

Chapter 10

LOANTAKA SECTION

The Loantaka section lies between Loantaka Way on the south, Woodland Road on the east and the Township boundary on the west. Most of the area is wet and has been incorporated into the Morris County Loantaka Park. One notably dry area occurs in the southeast at the corner of Loantaka Way and Woodland Road where glacial till, part of the terminal moraine of the Wisconsin glacier, rises from the wetlands to Woodland Road. A portion of this area of glacial till lies in Madison and has been preserved as open space while the remainder lies in Chatham Township and is private land. A gas company right-of-way bisects the section from north to south. Vegetation in wetlands in the gas right-of-way has been repeatedly disturbed by heavy machinery and cut to the ground. Loantaka Brook runs north to south through the section. A paved walking and biking trail parallels the brook.

Parcels along Loantaka Lane North contain wet portions away from the road and several have mounded septic systems since infiltration is poor. The land beyond the north end of Loantaka Lane North is either part of the Morris County Loantaka Park or lies in Harding Township and is preserved as open space by the Harding Land Trust. A vacant privately-owned lot across Woodland Road from St. Hubert's contains extensive wetlands and has a conservation easement granted to the NJDEP on the southwestern corner.

OPEN SPACE

Open space in the section lies in the park and along Woodland Road. Most open space is public land although private vacant land still occurs along Woodland Road.