

Protect the Black Run Preserve and its Headwaters

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. If the headwaters is developed, Evesham will not only lose several hundred acres of surviving forest, but the development will pollute the streams flowing through the Black Run Preserve and irreparably degrade the Preserve as habitat for Pinelands plants and wildlife.

Evesham Township Council must 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.

Developed land directly leads to the degradation of water and habitat quality. The Black Run Preserve is a sanctuary for pristine Pinelands waters, native and rare plant and animal species within the developed regions in the Pinelands, and will only remain pristine if these action steps are taken.

By signing below, I endorse these efforts and ask Evesham Township Council to lead the way in protecting Evesham's unique natural resource by taking the actions set out above.

Name

Signature

Date

Address: _____

Email address: _____

Supported by the Partners for the Black Run Preserve

November 2011

Please return to: Pinelands Preservation Alliance, 17 Pemberton Road, Southampton, NJ 08088 Attn: Black Run Preserve or email to mikeh@pinelandsalliance.org