

**CROSSWICKS/DOCTORS CREEK WATERSHED GREENWAY GROUP
RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, the Crosswicks/Doctors Creek Watershed Greenway Plan has as its objectives to protect surface water quality, to protect historic and scenic vistas and to protect stream corridors for future recreational trail access, **and**;

WHEREAS, Princeton Nurseries, Inc. has announced that it intends to close its operations in 2010, **and**;

WHEREAS, the Princeton Nurseries, Inc. property is likely the largest single private landowner in the Crosswicks Creek Watershed, **and**;

WHEREAS, the Princeton Nurseries, Inc. property represents over 2,800 acres of land in the 146 square mile (93,440 acres) Crosswicks Creek Watershed and is strategically located along the mainstem and tributaries to the Crosswicks Creek in the Towns of Upper Freehold, Hamilton, North Hanover and Chesterfield, **and**;

WHEREAS, the Princeton Nurseries, Inc owner has indicated that they would like much of the land to be preserved for agriculture and open space uses, **and**;

WHEREAS, significant acreage of land in this area of the Watershed has already been preserved for public use and private farmland use, **and**;

WHEREAS, the Counties of Ocean and Monmouth have or are currently preserving land adjoining the Crosswicks Creek upstream of the Princeton Nurseries, Inc. property and Burlington and Mercer Counties have or are preserving land adjoining Crosswicks Creek downstream of this property, **and**;

WHEREAS, it is and has been the policy of the State, County, local and non-profit land trusts to preserve land which is contiguous with other preserved land, **and**;

WHEREAS, the Princeton Nurseries, Inc. property adjoins a significant proportion of the stream miles of the Crosswicks Creek main stem in the Crosswicks Creek Watershed, **and**;

WHEREAS, the Crosswicks Creek Watershed is identified as one of the top HUC-11* watersheds in the State in terms of ecological services provided per acre in the recently completed New Jersey Natural Capital Study, **and**;

WHEREAS, the Crosswicks Creek Watershed is the major contributing watershed to the Bordentown-Hamilton-Trenton Marsh, which supports over 1,000 identified species of plants and animals and is the northern most freshwater tidal wetland in the Delaware River Watershed, **and**;

WHEREAS, this property is located in the Crossroads of the American Revolution National Heritage Area;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Crosswicks/Doctors Creek Watershed Greenway Group supports, to the greatest extent possible, the purchase, using State, County, local and non-profit land trust funding, of the Princeton Nurseries property to protect these watershed values at the earliest possible time.

Elizabeth Poinsett (signed)

Elizabeth Poinsett
Chairwoman

October 29, 2007
Date

* Hydrologic Unit Code

Cc: Assemblyman Ronald Dancer
Assemblyman Joseph Malone
Senator Robert Singer
Municipal Mayors
Municipal Clerk

Linda Mead, Delaware and Raritan Greenway Land Trust
Adele Keller, Monmouth Conservation Foundation
Michele Byers, New Jersey Conservation Foundation
Terrence Nolan, Trust for Public Land