

Plans, Master Plans and Amendments

Report to the Board October 13, 2023, through February 6, 2023

Municipality	Mine Hill Township
Document	Water Use and Conservation Management Plan
Public Hearing	2/5/24
Summary	Master Plan Element prepared for Highlands Regional Master Plan Conformance re: water use, conservation and low impact development best management practices.

- Mine Hill has prepared a Water Use and Conservation Management Plan in accordance with its conditions of Plan Conformance with the Highlands Regional Master Plan, which has as one of its highest priorities the restoration and protection of water resources within the Highlands Region. The purpose of the Water Use and Conservation Management Plan (WUCMP) is to set priorities for the use of available water, i.e., where net water availability is positive, and to establish methods to reduce and, where feasible, eliminate deficits where they exist.
- Components included in a Water Use and Conservation Management Plan include: area characteristics, identification of water sources and use, identification of stakeholders, evaluation of net water availability, anticipated impacts of climate change on net water availability, water deficit mitigation strategies, funding opportunities, a monitoring plan and a deficit mitigation implementation plan. Net water availability (NWA) is defined as ground water availability minus any consumptive and depletive uses within the subwatersheds. When the NWA is positive, groundwater supply is available for human use; when negative, insufficient groundwater is available to support human use. The WUCMP updates net water availability originally calculated in 2003 to incorporate data from the years 2000 to 2018.
- The WUCMP identifies two HUC14 watersheds (Rockaway and Lamington R.) that intersect with Mine Hill and another two HUC14 watershed where water purchased by the Township (from the MCMUA) originates. The multiple water systems that serve the Township and their service areas are identified.
- The report finds a deficit ranging from a slight surplus in the Lamington HUC to a extreme deficit in the Rockaway HUC. The report includes numerous water conservation and deficit mitigation strategies to address guard against increasing deficits and mitigate existing deficits within the subwatersheds. These strategies focus largely limiting consumptive and depletive uses, largely through residential conservation.