

New York City Department of Environmental Protection (NYC DEP)

<http://www.nyc.gov/html/dep/watershed/>

The Bureau of Water Supply works closely with landowners to achieve goals in an environmentally sensitive manner. NYC DEP has a variety of programs that assist landowners with the management of their property and streams. Please see below for a brief description of the various programs.

Land Acquisition: In 1997, the DEC issued a permit that allowed the DEP to acquire land for the purpose of watershed protection. The acquisition of land is one of the best ways to ensure the ongoing prevention of pollution and to prevent future water quality problems from occurring as a result of adverse development close to critical natural features and reservoir intakes. Purchase of land at fair market value or placement in an easement is negotiated only from willing sellers. Interested parties should contact the Land Acquisition Program @ (845) 340-7540.

Stream Management: DEP's Stream Management Program was established after the 1996-snowmelt flood to address the systemic challenges to overall water quality in the Catskill/Delaware watershed. Its mission is to establish long-term stewardship of the streams through a watershed-scale, community-based, geomorphic approach. Essential to achieving this goal is the provision of technical assistance to local municipalities, landowners, and businesses within the watershed. The stream management staff is available for consultation on property and infrastructure protection through natural channel design. Staff members also offer training and educational programs regarding these topics. Concerns or requests for service, should be made to the Stream Management Program @ (845) 340-7512.

Land Management: This program aims towards good stewardship of the natural resources in the West of Hudson watershed. Providing good stewardship is critical to the success of any water quality protection program. The Land Management Program develops land resource management plans for DEP properties, conducts a recreational review, and develops basin plan, incorporating specific property by property uses and stewardship. In addition, the DEP has implemented a public access program, making 50% of acquired lands available for recreational purposes like hiking, hunting, and fishing. For additional information call (845) 340-7541.

Soil & Water Conservation Districts (SWCD)

With a soil and water conservation district in each county, these local entities provide a variety of services to its local constituency. Most districts focus on offering agricultural assistance with best management practices (BMPs) through design, installation, and oversight. These BMPs include water management such as diversions, barnyard management systems, manure storages, grazing systems, and animal water systems. Other services include riverfront revitalization, plant materials supply, environmental education, permit assistance, flood mitigation, and stream restoration. The SWCDs are often a good starting place for information and assistance. If they cannot help you, they can most likely point you in the right direction.

Greene: www.gcswcd.com
(518) 622-3620

Ulster:
(845) 883-7162 ext. 5

Sullivan:
(845) 292-6552

Delaware:
(607) 865-7161/7090

Catskill Watershed Corporation (CWC)

www.cwconline.org

The CWC is a not-for-profit corporation with a dual goal: to protect the water resources of the New York City Watershed west of the Hudson River, while preserving and strengthening communities located in the region. Although the CWC is mainly a source of funding (see grant information section), they can also provide technical assistance. Pertinent programs for Catskill/Delaware stream stakeholders include the Stormwater Controls for New Construction, Stormwater Retrofit, Septic System Rehabilitation and Replacement, and Alternate Design Septic Program. For more information call (845) 586-1400.

Watershed Agricultural Council (WAC)

www.nycwatershed.org

WAC offers the Watershed Agricultural Program and the Watershed Forestry Program, which strives to protect the high water quality from agricultural nonpoint source pollution through the planning and implementation of Best Management Practices (BMPs) on farms and forests. WAC subcontracts with local, state, and federal agricultural assistance agencies, Cornell University, and the private sector to provide planning, education, training, engineering, scientific, and administrative support. Call (607) 865-7790 or email info@nycwatershed.org with questions or requests.

Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE)

<http://www.cce.cornell.edu/>

Cooperative Extension builds partnerships and coalitions with individuals, communities, organizations, government agencies, and businesses around issues of mutual concern; develops local leaders who use CCE knowledge to inform decisions; promotes youth development through 4-H clubs and other experiences; strives to help participants make informed choices using the best knowledge available; connects learners with educational resources found in locations throughout the world; consults with individuals and groups on multiple topics; provides resources via technologies such as the World Wide Web, satellite, and compressed video.

Greene: (518) 622-9820
greene@cornell.edu

Ulster: (845) 340-3990
ulster@cornell.edu

Sullivan: (845) 292-6180
Sullivan@cornell.edu

Delaware: (607) 865-6531
delaware@cornell.edu

Catskill Center for Conservation and Development (CCCD)

www.catskillcenter.org/

The Catskill Center is a non-profit organization working to protect the cultural, historic, and natural resources of the Catskill Mountains. The CCCD has a few integrated program areas:

Land Conservation & Natural Resource Protection: This program identifies, monitors, and engages in effective actions to protect and preserve sensitive, ecologically significant, aesthetically, or recreationally critical lands and waters.

Community Outreach and Planning Assistance: This program provides technical support to rural communities in the Catskills on grants-writing, planning, land use, zoning, subdivision, community empowerment, main street revitalization, regional forums, conferences and workshops, producing reports and publications, and public policy development.

Education: This program consists of a curriculum entitled The Catskills: A Sense of Place, which is a series of five modules on the water resources, geography and geology, ecosystems, human history, and culture and arts of the Catskills. A Sense of Place is designed to give children a better awareness, understanding, and appreciation of the distinctive features of our area. In addition, the Center has partnered with Hudson Basin River Watch to support advanced water quality monitoring efforts by adult volunteer groups. Lastly, we host a hike, lecture, and recreation series for our membership and the general public throughout the year. Visit their website at catskillcenter.org or call (845) 586-2611.

Trout Unlimited (TU)

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

Trout Unlimited's mission is to conserve, protect and restore North America's trout and salmon fisheries and their watersheds. TU accomplishes this mission on local, state and national levels with an extensive and dedicated volunteer network. Local TU members have been active in many aspects of stream management planning throughout the Catskill/ Delaware watershed. Not only do they participate in public meetings, legislative activities, and volunteer events, but TU has also funded research projects such as the "Economic Impact Assessment of the Beaverkill-Willowemoc Trout Fishery" to promote improved trout habitats and stream health. Please contact the following local chapters for further information:

Ashokan-Pepacton 559:

(845) 254-5904

http://www.nysctu.org/region_3.html

Catskill Mountain 028:

(845) 339-5938

http://www.nysctu.org/catskill_mountain.html

Columbia Green Rvw 569:

(518) 943-6728

http://www.nysctu.org/columbia_greene.html

Upper Delaware 611:

(845) 887-4714

<http://www.hancock.net/~udtu/>