

Deer Run

Deer Run is a 3.4 square mile watershed and tributary to Tohickon Creek in Bedminster Township, Bucks County. Land use consists of approximately 35% forest, 9% developed with relatively low impervious cover, and 56% agriculture. It is impaired by nutrients and siltation from agricultural activities. This watershed is currently being monitored with farm plans and BMPs developed or in the process of being developed. Macroinvertebrate index of biotic integrity scores indicated potential for recovery with moderate BMP implementation.

This watershed is a good candidate for a TMDL alternative because it is part of the Regional Agriculture Watershed Assessment Program Initiative, where DEP selected small watersheds having water quality impaired by agriculture. Working with a local conservation district, DEP will make available technical and financial support to assist farming operations to correct any significant problems having an impact on water quality and in achieving regulatory compliance. Financial assistance agreements will be through a grant to the six conservation districts. These grants will support development of required plans and implementation of BMPs necessary to implement these plans and to address water quality problems. The funds have been allocated from the Environmental Stewardship Fund