

Morris County Preservation Trust
Recommended Open Space Projects for 2004



Egberts Lake Tract

Submitted by: **Rockaway Township**

Type of Acquisition: Fee Simple
 Conservation Easement

Acres To Be Acquired: **72**

Grant Amount: **\$400,000**

Description:

On Green Pond Road just north of the Green Pond Golf Club, this 72-acre tract is currently listed on the Township Open Space Master Plan as a priority candidate for preservation. Now vacant, the property was once popular as a summer resort in the late 1940s and early 1950s and contains many cabins now in disrepair. It includes a section of the former Wharton & Northern Rail Road bed and the Morris County Park Commission has wanted to use it to connect with other publicly owned sections of the rail bed as part of the West Morris Greenway Project.

The tract is also adjacent to 255 acres of state land associated with the Wildcat Ridge Wildlife Management Area. While some previous development has occurred on the property, the township intends to raze the remaining structures and return the tract to a natural area, featuring a 15-acre lake and other passive recreational amenities for public enjoyment.

