



Water Story

The Building Block for the Newest Gold Star Standard in Water

Anne Heasley, Sustainable Jersey

Jennifer Feltis Cortese, NJDEP

John Hasse, PhD, Rowan University



GOLD STAR STANDARD FOR WATER



Jennifer Feltis Cortese,
AICP

Water Resources Management
*Bureau of Environmental Analysis, Restoration, and
Standards and Office of Environmental Justice*
Natural Resources Task Force and
Water Gold Committee Leader



Water Gold Task Force

Dan Van Abs, **Rutgers University**

Ed DiFiglia, **New Jersey Future**

Ellen Creveling, **The Nature Conservancy**

Jennifer Coffey, **ANJEC**

Jennifer Feltis Cortese, **NJDEP**

Jim Waltman, Michael Pisauro and

Lia Mastropolo, **The Watershed Institute**

John Hasse, **Rowan University**

Kristi MacDonald, **Raritan Headwaters**

Margaret Waldock, **Dodge Foundation**

Swarna Muthukrishnan, **Clean Ocean Action**

Thomas Flynn, **Woodbridge Township**

Michael Furrey, **American Water Works**

Assoc.



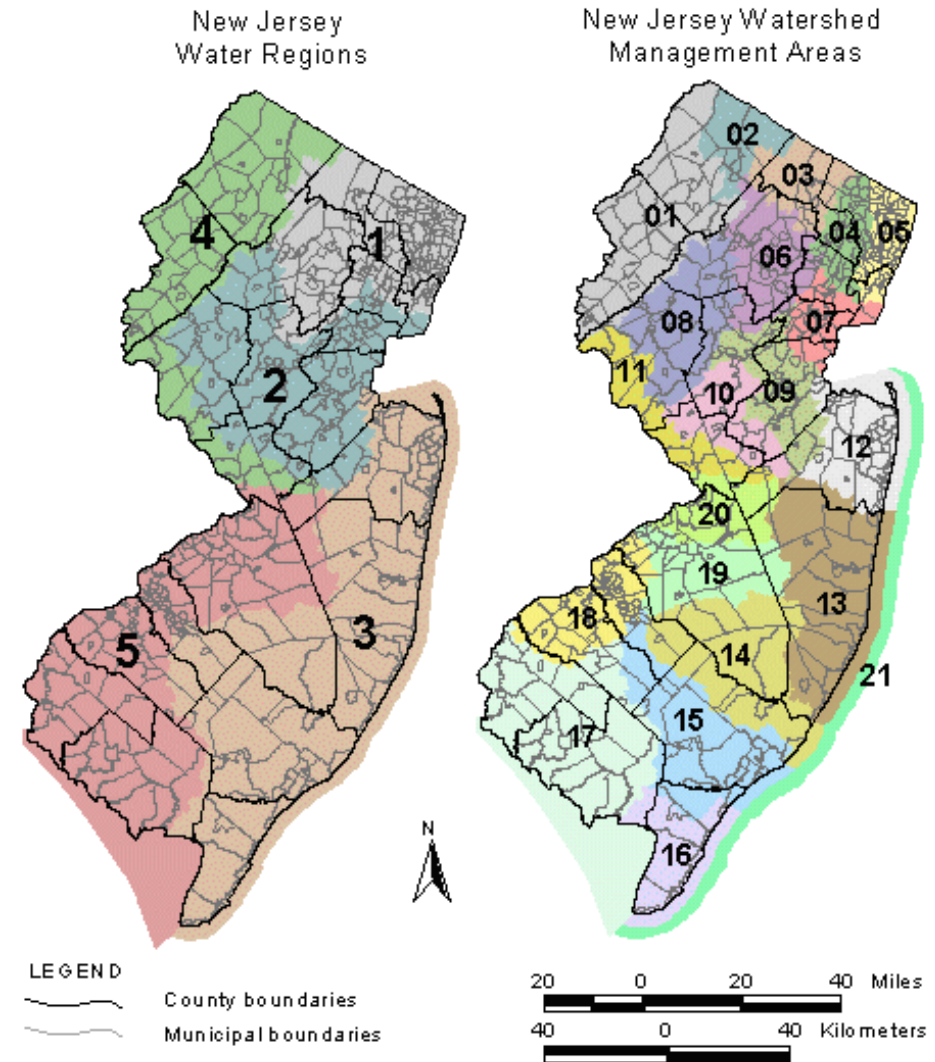
Sustainable Water Goals



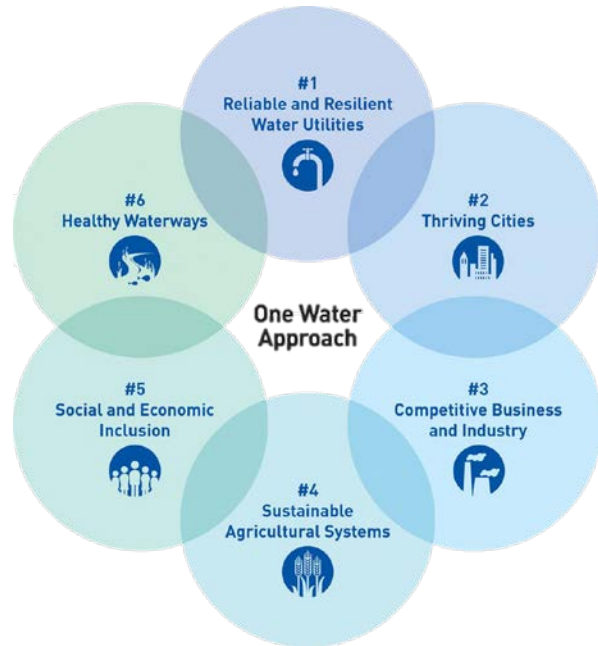
- Drinking water is clean and safe for human consumption.
- Water quality in streams, lakes & wetlands is sufficient to support species & ecosystems; safe for recreation & fishing.
- Water supply, including streamflow & groundwater, is sufficient for human uses & ecosystems.
- The water system, including infrastructure (drinking, stormwater & wastewater), provides adequate capacity & is resilient to climate change.
- Access to water resources is universally affordable & fairly distributed.

New Jersey's Water Story

- Water Supply – 582 public community water systems
- Sewer (waste) Water Systems – 260 systems
- Water Features – approximately 127 miles of coastline; 6,450 river miles, more than 800 lands and ponds.
- Range of Issues – Flooding, water quality, saltwater intrusion into water supplies, degraded streams due to poor storm water management or historically contaminated sites, and access to water.

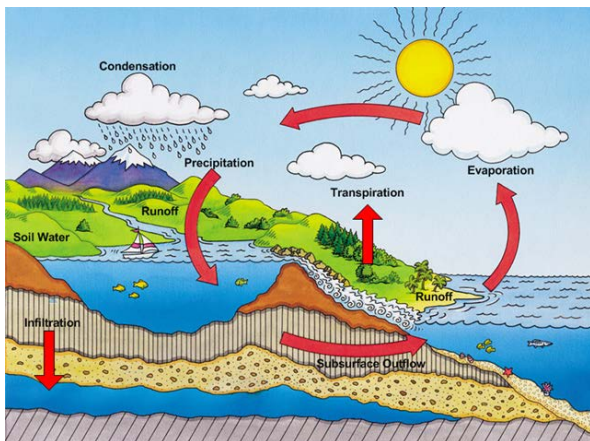


One Water Approach



The Gold Star Standard in Water takes a comprehensive approach, which includes:

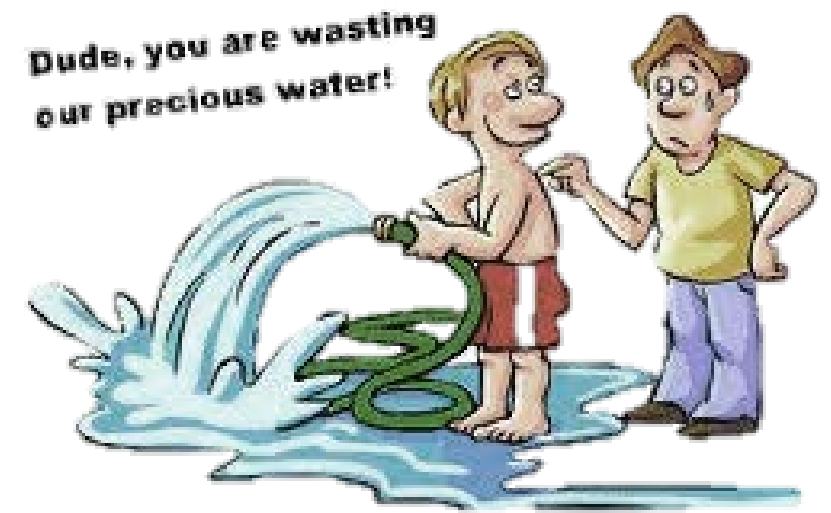
- “all water has value and should be managed in a sustainable, inclusive, integrated way”- *US Water Alliance on One Water Approach*
- Updates to existing SJ actions related to water
- New actions



Gold Star Standard in Water

Current Sustainable Jersey Actions with Water Focus:

- Stormwater Model Ordinance
- Green Infrastructure Planning and Implementation
- Water Conservation Ordinance
- Water Conservation Education



Gold Star Standard in Water

Actions Currently Under Development:

- Water Story
- Integrated Water Planning
- Lead in Drinking Water
- Riparian Buffer Ordinance
- Groundwater Recharge
- Enhanced Stormwater Management
- Winter Road Management
- Additional actions under consideration



Stormwater Actions

- **Enhanced Stormwater Management Ordinance**
 - 10-30 points, Beyond State Regulations
 - Option 1: ½ acre disturbed or 5,000 sq feet of new impervious surface
 - Option 2: major and minor developments with 1,000 sq feet disturbance or 1,000 sq feet of new impervious surface
 - Option 3: major and minor developments with minimum disturbance of 250 sq feet or 250 sq feet of new impervious surface
- **Green Infrastructure Planning**
 - 5-20 Points
 - Tier 1: Impervious Cover Assessment
 - Tier 2: Green Infrastructure Action Plan
 - Tier 3: Green Infrastructure Strategic Plan
- **Green Infrastructure Implementation**
 - 10-20 Points
 - Tier 1: Two GI demonstration projects
 - Tier 2: Implement GI Action Plan- at least 50% of short term impervious cover management goal
 - Tier 3: Implement GI Action Plan- at least 50% of long term impervious cover management goal
- **Enhanced Stormwater Management: Map, Monitor and Maintain**
(Coming Soon)



Source: City of Willmar, https://www.willmarmn.gov/departments/stormwater_management_same.php

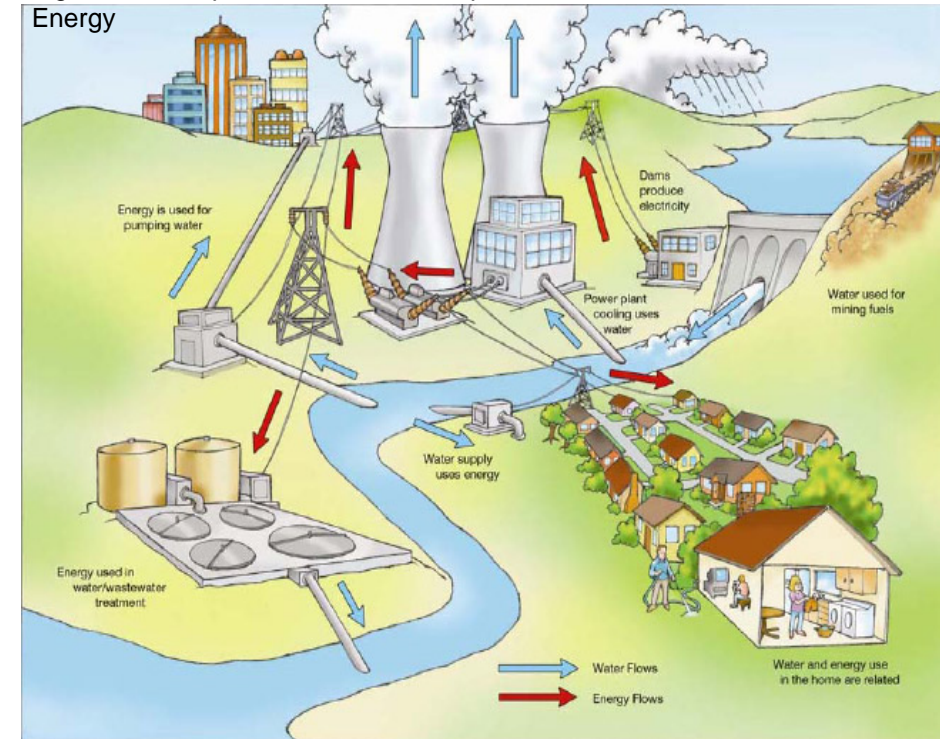
Gold Star Standard in Water

Potential Required Actions and Structure for Water

Gold

- **Required:** Water Story and Environmental Resource Inventory + 2 Actions that improve water quality, quantity and/or access to water
- **Water Resources Road Map:** Developed through coordination between Water Gold Jury and Municipality
 - 2-3 additional actions will be required based needs identified through the required actions

Figure 1. Examples of Interrelationships Between Water and Energy

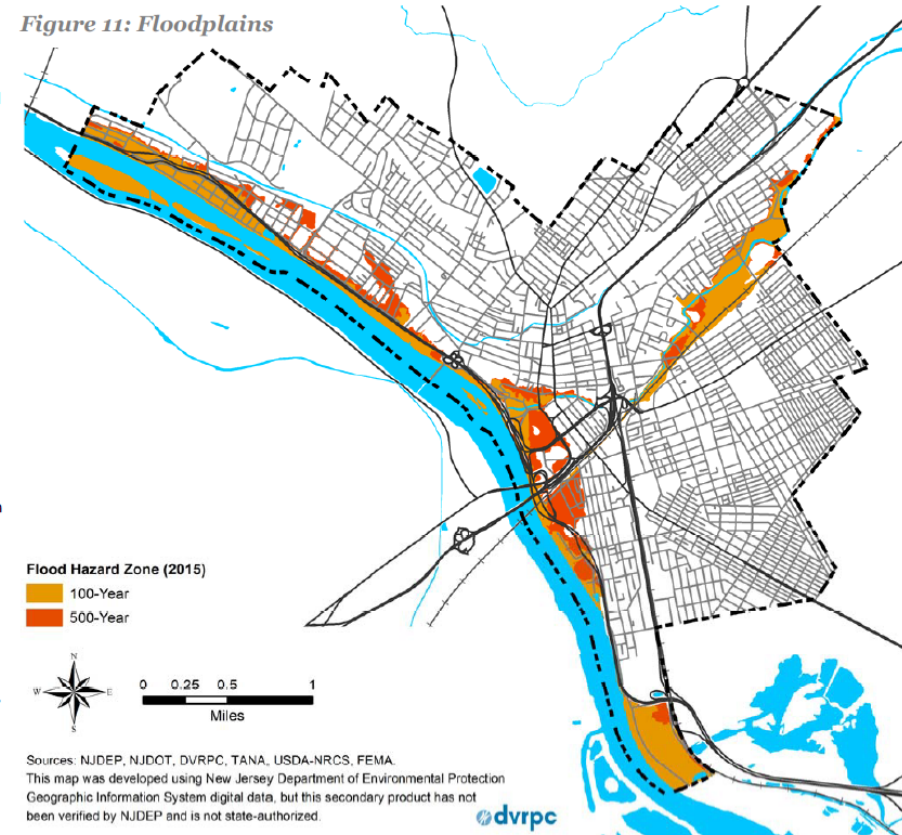


Source: U.S. Department of Energy, Energy Demands on Water Resources, Report to Congress on the Interdependency of Energy and Water, December 2006, p. 13.

Municipal Water Story

- Describe Water Supply
- Describe Stormwater (runoff and wastewater (sewer))
- Water features
- Identification of Water Issues
- Outreach

Figure 11: Floodplains



Floodplains

From Water Story to Action

Water-related Issue	Sustainable Jersey Action
Areas of repetitive street flooding – standing water after heavy rains.	Enhanced Stormwater Control Ordinance ***
	Green Infrastructure Planning***
	Green Infrastructure Implementation***
	Restoring and Protecting Ground Water Recharge
Quality of drinking water	Lead in Drinking Water
	Private Well Testing
	Riparian Ordinance
Streams water quality impairments as well as undercutting and eroding	Riparian Ordinance
	Enhanced Stormwater Control Ordinance***
	Green Infrastructure Planning***
	Green Infrastructure Implementation***
Water availability	Integrated Water Planning
	Outdoor water conservation***
	Restoring and Protecting Groundwater Recharge

*** = Action currently available on Sustainable Jersey website





Jennifer Feltis Cortese, AICP

NJ Department of Environmental Protection

jennifer.feltis@dep.nj.gov

