

## Readington Township - Open Space Preservation Update – June 1, 2020

### Saums - Farm and Open Space Acquisition (109 Acres)

Readington Township's Open Space Advisory Board announces that the Saums Farm on Rockafellow Mill Road in the Three Bridges area has been preserved.

- Open Space - South Branch of the Raritan – approx. 49 acres of streams, meadows and forest for Readington Township open space adjoining the State South Branch Wildlife Management Area.
- Farmland - South Branch of the Raritan – approx. 60 acres dedicated as a working farm to remain on the township tax rolls.



### Benefits

- Preservation of Readington's rural character and a local viewshed
- Preservation of the agricultural area around Three Bridges Village
- Provides buffer for State South Branch Wildlife Management Area
- Protection of stream corridors for water quality and wildlife
- Reduction of storm water runoff for the South Branch of the Raritan
- Public access for trails and open space (planned for 2021)

Readington Township has purchased this parcel with the assistance of the Hunterdon Land Trust and is working with both County and State partners to complete this preservation effort. The preservation plan envisions the farm to be auctioned to a private owner as preserved farmland and reimbursement of purchase funds by County and State partners is expected within approximately two years.

Juergen Huelsebusch, Chair, Readington Township Open Space Advisory Board