

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

TAKE NOTICE that Harding Township has applied to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection's ("NJDEP's") Green Acres Program proposing to dispose of 3.52 acres and divert 0.63 acres of the Glen Alpin Estate, 685 Mount Kemble Avenue, Harding Township (Block 34, Lot 1). The purpose of the proposed diversion and disposal are to ensure the long-term preservation of the historic residence by conveying the disposal area to a private entity with the resources necessary to properly restore and maintain the historic building, thereby alleviating the Township's financial responsibilities for the property. The disposal area will be conveyed to a private entity in fee, and the diversion area will be used for access and utility easements to serve the redevelopment of the disposal area. As compensation for the 4.15 acres proposed for diversion/disposal, Harding Township intends to or has already acquired the following replacement properties within Harding Township: Block 8, Lot 5.01 (known as the Culbertson property) and Block 46, Lot 13.03 (known as the NJDOT property). These lands total 18 acres and are contiguous to existing preserved open space parcels.

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:36-26.11(e), a hearing to obtain public comment on this request will be held virtually via video conference, by phone, and with limited in-person attendance pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:39-1 (effective on September 23, 2020) on:

January 28, 2021 at 7:30pm.

By Computer:

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/281308229>

By Phone:

1 (646) 749-3122 / Access Code: 281-308-229

In-Person:

Kirby Municipal Building
21 Blue Mill Road
New Vernon, NJ

If you would like to participate in the meeting in-person, preregistration is required by contacting the Municipal Clerk by email at lsharp@hardingnj.org or by phone at (973) 267-8000, extension 1968. In the event of a snowstorm, an announcement will be made prior to the hearing on Harding Township's website at <http://www.hardingnj.org/> under the Quick Links tab entitled "Glen Alpin Disposal/Diversion Application – Green Acres". If the hearing is postponed due to a snowstorm, the snow date for the hearing will be February 4, 2021. In the event of a snowstorm, the public may attend the February 4, 2021 meeting: (1) by computer at <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/708223221>; (2) by phone at 1 (872) 240-3212 / Access Code: 708-223-221; or (3) in-person at the Kirby Municipal Building.

The Township's application is subject to NJDEP Commissioner and State House Commission approval. The application and documents related to this request are available for in-person review at the Kirby Municipal Building and the Kemmerer Public Library, or by contacting the Green Acres Program offices at Adam.Taylor@dep.nj.gov. Additionally, documents related to this application are also posted under the Quick Links tab entitled "Glen Alpin Disposal/Diversion Application – Green Acres" at:

<http://www.hardingnj.org/>

Written comments on the application may be directed to the Municipal Clerk at Harding Township, P.O. Box 666, 21 Blue Mill Road, New Vernon, NJ or by email at lsharp@hardingnj.org. Please also send a copy of any written comments submitted on this application to the NJDEP Green Acres Program, Bureau of Legal Services and Stewardship, 501 East State Street, 1st Floor, Mail Code 501-01, P.O. Box 420, Trenton, NJ 08625-0420, Attention: Adam Taylor or by email to Adam.Taylor@dep.nj.gov. Due to remote working arrangements during the current state of public health emergency, email comments are preferred.

Public comment on this application will be accepted during the hearing or by written submission until February 12, 2021. In the event of a snowstorm postponing the hearing, written public will be accepted until February 19, 2021.

In addition to the hearing on the proposed disposal/diversion of a portion of the Glen Alpin Estate, the following matters shall also be addressed at this public hearing:

- The transfer by Harding Land Trust of its interests in the Glen Alpin Estate to Harding Township.
- The transfer by Harding Township of its interests in the Gatehouse property (Block 23, Lot 1 in Harding Township) to Harding Land Trust.
- The conveyance of a public access and trail easement on the Glen Alpin Estate to the Morris County Park Commission.
- The transfer of a conservation easement granted by Harding Land Trust to the NJDEP from the Glen Alpin Estate to the Gatehouse property.

