormwater Ordinance

NJ requires municipalities to adopt stormwater ordinances that address stormwater from "major developments" (a project that disturbs 1 acre of land or adds ¼ acre of impervious cover)

•Retains 100% of pre-development groundwater on-site or infiltrate the increase in the 2-year storm

•Reduces post development peak flows for the 2, 10 and 100-year storms by 50%, 75% and 80% or demonstrate no impact with full development in stream area

Reduce total suspended solids by 80% and reduce nutrients to the "maximum extent possible in post-construction runoff
Require use of "non structural strategies" to the "maximum extent practicable"



#### Priorities for Strengthening Stormwater Ordinances

- NJ municipalities are authorized to adopt <u>more protective</u> stormwater ordinances than state minimums.
- **Priorities for strong ordinances:**
- •Reduce threshold for definition of "major" development
- •Create requirements for "minor" developments
- •Require action for redevelopment
- •Require maintenance of stormwater systems
- •Require mitigation fee to secure waivers
- •Emphasize nonstructural techniques & Green Infrastructure





What Was Right for Our Town?

- Reduce threshold for definition of "major" development
  - 1/2 acre or 5,000 square feet
- Create requirements for "minor" developments
  - Capture 2 gallons/square foot when adding over 400 square feet of new impervious surface (2 year storm)
- Make the stormwater management requirements for "minor" developments easy to understand and calculate



#### What Is Next?

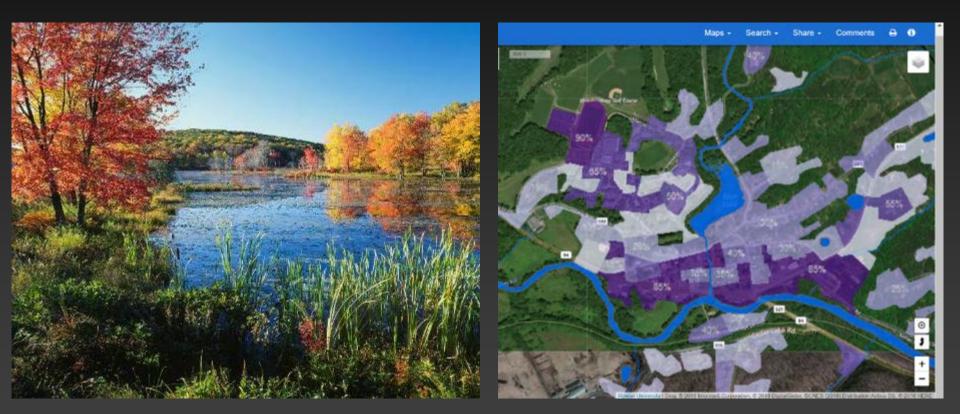
- Tracking
  - How much stormwater is being captured?
  - Are more projects using green infrastructure?
- Recognize the need to do more
  - Address redevelopment
  - Learning about stormwater utilities
- In partnership with the Watershed Institute, build our town's "Water IQ"
  - Engineers, architects, builders landscape architects
  - Residents



#### Lessons Learned

- Accessing technical expertise was very important
- An education campaign was critical
- Getting to green infrastructure is not easy
- To have major impact, redevelopment must be addressed

# Web Mapping to support Watershed-based Sustainability



John Hasse, Ph.D. Rowan University Geospatial Research Laboratory





# Geospatial Research Lab



# What is NJ MAP?

An Interactive Atlas for

Ecological Resources

Environmental Education

Sustainable Communities

 map-based story telling of NJ's environment

• Real time access to digital

**Packaged for the** 

**GIS non-expe** 

mapping

 Educational laboratory for students to learn digital mapping

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# Why NJ MAP?

GIS not accessible to many GIS is Complex

- Requires technical expertise
- Can be cost prohibitive

Require adequate hardware and software

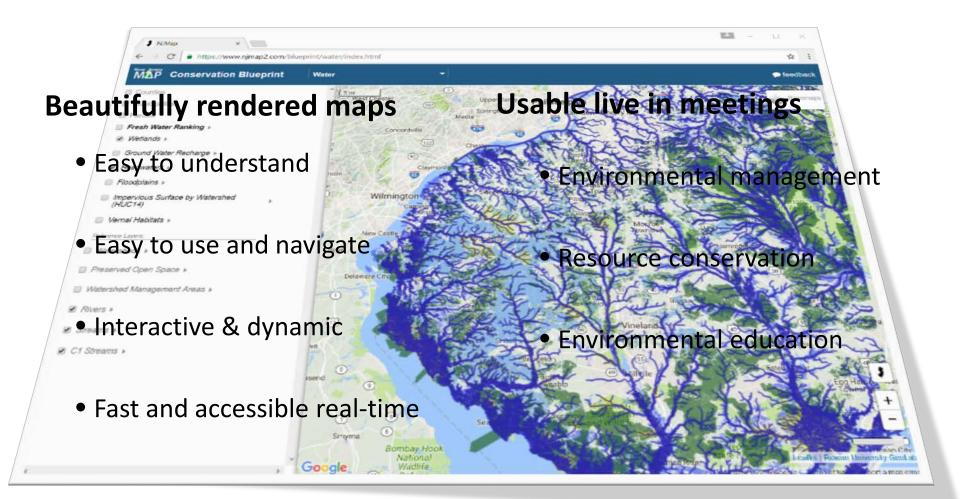
Data difficult to understand

Data needs constant updating

Datasets are huge

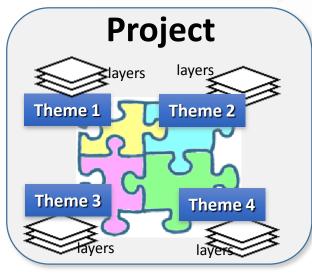
 Lag time between demand and when available for users Easy to make bad GIS maps

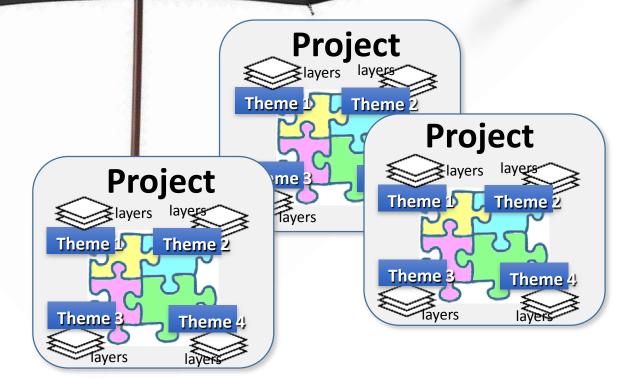
# NJ MAP Goals



# Organizational Framework

# NJMAP Platform





## New NJ MAP Theme

## Concept for 2018

NJ Watershed Explorer

# NJ Watershed Explorer

interactive map

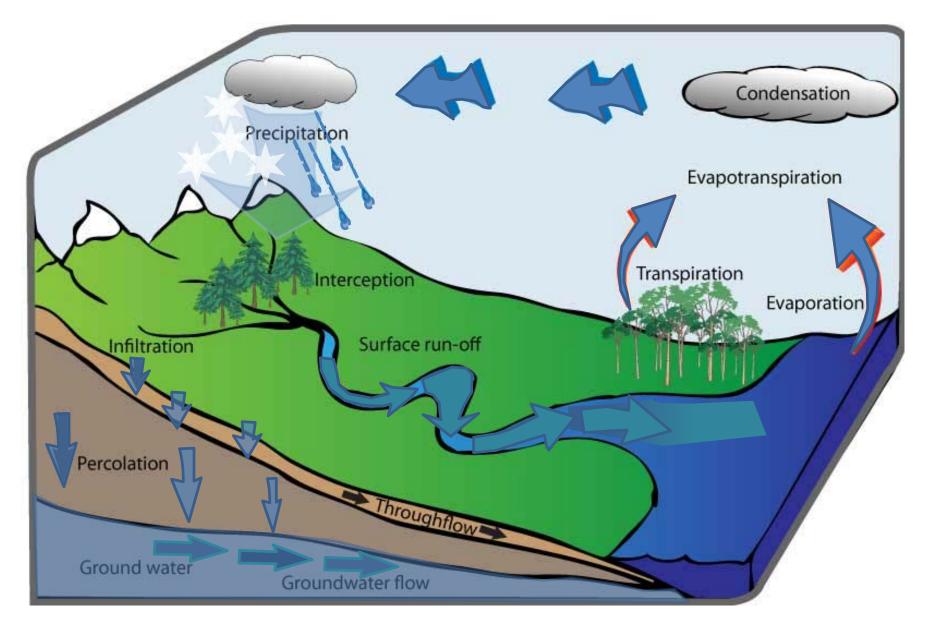
guide users through a watershed tells the story of the watershed's physical and human dimensions.

## **Pilot Watershed**

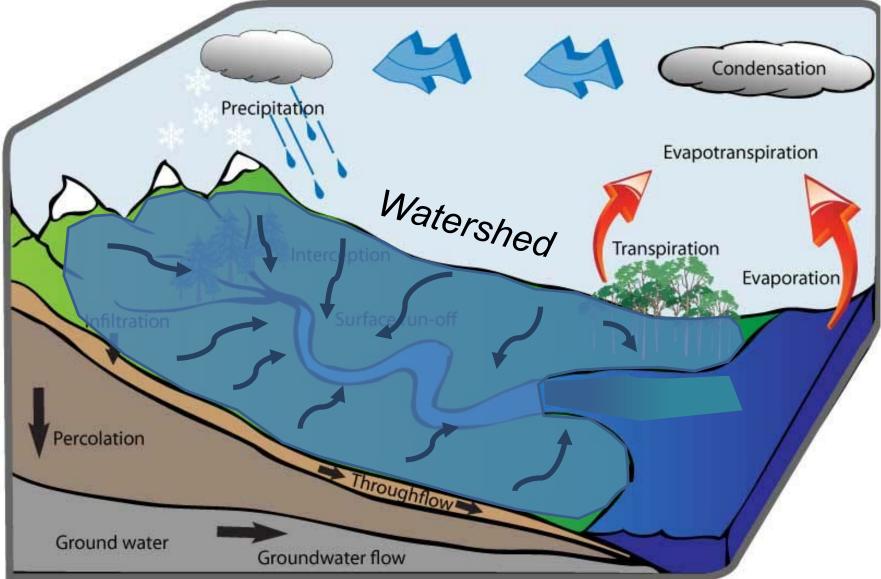




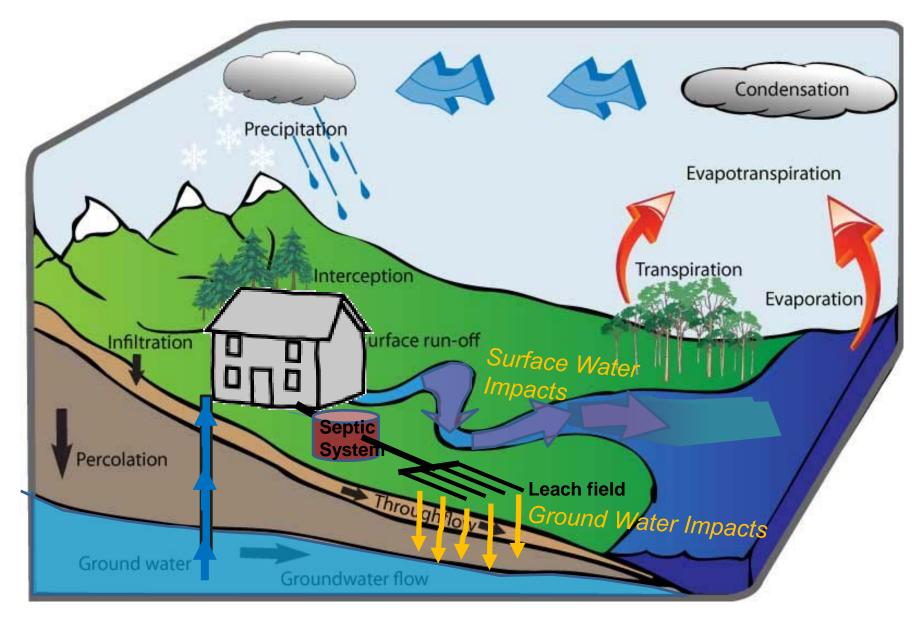
## THE HOROLOGIC CYCLE



# WATERSHEDS- NATURAL UNITS OF THE ECOSYSTEM



## **HUMANS AND WATERSHEDS**

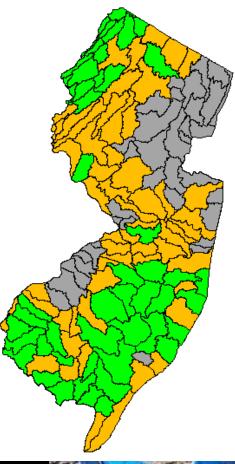


### Watersheds are an integral part of our communities.

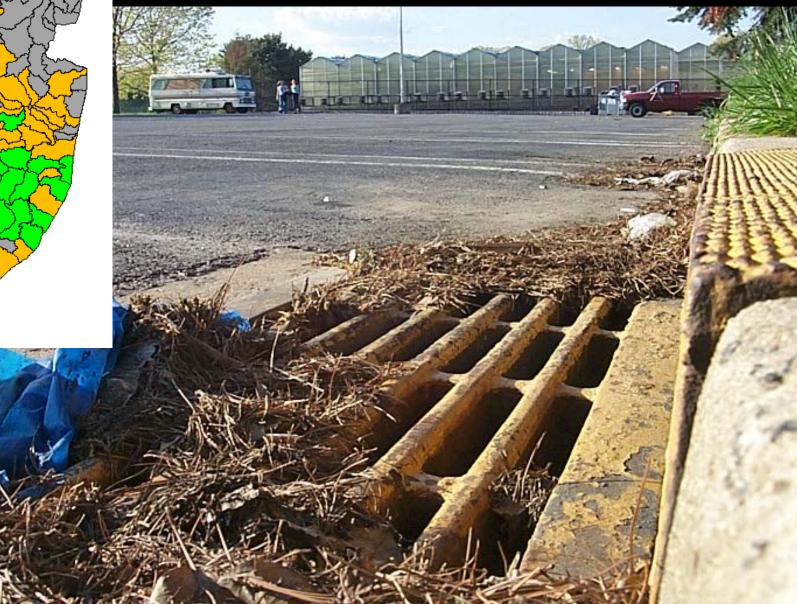
#### Communities are an integral part of our Watersheds.







# **Impervious Surface**



Sprawl is creating massive quantities of impervious surface, impacting water quality

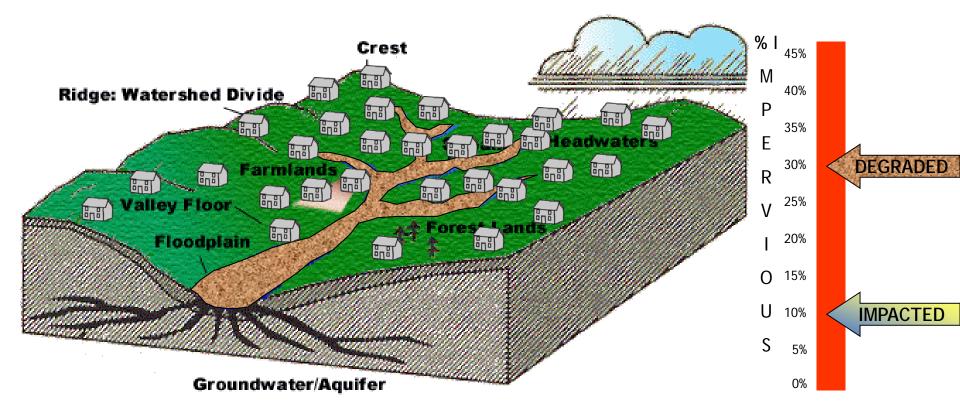


# Impervious Surface (11 ff/day)

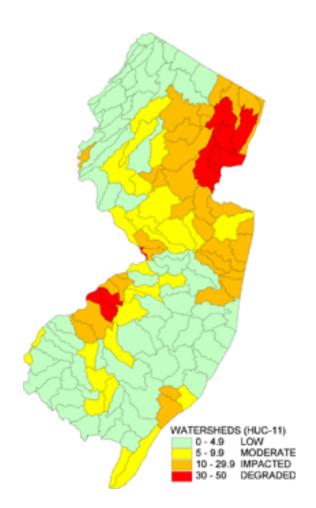


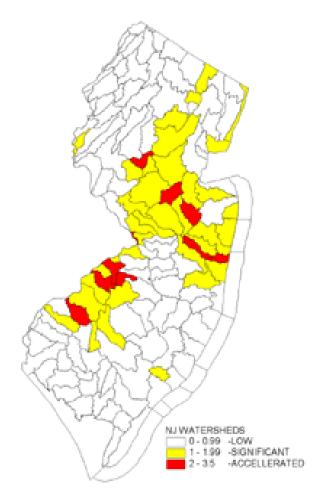
## Why Impervious Surface is Important

## Hydrological Function of a Watershed



## New Jersey Watershed Conditions and Impervious Surface



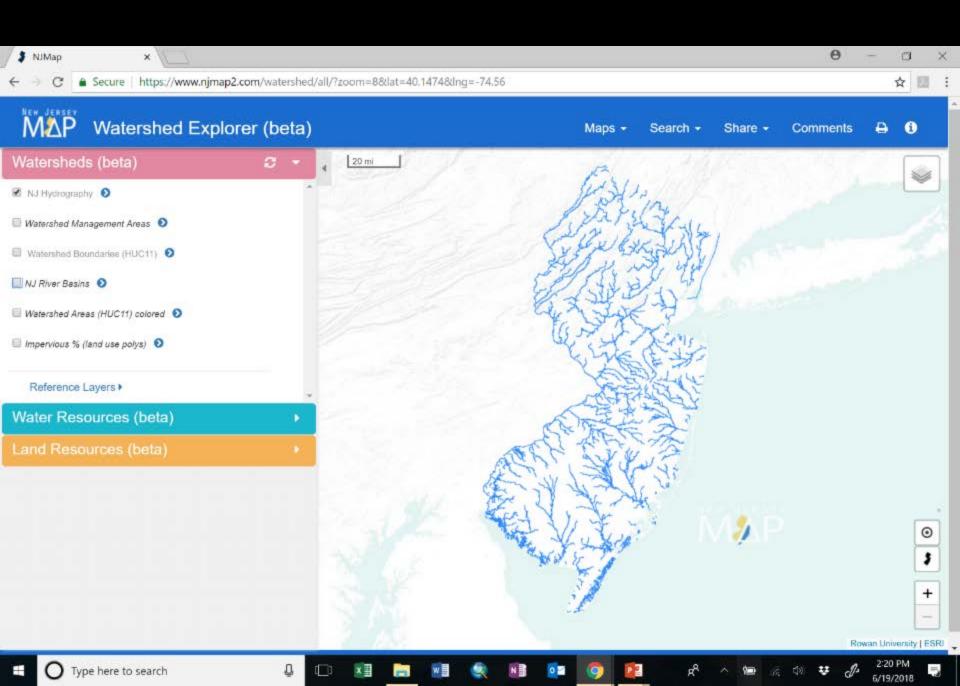


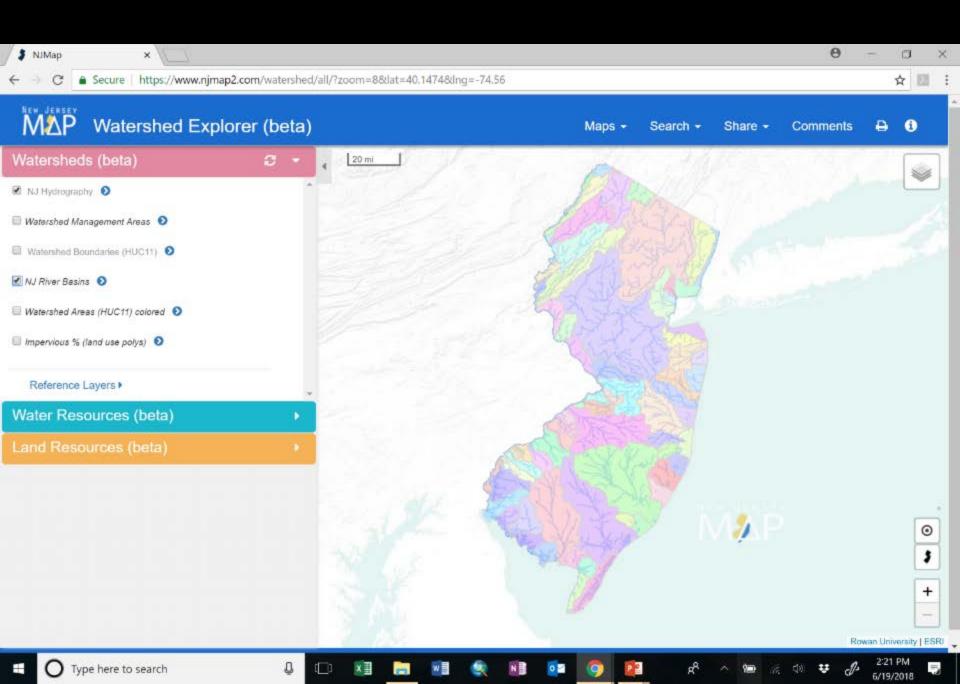
#### % TOTAL IMPERVIOUS COVER

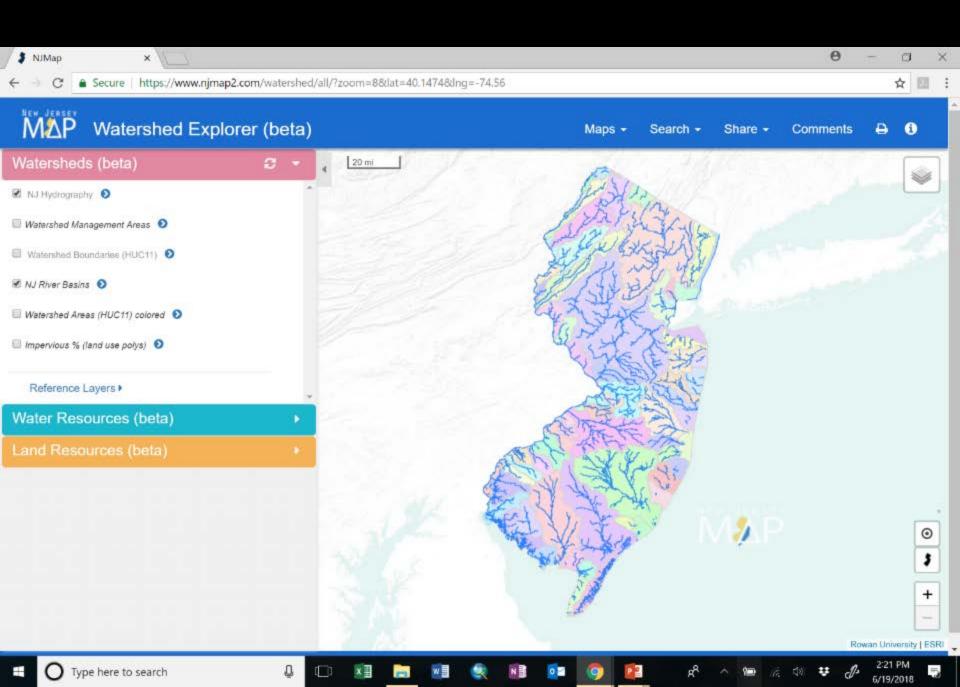
#### **IMPERVIOUS INCREASE**

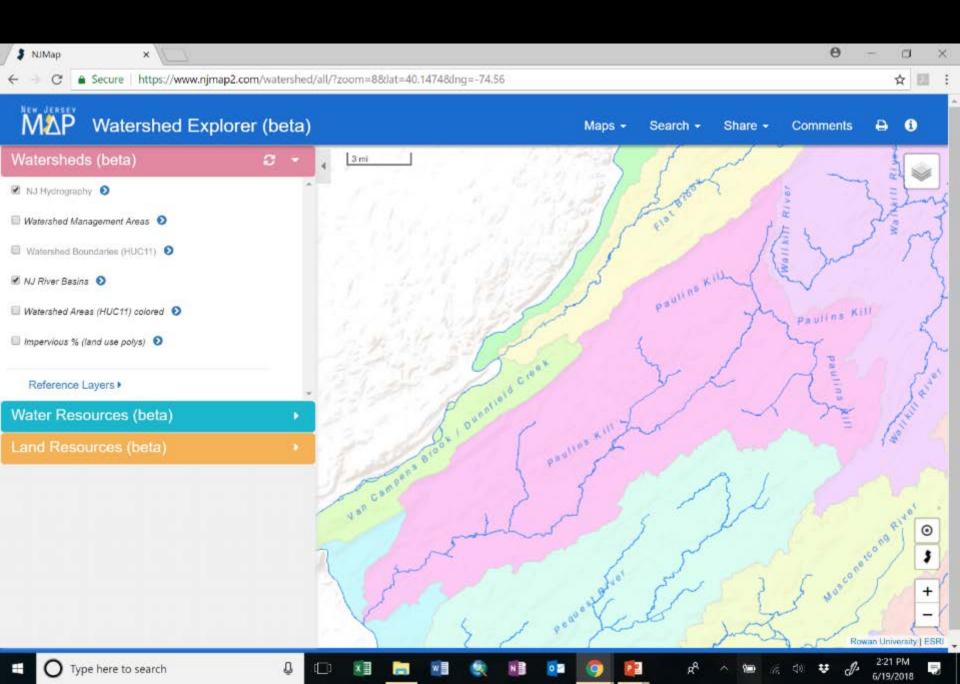
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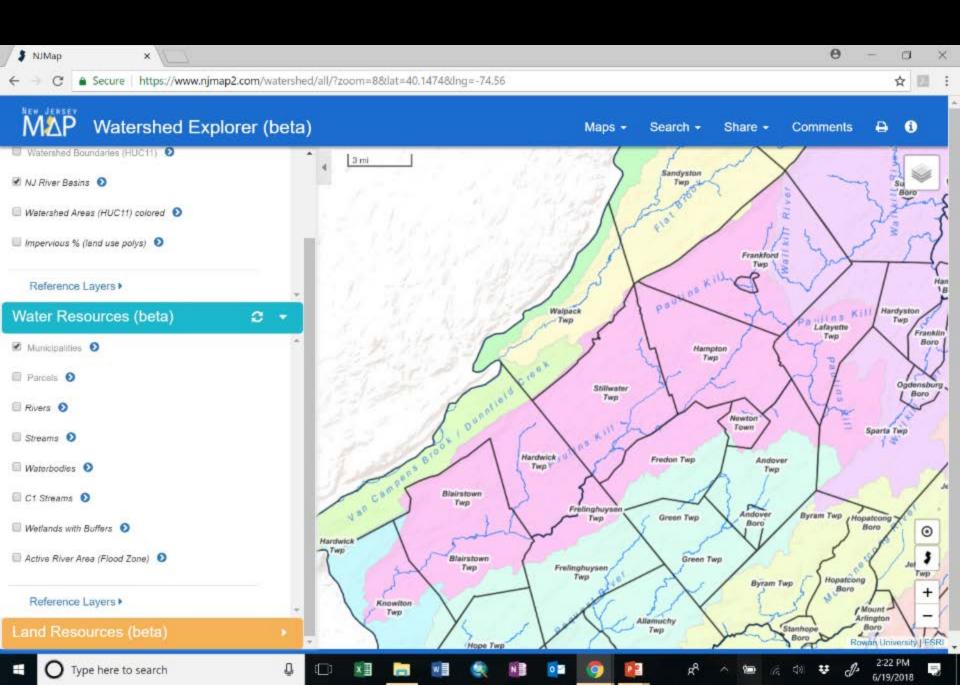


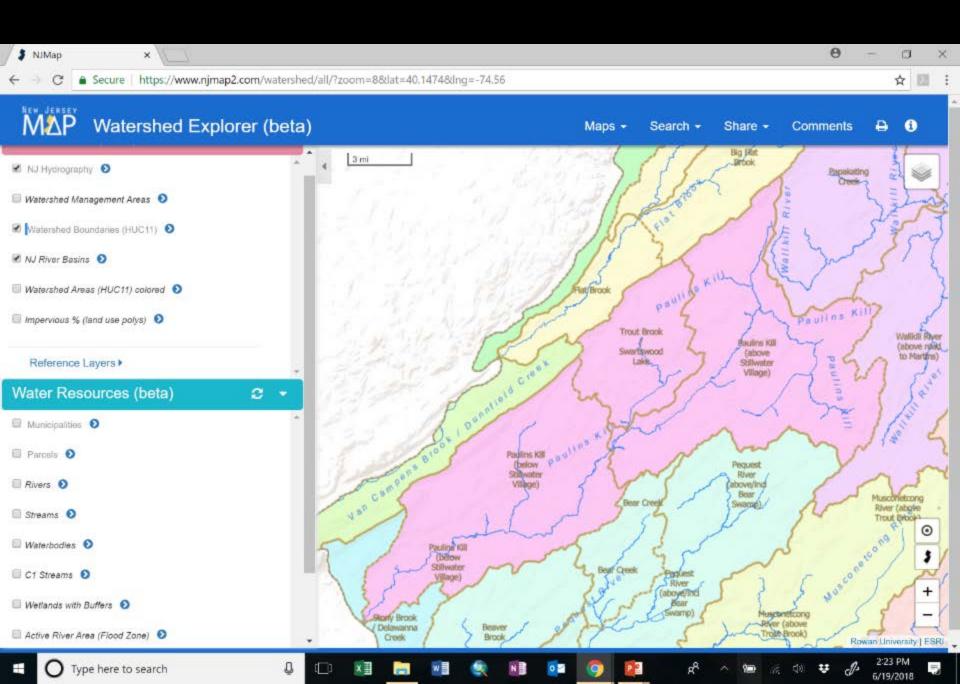


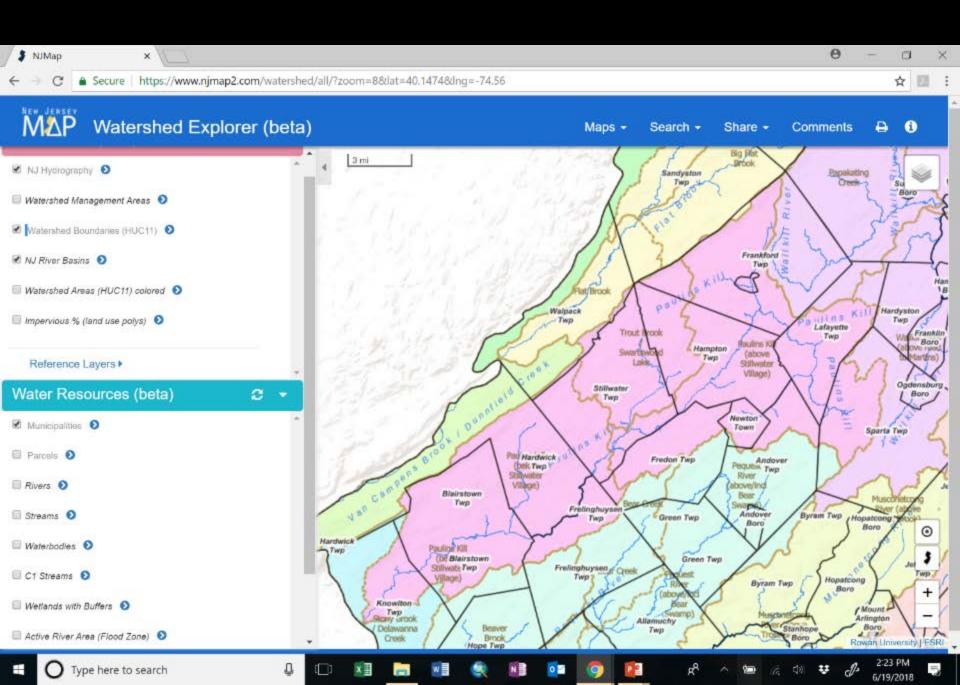


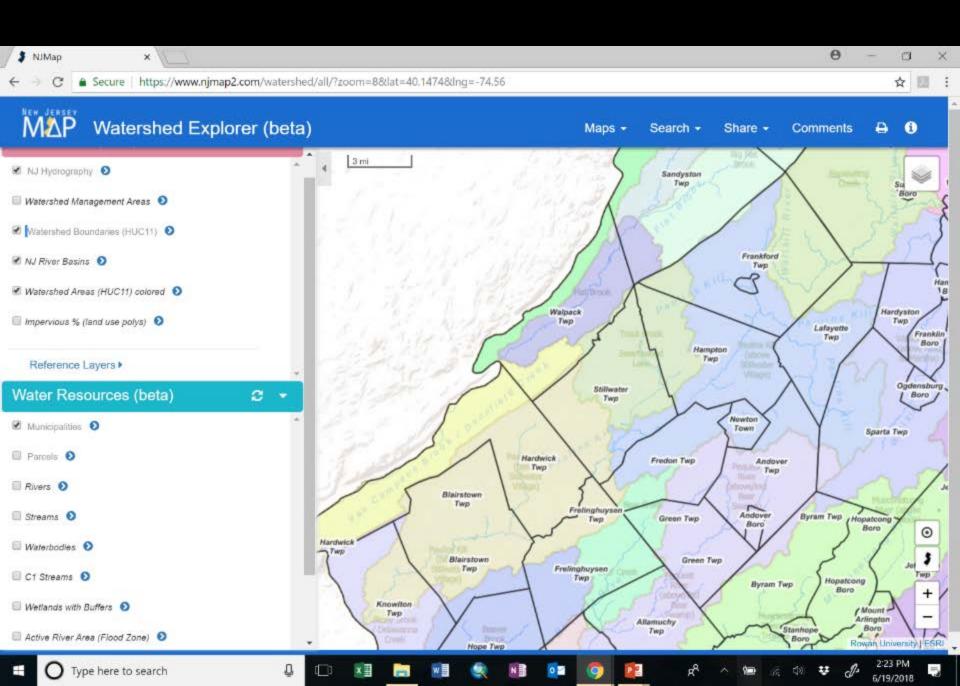


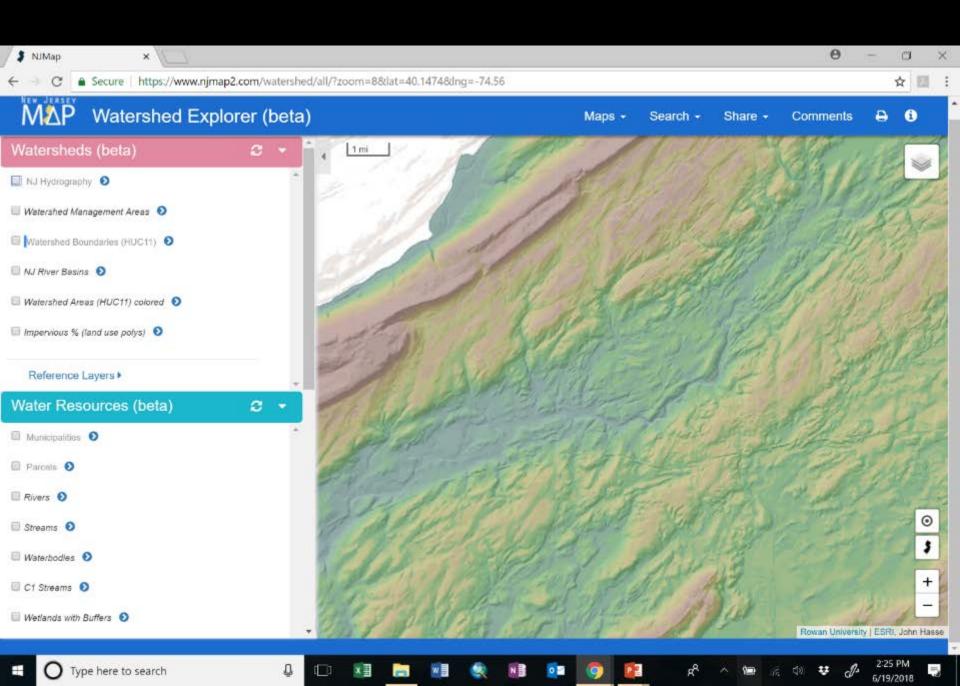


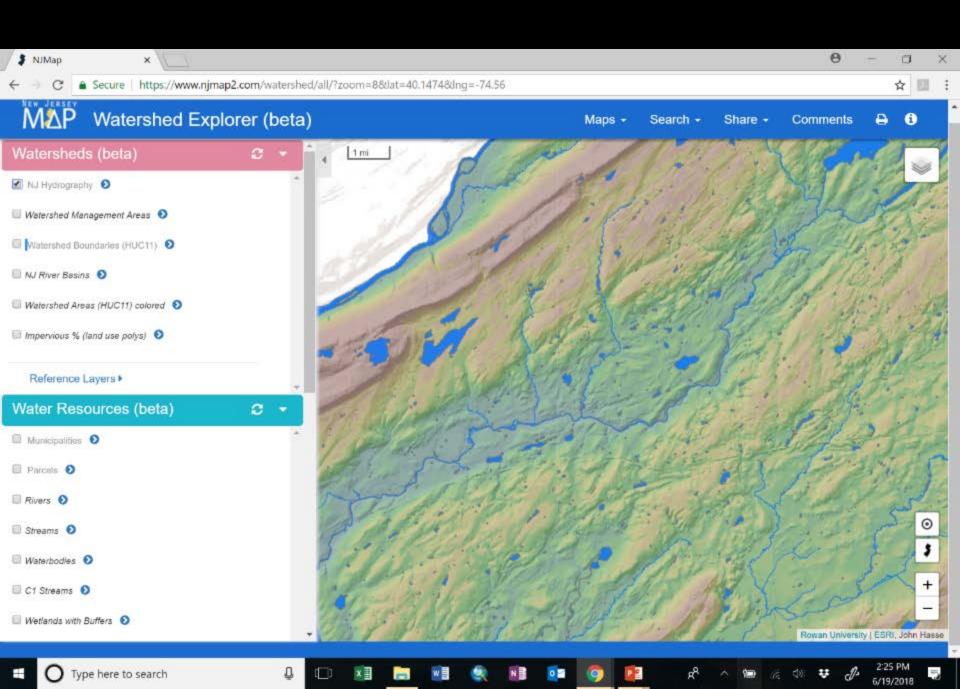


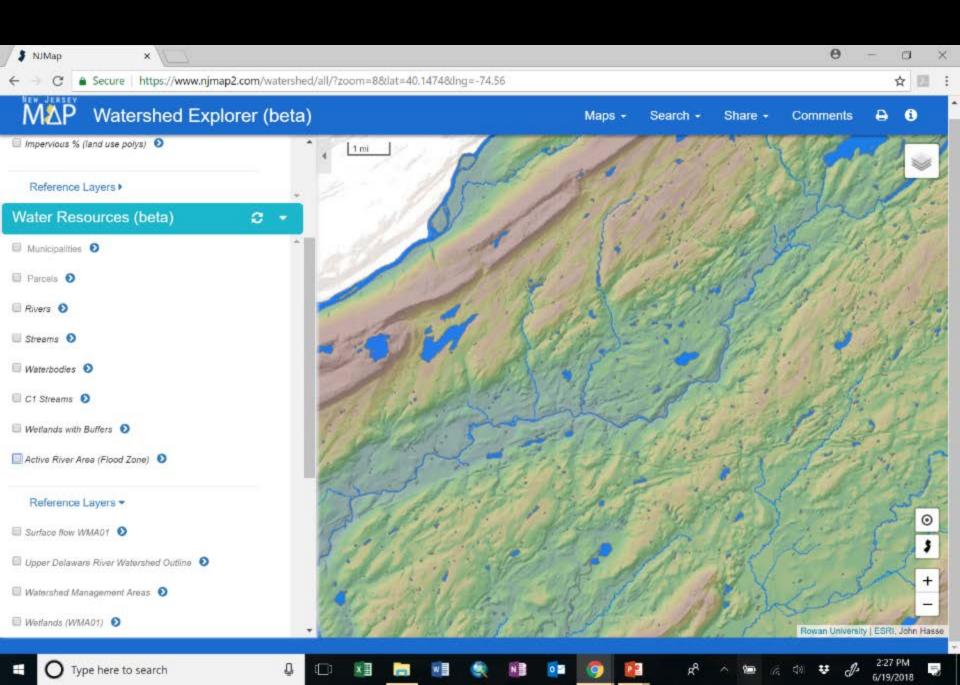


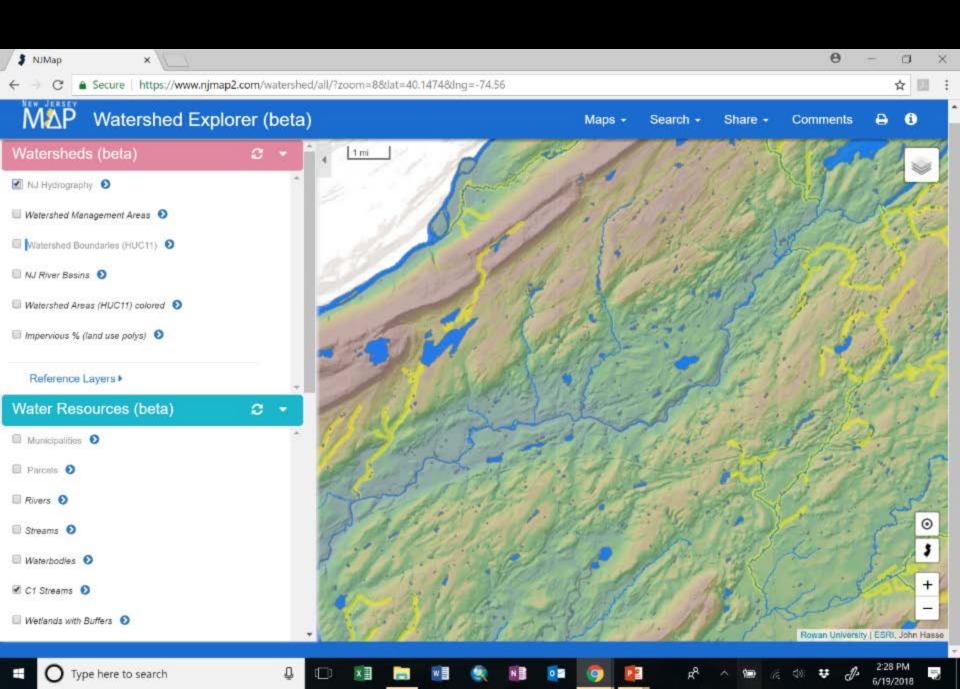


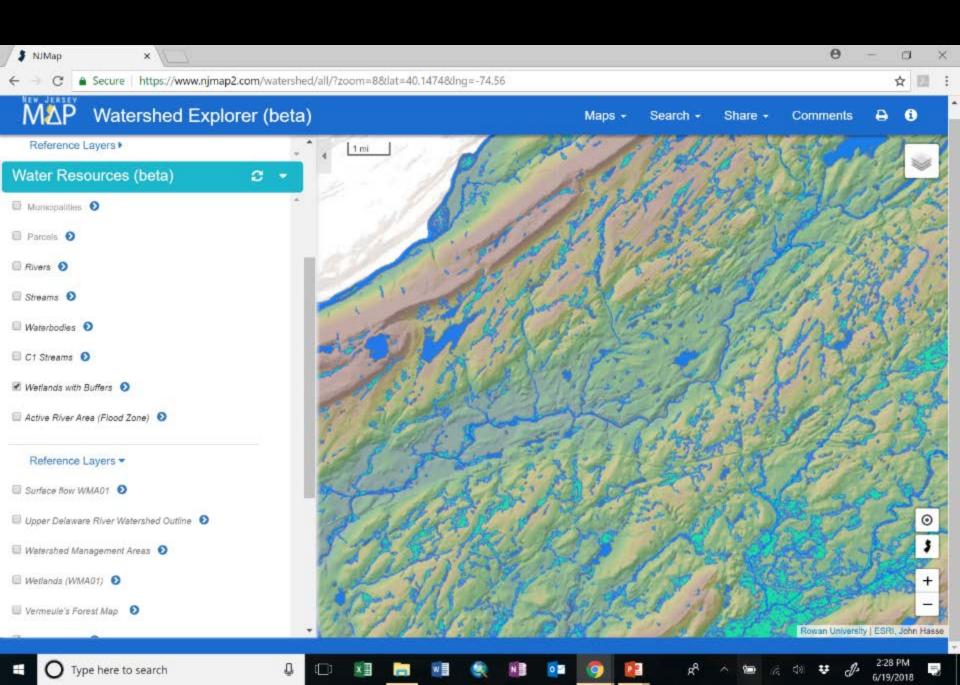


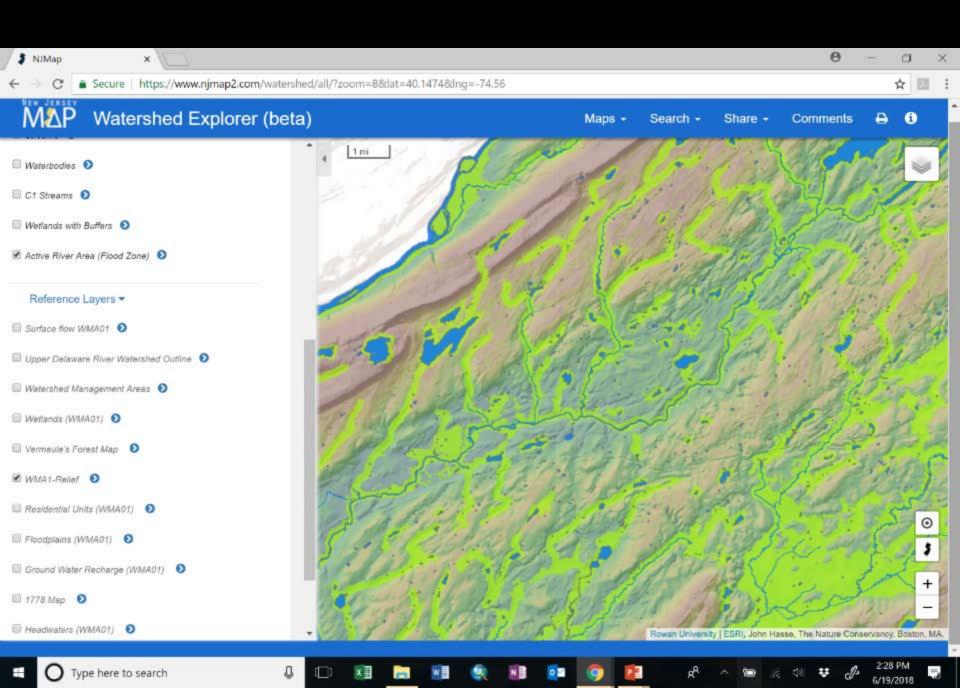


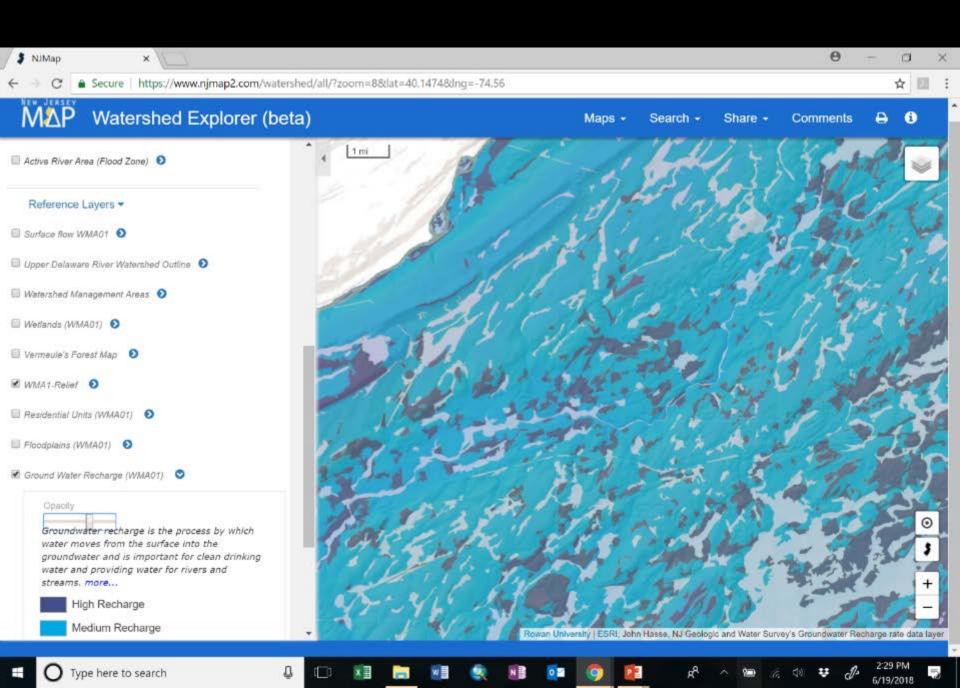


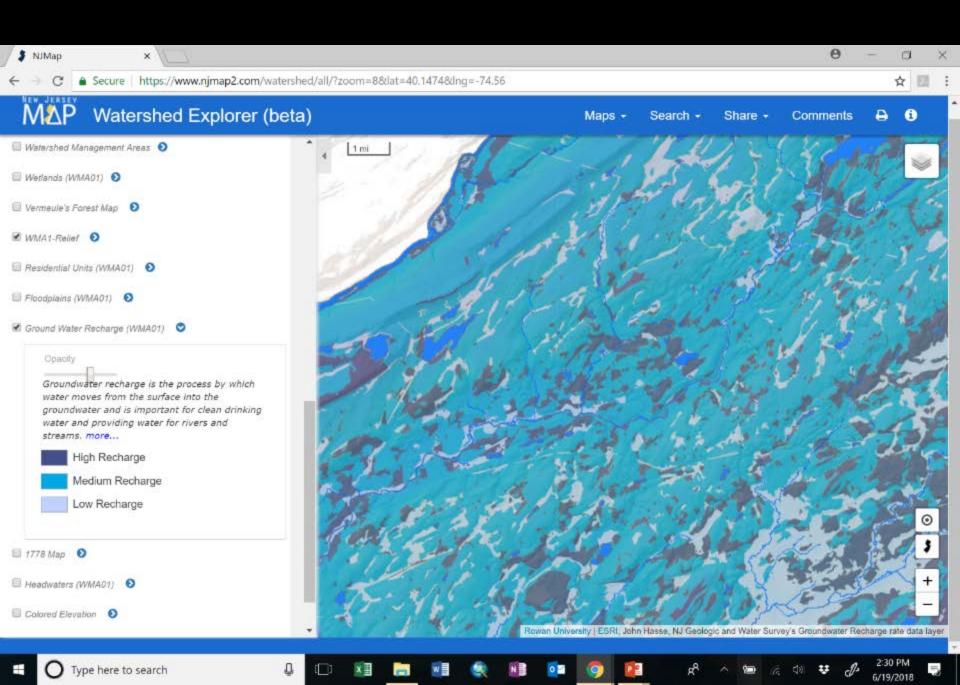


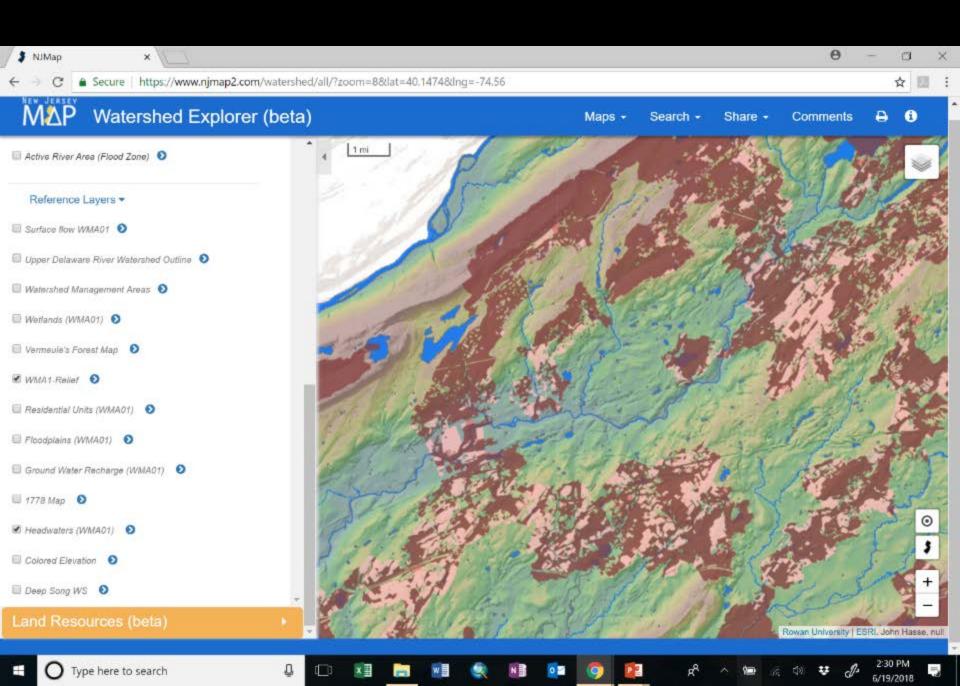


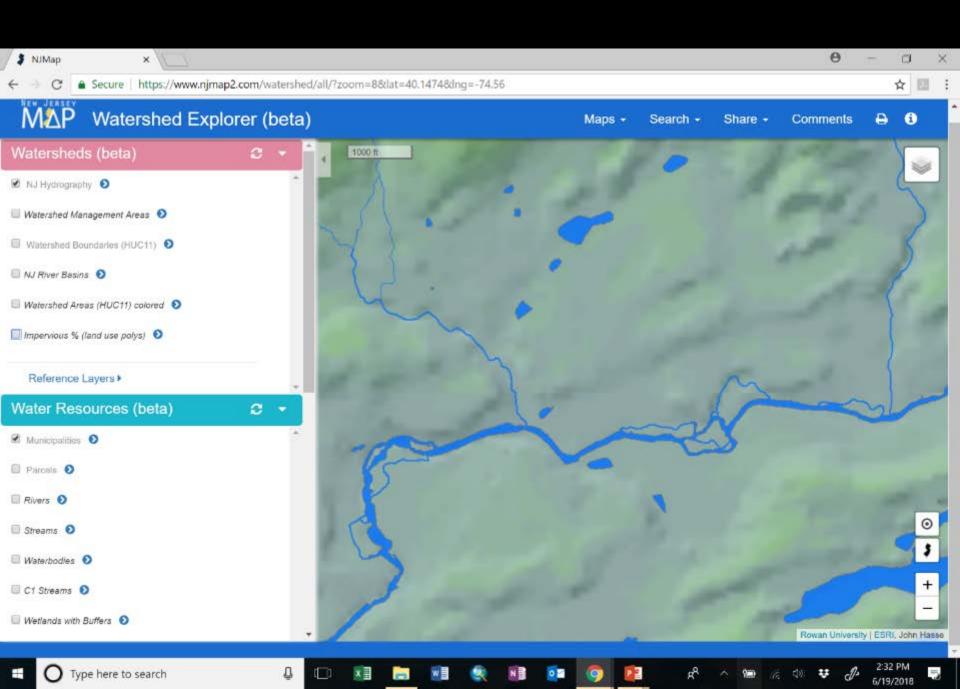


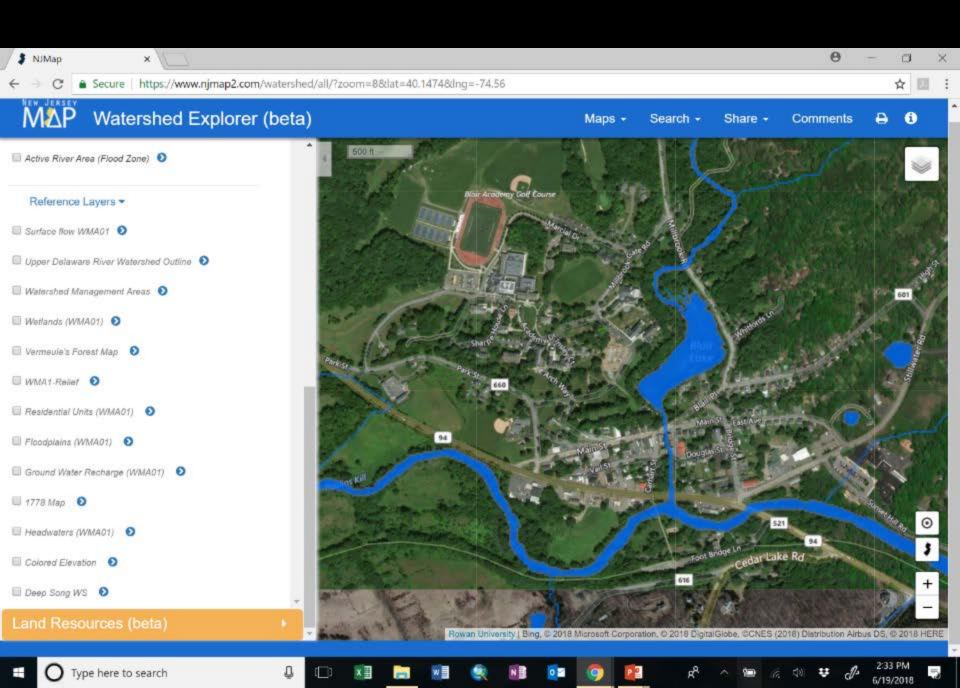


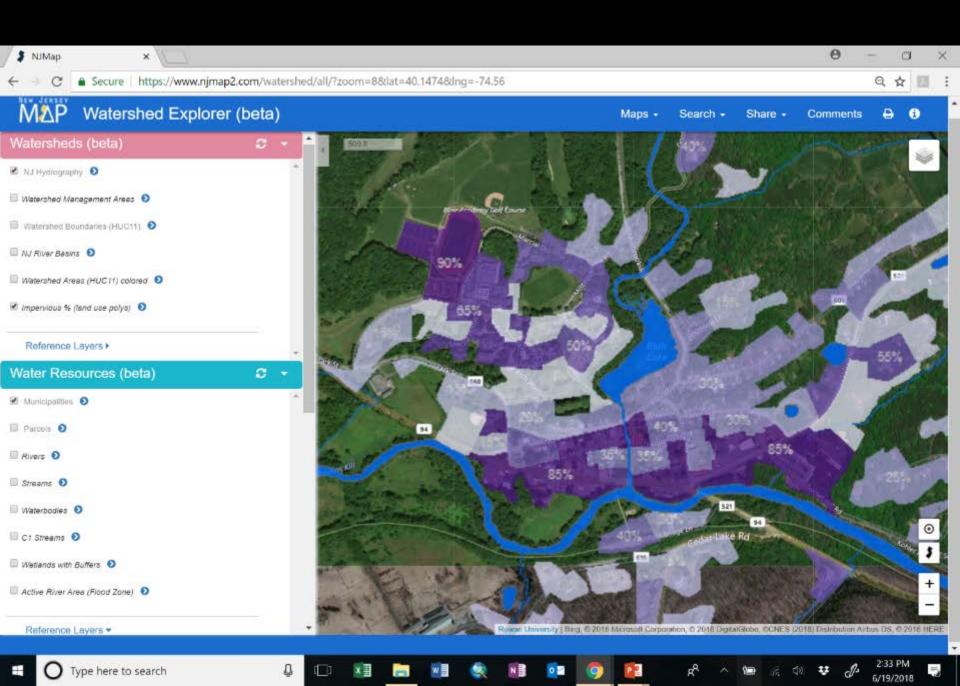


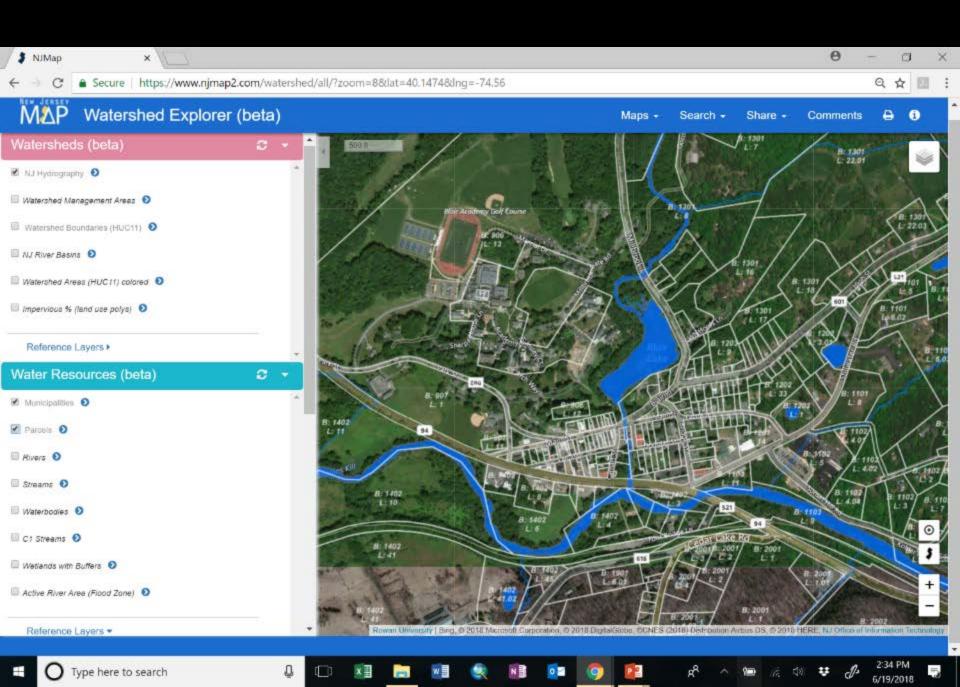


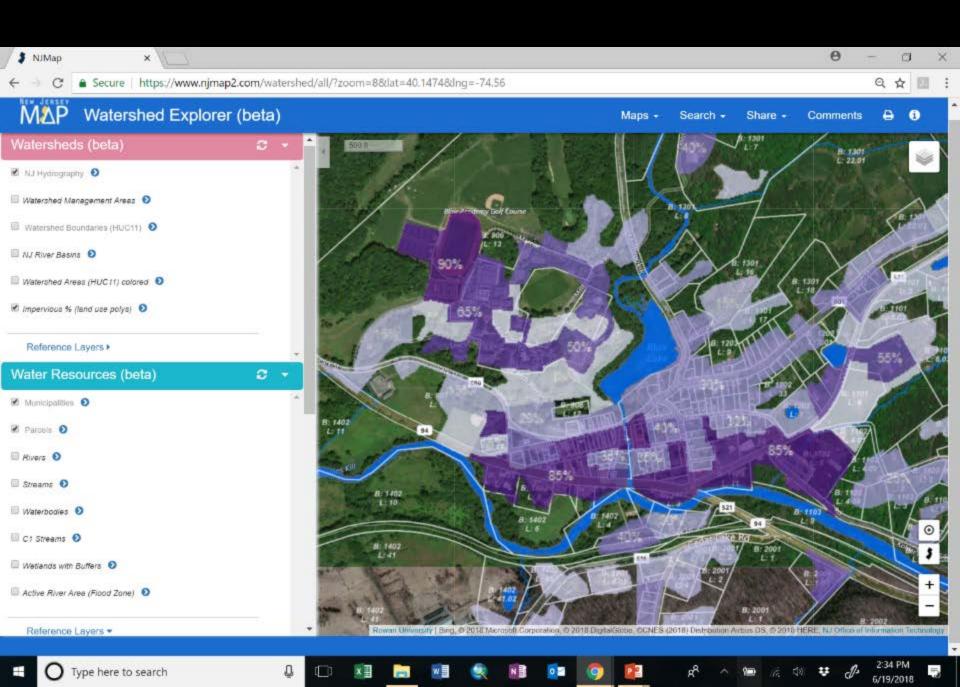


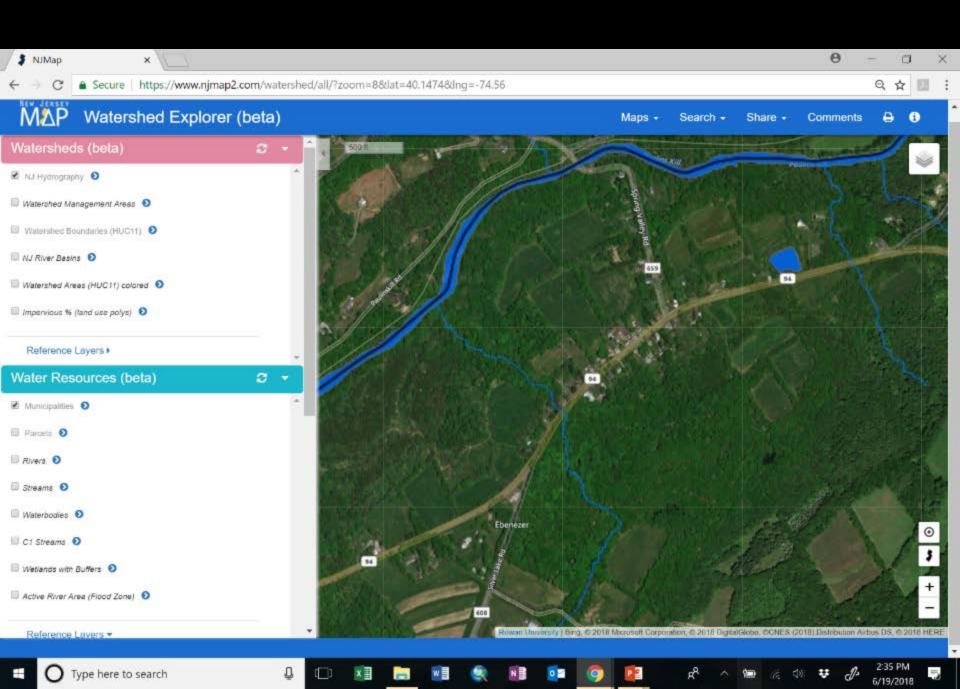


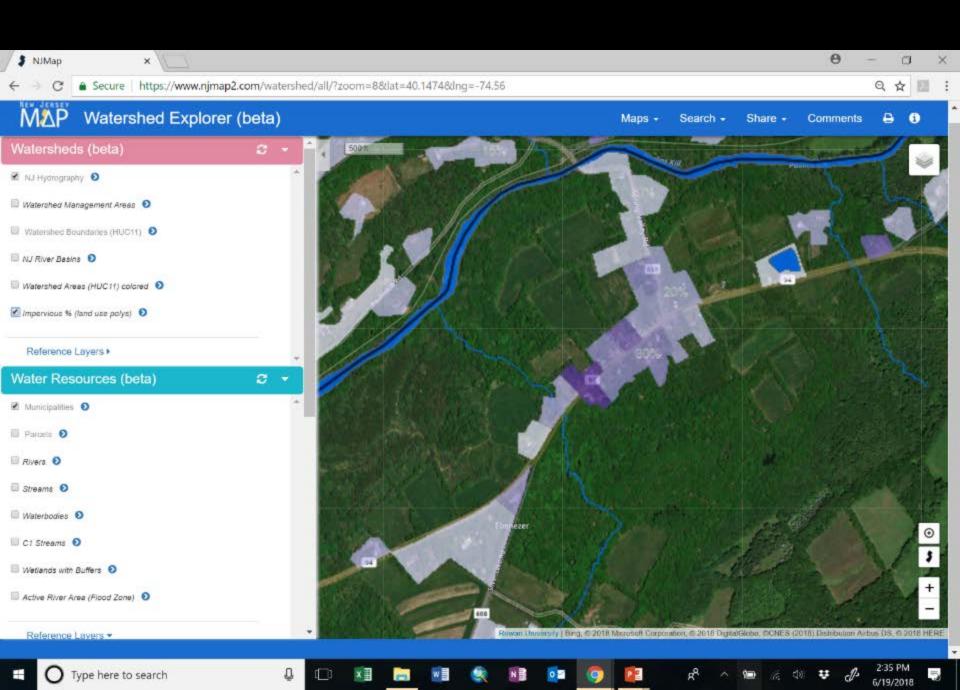


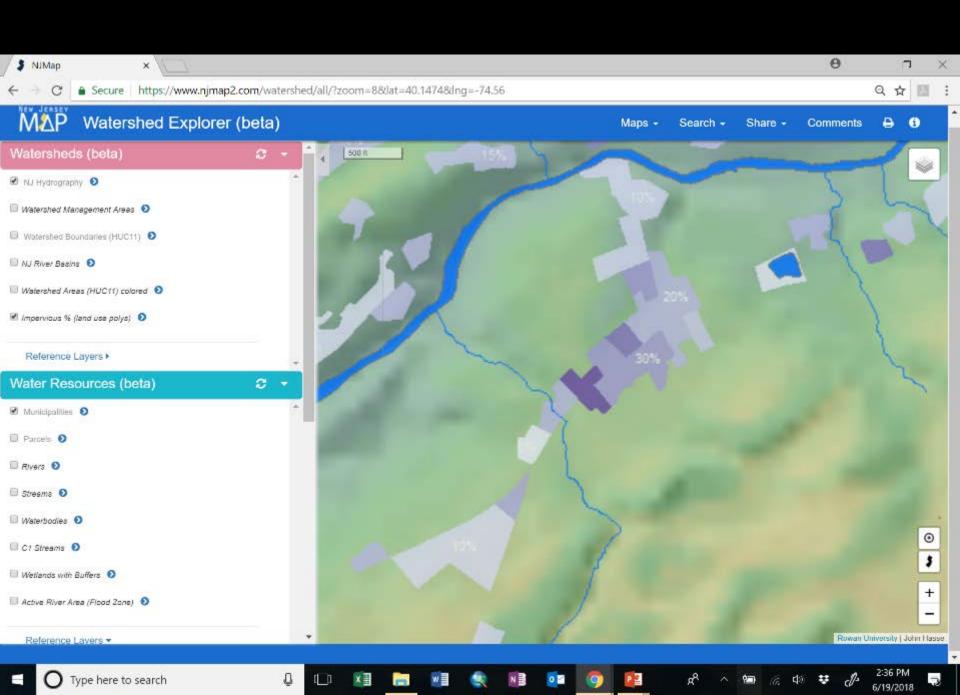


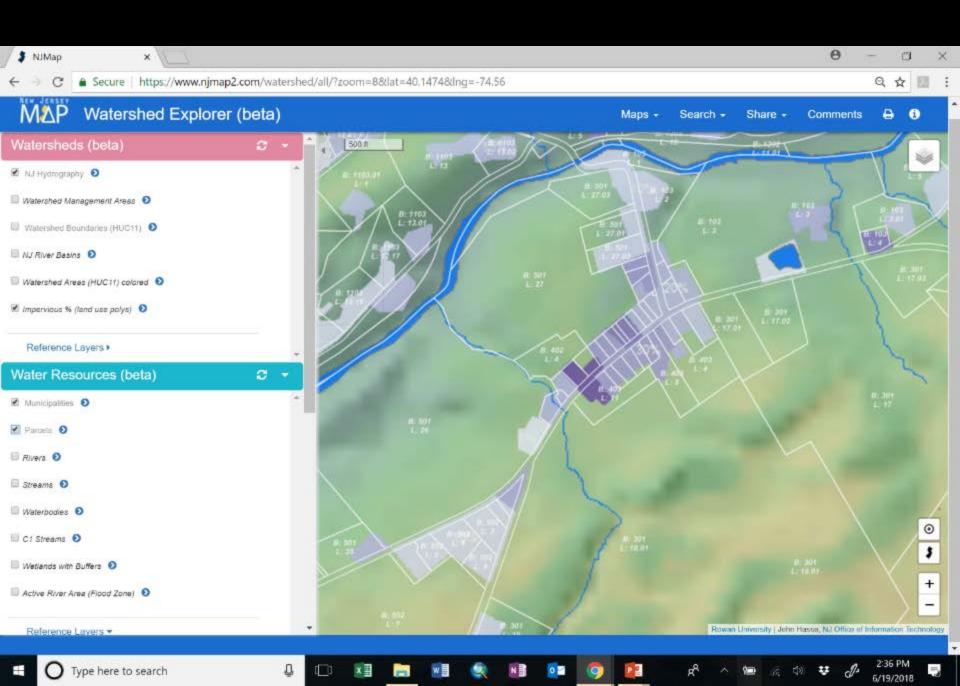












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# Water Quality

is a cornerstone

# Sustainability

And an and a second

Geospatial Research Lab Rowan University

# Sustainability can be achieved one watershed at a time



# New Jersey MAP

# https://njmap2.org









### New Jersey Green Infrastructure Municipal Toolkit

Louise Wilson Green Infrastructure Manager New Jersey Future LWilson@NJFuture.org

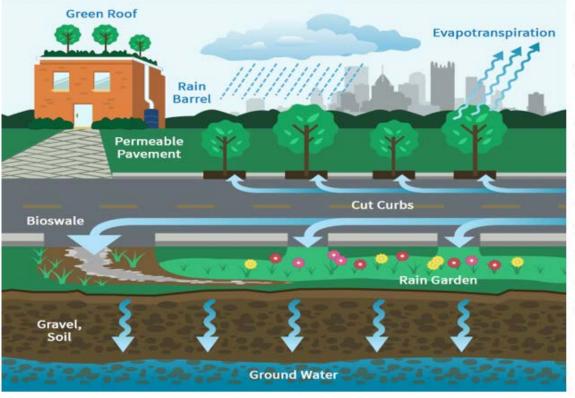




# What is Green Infrastructure?



### stormwater management practices that use or mimic the natural water cycle



Examples:

- Bioretention/rain gardens
- ✓ Bio-swales
- ✓ Permeable pavement
- ✓ Green roofs
- ✓ Cisterns/rain barrels
- ✓ Downspout planters
- ✓ Tree trenches
- ✓ Constructed wetlands
- ✓ Wet ponds



# What it looks like: city roofs and streets





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# What it looks like in suburbia





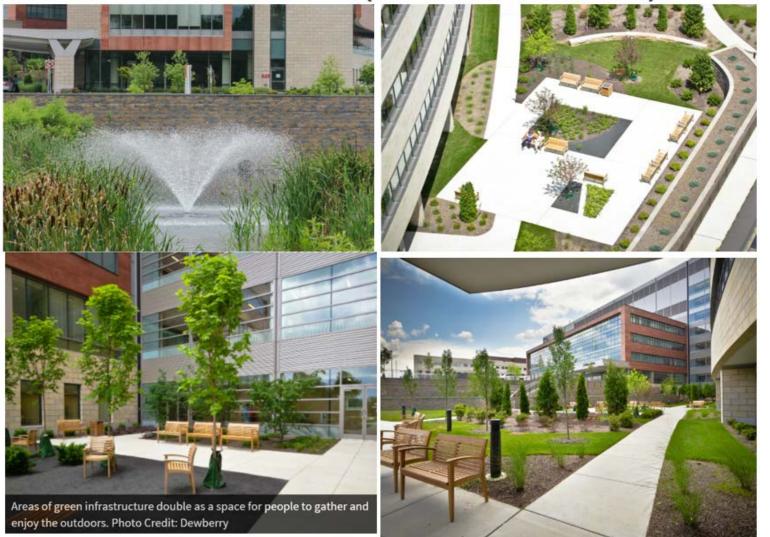
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# Virtual Voorhees hospital







Toolkit Origins, Purpose and Process



- New Jersey Future's work with cities and towns provided insight:
  - o Buy-in from local officials and elected leaders is crucial
  - There are multiple approaches and good resources, but no single "right way" to mainstream green infrastructure especially in the context of the subjective "maximum extent practicable" standard New Jersey's Stormwater Rule.
- Needed: a one-stop, go-to source of clear information, and present a variety of options.
- Step 1: Hire a great consultant team.
- Step 1A: Create (and listen to) a Municipal Advisory Committee.



### Result: a web-based Toolkit Primary audience: municipal officials





### CLEAN WATER: A PRECIOUS RESOURCE THAT NEEDS PROTECTING.

Unfortunately, nearly all of New Jersey's rivers, streams and lakes are impaired. As a municipal leader, **you have the power to protect and improve your community's water.** 

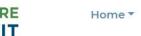
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### Organizing Principles: Plan, Implement, Sustain







Plan Implement \*



Sustain TResources

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#### **Operations and Maintenance**

All municipalities with Clinetallations need

#### Reporting/Oversight

The heet way to track the performance

#### **Community Engagement**

Community engagement and education is

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# Plan: get those ducks in a row





Hear from people that are directly involved in the design and development of influential, sustainable green infrastructure projects.

fzprojects.com/clients/njf/resources.php

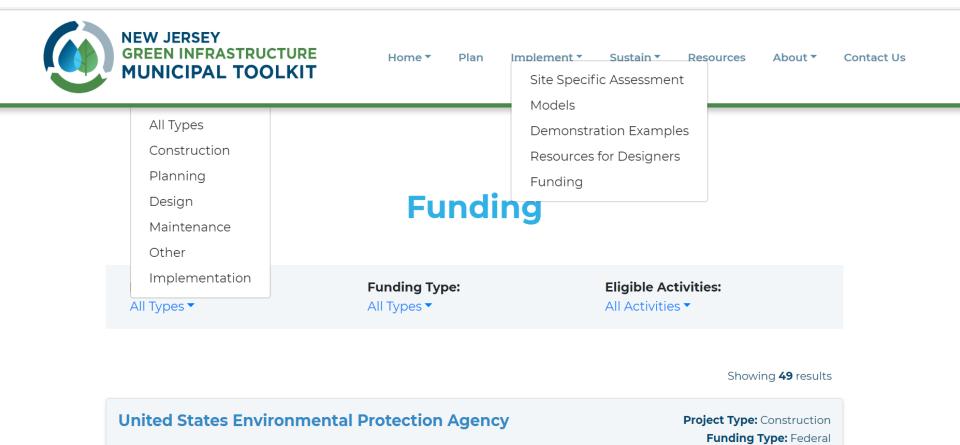
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### Implement: Secure \$\$, design & build projects





**Urban Waters Small Grants** 

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# Sustain: Maintain!





Home **\*** 

Plan Implement \*

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### Sustainability is Key to Success

#### **Operations and Maintenance**

All municipalities with GI installations need a properly prepared and adequately detailed Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Plan...

Learn More >

#### Reporting/Oversight

The best way to track the performance, inspection and maintenance of GI BMPs is by keeping a log book...

Learn More >

#### **Community Engagement**

Community engagement and education is key to promoting the adoption of green infrastructure...

Learn More >



### In each section: guidance, examples, resources





Home **•** Plan

Implement <

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### Like all infrastructure, green infrastructure requires monitoring and maintenance in order to function properly over the long term.

Maintaining GI is not complicated and should not deter a city or town from using or requiring these valuable practices. This section contains tools and guidance to help ensure GI installations deliver the highest return on investment

### **Operations and Maintenance**

All municipalities with GI installations need a properly prepared and adequately detailed Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Plan and Manual.

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# Sample Resources







### Sustain

#### **Operations and Maintenance**

- Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Plan and Manual.
- NJ Stormwater Best Management Practices
   (BMP) Manual
- Water Resource Program

#### **Guidance Documents**

- Evaluating Green Infrastructure: A Combined Sewer Overflow Control Alternative for Long Term Control Plans
- Green Infrastructure Maintenance
   Procedures
- This presentation prepared by Rutgers
- Philadelphia Water Department's Green Stormwater Infrastructure Maintenance Manual

#### **Training Programs**

- Stormwater Training
- Asking the Right Questions in Stormwater Review eLearning Tool
- Green Infrastructure Overview: Examples and Properties of a Variety of Stormwater Management Solutions eLearning Tool
- Green Infrastructure Webcast Series
- Green Stormwater Infrastructure Operation and Maintenance Course
- Inventory and Assessment of your Stormwater Infrastructure eLearning Tool
- Paraprofessionals Watershed Restoration Training Program
- Rainwater Harvesting with Rain Barrels
   Trainer Manual
- Stormwater Management in Your Backyard





- More photos and renderings
- Videos (3 in production)
- "Road Map" for users
- Links to Sustainable Jersey Green Infrastructure Actions and Water Gold
- Primer on the federal, state and local regulatory framework











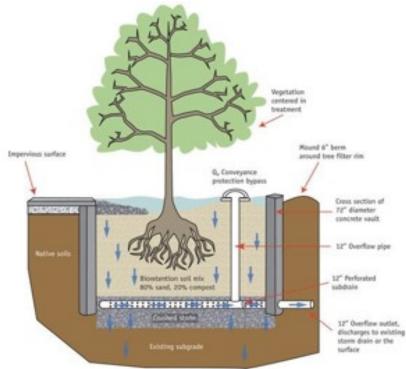
# Coming September 2018 Webinars Workshops League Conference (November)



### **Thank You!**











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# Q&A

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