

Owasco Lake Watershed Management Plan



July 2001

Table of Contents

Introduction.....	3
Suggested Actions.....	4
Agriculture.....	5
Aquatic Vegetation.....	6
Biosolids.....	7
Boating.....	8
Chemicals.....	9
Education.....	11
Exotic, Introduced, and Invasive Species Management.....	12
Fish and Wildlife Management.....	13
Forestry Management.....	14
Fuel and Chemical Storage.....	15
Funding Options.....	16
Highway Deicing.....	17
Highway Maintenance.....	18
Lake Level.....	19
Lakeshore Erosion.....	20
Land Use.....	21
Owasco Flats.....	22
Private and Municipal Wastewater Treatment.....	23
Public Access.....	24
Recreation and Tourism.....	25
Stormwater and Sediment Control.....	26
Streambanks and Stream Corridor Management.....	27
Urban and Community Forestry.....	29
Waste Sites.....	30
Waterborne Illness.....	32
Appendices.....	33
Appendix 1: Development Schedule for the Owasco Lake Watershed Management Plan...	34
Appendix 2: Acknowledgements.....	36
Appendix 3: Local Law regulating the disposal of septage, sewage sludge, and sludge within the Town of Summer Hill.....	37

Introduction

The development of the Owasco Lake Watershed Management Plan is a result of the collaboration, cooperation, and work of agency staff, municipal officials, and the public. Owasco Lake is an important resource to the communities within its watershed. Over 70% of the people residing in Cayuga County use it as a drinking water source. Residents and tourists enjoy recreational opportunities and the scenic views of the lake, while agriculture, fisheries, and wildlife depend on its water. The development of the Owasco Lake Watershed Management Plan is important for the communities in its watershed in order to take control of the health of Owasco Lake and protect its quality.

The Owasco Lake Watershed Management Plan is an **action plan** containing the suggested management actions developed by the community. It documents on-going lake management efforts, serves as a guide for future development and environmental initiatives in the watershed, and lists sources of revenue to fund projects. Also, an approved watershed management plan will improve the search for federal and state funding for Owasco Lake in the future.

The State of the Owasco Lake Watershed Report, produced by the Owasco Lake Watershed Management Plan Steering Committee and the Cayuga County Water Quality Management Agency, with support from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and the Owasco Watershed Lake Association, was the first step in the development of the Owasco Lake Watershed Management Plan. It was released in January 2000 and is intended to be used as a companion document to the Owasco Lake Watershed Management Plan. The State of the Owasco Lake Watershed Report contains information on watershed characteristics, land use, economy, cultural resources, laws, ordinances, regulations, management programs, municipalities, and issues of concern. This report also discusses issues that affect or will affect the future of the lake. The information contained in it was utilized in the development of the Owasco Lake Watershed Management Plan that reflects community priorities and concerns.

The Owasco Lake Watershed Management Plan contains the suggested actions developed by agency staff, municipal officials, and the public for the issues of concern identified in the State of the Owasco Lake Report. Since watershed management is a dynamic process, this action plan will be evaluated and updated yearly by the Water Quality Management Agency. The development schedule for the plan can be found in Appendix 1 and the list of acknowledgments can be found in Appendix 2.

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Final Plan, July 2001

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Owasco Lake Watershed Management Plan
Suggested Actions

Agriculture

Goal: To reduce the impact of agricultural sources of sediment, nutrients, and pathogens on the water resources of the Owasco Lake Watershed.

Suggested Actions:

Short term objectives: Implementation is feasible and/or should be done in the next 1 to 3 years.

- Complete Agricultural Environmental Management (AEM) Plans for farms in the Owasco Lake Watershed, identify best management practices (BMPs) from those AEMs, look for assistance to implement these BMPs, and measure the effectiveness of these BMPs.
- Create a non-partisan "AEM Review Board" for farmers to go to voluntarily for advice, information, and recommendations for their AEM farm plans and AEM farm plan development.
- Encourage farmer participation in state and federal programs that relate to water quality and issues in Owasco Lake Watershed and pursue forms of assistance such as continued federal and state grants and cost share programs.
- Provide incentives and programs for farmers and landowners to install, maintain and manage buffers adjacent to streambanks, lakeshore and other sensitive areas (for further suggestions on streambank buffers, see Streambanks and Stream Corridor Management).
- Encourage farmers to join the Conservation Reserve Program.
- Signs for lake friendly farmers or watershed friendly farmers.
- Provide public education and monthly news articles/columns on agriculture and the environment.
- Encourage agritourism.
- Encourage use of whole farm plans.

Long term objectives: Implementation is feasible and/or should be done in the next 3 to 5 years.

- Hazardous waste collection days for farm pesticides.
- Develop a "Farm of the Year" award.

Other objectives: Implementation depends on future resources or identification of additional concerns.

- Monitor streams above and below farms.
- Examine purchasing development rights.
- Towns could encourage alternative agricultural uses of land, such as rotational grazing, organic farming, etc.
- Towns could change local laws to allow additional business enterprises on farms.
- Explore funding options to assist farmers in cleanup after storm events.
- County farmland protection plans should be updated regularly and within these plans there should be recommendations to facilitate alternatives to farmers going out of farming.
- Take advantage of new technologies to deal with agricultural waste.



Large dairy farm located in the Owasco Lake Watershed.

Aquatic Vegetation

Goal: Management of aquatic vegetation.

Suggested Actions:

Watershed assessment: Research or data that will assist the achievement of objectives.

- Inventory and map aquatic vegetation in Owasco Lake, compare to historical data, and determine management needs. Publish findings as an educational tool. Search for funding for this inventory and mapping.
- Determine water quality, including phosphorus level, in Owasco Lake and the tributaries, and the effect it has on aquatic vegetation.
- Develop and implement a sampling plan for determining sources of phosphorus into Owasco Lake.

Short term objectives: Implementation is feasible and/or should be done in the next 1 to 3 years.

- Provide incentives and programs for farmers and landowners to install, maintain and manage buffers adjacent to streambanks, lakeshore and other sensitive areas (for further suggestions on streambank buffers, see Streambanks and Stream Corridor Management).
- Encourage the use of nutrient management plans for golf courses, parks, developments, etc. in the watershed.
- Educate the public and developers on how to reduce nutrient introduction to the lake.
- Examine alternative methods for aquatic vegetation control besides harvesting.

Long term objectives: Implementation is feasible and/or should be done in the next 3 to 5 years.

- Learn about life cycles to recommend harvesting times for both municipal and private harvesting efforts.
- Review intake and other temperature data to see if the lake has been warmer the past few years, which may cause algae to start blooming earlier and longer.

Other objectives: Implementation depends on future resources or identification of additional concerns.

- Examine reducing sources of phosphorus to Owasco Lake identified through sampling program.
- Examine dredging and explore funding opportunities to dredge the South end of Owasco Lake (Also under Lake Level).
- Examine spot dredging for very high nutrient areas.
- Examine the issue of harvesting aquatic plants and its potential negative impact on warm/cool water fish populations (Also under Fish and Wildlife Management).
- Teach volunteers to identify aquatic plant species and map them.



*Cayuga County Soil and Water Conservation District
harvesting aquatic vegetation in Owasco Lake.*

Biosolids

Goal: Reduce potential negative impacts of using biosolids (municipal sewage sludge based products) in the Owasco Lake Watershed.

Suggested Actions :

Watershed assessment: Research or data that will assist the achievement of objectives.

- Survey use of biosolids in the Owasco Lake Watershed.

Short term objectives: Implementation is feasible and/or should be done in the next 1 to 3 years.

- Continue to enforce the Watershed Rules and Regulations which states: “No human excreta or sewage shall be deposited or spread upon the surface of the ground at any point on the watershed. Composted sludge, pursuant to a permit issued by an appropriate State or local agency having jurisdiction, if any, shall be allowed.”
- Monitor use of biosolids in the watershed.
- Monitor New York State rules and regulations of biosolids.
- Monitor research on heavy metal mobility in biosolids.

Other objectives: Implementation depends on future resources or identification of additional concerns.

- Summer Hill’s local law regulating the disposal of septage, sewage sludge, and sludge as a model law (Appendix 3).
- Groton’s local law regulating solid waste management facilities as a model law (A copy of this local law is available from Cayuga County Department of Planning and Development).



Biosolid piles left on a field in the Owasco Lake Watershed.

Boating

Goal: To reduce boat and jet ski impacts on Owasco Lake.

Suggested Actions:

Watershed assessment: Research or data that will assist the achievement of objectives.

- Research the “carrying capacity” of boats and jet skis on the lake and study the level of pollution from motorized crafts.
- Research the impact of excessive wave action.
- Research the fuel storage of boats, slips, etc.

Short term objectives: Implementation is feasible and/or should be done in the next 1 to 3 years.

- Explore options and public opinion of motorized watercraft.
- Provide public education on perceived problems of boaters, speed limit and boating setbacks.
- Provide information on safe and proper fuel storage of boats, slips, etc.
- Examine nighttime speed limit.
- Examine building a pumpout station on the North and South end of the Lake.

Long term objectives: Implementation is feasible and/or should be done in the next 3 to 5 years.

- Examine increasing the boating and jet ski setbacks from shore regarding the speed limit.
- Place buoys within 500 feet of water intakes to restrict boat travel as per existing watershed rules.



Children enjoying boating on Owasco Lake.

Chemicals

Goal: Responsible yard, garden and household chemical use. Proper waste disposal to minimize impacts on ground and surface waters, and sewage treatment systems. Also, reduce the number of hazardous material spills in the watershed and improve the effectiveness of spill response and reporting systems.

Yard, Garden and Household Chemical Use and Waste Disposal:

Suggested Actions:

Short term objectives: Implementation is feasible and/or should be done in the next 1 to 3 years.

- Cayuga County and Town of Skaneateles continue household hazardous waste collection event offerings and explore ways to make the service available on a year round basis, especially for fuel products (Tompkins County currently collects every other month).
- Provide information on proper use and disposal of household chemicals; suggested media includes annual water quality reports by water providers, water bill messages, and direct mailings.
- Continue to search for ways to reduce hazardous materials releases in the watershed. For example, find ways to reduce mercury releases, such as collecting auto and household mercury switches and fluorescent bulbs.
- Promote pest management practices that reduce pesticide use in the watershed, including integrated pest management and non-toxic pest management.
- Examine ways to change people's attitudes about the "perfect lawn" through education and peer pressure.
- Provide Home*A*Syst type workshops to help homeowners prevent groundwater contamination; include wells, well maintenance, septic system use, yard waste, composting, etc.
- Provide incentives and programs for farmers and landowners to install, maintain and manage buffers adjacent to streambanks, lakeshore and other sensitive areas (for further suggestions on streambank buffers, see Streambanks and Stream Corridor Management).

Long term objectives: Implementation is feasible and/or should be done in the next 3 to 5 years.

- Promote municipal level yard waste composting to move the nutrients contained in yard waste away from lakeshore areas.
- Create incentives to reduce the use of chemicals around the watershed by households, municipalities and utilities.

Hazardous Material Spills and Spill Response

Suggested Actions:

Short term objectives: Implementation is feasible and/or should be done in the next 1 to 3 years.

- Have the Water Quality Management Agency or designated County agency develop, update and provide on an annual basis a listing of who to contact on water quality issues, including who to call to report spills.
- Survey fire departments and other agencies to verify who has materials for an immediate response to a hazardous material spill (spill response kits). Examine funding options where spill response kits are lacking.
- Identify types of spill response supplies that will work in fast moving streams and examine funding options.
- Explore options to control runoff from firefighting operations.

Long term objectives: Implementation is feasible and/or should be done in the next 3 to 5 years.

- Compile and analyze existing information on hazardous material spills and use to tailor education for the public and businesses on hazardous material spill prevention and appropriate pollution prevention measures.
- Conduct first flush pesticide testing on tributaries of Owasco Lake.



Cayuga County Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day 1999.

Education

Goal: To increase public knowledge and awareness of watershed issues and facilitate behavioral change that will enhance local water quality.

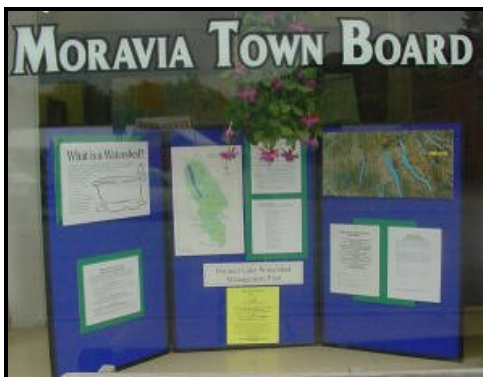
Suggested Actions:

Short term objectives: Implementation is feasible and/or should be done in the next 1 to 3 years.

- The Cayuga County Water Quality Management Agency should encourage and promote a coordinated approach to public education among its member organizations.
- Develop an on-going educational program on watershed and related issues to schools and school aged children.
- Make watershed issues more accessible to citizens by utilizing the internet, direct mailings, and media releases.
- Agencies and organizations that conduct public education programs should utilize the local media to its fullest extent to promote programs, highlight events, and draw larger audiences.
- Develop promotional campaigns that will interest a larger variety of participants in education programs.
- Institute an annual "Owasco Lake Day" to promote watershed and water quality awareness among City of Auburn and Cayuga County residents.

Long term objectives: Implementation is feasible and/or should be done in the next 3 to 5 years.

- Agencies and organizations that promote water quality should enable trainers and educators to continually develop skills and expertise.
- Displays at Emerson Park tied to watershed protection and streambank control pilot projects.



Owasco Lake Watershed Management Plan educational display in the window of the Moravia Town Hall.

Exotic, Introduced and Invasive Species Management

Goal: Address the problem of exotic, introduced and invasive species in the watershed.

Suggested Actions:

Watershed assessment: Research or data that will assist the achievement of objectives.

- Initiate a regular inventory and monitoring program for exotic, introduced and invasive species in the lake and watershed.

Short term objectives: Implementation is feasible and/or should be done in the next 1 to 3 years.

- Utilize expertise to monitor and control invasive species before they become established.

Other objectives: Implementation depends on future resources or identification of additional concerns.

- Investigate the variety of habitats around the lake for species diversity and assess the potential effect that might occur if damaged in any way.

Zebra Mussels

Goal: Reduce the impacts of zebra mussels on Owasco Lake and on the residents' private drinking water supplies.

Suggested Actions:

Watershed assessment: Research or data that will assist the achievement of other objectives.

- Survey residents to see if they have been impacted by zebra mussels especially by zebra mussels in their intake pipes.

Short term objectives: Implementation is feasible and/or should be done in the next 1 to 3 years.

- Educate landowners about how to put in intake pipes and treatment methods for dealing with zebra mussels in intake pipes.

Other objectives: Implementation depends on future resources or identification of additional concerns.

- Research potential impact of zebra mussels on lake ecology.



Zebra Mussels.

Fish and Wildlife Management

Goal: Sustain a healthy and diverse fish and wildlife population in the Owasco Lake watershed.

Suggested Actions:

Watershed assessment: Research or data that will assist the achievement of other objectives.

- Determine water quality, including phosphorus level, dissolved oxygen and chlorophyll, in Owasco Lake and the tributaries and the effect it has on aquatic vegetation, fish and wildlife.

Short term objectives: Implementation is feasible and/or should be done in the next 1 to 3 years.

- Implement streambank stabilization on severely eroding streams.
- Provide incentives and programs for farmers and landowners to install, maintain and manage buffers adjacent to streambanks, lakeshore and other sensitive areas (for further suggestions on streambank buffers, see Streambanks and Stream Corridor Management).
- Recommend keeping woody debris, stumps and logs imbedded in the shallow water to provide a shaded area and serve as habitat for bait fish, birds and other animals.
- Recognize and support of the Federation of Conservation Clubs of Cayuga County and the programs they support.
- Educate on the value of managing wildlife by hunting, fishing and trapping.

Long term objectives: Implementation is feasible and/or should be done in the next 3 to 5 years.

- Work with area golf courses to minimize their use of water from streams during low flow periods.
- Expand awareness of wildlife harvest as a component of ecosystem management.

Other objectives: Implementation depends on future resources or identification of additional concerns.

- Examine the issue of harvesting aquatic plants and its potential negative impact on warm/cool water fish populations (Also under Aquatic Vegetation).
- Explore dredging some of the area south and east of the State Dam to reduce fish loss downstream.
- Redesign State Dam to reduce fish loss downstream.
- Recommend development of fish passage past the man-made dam on Sucker Brook.
- Determine current status of adult smelt population in Owasco Lake.
- Promote increased access to significant fish and wildlife habitat for hunting and fishing.
- Examine the necessity and feasibility of ecosystem restoration in Owasco Lake and the Owasco Lake watershed.



Mallard duck on Owasco Lake.

Forestry Management

Goal: Maintain well managed forests to maintain high water quality.

Suggested Actions:

Short term objectives: Implementation is feasible and/or should be done in the next 1 to 3 years.

- Coordinate information and technical services for forest landowners.
- Provide forest landowners with information on what resources and services are available for forest management; information and training on proper forest management practices; and information on such topics as carbon sequestration and highgrading to encourage landowners to retain existing well managed woodlots.
- Provide information and training opportunities to harvesters.
- Provide a yearly forest landowner forum.
- Encourage development of forest plans.
- Examine funding to do forest plans and to plant trees.

Long term objectives: Implementation is feasible and/or should be done in the next 3 to 5 years.

- Encourage compliance and enforcement of best management practices (BMPs) and existing regulations.
- Suggest (target audience is municipal planning officials) that forest land use cover is complementary to more intensive uses as part of comprehensive land use plans.
- Provide information and assistance to forest land owners who seek tax breaks on their forest-land through the RPTL Section 480-a and other tax-relief programs.
- Encourage owners to apply for cost-sharing forest management programs.



Planting trees.

Fuel and Chemical Storage

Goal: To minimize the impact of contamination from fuel and chemical storage facilities due to spills, leaks or tank failure.

Suggested Actions:

Watershed assessment: Research or data that will assist the achievement of objectives.

- Obtain and modify the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) database on bulk petroleum storage facilities to develop a watershed database. On an annual basis, obtain updates from the NYSDEC.
- Inventory small fuel tanks in the watershed.
- Compile information on chemical storage in the watershed.
- Inventory underground storage tanks in flood zones (such as home heating oil).

Short term objectives: Implementation is feasible and/or should be done in the next 1 to 3 years.

- Make information on chemical storage in the watershed available to municipal officials and the Cayuga, Onondaga, and Tompkins County Emergency Management Offices.
- Educate owners of small fuel tanks on who to call and what to do if they have a leak. Address ways to provide funding for containment vessels.
- Educate owners of underground storage tanks in flood zones on the danger of tank rupture due to floatation that could occur during a flood event. Examine ways to encourage and fund their removal.



Above ground gasoline storage tanks in Moravia.

Funding Options

Goal: Find funding for projects in the Owasco Lake Watershed.

Suggested Action:

- Explore full range of funding alternatives; examples include surcharge to users, franchise fees, use of percentage of revenues from septic system inspections, grants, loans, etc.



Highway Deicing

Goal: Reduce delivery and minimize the impact of deicing salts, originating from the maintenance activities associated with roads, to the tributaries and Owasco Lake.

Suggested Actions:

Watershed assessment: Research or data that will assist the achievement of objectives.

- Conduct a survey of highway departments to see who has salt storage structures and contained mixing areas and where they are needed.
- Survey salt policies and procedures for each municipality yearly.

Short term objectives: Implementation is feasible and/or should be done in the next 1 to 3 years.

- Explore funding options for those that need salt storage structures and contained mixing areas.
- Increase the use of the Cornell Local Roads Program and Highway School by highway officials.
- Promote public awareness and education about safe winter driving.
- Examine using road weather information systems to reduce salt use and make it more efficient.
- Examine the use of pretreatment practices that use chemicals to depress the freezing point.
- Encourage use of sand and salt, not just salt, on the roads.

Long term objectives: Implementation is feasible and/or should be done in the next 3 to 5 years.

- Monitor salt concentrations during winter runoff events for Owasco Lake and tributaries of concern.



Town of Moravia salt storage shed.

Highway Maintenance

Goal: Reduce delivery and minimize the impact of sediment, nutrients, etc., originating from the construction and maintenance activities associated with roads, to the tributaries and Owasco Lake.

Suggested Actions:

Watershed assessment: Research or data that will assist the achievement of objectives.

- Conduct a roadside erosion potential inventory.

Short term objectives: Implementation is feasible and/or should be done in the next 1 to 3 years.

- Increase the use of the Cornell Local Roads Program and Highway School by highway officials.
- Encourage and provide information on timely revegetation of road ditches and banks.
- Encourage use of structural controls of sediments on steep roads, roadbanks and in high flow ditches.
- Encourage use and provide information on structural measures to control sediments and other pollutants from stormwater runoff.
- Encourage use of and provide information on best management practices (BMPs) to reduce roadbank erosion.
- Provide an annual informational report for highway superintendents and workers in the watershed.

Long term objectives: Implementation is feasible and/or should be done in the next 3 to 5 years.

- Organize local training programs through Soil and Water Conservation Districts and Highway Superintendents Association.
- Examine the use of infiltration trenches, detention ponds, siltation ponds, basins, vegetated swales and filter strips in critical areas and in demonstration projects.
- Examine ways to prevent sediment eroded from plowed fields by wind and water from ending up in the ditches to the lake; especially during heavy rainfalls.
- Explore why roadside ditches are deepening and develop methods of prevention.

Other objectives: Implementation depends on future resources or identification of additional concerns.

- Encourage the use of erosion and sediment control standards in all highway construction and maintenance plans, bids and contracts.
- Encourage local code enforcement officers and local planning boards to establish and enforce site and construction standards and erosion control measures for private roads.
- Examine the use of Cornell Local Roads Program Student Summer Intern Project.



Roadbank erosion along Rockefeller Road.

Lake Level

Goal: Proper lake level management of Owasco Lake.

Suggested Actions:

Short term objectives: Implementation is feasible and/or should be done in the next 1 to 3 years.

- Educate watershed residents on what to expect in regards to lake level, the hydrologic system, the “rule curve,” about downstream uses of water, and why different people want different lake levels.
- Place the “rule curve” and daily lake levels on the Internet.
- Encourage local officials who are responsible for lake level management to continue working with others in their region to coordinate flood period discharges (i.e. Balance lake impacts, downstream impacts, etc).

Long term objectives: Implementation is feasible and/or should be done in the next 3 to 5 years.

- Develop a month-by-month assessment of the “rule curve” by all stakeholder groups.
- Develop and distribute standards and guidance for private water intakes, proper crawlspace and cellar elevations, and flood protection to realtors, code enforcement officers and others.
- Assess if and how the sustainable yield of the lake can be increased, in anticipation of increasing water supply needs.
- Evaluate the effect of lake level on wildlife, revenue, silt deposition, aquatic vegetation, erosion, loss of beachfront, and effect on wave action.

Other objectives: Implementation depends on future resources or identification of additional concerns.

- Examine dredging and explore funding opportunities to dredge the South end of Owasco Lake (Also under Aquatic Vegetation).

Lakeshore Erosion

Goal: Reduce the impacts of shoreline erosion on Owasco Lake.

Suggested Actions:

Watershed assessment: Research or data that will assist the achievement of objectives.

- Conduct an assessment of shoreline erosion and related problems.

Short term objectives: Implementation is feasible and/or should be done in the next 1 to 3 years.

- Promote and distribute existing shoreline erosion control guidebooks and information sheets with specific information on plantings that will help reduce shoreline erosion.
- Distribute landscaping for erosion control information to all contractors and nurseries as well as individual homeowners and realtors.
- Conduct Lakeshore Homeowner Workshops on shoreline erosion, vegetative options, yard waste management, etc.

Long term objectives: Implementation is feasible and/or should be done in the next 3 to 5 years.

- Provide assistance to design and implement preventative measures for shoreline erosion.



Lakeshore erosion on Owasco Lake.

Land Use

Goal: To minimize potential impacts to water quality, scenic vistas, wildlife and other values due to land use changes.

Suggested Actions:

Watershed assessment: Research or data that will assist the achievement of objectives.

- Create a directory of zoning provisions and other development regulations of towns and villages, and provide the directory on a webpage.
- Inventory wetlands and open space resources in the watershed.

Short term objectives: Implementation is feasible and/or should be done in the next 1 to 3 years.

- Propose a procedure for providing technical and professional County support in reviewing development applications, or plans, and provide a County schedule of fees for such support.
- Educate planning boards about land use issues such as drainage, buffer zones, stormwater runoff, etc.
- Have the County conduct a development suitability analysis using GIS.
- Provide assistance to towns and villages to design, adopt and/or implement standards and guidelines; provide model ordinances, regulations, standards, and guidelines.
- Examine involvement with the Finger Lakes Land Trust. Use GIS to strategically target conservation easement and fee acquisitions for land trust.
- Conduct an assessment to what the watershed can handle in regards to new development.
- Explore opportunities to protect streambank areas.
- Encourage adoption of land use plans that address strategies to protect Owasco Lake.

Long term objectives: Implementation is feasible and/or should be done in the next 3 to 5 years.

- Examine the use of an Affinity Credit Card to help finance the purchase of critical areas, improve public awareness, and promote education.
- Target specific open space areas for an open space system.

Other objectives: Implementation depends on future resources or identification of additional concerns.

- Propose bond financing to support the purchase of development rights.
- Propose a County Land Trust. Use GIS to strategically target conservation easement and fee acquisitions for land trust.
- Examine the development of a credit or point based system for development.
- Restrict construction and development on or near the lake.



Aerial view of Owasco Lake.

Owasco Flats

Goal: Utilize Owasco Flats Nature Reserve so that adjacent property owners, watershed residents, and local communities benefit from its recreational potential, as it continues to be a sustainable, desirable, and important natural resource.

Suggested Actions:

Short term objectives: Implementation is feasible and/or should be done in the next 1 to 3 years.

- Create a management plan for the Owasco Flats Nature Reserve area that is accepted by the Cayuga County Parks and Trails Commission and Cayuga County Public Works. Include funding options and studies needed for the area.
- Encourage the Owasco Flats Committee or Cayuga County Parks and Trails to contact adjacent and nearby land owners about the potential for improving access onto Owasco Flats through conservation easements or outright purchases.



Boat launch at Owasco Flats.

Private and Municipal Wastewater Treatment

Goal: To reduce nutrient and pathogen impacts of on-site household and municipal wastewater treatment systems on surface and groundwater.

Suggested Actions:

Short term objectives: Implementation is feasible and/or should be done in the next 1 to 3 years.

- Continue the Cayuga County sanitary program, encourage other counties to have similar programs in the Owasco Lake Watershed and monitor water quality status in lake.
- Develop a more complete assessment of the wastewater treatment and water supply needs in problematic locales.
- Explore federal or state assistance to replace or upgrade septic systems of people with limited incomes.
- Encourage the use of water conservation measures through education, financial incentives and appropriate regulations.
- Provide educational workshops on on-site septic systems for residents.
- Conduct a yearly tour of the water treatment plant and watershed to educate watershed residents (Also under Waterborne Illness).

Long term objectives: Implementation is feasible and/or should be done in the next 3 to 5 years.

- Encourage the adoption of comprehensive use plans that describe the capacity of public facilities and services required to serve new development and discourage growth where adequate facilities and services are not available.
- Explore what grants and loans are available for water and waste disposal systems for rural communities by using the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance.
- Conduct tests on the effluent of the sewer plants and its effect on water quality.

Other objectives: Implementation depends on future resources or identification of additional concerns.

- Examine using the EPA Office of Wastewater Management's "Small Communities Team" for technical assistance, financial assistance, and education to small communities.
- Examine using New York Rural Water Association's on site technical assistance for small and rural wastewater and treatment collection systems through the Wastewater Technical Assistance Program and Wastewater Training and Technical Assistance Program.
- Explore the possibility of upgrading the Groton Wastewater Treatment Facility.
- Examine building a sewer system in Locke and other towns, and pursue funding opportunities.



Failing septic tank.

Public Access

Goal: To encourage public access while minimizing its environmental impact within the Owasco Lake Watershed.

Suggested Actions:

Watershed assessment: Research or data that will assist the achievement of objectives.

- Research if increasing access would have a negative effect on water quality.

Short term objectives: Implementation is feasible and/or should be done in the next 1 to 3 years.

- Explore public-private partnerships for public access.
- Improve the canoe launch in Owasco Flats.
- Encourage low impact activities in the watershed like hiking, canoeing and fishing instead of motorized use.



Sailboat launch at the north end of Owasco Lake.

Recreation and Tourism

Goal: To encourage recreational activity and tourism while minimizing their environmental impact within the Owasco Lake Watershed.

Suggested Actions:

Short term objectives: Implementation is feasible and/or should be done in the next 1 to 3 years.

- Follow Emerson Park's Master Plan for encouraging recreation and tourism while minimizing the impact on water resources in the Emerson Park area.
- Encourage hiking, canoeing, and fishing in the Owasco Flats and Southern end of the Lake.
- Encourage linkages of businesses on Owasco Lake.



Emerson Park located on Owasco Lake.

Stormwater and Sediment Control

Goal: To reduce the potential impacts of stormwater runoff on Owasco Lake and throughout the Owasco Lake Watershed.

Suggested Actions:

Short term objectives: Implementation is feasible and/or should be done in the next 1 to 3 years.

- Continue hydroseeding assistance programs for towns and villages in critical areas, such as road ditches, and promote the program to increase use throughout the watershed.
- Continue to conduct regional workshops on stormwater management to educate local decision makers, planning and zoning boards, Code Enforcement Officers, Highway Superintendents and residents about the use of recognized development BMPs to protect water quality and EPA Phase II rules.
- Provide model site design guidelines for contractors.

Long term objectives: Implementation is feasible and/or should be done in the next 3 to 5 years.

- Have a Certified Professional Erosion and Sediment Control (CPESC) person review existing municipal land use regulations throughout the watershed (i.e. comprehensive plans, zoning codes, subdivision regulation, site plan review), as well as their implementation and enforcement, for adequacy in minimizing the impacts to water quality from development and recommend changes.
- Encourage towns in the watershed to create and enforce stormwater management and erosion control ordinances by providing a model laws and ordinances for stormwater and erosion control.
- Adopt a policy for County projects to develop erosion and sediment control plans independent of pending EPA Phase II rules and lead by example. Encourage towns and villages to adopt similar policies by providing sample policies and/or ordinances.



Stormwater runoff from new home development.

Streambanks and Stream Corridor Management

Goal: To increase the amount of permanently preserved riparian buffer areas and to stabilize streambanks to reduce the delivery of sediments and nutrients to Owasco Lake.

Suggested Actions:

Watershed assessment: Research or data that will assist the achievement of objectives.

- Conduct streambank erosion assessments throughout the watershed.

Short term objectives: Implementation is feasible and/or should be done in the next 1 to 3 years.

- Implement bank stabilization practices on the most severely eroding banks, as quickly as feasible.
- Develop a comprehensive stream management program including debris assessments and fishery needs.
- Funding sources need to be identified for comprehensive streambank restoration and management programs.
- Provide incentives and programs for farmers and landowners to install, maintain and manage buffers adjacent to streambanks, lakeshore and other sensitive areas. Find funding opportunities for buffer installation, management and maintenance.
- Promote the use of Best Management Practices (BMPs) in the watershed such as livestock exclusion from streams and vegetative filter strips.
- Develop educational programs on the protection of stream areas and stream maintenance (i.e. What are landowners allowed to do without permits, when are permits needed, and who to contact).
- Continue having staff members of the Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) and the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) assist in future preparation of grant and cost share applications to reduce streambank erosion and implement buffering.
- Provide model buffer and stream corridor protection ordinances to the municipalities.
- Examine debris accumulation in streams and determine whose jurisdiction it is to remove it and have it removed.
- Educate landowners on what debris can be removed from streams and how to remove it properly.

Long term objectives: Implementation is feasible and/or should be done in the next 3 to 5 years.

- Train staff in remedial fluvial geomorphology and conduct pilot projects on tributaries to Owasco Lake, particularly Dutch Hollow Brook and the Inlet.
- Conduct tours, put up signs and provide information on demonstration projects for streambank erosion and stream buffering.

Other objectives: Implementation depends on future resources or identification of additional concerns.

- Develop a program to plant buffers; provide seedlings, education and instructions.
- The Counties or municipalities may want to consider providing tax relief for planting buffer zones along riparian corridors based on comprehensive stream management plans.



Streambank erosion on the Owasco Inlet.



Streambank erosion on Dutch Hollow Brook.

Urban/Community Forestry

Goal: To mitigate development by advocating the sound management and stewardship of urban and community trees and forests.

Suggested Actions:

Short term objectives: Implementation is feasible and/or should be done in the next 1 to 3 years.

- Educate towns, villages, and the public on the values and benefits of urban and community trees and forests, trees suitable for urban planting in this area, and how to care for them.
- Encourage training to develop inventories of trees and tree sites.
- Encourage towns and villages to apply to grant programs for tree planting.
- Provide a model town or village tree ordinance.
- Encourage community forest plans.
- Examine funding to do community forest plans and to plant trees.

Long term objectives: Implementation is feasible and/or should be done in the next 3 to 5 years.

- Develop community programs that protect existing trees and encourage significant new plantings in areas where tree plantings would be beneficial.



Urban trees in Moravia.

Waste Sites

Goal: To minimize the impact of inactive (closed) landfills, inactive hazardous waste sites, illegal dumps and roadside dumping on the water quality of the Owasco Lake Watershed.

Landfills, Inactive Hazardous Waste Sites and Solid Waste Management

Suggested Actions:

Short term objectives: Implementation is feasible and/or should be done in the next 1 to 3 years.

- The conditions of the seven closed solid waste landfills and the inactive hazardous waste site should be inspected by a designated Cayuga County agency annually for changing site conditions. Any significant changes should be reported to the DEC.
- Discourage open burning and provide alternatives such as pay by the bag programs for residential solid waste disposal.
- Educate the public about the hazards of backyard burn barrels and burn barrel ash.

Other Waste Sites

Suggested Actions:

Watershed assessment: Research or data that will assist the achievement of objectives.

- Inventory all on-site waste disposal sites including farm exempt, private exempt, private illegal and others.
- Inventory farm machinery scrap piles that exceed predetermined criteria.
- Inventory junkyards.
- Inventory permitted and abandoned sand, gravel, and other mines.

Short term objectives: Implementation is feasible and/or should be done in the next 1 to 3 years.

- Examine providing old farm scrap collection programs.
- Assess water quality impacts of junkyards.

Long term objectives: Implementation is feasible and/or should be done in the next 3 to 5 years.

- Determine environmental risk of all on-site waste disposal sites including farm exempt, private exempt, private illegal and others.
- Determine the environmental risks of permitted and abandoned sand, gravel, and other mines.

Roadside and Illegal Dumping

Suggested Actions:

Watershed assessment: Research or data that will assist the achievement of objectives.

- Create an inventory of roadside dumping hot spots and illegal dumping along watercourses.
- List all municipal codes and ordinances for roadside and/or illegal dumping.

Short term objectives: Implementation is feasible and/or should be done in the next 1 to 3 years.

- Monitor inventoried roadside and illegal dumps and measure amounts and types of wastes deposited.
- If a municipality does not have a code or ordinance for roadside and/or illegal dumping, provide a sample code or ordinance. For those that do, encourage raising fines and increasing persecution.
- Organize cleanup campaigns with media involvement such as Clean-A-Ravine campaigns.
- Encourage town cleanup days.
- Put up signs to discourage dumping.
- Communicate illegal dumping problems to the public and how to anonymously report dumping activities.

Long term objectives: Implementation is feasible and/or should be done in the next 3 to 5 years.

- Examine funding options for education, special projects or demonstrations.
- Provide a county wide tire amnesty day.

Other objectives: Implementation depends on future resources or identification of additional concerns.

- Examine Tompkins County's roadside dumping law and implementation system. Determine if Cayuga County should enact such a law.



Trash dumped in Owasco Lake.

Waterborne Illness

Goal: To prevent outbreaks of waterborne disease and reduce the number of beach closings at Emerson Park due to coliform bacteria.

Suggested Actions:

Short term objectives: Implementation is feasible and/or should be done in the next 1 to 3 years.

- Explore funding to compile and maintain the Water Quality Management Agency (WQMA) database.
- Continue to address the bird problem in Emerson Park and entire lake by trying realistic methods.
- Encourage residents using untreated lake water as a drinking water source to install some type of treatment system to disinfect their drinking water.
- Provide educational materials through Cornell Cooperative Extension and the Cayuga County Health Department.
- Use Best Management Practices (BMPs) and Environmental Protection Agency Regulations to reduce contamination from pastures.
- Provide incentives and programs for farmers and landowners to install, maintain and manage buffers adjacent to streambanks, lakeshore and other sensitive areas (for further suggestions on streambank buffers, see Streambanks and Stream Corridor Management).

Long term objectives: Implementation is feasible and/or should be done in the next 3 to 5 years.

- Conduct a yearly tour of the water treatment plant and watershed to educate watershed residents (Also under Private and Municipal Wastewater Treatment).
- Implement a continuous monitoring program in Owasco Lake and the major tributaries.
- Examine applying a watershed program for farmers similar to the Skaneateles Lake Watershed Agricultural Program.

Appendices

Appendix 1: Development Schedule for the Owasco Lake Watershed Management Plan

- January 2000: State of the Owasco Lake Watershed Report released.
- September 2000: Letter sent to all Towns and Villages in the Watershed containing information on the Owasco Lake Watershed Management Plan, the public meetings set for September, and an invitation to participate.
- Informational meetings with public and municipal officials in Summer Hill and Emerson Park.
- Informational website: co.cayuga.ny.us/wqma .
- Sept.-October 2000: Technical committees formed for the issues of concern identified in the State of the Owasco Lake Watershed Report. Background information sent to all members of the Committees.
- Municipal officials invited to participate on the technical committees.
- October 2000: Cayuga County Water Quality Management Agency meets to discuss suggested actions for the issues of concern identified in the State of the Owasco Lake Watershed Report.
- Nov.-Dec 2000: Technical committees meet to develop suggested actions for the issues of concern identified in the State of the Owasco Lake Watershed Report.
- Information, priorities, suggestions and objectives collected from technical committees, municipal officials, and interested public.
- Dec. 2000-Jan. 2001: Compilation and review of suggested actions from technical committees, municipal officials, and interested public.
- January 2001: Sue Ann Cunliffe begins conducting outreach and public information.
- February 2001: Public meetings in Auburn and Summer Hill to discuss the suggested actions and get further input into the plan.
- General media information kits completed and sent to all watershed town supervisors and village mayors. Kits also sent to newspapers, Cayuga County Legislators, CNY Regional Planning, Tompkins County EMC, and the watershed counties' Soil and Water Conservation Districts, Planning Departments, and Cornell Cooperative Extensions.
- Fact sheets created for targeted mailings on the issues of concern.
- Update of the informational webpage to include a bulletin board for comments, questions and suggestions.
- Creation of overview and Q&A sheets for public information.

Feb.-June 2001:	Comment period and development of draft plan.
April 2001:	Newsletter distributed to libraries, newspapers, all watershed town supervisors and village mayors, watershed town and village halls, and watershed counties' Soil and Water Conservation Districts, Planning Departments, and Cornell Cooperative Extensions.
April-Sept. 2001:	Owasco Lake Watershed Management Plan display begins its tour. Some locations it has been displayed include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water Resources Board Spring Workshop • Tompkins County Water Day • Lowes Community Water Safety Awareness Day • Well Water Workshop • Cayuga County Environment Management Council Meeting • Cayuga County Planning Board Meeting • TourCayuga • Auburn High School • Auburn City Hall • Moravia Town Hall • Owasco Town Hall • Cayuga County Cornell Cooperative Extension • Cayuga County Parks Department • Cayuga County Soil and Water Conservation District.
June 2001:	Release of draft plan.
June-July 2001:	Review and comment period for draft plan.
July 2001:	Public meetings to receive comments on the draft plan.
Summer 2001:	Revise draft plan.
Summer 2001:	Final action plan.
Yearly:	Measure and review progress. Review and revise plan.

Appendix 2: Acknowledgements

Agencies:

Cayuga County Cornell Cooperative Extension
 Cayuga County Department of Health and Human Services
 Cayuga County Environmental Management Council
 Cayuga County Parks Department
 Cayuga County Department of Planning and Development
 Cayuga County Soil and Water Conservation District
 Cayuga County Water Quality Management Agency
 Onondaga County Cornell Cooperative Extension
 Tompkins County Cornell Cooperative Extension
 Tompkins County Department of Health and Human Services
 Tompkins County Environmental Management Council
 Tompkins County Planning Department
 Tompkins County Soil and Water Conservation District

Technical Committee Members:

Walt Aikman	Charles Greene	Eileen O' Connor
John Anderson	Kate Hackett	Trish Ottley
Sharon Anderson	Tony Hart	Jon Ozolins
Ronald Beck	Robert Hazelton	Kate Parsons
Michele Beilman	Jim Hotaling	Ann Petrus
Shawn Bossard	Sandy Huey	Ron Podolak
Paul Chipman	Bob Ingham	Jeff Robins
Nick Colas	Clark Jillson	Craig Schutt
Chet Crosby	Robert Johnson	Dave Severson
Steve Cuddeback	Doug Kierst	Kelly Sevier
Carl Cuipyllo	Alan Koslowski	Jean Sircusa
Steve Davison	Pete Larsons	John Stapleton
Anthony DeCaro	Mark Miller	Mike Toepp
Pat DiNonno	William Millier, Jr.	Meg Vanek
Frank DeOrio	Ann Moore	Judy Wright
Richard Fox	Sheila Myers	Michele Wunderlich
Richard Gervel	Bruce Natale	James Young

Other significant contributors:

Kathy Bertuch	Amy D'Angelo	David Miller
Heather Clark	Kathy Fuller	Shaun Sweeney
Sue Ann Cunliffe		

Cayuga County Legislature
 Cayuga County Legislative Committee on Planning and Economic Development
 Cayuga County Planning Board
 Owasco Lake Watershed Town Supervisors and Village Mayors
 Owasco Lake Watershed Towns and Villages

This report was prepared with funding provided by Congressman Walsh.

Appendix 3: Local Law regulating the disposal of septage, sewage sludge, and sludge within the Town of Summer Hill.

TOWN OF SUMMER HILL LOCAL LAW NO. 2 OF THE YEAR 2000

A local law regulating the disposal of septage, sewage sludge, and sludge within the Town of Summer Hill.

Be it enacted by the Town Board of the Town of Summer Hill as follows:

Section 1. Purpose. The Town Board of the Town of Summer Hill hereby finds and determines that the disposal of sludge, sewage sludge or septage within the Town or any part thereof poses a potential threat to the health and safety of the residents of the Town and to animals within the Town, and that their potential for contamination of adjoining property and water supplies constitutes a potential health and safety hazard to the Town and its residents as well as to food chain crops and animals within the Town. It is the purpose of this local law is to provide for the health, safety and welfare of the residents in the Town, the owners of property within the Town, food chain crops, and animals within the Town by regulating the disposal of sludge, sewage sludge and septage within the Town and by prohibiting the spilling or placing of pasteurized sludge on any highways located within the Town.

Section 2. Definitions. For the purpose of this local law, the following terms shall have the meanings set forth hereinafter:

(a) "Dispose of means to spread, apply, discharge, deposit plow, inject, dump, spill, process, store, leak or place any sludge, sewage sludge or septage (as hereinafter defined) into or on any land or water within the Town or any part of the Town so that such material or any related constituent thereof may enter the environment or be emitted into the air or discharged into any waters of the state including groundwaters thereof.

(b) "Person" means any individual, public or private corporation, business corporation, political subdivision, government agency, department, board or bureau of the state or federal government, municipality, industry, partnership, co-partnership, association, firm, trust, estate, or any other legal entity.

(c) "Septage" means the contents of a septic tank, cesspool, or other individual sewage treatment facility which receives sewage wastes.

(d) "Sewage Sludge" means the accumulated semi-solid suspension of solids deposited from wastewaters from municipal or private sewage waste treatment plants, water supply treatment plants or air pollution control facilities.

(e) "Sludge" means the accumulated semi-solid suspension of settled solids deposited from wastewaters or other fluids.

(f) "Pasteurized Sludge" means the combination of septage, sewage sludge and/or sludge with an alkaline mixture or any other chemical substance.

(g) "Highway" means any town or county roadway located with the bounds of the town including the right of way thereof and shall also include the pavement over any bridge located within the town.

(h) "Storage" means the containment or holding of waste, either on a temporary basis or for a period of years in such a manner as not to constitute disposal of such waste at the end of said period.

(i) "Town" means the Town of Summer Hill.

(j) "Waste" means any sludge, sewage sludge or septage as hereinbefore defined.

(k) "Waste Management Facility" means any facility employed beyond the initial waste collection process including, but not limited to, storage areas (except those relating to landspreading surface impoundments referred to in Section 3(B)(3)), transfer stations, rail haul facilities, processing systems, sanitary landfills and

plants and facilities for composting such waste.

Section 3. Prohibitions :

1. No person shall dispose of, or cause to be disposed of, any sludge, sewage sludge or septage within the Town or within any part of the Town, except:

A. By landspreading on land being actively utilized (tilled) for agricultural purposes within the Town, when all of the following conditions are met;

(1) Septage generated from a single family dwelling, two family dwelling, multiple dwelling, business facility, commercial facility, agricultural facility or industrial facility located within or without the Town, may be spread upon lands used for agricultural purpose within the Town, in compliance with all applicable United States of America, State of New York, Cayuga County and Town statutes, ordinances, local laws, codes, rules, regulations and in accordance with the rules set forth in Sections 3(B)(3) and (4) below.

(2) Sewage sludge generated within or without the Town which, meets all guidelines and regulations of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation for such sludge to be landspread may be spread upon lands used for agricultural purposes within the Town, in compliance with all applicable United States of America, State of New York, Cayuga, County and Town statutes, ordinances, local laws, codes, rules, regulations and in accordance with the rules set forth in Sections 3(B)(3) and (4) below. A complete copy of the representative analysis of such sludge as submitted to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation initially with the application and as analyzed during the months of March or April of any year in which such sludge is to be applied, must be filed with the Town Clerk or the Town prior to application of such sludge within the Town.

(3) No sludge, sewage sludge or septage shall be disposed of within the Town or within any part of the Town, except as follows

(A) At a distance of at least 200 feet from any stream, creek, river, lake or pond located within the Town or of any preexisting well or water supply source located within the Town;

(B) At a distance of at least 1,000 feet from any residence or place of business located within the Town;

(C) At a distance of at least 200 foot from any public roadway located within the Town;

(D) At a distance of at least 50 feet from any property line;

(E) No sludge, sewage sludge or septage shall be disposed: of within the Town or within any part of the Town on land with a slope greater than 15 percent.

(4) No septage shall be disposed of at any point located within the boundaries of the Owasco Watershed. Sewage sludge and sludge may only be disposed of within the boundaries of the watershed in accordance with the rules and regulations pertaining to the Owasco Watershed.

B. At a waste management facility duly authorized, approved, and licensed by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation;

(1) Said waste management facility or any portion of its operation shall be located at a distance of at least 500 feet from any stream, creek, river, lake or pond within the Town or of any pre-existing well or water supply source within the Town;

(2) Said waste management facility shall be located at a distance of at least 1,000 feet from any residence or place of business within the Town;

(3) Said waste management facility shall only be constructed after review and approval of the site plan for said disposal site by the Planning Board of the Town as hereinafter provided; after any required review and approval pursuant to the provisions of the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act; and after issuance of a special permit by the Town Board of the Town as hereinafter provided.

II. Pasteurized Sludge Prohibition: No person shall spill, dump, or cause to be spilled, dumped, deposited or placed upon any highway, or within the limits of the right of way of said highway any pasteurized sludge.

Section 4. Pre-existing Uses. Nothing herein shall be deemed to prevent the disposal of sludge, sewage sludge or septage on a site within the Town for which the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation has, as of the effective date of this local law, previously issued a valid permit for the disposal of said material. However:

- (a) Such disposal must have been in operation in compliance with such permit as of the effective date of this local law;
- (b) Such disposal must hereafter be carried out in strict compliance with all of the terms, conditions and provisions of such permit and with all applicable United States of America, State of New York, Cayuga County and Town statutes, ordinances, local laws, codes, rules and regulations;
- (c) The site at which such disposal is taking place shall not be enlarged or changed; and
- (d) Such disposal shall immediately and permanently cease and terminate in the event that such permit is assigned, transferred, conveyed, revoked, cancelled, annulled or not renewed.

Section 5. Site Plan Review. A special permit may only be issued pursuant to Section 6 of this Local Law upon the applicant first having obtained approval of a site plan for such use from the Planning Board of the Town in accordance with the following procedures.

Prior to issuance of such permit, a site plan including the following information shall be submitted to the Planning Board for approval:

- (a) The description of the site including:
 - (1) preliminary plans with elevations showing the use, location and dimensions of the land areas;
- (b) Time period of use for disposal of the specified sludge, sewage sludge or septage;
- (c) Names of persons responsible for the generation and transportation of the sludge, sewage sludge or septage to be disposed of;
- (d) Type and quantity of the sludge, sewage sludge or septage to be disposed of;
- (e) Manner of disposal of the sludge, sewage sludge or septage;
- (f) Nature of soils at the site;
- (g) Depth of water table at the site;
- (h) Location, nature and size of aquifers at the site;
- (i) Direction of present and historic groundwater flows at the site;
- (j) Location, nature and size of all surface waters at and near the site;
- (k) Proximity of the site to private residences, public buildings or property, school facilities,

places of work or other areas where individuals may be present; and

(l) Any place of temporary storage used or to be used by the applicant and the place or places where and the manner in which the applicant will finally dispose of the sludge, sewage sludge or septage; and

(m) Such other information as the Planning Board deems necessary.

Section 6. Hearing and decision. The Planning Board shall fix a time within forty-five days from the day an application for site plan approval is made for a hearing relating to such application. The Planning Board shall give public notice thereof by the publication in the official newspaper of such hearing at least ten days prior to the date thereof and shall decide the same within forty-five days after such hearing; provided, however, the time within which the Planning Board must render its decision may be extended by mutual consent of the applicant and the Planning Board. The decision of the Planning Board shall immediately be filed in the office of the Town Clerk and a copy thereof mailed to the applicant.

Section 7. Special permit.

(a) Except as otherwise exempted by this Local Law, no person shall engage in the disposing of sludge, sewage sludge or septage within the Towns without a special permit pursuant to this section.

(b) Such permit will be issued only if:

(1) site plan approval has been granted by the Planning Board;

(2) the proposed disposal will be in full compliance with the applicable laws, rules and regulations of the State of New York in effect on the date of submission of the permit application;

(3) there has been opportunity for public review and comment as provided in section 6 of this Local Law;

(4) in the case of a permit application for which an environmental impact statement pursuant to article 8 of the Environmental Conservation Law of the State of New York and applicable local laws of the Town must be prepared, that such statement shall include a description and evaluation of the nature of the probable environmental impact; including specification of the predictable adverse effects on the natural environment and ecology, public health and safety, scenic, historic, cultural and recreational value, water and air quality, wildlife and an evaluation of measures to mitigate adverse effects; and

(5) receipt of a permit pursuant to this section shall not relieve any person of the responsibility of fully complying with any applicable laws, rules, or regulations.

(c) The Town Board may impale such permit conditions as it deems necessary to protect the environment of the proposed site and the health and safety of the Town.

(d) The Town may deny the application where:

(1) the activities contemplated by the applicant are detrimental to the affected properties, landowners, residents in the affected area, wildlife and the general ecology of the proposed site area studied; and

(2) the results of site studies indicate that the proposed use may be detrimental to, or inconsistent with, the overall comprehensive plan or land use previously formulated by the Town and its then current land use laws and regulations, if any.

(e) Acceptance of said permit from the Town by the applicant shall constitute the applicant's agreement to indemnify and save harmless the Town and all officers, agents and employees of said Town from and against any and all losses, claims, damages, costs, judgments, lawsuits, expenses, risks of loss; or liability of whatever nature arising out of injuries to persons or property of whatever kind or nature as a result of the disposing of

sludge, sewage sludge or septage within the Town and which are attributable to the negligence, omission of duty, misfeasance or wrongful act on the part of the applicant, its employees or agents. Applicant shall provide proof of general liability insurance covering said , obligation to indemnify with a minimum amount of coverage of \$1,000,000.

(f) The period of the special permit shall be for a maximum duration of two years from date of approval,

Section 8. Application Fee. The fee for a permit shall be two hundred dollars (\$200.00) and shall be paid at the time application is made.

Section 9. Penalties. Upon conviction, a violation of this Local Law shall be deemed an offense and shall be punishable by a fine not exceeding two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00) for each and every such offense, or imprisonment for a period not to exceed fifteen days, or both. Each day's violation shall constitute a separate and additional violation. In addition to the above-provided penalties and punishment, the Town Board may also maintain an action or proceeding in the name of the town in a court of competent jurisdiction to compel compliance with or to restrain by injunction the violation of such law.

Section 10.

If any part or provision of this Local Law or the application thereof to any person or circumstance be adjudged invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, such judgment shall be confined in its operation to the part or provision or application directly involved in the controversy in which such judgment shall have been rendered and shall not affect or impair the validity of the remainder of this Local Law or the application thereof to other persons or circumstances.

Section 11.

All Ordinances, Local Laws and parts thereof inconsistent with this Local Law are hereby repealed.

Section 12.

This Local Law shall take effect immediately upon filing in the office of the Secretary of State.



“A lake is a landscape’s most beautiful expressive feature; it is earth’s eye, on looking into which the beholder measures the depth of his own nature.”

Henry David Thoreau