

NJ SURFACE WATER QUALITY STANDARDS

Antidegradation Protections



Outstanding
National
Resource Waters
(ONRW)

Freshwater 1 (FW1) and Pinelands (PL)

- Waters within state and federal parks
- No manmade wastewater dischargers are allowed
- No activities which would cause a measurable change in water quality, except toward natural conditions

Category One Waters

Exceptional Resource Waters

- Wastewater dischargers are required to maintain the current level of water quality
- C1 designation provides additional protection to waterbodies to discourage development (300-ft riparian zone)
- Waters shall be protected from measurable changes in water quality

Category Two Waters

All other waters

- All streams that are not ONRW or C1
- Existing and designated uses are maintained and protected
- Some degradation may be allowed to accommodate important economic and social development
- Must meet SWQS criteria