

White Environmental Services

Company Profile

White Environmental Services (WES) is a sole-proprietor business, owned and operated by George A. White III. Since opening our doors in 1991, White Environmental Services has provided environmental services throughout New Jersey and Pennsylvania. We have been involved in projects that vary from small residential lots to industrial sites in excess of 600 acres. Our environmental studies have included Environmental Impact Studies, GIS Mapping, Trail Planning, Reforestation Plans, Endangered Species Surveys, Environmental Resource Inventories, Wetlands Studies & Permitting, and Wetlands Mitigation. In addition, George has given expert testimony at Planning Board hearings in municipalities throughout New Jersey and served as an Environmental Consultant to the Greenwich Township, Roseland Borough and Montville Township Planning Boards.

Environmental Impact Studies

George White has been heavily involved in the preparation of Environmental Impact Studies (EIS) for over 21 years. In the private sector, an EIS is often required by Municipal Planning Boards for projects which may have an impact upon the municipality and surrounding region. WES has prepared EIS's for a variety of private projects ranging from moderate residential subdivisions to large corporate office and warehouse complexes.

In New Jersey, Executive Order Number 215 requires an Environmental Impact Study for all State-initiated projects with anticipated construction costs in excess of one million dollars. Therefore, most construction projects proposed on the campus of any of the State's colleges requires an EIS. This report is submitted to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection's Office of Program Coordination for their review and approval. WES has prepared numerous EIS's for State College projects which range from a Performing Arts Center at Ramapo College to a Student Dormitory on the campus of Rowan University.

Trail and Greenway Planning

Over the past 20 years, the benefits of Trails and Greenways have been a key issue in environmental and recreational planning. George has been involved in numerous trail and greenway projects varying from the design and development of an Environmental Education Trail in West Milford, NJ to a Master Plan and Feasibility Study for a Rails-to-Trails project in Kingston, PA. Planning for trail and greenway projects require a diverse background in environmental issues, GIS mapping, design considerations and public outreach. White Environmental Services is uniquely suited for this type of work and we have become very passionate about trails and greenways. Having the chance to help people reconnect with nature and the outdoors is a truly rewarding opportunity.

Company Profile (continued)

Geographic Information System (GIS) Mapping

Since 1998, White Environmental Services has been active in preparing Geographic Information System (GIS) databases for the use in Environmental Resource Inventories, Master Planning, Environmental Reviews, Trail Planning and Development Projects. WES uses the GIS program ArcView to prepare a GIS Database for each project. By integrating existing GIS data, GPS information, CAD maps, census data and digitized hard copy maps, a vast amount of information is available for use in these databases. This interactive data can then be manipulated to show existing and proposed site conditions and answer queries on topics ranging from Demographics to Geology.

George has also served as an Adjunct Professor at Warren County Community College where he taught an Introduction to ArcView class. With a strong background in environmental issues and Remote Sensing, George's expertise in GIS mapping provides an invaluable tool for the visualization of existing and proposed conditions on a site. George has prepared GIS databases for projects that vary from the development of a nature trail in Mendham, NJ to preparing maps for a Smart Growth Plan for northern Salem County, New Jersey.

George has also presented interactive GIS presentations for projects. A laptop computer loaded with ArcView is used with an LED projector to provide an interactive presentation. Data themes can be layered in various configurations to demonstrate various conditions and concepts. For example, an aerial photograph of the area can be overlaid with existing land use and zoning data to help visualize potential uses of a site.

Environmental Resource Inventories

An Environmental Resource Inventory (ERI) is a compilation of text and visual information about the environmental features of an area. The ERI is an important tool for environmental commissions, open space committees, planning boards and zoning boards of adjustment. As part of the master plan, the ERI can provide the foundation and documentation for the development of resource protection ordinances and resource-based land use planning.

White Environmental Services has been involved in preparing information for County and Municipal Environmental Resource Inventories for clients throughout New Jersey. As the past Chairman of the Warren County (NJ) Environmental Commission, George White was personally involved in the creation of the County's ERI. WES has also prepared GIS databases and mapping for use in several Environmental Resource Inventories.

Reforestation Plans

In New Jersey, all State entities are bound by the No Net Loss Reforestation Act (P.L. 1993, c106 C.13:1L-14.2) whenever more than 1/2 acre (or more) of woodlands are cleared. This law requires a Tree Replacement Factor (TRF) of 204, 2" to 2 1/2" caliper trees be planted per acre for forested site cleared. These trees can be planted within the project site as landscaping and street trees, planted elsewhere on the tract as a re-established woodland, or within the municipality as seen fit by the NJ Forest Service.

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White Environmental Services has prepared Reforestation Plans for several projects on the campuses of Ramapo College of NJ, Rowan University and Montclair University. Each plan has been a unique plan, which combined the project's proposed landscaping plan with additional street trees and landscaping around the campus until all required Tree Credits were fulfilled. These projects required coordination between the landscape architects, facilities manager, planner and in some cases, faculty.

Threatened and Endangered Species Studies

The presence, or even the potential presence, of a Threatened or Endangered (T&E) Species on a site can have devastating impact upon a project. In some cases, significant project re-designs can be avoided by documenting critical habitat before the project design begins. WES has provided T&E habitat evaluations for numerous sites around New Jersey. Some of these evaluations have required the detailed analyses of habitat for a specific species which was known to be in the area, while others have been very broad to evaluate the potential of different species. When T&E species have been found, WES has advised clients on the best ways to minimize impact upon these animals while still meeting the project's goals.

Natural Resources Management

With a degree in Fisheries and Wildlife Management, George White has been able to advise clients on Low Maintenance Landscaping, Wildlife Habitat Enhancement and Fisheries Management Plans. When Ramapo College of NJ recently decided to dredge their campus pond, White Environmental Services was involved in designing a pond restoration plan that included bank stabilization, re-vegetation, and a fisheries management plan. In suggesting the use of warm weather grasses and wildflowers within common areas of residential and commercial developments, WES has also demonstrated to clients how they can have a low maintenance open space and create wildlife habitat.

Wetland Delineations, Permitting & Mitigation

Wetlands can play a major role in the planning and approvals of development projects. Since the NJ Freshwater Wetlands Protection Regulations were enacted in 1988, White Environmental Services has been providing clients with consultation on their wetland issues. From preliminary to Individual, WES has provided clients with delineations, permit applications and mitigation plans. Although wetland regulations vary from state to state, the methodology used in determining their boundaries is uniform throughout the region and the permitting process is very similar.

The regulations of most states require wetlands mitigation for many major wetland permits. There are numerous options for mitigation including: purchase of mitigation bank credits, creation of new wetlands, enhancement of existing wetlands, donation of uplands and/or monetary compensation. White Environmental Service has been through the process of the design, review and completion of Wetland Mitigation Projects. Whether it is the creation of a new wetland or enhancement of a disturbed one, WES can design a project which will meet the needs of both its clients and the requirements of the regulations.