

Environmental Impact Assessment

IMPROVEMENTS AT GREEN ACRES 2 RECREATION SITE BURLINGTON TOWNSHIP, N.J.

1. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT

a. Briefly Describe the Total Development Project

The proposed project will include removing an existing playground, the installation of a new playground for ages 5 through 12; the installation of a new outdoor gym area for adults; and the installation of a new restroom and storage/concession building. The GA 2 site serves as one of the Township's main outdoor recreation sites and also routinely hosts community events.

b. State the Objectives of the Project

The objectives are:

- To incorporate multiple uses, providing active recreation opportunities through additional equipment.
- Address local recreation needs by expanding the park's usefulness to all age ranges.
- Provide a more welcoming environment with updated equipment.
- Add convenience and accessibility with restrooms and concessions in close proximity to newly installed bandstand and turf field.
- To redevelop the existing recreation facilities utilizing clean and renewable energy sources, including recyclable materials wherever possible, such as the poured rubber playground surfaces.

c. Fully Describe Multi-Phase Projects

This is not a multi-phase project. The entire project will be completed utilizing a single contract that will be bid in accordance with the NJ Local Public Contracts Law.

2. DESCRIPTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT

a. Vegetation

The park contains a variety of flora, but has previously been developed with numerous amenities. The area of disturbance will be limited to areas that were previously developed with recreation facilities or turf (homogenous grass) areas in close proximity to those areas. No native vegetation will be impacted.

b.

Wildlife

No wildlife will be impacted by the project. There are no State or Federal T&E Species within the project limits per NJ-GeoWeb.

c.

Geology, Topography, and Soils

NJ-GeoWeb indicates the site is located within the Coastal Plain. The topography is relatively flat within the project area. No grades will be changed as a result of this project. The USDA Natural Conservation Service Web Soil Survey indicates that the project area is located predominately on "SaeA" soil: Sassafras fine sandy loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes with a very small portion (< 1%) on "WofB" soil: Woodstown fine sandy loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes. A copy of the soil survey is attached.

d.

Water Resources and Hydrology

NJ-GeoWeb indicates there are no wetlands within 150 feet of the project site. Groundwater use in the area is defined as Class II-A and the area is considered a water recharge zone. A copy of the NJ-GeoWeb map showing nearby water bodies, streams and wetlands is attached.

e.

Historic/Archeology Resources

Per the NJ-GeoWeb, there are no historic archeological sites or properties within the project limits.

f.

Transportation/Access to Site

The site is accessible by motorized and non-motorized vehicles. There is parking facilities located within 100 feet of the project site as well as a bicycle/pedestrian path network providing access to the recreation facility as well as a connection to the adjacent GA 1 recreation site. Refer to the attached GoogleEarth image. The improvements will provide additional recreation opportunities for the users of our GA 2 Park that was the subject of a prior GA grant for a turf field project. The improvements will also increase the capacity and accessibility of restroom facilities for the those using the park, which use we anticipate will increase in intensity once the new turf field is completed in Summer 2025.

g.

Adjacent Land Uses/Description of the Surrounding Neighborhood

The site is located in a natural area along Assiscunk Creek. As previously indicated and as is evident on the attached Google Earth image there has been some limited development of recreation amenities with a natural area extending north to the Assiscunk Creek. The Township Municipal Building and associated parking is located west of the project site.

3.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ANALYSIS OF PROPOSED ACTION

a.

All Affected Resources and the Significance of Each Impact

The project site is located in a Green Acres Park which has previously been developed with numerous amenities. The only disturbance that will occur is in the turf (grass) areas directly adjacent to the existing facilities. No wildlife or native vegetation will be impacted. Excavation will only be required for the footings for the storage/concession building and to run utilities to the building. Less than ¼ acre of total additional disturbance will be required for the project.

b. Short-Term and Long-Term Project Impacts

Based on the scope and location of the project, in our professional opinion, there will be no short-term or long-term adverse impacts to any natural resources within or beyond the project limits. The project will increase the ability of the Township to provide adequate potable water and sanitary sewer facilities for the park’s users and eliminate the need to provide portable toilet facilities for larger, special events.

c. Anticipated Increase in Recreation and Overall Use Over Time

We anticipate that the larger children’s play area and additional area for adult fitness training will result in a slight increase in the use of the park, which at the present time is difficult to quantify.

d. Adjacent Environmental Features that May Be Affected

NJDEP mapped wetlands and a tributary to the Assiscunk Creek are located north & west of the site. The tributary flows into the Assiscunk Creek, located north of the property. Natural areas surround both sides of the east/west running creek. SESC facilities will be provided in accordance with County SCD requirements in order to minimize any impacts to these areas.

e. List of Required Permits

No Federal or State permits are required for this project. The Contractor will be required to obtain all required construction (UCC) permits from the Township.

f. Impact on Undisturbed Portions of Project Site

The project will not result in any land disturbance beyond the limits of the project.

g. Impact of Sea-Level Rise

According to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) indicated that the Property is in Flood Zone X – Area of Minimal Flood Hazard.

No impact from a rise in sea level is anticipated.

4. ALTERNATIVES TO PROPOSED ACTION

a. Identify Alternate Sites

Since this is an existing recreation amenity that is being rehabilitated, there are no alternative sites to undertake this project.

b. Alternate Levels and Types of Development

Since this is an existing recreation amenity that is being rehabilitated, there are no alternative sites to undertake this project.

c. Comparison of Environmental Impacts of Alternatives

Since this is an existing recreation amenity that is being rehabilitated, there are no alternative sites to undertake this project.

Based on the information provided above, which supports the position that this project will not result in any short-term or long-term adverse impacts to any natural resources within or beyond the project limits, no mitigating measures are necessary.

PREPARED BY:

Scott W. Hatfield, PE, CME
Township Engineer
Director, Dept. of Engineering

Green Acres 2025 Grant Proposed Improvements

Legend
📌 GA 2 Project Site

📌 GA 2 Project Site #2 (Play/Fitness Area)

📌 GA 2 Project Site #1 (Restroom/Concessions)

1001

Google Earth



100 ft

