

# The Black Run Preserve and Watershed: Help Save Your Local Natural Treasure

## The Resource

The Black Run Preserve is a wonderful nature, recreation and education asset for Evesham Township. The streams that run through the Preserve are pristine and uncontaminated because the land upstream – the headwaters – is undeveloped forest. This headwaters forest, however, is not yet protected from development.

## The Threat

Developed land directly leads to the degradation of water and habitat quality. The Black Run will only remain pristine if the headwaters area is protected from excessive development. State scientists have determined that the Black Run watershed can tolerate some additional housing development, **but not too much**, without suffering significant harm. Here are the numbers:

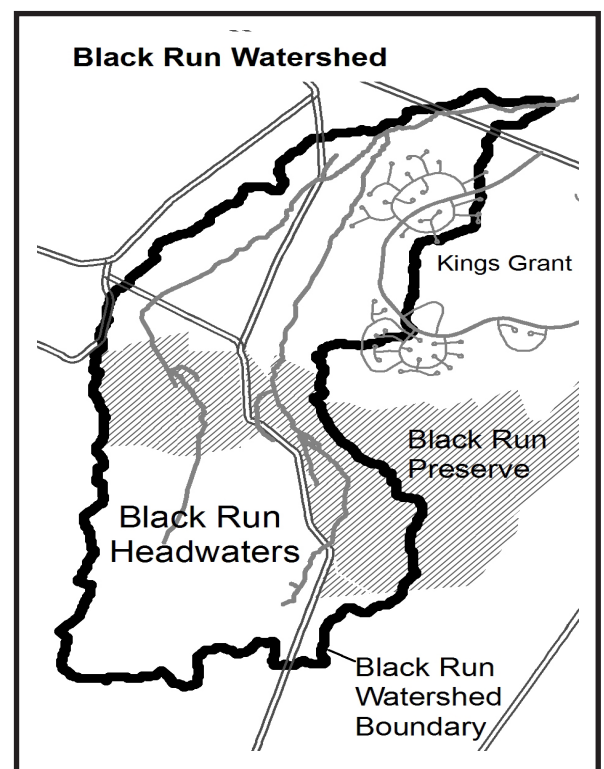
Size of Headwaters:	798 acres
Developer's 2001 Pinelands Application	305 houses
<b>Current Zoning Allows:</b>	<b>239 houses</b>
Possible Pinelands Cluster Bonus:	48 houses
Total Current Zoning + Cluster Bonus:	287 houses
<b>Max Capacity To Protect Water Quality:</b>	<b>77 houses</b>
Current zoning allows at least <b>162 too many houses!</b>	

So if the headwaters area is developed as current zoning permits, Evesham will lose several hundred acres of surviving forest, and the development will pollute the streams flowing through the Black Run Preserve and irreparably degrade the Preserve as habitat for Pinelands plants and wildlife.

## The Solution

Evesham Township Council can take 3 important steps to ensure the continued protection of the pristine waters and habitat within the Black Run Preserve by preventing excessive development of the Black Run headwaters area:

1. Adopt the Evesham Open Space and Recreation Plan which includes uses and access plans for the Black Run Preserve and recognizes the need to protect the headwaters to the Preserve. This plan charts the path for the Township.
2. Adopt ordinance changes that ensure development in the Black Run headwaters is no more intensive than the Pinelands Commission science office has determined to be compatible with protecting the Black Run from degradation.
3. Actively participate in the acquisition of land in the Black Run headwaters forest to ensure Black Run is protected forever and for the public to enjoy.



*See Reverse Side for Contact Information*

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Here is contact information to let your views be heard by Evesham Township and the Pinelands Commission. When contacting the Township, it is important to send your message both to members of the Council and to the Township Manager.

## **Evesham Township**

Evesham Township council members and the Township manager can be reached at the address below or via their email:

Township of Evesham  
984 Tuckerton Road  
Marlton, NJ 08053

Main number: 856-983-2900

Mayor Randy Brown, [mayor.brown@evesham-nj.gov](mailto:mayor.brown@evesham-nj.gov)

## **Council Members:**

Kurt Croft, email: [croftk@evesham-nj.gov](mailto:croftk@evesham-nj.gov)

Debbie Hackman, email: [hackmand@evesham-nj.gov](mailto:hackmand@evesham-nj.gov)

Joseph Howarth, email: [howarthj@evesham-nj.gov](mailto:howarthj@evesham-nj.gov)

Steve Zeuli, email: [zeulis@evesham-nj.gov](mailto:zeulis@evesham-nj.gov)

**Township Manager:** Tom Czerniecki, [czernieckit@evesham-nj.gov](mailto:czernieckit@evesham-nj.gov)

## **NJ Pinelands Commission**

Nancy Wittenberg, Executive Director  
New Jersey Pinelands Commission  
PO Box 359  
15 Springfield Road  
New Lisbon, New Jersey 08064  
Phone: (609) 894-7300  
email: [planning@njpines.state.nj.us](mailto:planning@njpines.state.nj.us)

This information sheet and call to action was created by:

## **Pinelands Preservation Alliance**

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[www.pinelandsalliance.org](http://www.pinelandsalliance.org)

For more information, contact Mike Hunninghake, [mikeh@pinelandsalliance.org](mailto:mikeh@pinelandsalliance.org) or 609-859-8860 x24