



Hunter Mountain, the Orvis Company and the Hunter Tannersville Elementary School cleaned a stretch of Schoharie Creek

First Annual Schoharie Watershed Week

Between May 17th and 23rd, Greene County Soil and Water Conservation District in partnership with NYC DEP kicked off the First Annual Schoharie Watershed Week. Designed to raise awareness of the importance of our local water resources, Schoharie Watershed Week utilized a variety of community organizations to offer a variety of events scattered across the Mountaintop communities. By the end of the week, 250 people had participated in the events.

Whether it was building a rain barrel for your home, learning about our local waters, watching a film at the Doctorow Center for the Arts, viewing art from local artists, taking a guided hike, or learning about Schoharie watershed programs - the events built a platform for future success.

In association with Schoharie Watershed Week the Schoharie Watershed Stream Management Program started an *Adopt a Stream* program and a local *Downspout Disconnect* program for local business.

Hunter Mountain, the Orvis Company and the Hunter Tannersville Elementary School launched the *Adopt -a- Stream* program by adopting and cleaning approximately a 1 mile of a stretch of Schoharie Creek. Gathering over 50 bags of trash, the group made an immediate positive difference to our local waters. Local businesses are encouraged to

contact the Schoharie Watershed Stream Management Program to adopt a section of stream.

Finally -10 businesses signed up to disconnect the rooftops of their businesses from the local stormwater collection system by installing rain barrels. Rain barrels, sometimes called cisterns, are above ground water storage vessels. They capture rain runoff from a building's roof using the gutter and downspout system. Rain barrels store water for use between rain events or when you need it most—during periods of drought. Over the next month the Villa Vossilla, Hunter Foundation, Ulster Saving Bank, Maggie's Krooked Café, Village Deli, Hotel Vienna, Moore's Hotels and Homes, Thompson House, The Horton House, and Key Bank will receive their rain barrels.

GCSWCD would like to thank the Schoharie Watershed Advisory Committee, NYC Department of Environmental Protection, Catskill Watershed Corporation, Catskill Streams Buffer Initiative, Catskill Institute for the Environment, Watershed Agriculture Council, Watershed Assistance Program, Cornell Cooperative Extension Greene County, Hunter Mountain, Orvis Company, Hunter Tannersville Elementary School, Catskill Mountain Foundation, Fran Driscoll, Windham Arts Alliance, Community of Windham Foundation, Windham Chamber of Commerce, Mountain Top Arboretum and the Mountain Top Historical Society.

For more information about how your organization or business can participate in Schoharie Watershed Week 2011, the Adopt-a-stream program and/or Downspout Disconnect program(s) please call the Schoharie Watershed Stream Management program office in Tannersville at 518-589-6871 or email robyn@gcswcd.com.



CCE Greene County leads a rain barrel building workshop at Sugar Maples during Schoharie Watershed Week