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***EDITORIAL:* Stream corridor law has merit**

Cranbury and its residents have been pretty good stewards of the environment for some time now.

The township has worked hard to preserve thousands of acres of farms and green space. Local Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts have done their part to make areas like the West Property a "destination" spot for nature lovers. Girl Scouts have worked to keep water cleaner by telling people how dangerous poisons and other litter can be when storms carry them into local waterways such as Brainerd Lake.

Now the township again has a chance to work on protecting the environment. The Environmental Commission plans to recommend an ordinance that will help protect the township's stream corridors by restricting development within 150 feet of any township stream.

The details have yet to be worked out, but we think it's an idea the township should move ahead with. The rules are designed to protect vegetation in and around the streams. The vegetation in turn will continue to work as a filter to keep the water clean, provide habitats for animals and stabilize the banks to prevent erosion.

The rules may seem like a small thing, but the change can go a long way toward making the environment cleaner and safer for people in Cranbury and the region.