



# Act 537 Decentralized Wastewater Planning

## PALMYRA TOWNSHIP, PIKE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

F. X. Browne, Inc. performed comprehensive wastewater planning for Palmyra Township, located adjacent to Lake Wallenpaupack, a sensitive ecological environment requiring special consideration with regard to wastewater disposal.

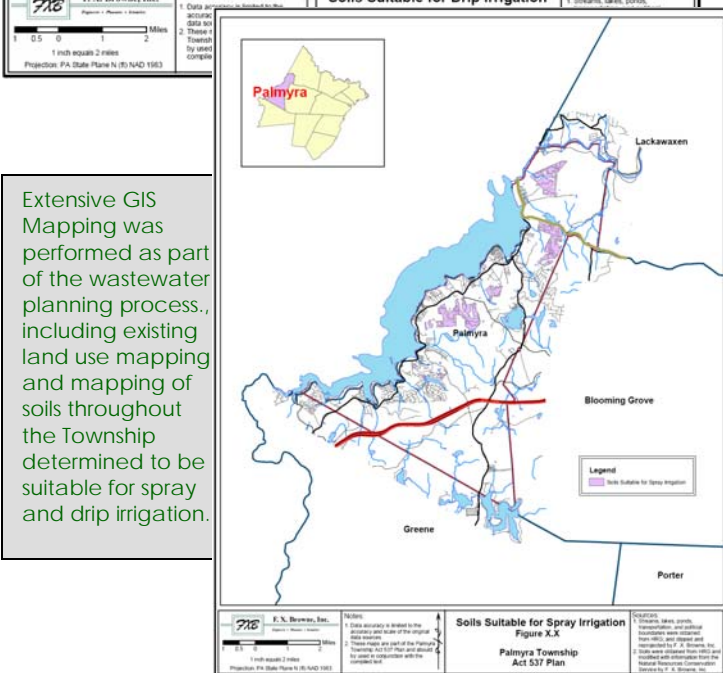
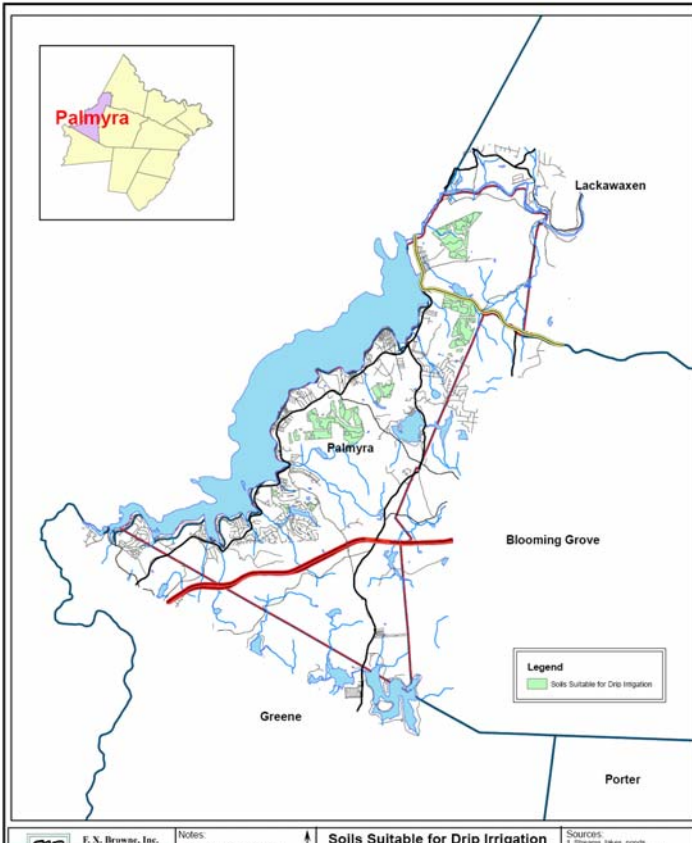
Decentralized systems were selected as the preferred disposal method to minimize the environmental impacts that can result from concentrated flows and to meet DEP antidegradation requirements. To this end, land parcels were evaluated to determine their suitability for spray and drip irrigation, as well as conventional sand mound systems. Available soils mapping and land parcel information were reviewed to determine possible land disposal areas. Test pits and percolation tests were performed on these selected open-space areas to evaluate the infiltration capacity of the soils. Soils data were compiled and analyzed, and suitable soils were mapped using GIS.

F. X. Browne, Inc. coordinated with soils scientists, community planners, and municipal officials.

The decentralized wastewater systems in the Township have many benefits:

- Preserve open space
- Control excessive land development
- Protect lake and stream water quality
- Protect aquatic life
- Recharge groundwater

Various methods were used to obtain land for the spray and drip irrigation systems including conservation easements and land purchase.



Extensive GIS Mapping was performed as part of the wastewater planning process, including existing land use mapping and mapping of soils throughout the Township determined to be suitable for spray and drip irrigation.