

Watershed News

A publication of the Greater Culver Lake Watershed Conservation Foundation

New Year 2023

Dear Neighbors and Friends,

Thank you so much for your support this past year, allowing GCL WCF to continue to advance its mission of watershed restoration, protection, and preservation. The year 2022 was another busy one for the Foundation. Our NJDEP grant application submitted earlier in the year was just officially approved and will award the Foundation with funds to carry out a 2-1/2 year study on residential wastewater control systems through the use of liquid alum treatments (see link, <https://www.clearlaketechnology.com/>). This process treats and removes over 90% of the soluble phosphorus found in septic system wastewater. This phosphorus, which is very harmful to the lake, contributes to fuel algae blooms and needs to be controlled. Ten homes are going to be fitted up with this equipment which is similar to a conventional water conditioning system. We are looking for year-round lakefront properties with at least two persons per household to participate in this study. Please contact us if you are interested in learning about what's involved in installing a test system.



Greater Culver Lake Watershed Conservation Foundation



On the land preservation front, we are seeing light at the end of the tunnel for the Culver Lake Golf Course project. As you may know, there was some contamination discovered as a result of pesticide and fungicide use on the golf course greens for many years. In order to receive funding for the acquisition of this property it was required that remediation be done. I have nothing but praise for the cooperation the current owner, Hutan Corporation of South Plainfield, NJ, has provided



and the work is being done as I write this article. They are spending more than \$250,000 to alleviate this issue. So if you see construction activity at the property that is part of the clean-up work which should be completed by spring. Other grant monies sourced from NJDEP were awarded to the Upper Wall Kill Watershed Association will provide native shrubs and trees to be planted as part of the restoration process of the property. As part of its continuing effort to protect the watershed through open-space preservation, the Foundation is moving forward on the acquisition of 158 +/- acres across the street from the golf course, also owned by Hutan Corporation. This property, along with the golf course, will become the Culver Brook Preserve. Together more than 250 acres of land including two tributaries of Culver Brook will be preserved.

Storm water runoff inlet protection devices continue to capture silt and sediment from storm drains, which is then carted off by the Frankford Twp. Road Department and out of our watershed. These devices have prevented much additional unwanted phosphorus from entering the lake as proved through water sampling data this past summer.

While the GCL WCF will receive grant monies for many of these projects, we greatly depend on donations from residents and supporters as these projects require seed money to get them started and to carry out ongoing stewardship and public access improvements. Thousands of dollars are needed in advance to pay for appraisal fees, property surveys, legal and consulting fees, and environmental assessment investigation costs.

Please consider donating at this time in order to help the Foundation maintain adequate funds for continuing its work in preserving, protecting and restoring the headwaters of the Upper Paulins Kill River that include the Lake Owassa and Culver Lake watershed areas.

Rick Ferruggia, *president*

DONATE NOW

Send a Generous Gift to the Foundation NOW. All donations are tax deductible.

Email: info@gclwcf.org
Web: www.gclwcf.org
Mail: PO Box 967
Branchville, NJ 07826

Visit the Website