

**WETLAND REPORT**  
for  
**303 Demi Road**

**UPPER MOUNT BETHEL TOWNSHIP**  
**NORTHAMPTON COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

April 10, 2020  
Last Revised April 19, 2021

**Prepared For:**

**New Demi Road, LLC**  
559 Main Street, Suite 300  
Bethlehem, PA 18018

**Prepared By:**



Stephen Dadio, CPSS/CPSC/SEO

**Value Engineering Inc**



## Contents

INTRODUCTION..... 3

PROJECT AND SITE DESCRIPTION..... 3

NATURAL FEATURES INVENTORY..... 3

    Topography:..... 3

    Geology:..... 3

    Watersheds:..... 3

    Soils:..... 3

    Table 1. Soil Series Mapping on Property..... 4

    Historic Land Use:..... 4

INVESTIGATION..... 4

RESULTS..... 5

SUMMARY..... 7

## Appendices

- SITE MAP
- SITE PHOTOGRAPHS
- RESUME OF REPORT PREPARER

## INTRODUCTION

A Wetland Investigation was completed for the 303 Demi Road Planned Industrial Park property to determine the presence or absence of wetlands or Waters of the United States. Value Engineering, Inc. was retained by New Demi Road, LLC to complete this Wetland Investigation.

## PROJECT AND SITE DESCRIPTION

The project site for the 303 Demi Road Planned Industrial Park is a 60.97 -acre tract that is located in Upper Mount Bethel Township, Northampton County, Pennsylvania. In addition to the 60.97-acre development property, there is also a temporary 4.3-acre grading easement on an adjacent parcel. The property consists of tax parcels C11 26 12 0131, C11 26 11 0131, C11 26 10A 0131, C11 26 10B 0131, and a portion of C11 26 9 0131. The project also involves a temporary grading easement on tax parcel C11 26 2 0131. It is proposed that an industrial development be constructed.

As part of the land development process, a delineation of the Wetlands and/or Waters of the United States must be completed.

## NATURAL FEATURES INVENTORY

### Topography:

According to the surveyed plan of the property, elevation ranges from 600 ft asl along the southern property boundary to 332 ft asl; sloping to the North-Northwest.

### Geology:

The site is underlain primarily by the Epler (Oe) and Martinsburg (Om) Formations. The Epler Formation consists of Ordovician-Age limestone and dolomite while the Martinsburg Formation consists of Ordovician-Age shale and siltstone

### Watersheds:

The project site lies within the watershed of an un-named tributary to the Delaware River. This un-named tributary is classified as a Cold Water Fishery (CWF). It is also classified by DEP as an attaining or non-impaired stream. The area of the Delaware River where this un-named tributary enters is classified as a Warm Water Fishery (WWF) and is classified as impaired due to mercury (source unknown).

### Soils:

According to the USDA-NRCS Web Soil Survey, the soils on the property are included in the table below:

Table 1. Soil Series Mapping on Property

Soil Series	Map Units	Depth to Rock (in)	Depth to Seasonal High Water Table (in)	Hydric Components Dominant?
Arnot	AtB, AtC, AtD	10-20	>80	NO
Chippewa	CkB	>60	0-6	YES
Conotton	CtB; CtC	>80	>80	NO
Manlius	MaB, MaC	20-40	>80	NO
Swartswood	SvB	>80	33-36	NO
Phelps	PhB	>80	18-24	NO
Red Hook	RhB	>80	6-18	NO
Wurtsboro	WuB, WuC	60-120	12-30	NO

- The Arnot and Manlius soils formed in glacial till and are shallow and moderately deep to bedrock and well-drained. These soils are non-hydric and are not commonly associated with wetlands.
- The Chippewa soils consist of very deep, poorly drained and very poorly drained soils formed in till deposits with dominantly sandstone, siltstone, and shale rock fragments. These soils are in upland depressions. These soils have a major hydric component.
- The Conotton soils are very deep and well drained soils that formed in glacio-fluvial deposit. These soils are non-hydric and are not commonly associated with wetlands.
- The Swartswood soils formed in glacial till and are very deep and moderately well-drained. These soils are non-hydric and are rarely associated with wetlands.
- The Phelps series consists of very deep, moderately well drained soils formed in glacial outwash. These soils are non-hydric and are not commonly associated with wetlands.
- The Red Hook soils formed in glacio-fluvial deposits and are very deep and somewhat poorly drained. While these soils are non-hydric, there is the potential that hydric soils may be present within this map unit.
- The Wurtsboro soils consist of very deep, moderately well drained and somewhat poorly drained soils formed in till derived from quartzite, conglomerate and sandstone. These soils are non-hydric and are not commonly associated with wetlands.

### Historic Land Use:

The site consists of existing woods. Historically, based on the farm field rock walls present in the woodlands this land was in agriculture either as crop fields or in pasture.

## INVESTIGATION

A soil investigation was advanced on March 27, April 6, 2020, and March 30, 2021 by a Certified Professional Soil Scientist. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) maps, the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) National Hydrographic Dataset (NHD) (USGS 2014), and

aerial photographs were reviewed prior to field work to determine potential locations of wetlands and/or waterbodies on the property.

Wetland delineation methodologies outlined in the 1987 Corps of Engineers Wetlands Delineation Manual (Environmental Laboratory 1987) and the Eastern Mountains and Piedmont Regional Supplement (USACE 2012b) were used to identify and delineate wetlands. According to the 1987 Corps Manual (Environmental Laboratory, 1987), wetlands are characterized by the following three distinct environmental characteristics:

- **Vegetation.** The prevalent vegetation consists of macrophytes that are typically adapted to life in hydric soil conditions. These hydrophytic species, due to morphological, physiological, and/or reproductive adaptations, can and do persist in anaerobic soil conditions.
- **Soils.** Soils are present and have been classified as hydric, or they possess redoximorphic characteristics that are associated with anaerobic soil conditions
- **Hydrology.** The area must be inundated either permanently or periodically at mean water depths less than 6.6 feet, or the soil is saturated at the surface for some time during the growing season of the prevalent vegetation.

Where potential wetland indicators were observed, data were collected at sample plot locations to determine whether a dominance of hydrophytic vegetation indicators, hydric soil indicators, and hydrology indicators were present. If each of these indicators was present within the sample plot, a wetland boundary was delineated, and upland and wetland data plot locations were established.

## RESULTS

There is an area of wetlands present along the northern property boundary. This area consists of the Upland meeting a thin (5-20 ft) fringe of Palustrine Forested wetlands (PFO) and then opening up to Palustrine Emergent wetlands (PEM).

These areas are characterized by the following vegetation, hydrology, and soils.

### Vegetation:

Phalaris arundinacea (Reed canarygrass)	Fac-Wet	65%
Typha Latifolia (Cattails)	Obligate	20%
Symplocarpus foetidus (Skunk cabbage)	Obligate	15%

As all of the plant species observed were either Fac-Wet or Obligate, the vegetation passes the Dominance Test to determine if it's hydrophytic.

### **Hydrophytic Vegetation**

**YES**

### Soils:

0-7	10YR 3/1	mucky silt loam	
7-18	10YR 5/2	silty clay loam	30% 10YR 5/6 redox concentrations

The soil description meets the Hydric Soil Indicator: F3, Depleted Matrix.

**Hydric Soil** **YES**

Hydrology:

PRIMARY

SECONDARY

Surface Water (A1)

Moss Trim Lines (B16)

High Water Table (A2)

Dry Season Water Table (C2)

Saturation (A3)

Geomorphic Position (D2)

Water Marks (B1)

In order to have wetland hydrology, there must be at least 1 Primary Indicator and least 2 Secondary Indicators. This landscape has wetland hydrology.

**Wetland Hydrology** **YES**

The areas of Uplands included the following vegetation:

Vegetation:

Berberis Thunbergii (Japanese barberry)	Fac-Up	60%
Quercus rubra (Northern red oak)	Fac-Up	20%
Northern spicebush (Lindera benzoin)	Facultative	20%

This is not dominant hydrophytic vegetation.

**Hydrophytic Vegetation** **NO**

Soils:

0-11	10YR 3/2	silt loam	
11-20	10YR 5/4	silt loam	10% 10YR 5/8 redox concentrations 5% 10YR 6/3 redox depletions

The soil does not meet any hydric soil indicator.

**Hydric Soil** **NO**

Hydrology:

PRIMARY

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SECONDARY

Dry Season Water Table (C2)

Geomorphic Position (D2)

In order to have wetland hydrology, there must be at least 1 Primary Indicator and least 2 Secondary Indicators. This landscape does not have sufficient hydrology.

**Wetland Hydrology**

**NO**

## SUMMARY

In Summary, a wetland delineation was completed at the 303 Demi Road Planned Industrial Park property. Wetlands were delineated along the northern property boundary. This area consists of the Upland meeting a thin (5-20 ft) fringe of Palustrine Forested wetlands (PFO) and then opening up to Palustrine Emergent wetlands (PEM). These areas are characterized by having all three wetland criteria (hydrophytic plants, hydric soils, and wetland hydrology).

## SITE MAP







## SITE PHOTOGRAPHS



Palustrine Emergent Wetlands near W-17.



Upland near W-17.

## RESUME OF REPORT PREPARER

# Stephen D. Dadio, CPSS/CPSC



## SUMMARY OF EXPERIENCE

Mr. Dadio has seventeen (17) years of professional experience in the environmental and soils industries. He has used his extensive technical knowledge and expertise in ecological and hydrological fields for wetland delineations, watershed studies, environmental site assessments, and nonpoint source pollution prevention programs. Specializing in urban and disturbed landscapes, his career has taken him around the globe with focus on green infrastructure solutions in built-out communities to replicate natural hydrologic conditions. A knowledgeable resource for municipal projects, he also provides experience in estimating, field management, site inspection and quality control.

## PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS

Certified Professional Soil Scientist (CPSS) SSSA (ARCPACS)

Certified Professional Soil Classifier (CPSC) SSSA (ARCPACS)

Professional Soil Scientist PAPSS Registered

Delaware DNREC Licensed Class D Soil Classifier

Pennsylvania Licensed Sewage Enforcement Officer (SEO)

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### French Creek West Hydrologic Soil Group Reclassification - Phoenixville, PA

Completed a detailed soil investigation to reclassify the soil hydrologic group for this site. Completed soil profile descriptions and permeability testing to justify this reclassification. Produced report in accordance with USDA-NRCS policies and procedures and successfully submitted to DEP.

### PPL Progress Substation Failing Stormwater Basin Forensic Investigation - Linglestown, PA

Completed a field investigation to determine the cause of a failing infiltration basin. Completed a detailed soil and permeability investigation, laboratory analysis of soil physical and chemical properties, and reviewed the previous testing and installation procedures. Produced report summarizing the results of this investigation and provided guidance for restoring the infiltration back to the condition for which it was designed.

### U.S. Army, Fort Drum MS4 Services - Fort Drum, NY

Project Manager for Fort Drum to develop and maintain a Multi-Sector General Permit for Stormwater Discharges from Industrial Activity and MS4 Permit Program. We provide comprehensive permit administration that includes: Infrastructure assessment, illicit discharge and pollution prevention, MS4 and MSGP inspections, water sampling, construction site assessments and public education and outreach development.

### U.S. Air Force, Moody Air Force Base Stormwater Compliance Services - Valdosta, Georgia

Project Manager for Moody AFB to develop and maintain Industrial Stormwater General Permit for Stormwater Discharges from Industrial Activity. We provide comprehensive permit administration that includes: Infrastructure assessment, benchmark sampling for Oil & Grease, wet weather stormwater sampling and comprehensive site evaluations





**Dominica National Soil Survey - Dominica, Eastern Caribbean**

Project Manager for developing a national program soil survey standards and work plan mapping strategy for an updated National Soil Survey. This program involves the completion of a Data Review and Needs Assessment, Preparation of Soil Survey Data Requirements, development of a Soil Survey Plan, Technical Specifications and Contracting, Contracting Support and Supervision, and Quality Insurance/Quality Control of the Soil Survey.

**United States Environmental Protection Agency - Cincinnati, OH**

Conducted detailed soil surveys and hydrologic investigations in the cities of Phoenix, AZ, Atlanta, GA, New Orleans, LA, Portland, ME, Detroit, MI, Omaha, NE, Camden, NJ, Cincinnati, OH, Cleveland, OH, San Juan, PR, and Tacoma, WA to determine the stormwater management potential for the soils in vacant lots in order to mitigate Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) events. The urbanized soils collected from the sites were analyzed to identify feature classifications that are like native material, to develop a database of soil information on a regional basis for planning.

**NPDES Program Manager - City of Coatesville, PA**

Plan all stormwater activities required to maintain compliance with the MS-4; PAG Permit. This includes the development of a TMDL plan for sediments, nitrogen, and phosphorous. Also served on the Christina Basin TMDL Improvement Committee (CTIP) as a municipal representative.

**NPDES Program Manager - Westtown Township, PA**

Plan all stormwater activities required to maintain compliance with the MS-4; PAI Permit. This includes the development of a TMDL plan for phosphorous.

**NPDES Program Manager - West Norriton Township, PA**

Plan all stormwater activities required to maintain compliance with the MS-4; PAG Permit. This includes the development of a Pollutant Reduction Plan for impaired waters.

**On-Lot Sewage Management Program - Newlin Township, PA**

Developed a Sewage Management Program for Newlin Township. This program involves the implementation of an ordinance, resident education, and associated record documentation.

**Grant Writing - City of Coatesville, PA**

Successfully procured two grants for the City of Coatesville to repair aging infrastructure, particularly stormwater inlets. These grants totaled \$277,500 from both the PA DCED WRPP Program (\$127,500) and PA DEP Growing Greener (\$150,000).

**Construction Manager – PA**

Supervised three construction inspectors working on various land development projects throughout southeastern Pennsylvania. Coordinated work with both municipal officials as well as private construction managers.

**Timber Harvest Reviewer - West Nantmeal Township, PA**

Review and inspect timber harvests in accordance with local regulations. Interact with Chester County Conservation District in the facilitation of these unique permits.



**Stargazer Road Land Acquisition - Newlin Township, PA**

Conducted Phase 1 Environmental Site Assessment for property that was purchased by Newlin Township.

**305 Kimberton Road Phase 1 and Phase 2 - Schuylkill Township, PA**

Conducted Phase 1 and Phase 2 Environmental Site Assessment for property that was purchased for a private land development. These tasks include detailed site characterization for possible contaminants.

**USDA Agricultural Research Service (USDA-ARS)**

Completed detailed evaluation of soils in central Pennsylvania to determine the presence of dense, brittle soil horizons (fragipans). This project involved detailed site characterization and sampling to assist with the greater research project.

**Valley Forge Distribution Center, Valley Forge, PA**

Supervised the design of a water line extension from an existing facility to the main several hundred feet away. This involved the design of a water meter pit and required extensive coordination with PA American.

**Wetland Delineation for Giant - Lower Paxton Township, PA**

Completed a wetland delineation for the construction of a supermarket. This included field delineation and submission of a completed wetland report.

**Geotechnical Borings, 827 Carpenter Street - Philadelphia, PA**

Completed geotechnical borings and produced soil bearing capacity calculations for the construction of a 3-story residence in South Philadelphia.

**Historic Resources Evaluation, Whitehall Inn - Spring City, PA**

Completed all forms and documentation as required by the PHMC for this redevelopment project.

**On-Site Sewage System Testing and Design - West Bradford Township, PA**

Completed detailed soil testing to determine the suitability of on-site sewage disposal. Completed a design for an inground system that was required by the Chester County Health Department to receive a permit.

**Stormwater Management and Loading Rate Determination - Phoenixville, PA**

Completed soil testing for a stormwater infiltration basin. Produced report with a justification of enhanced loading rates in accordance with PADEP guidance. When the basin encountered problems, completed a forensics investigation to determine the problem source (compaction); developed a remediation strategy to restore the functionality of the basin.

**Stormwater Streetscape Project in Port Richmond - Philadelphia, PA**

Completed detailed soil and stormwater evaluation for a PWD-funded streetscape project in the Port Richmond section of Philadelphia. This involved detailed urban soil investigation as well as permeability testing in accordance with PWD regulations.

**Environmental Permitting, Brandywine Branch Distillery - Elverson, PA**

Completed detailed soil and stormwater evaluation, wetland determination, PNDI clearance, and archaeological screening for the repurposing of a barn to a craft distillery. Interacted with local, state, and federal agencies to gain approvals.



## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Pennsylvania Association of Professional Soil Scientists, *President 2009, 2010*

DEP Stormwater Loading Re-Write Workgroup, *Member*

Soil Science Society of America, *Member*

W.B. Saul Agricultural High School (Philadelphia) Natural Resources Curriculum Advisory Board, *Member*

Adjunct Faculty, Delaware Valley University, Doylestown, PA

## PUBLICATIONS

Dadio S., Barkasi, A. (2015) "Urban Soils: The Foundation for Green Infrastructure." Villanova Urban Stormwater Partnership Symposium, VUSP, Villanova, PA.

Shuster, W. D., Dadio, S., Burkman, C. E., Earl, S. R., and Hall, S. J. (2015). "Hydropedological assessments of parcel-level infiltration in an arid urban ecosystem." *Soil Science Society of America Journal*, 79(2), 398-406.

Shuster W., Dadio, S. (2014) "Urban fingerprints on soil morphology and hydrology – a summary of field investigations in US cities, across different soil orders." *Soils in the City Conference*. IEWA, Chicago, Illinois.

Shuster, W. D., Dadio, S., Drohan, P., Losco, R., & Shaffer, J. (2014) "Residential demolition and its impact on vacant lot hydrology: Implications for the management of stormwater and sewer system overflows." *Landscape and Urban Planning*, 125, 48-56.

Shuster, W. and Dadio, S. (2014) "Soils Investigation for Infiltration-based Green Infrastructure for Sewershed Management (Omaha NE)." U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Washington, DC, EPA/600/R-14/063.

Dadio S., Drohan, P.J. (2012) "Utilizing Ground Penetrating Radar and EM to Supplement Deep Borings in Urban Soil Surveys." *Soil Science Society of America, Cincinnati, Ohio*, poster presentation and abstract. Abstract 287-1.

Barkasi, A., Dadio, S., Shuster, W., Losco, R. (2012) "Urban Soils and Vacant Land as an Urban Stormwater Re-source." *ASCE-EWRI World Environmental and Water Resources Congress, Albuquerque, New Mexico*, oral presentation (published). Abstract 89.

Losco, R., Dadio, S. (2012) "A Contrasting Study of Ohio Urban Soils – Cleveland Vs. Cincinnati." *Soil Science Society of America, Cincinnati, Ohio*, poster presentation and abstract. Abstract 287-2.

Barkasi, A., Dadio, S., Losco, R. L., & Shuster, W. D. (2012) "Urban soils and vacant land as stormwater resources." In *World Environmental and Water Resources Congress 2012: Crossing Boundaries* 569-579.

Shuster, W., Barkasi, A., Dadio, S., Drohan, P.J., Gerber, T., Houser, T., Losco, R., Reinhold, K., Wander, J., and Wigington, M. (2011) "Moving beyond the udorthent – a proposed protocol for surveying urban soils to service contemporary urban ecosystem management data needs." *Soil Survey Horizons*, 52:1-8.

### EDUCATION:

Master of Science: Soil Science  
Pennsylvania State University

Bachelor of Science: Soil Science  
Cornell University

