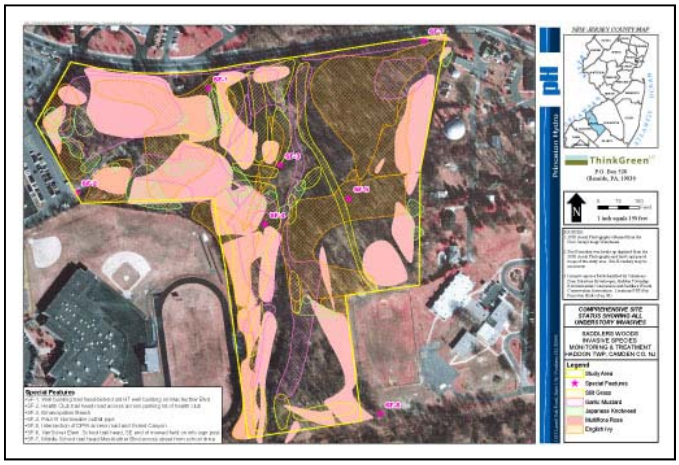
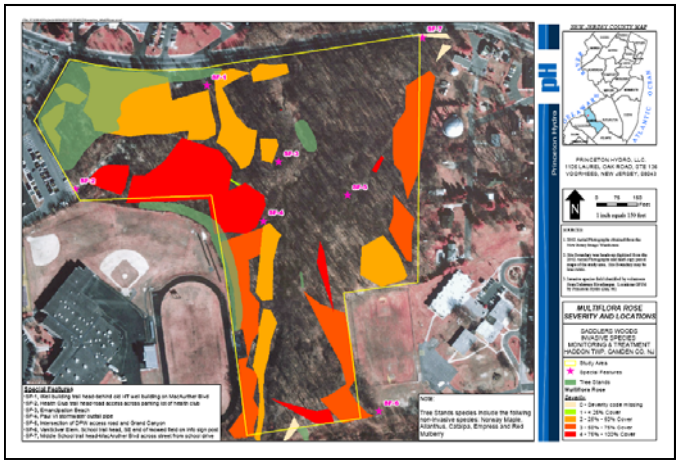
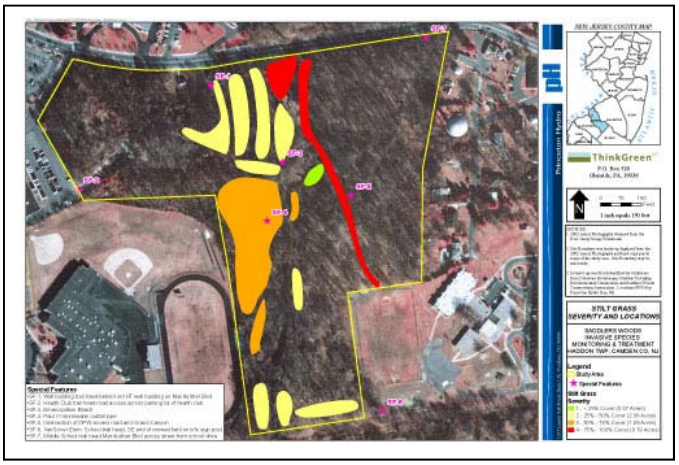
Saddler's Woods

Invasive Species Management

Think Green

Haddon Township, NJ

The Haddon Township Environmental Commission received a grant to manage invasive species present in the woodlands of Saddler's Woods, a 25 acre township park. Think Green LLC and Princeton Hydro developed an Invasive Species Management Plan for the Saddler's Woods Conservation Area.

The initial step in the process involved the identification and delineation of each invasive species present and its level of vegetative cover within the woodland. The delineation was performed in conjunction with volunteer mapping efforts. Princeton Hydro used GPS to survey each of the delineated populations. Accurate GPS and GIS data processing was used to prioritize the areas for appropriate invasive species control and removal techniques (physical, biological, and/or chemical). The information was also used to guide the use of herbicides, for which accurate coverage data is necessary in the selection of the appropriate application equipment, herbicide formulation, and more importantly, for determining herbicide quantities and rates. The plan was designed to control the following species; multiflora rose, garlic mustard, Japanese knotweed, and stilt grass. Upon completion of the invasive species management phase of the project, the Friends of Saddlers Woods planned to install a variety of native species to increase the woodland's species richness.

The management of this urban forest provided an opportunity to increase the overall ecological value of the park as well as enhance its use by residents.