# INTRODUCTION

#### PURPOSE

The purpose of this Natural Resource Inventory and Study is three fold:

Legal. The State of New Jersey has enacted a Land Use Law, requiring each and every community to write a Master Plan firmly rooted in environmental considerations. All planning and zoning ordinances must thus conform to the environmentally based Master Plan.

Local Use. As stated above, the Master Plan of each community must be firmly founded on environmental principles. Local environmental commissions are expected to provide authorities with an extensive Natural Resource Inventory (NRI). Thus, vital information concerning the environmental aspects of the community can be placed at the disposal of governing bodies, responsible decisions having import at the local level.

Information. Citizens are exhibiting a greater awareness of how they, and their community, interact with the environment. The NRI, despite its somewhat technical nature in various chapters, will enable interested citizens to become more cognizant of the prevailing local environment.

#### THE STUDY'S PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Because a study of this type may be subject to intense scrutiny in a court of law, great care must be taken during its compilation. Thus, necessary research and writing must be accomplished by persons with comprehensive background in the various environmental sciences or related fields.

The Chairman of the Brielle Environmental Commission, responsible for the overall content and preparation of the NRI, brings such qualifications as those mentioned above to the task. His undergraduate degree, conferred by Rutgers University, was in Environmental Science. His graduate work has included specific course work in environmental engineering from NJIT; and a course in NRI preparation from Brookdale College

Other valuable input to the study was provided by individuals with similar expertise. Areas of responsibility and qualifications are as outlined below:

Biocommunity Research was accomplished by Craig Tufts Mr. Tufts, who was born and raised in Brielle, is presently functioning as a Head Naturalist for the National Wildlife Federation. He holds a BS degree in Wildlife Conservation and a graduate degree in Environmental Education, both from Cornell University.

Map Preparation advice was given by Barbara Novick. She teaches map preparation, specific to Natural Resource Inventory objectives at Brookdale College.

Additional Advice was provided by Theodore Bell, who is an administrator and instructor of the NRI course at Brookdale College.

### CONTENT AND COST

In the pertinent areas of geohydrology, soils, geology, etc., the study generally deals with topics pertinent and/or indigenous to the Borough of Brielle.

Major costs incurred relate primarily to the printing and publishing of the study. Because of the tremendous amount of time donated by the various Commissioners to the study preparation, the need of outside professional guidance (in the form of an environmental consulting firm) was spared, saving the Borough an expenditure of some \$6,000. to \$8,000.

## THE BRIELLE GOVERNING BODY

The Mayor and Council listed below, have been very supportive in our efforts to produce this NRI.

Mayor Robert J. Collinson

Councilmen

Robert C. Decker

Victor J. DeMarco

George N. Sevastakis

Russel D. Stewart

Robert W. Wainwright

E. Bruce Wetzel jr.

