

Cayuga County Water Quality Management Agency

2007 Year End Report

APPROVED
January 3, 2008

2007 WQMA Membership

Chair:

Bruce Natale

Vice-Chair:

Gary Duckett

Cayuga County Legislature's Environmental Advisors:

Director of Cayuga County Planning and Economic Development

Stephen Lynch

Director of Cayuga County Environmental Health

Eileen O'Connor

Park Maintenance Supervisor

Gary Duckett

Director of Cayuga County Soil & Water Conservation District

Jim Hotaling

Cayuga County Solid Waste Management Program Administrator

Bruce Natale

Cayuga County Cooperative Extension Executive Director

Doug Ververs

Non-County, Local Officials

Association of Town Supervisors

Vacant

Association of Villages

Harry Hinman

City of Auburn Owasco Lake Watershed Inspector

Anthony DeCaro

Representatives from Interested Regional, State and Federal Agencies:

Institute for the Application of Geospatial Technology

Matt Starr

CNY Regional Planning

Kristy LaManche

Finger Lakes Institute

Sarah Meyer

NYS DEC Region 7 Forest Practice Board

Dick Fox

NYS DEC Region 7 Water Resources

Scott Cook

NYS DEC Region 7 Permits

Elizabeth Tracy

USDA Farm Service Agency

Jane Cabal

USDA NRCS

Katie Shor

Representatives from Waterbody Associations in Cayuga County

Owasco Watershed Lake Association

Al Kozlowski

Duck Lake Association

Dale Powell

Cayuga Lake Watershed Network

Sharon Anderson

Lake Como Association

Barb Harvey

Tri-County Skaneateles Lake Pure Waters Association

Bill Hecht

Acronyms and Abbreviations

CCE: Cayuga County Cornell Cooperative Extension

CLWN: Cayuga Lake Watershed Network

CNYRPDB: Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board

City: City of Auburn

Duck: Duck Lake Association

FLLOWPA: Finger Lakes Lake Ontario Watershed Protection Alliance

Health: Cayuga County Department of Health and Human Services Environmental Health Division

Highway: Cayuga County Highway Department

IAGT: The Institute for the Application of Geospatial Technology at Cayuga Community College, Inc.

IO: Cayuga Lake Watershed Intermunicipal Organization

NRCS: Natural Resources Conservation Service

NYSDEC: New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

OWLA: Owasco Watershed Lake Association

Parks: Cayuga County Parks and Trails Commission

Planning: Cayuga County Department of Planning and Economic Development

SWCD: Cayuga County Soil and Water Conservation District

WQMA: Cayuga County Water Quality Management Agency

WQMA Projects

1. Maintain the WQMA Website.

- WQMA website maintained and updated monthly.

2. Update the Cayuga County Water Quality Strategy.

- Work started but not completed. This project was put on hold until the membership of the WQMA was amended at the end of October.

3. Update the water quality contact list.

- Update completed and it will be distributed to the WQMA membership in January 2008.

4. Continue work to get a full time watershed inspector for Owasco Lake.

- WQMA members organized a meeting with municipal water system officials in January to discuss the Owasco Lake watershed inspector.
- Chairman Bruce Natale gave a presentation to the City of Auburn Council to discuss the reasons why a watershed inspector for Owasco Lake was needed.
- WQMA members assisted in the development of the Owasco Lake Watershed Inspector Agreement.
- The Owasco Lake Watershed Inspector was hired in August. She reports at the monthly WQMA Owasco Lake Standing Committee meeting.
- WQMA members worked to secure additional funds from the Emerson Foundation to assist in the start up of the Owasco Lake Watershed Inspector program and to hire assistant watershed inspector(s) for the Spring/Summer of 2008.

- 5. Continue to implement recommendations and actions from the Cayuga Lake Restoration and Protection Plan, Duck Lake Watershed Management Plan, Owasco Lake Watershed Management Plan, Skaneateles Lake Watershed Management Plan and the Lake Como Management Plan when it is approved.**
 - The Lake Como State of the Lake Report and Watershed Management Plan was completed in September 2007.
 - Ongoing work continues on implementation of these plans.
- 6. Document on-going sampling of Cayuga County waterbodies and work to develop a water monitoring framework.**
 - CLWN is working on a water monitoring framework for the Cayuga Lake Watershed. This included a meeting with WQMA members on June 14th to discuss Salmon Creek.
 - CLWN also organized a meeting in Venice on October 18th to discuss sampling being conducted in Salmon Creek.
- 7. Support other complimentary efforts in Cayuga County by, for example, letters of support or in-kind contributions.**
 - WQMA provided a letter of support to Planning for a Cayuga County Highway and Town of Sempronius Shared Municipal Services Incentive grant proposal for a shared salt storage facility in Sempronius.
 - WQMA sent a letter to Cayuga County Federal Representatives to request that they reinstate the funding for the Great Lakes Basin Program for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control.
- 8. Work to fill vacancies in the WQMA membership.**
 - Membership was amended in late October to add a Town of Owasco representative and a City of Auburn representative; and to remove the City of Auburn Watershed Inspector as a representative. These vacancies will be filled in 2008.
 - The Cayuga County Association of Villages vacancy was filled in 2007.
 - The Cayuga County Association of Town Supervisors vacancy will be filled in 2008.
- 9. Additional Work**
 - **WQMA assisted with concerns of the water quality of streams within the County.**
 - CLWN and WQMA co-sponsored the Salmon Creek Forum held May 17th in Genoa.
 - WQMA members met with representatives from the Town of Fleming to discuss a possible stream monitoring program in their Town.
 - WQMA members and NYSDEC organized a meeting in the Town of Sterling to discuss concerns with Sterling Creek on September 24th.
 - WQMA members assisted citizens in the Town of Sterling to develop a stream monitoring program.
 - WQMA members sampled Salmon Creek once during July to test for fecal coliform, *E. coli*, nitrite, nitrate, ammonia and total phosphorus.
 - **Provide input to the NYSDEC regarding the impending upgrade of the Groton Wastewater Treatment Plant and the development of Groton's new SPDES permit.**
 - The Cayuga County Legislature passed a resolution stating their opposition to the NYSDEC's proposed permit limit for phosphorus discharge from the upgraded Village of Groton Wastewater Treatment Plant.
 - WQMA sent a letter to the City of Auburn and all Cayuga County Towns and Villages that are in the Owasco Lake Watershed or who receive their drinking water from Owasco Lake to pass a

- resolution stating their opposition to the NYSDEC's proposed permit limit for phosphorus discharge from the upgraded Village of Groton Wastewater Treatment Plant.
 - Developed a poster on the WQMA's stand on the Village of Groton's Wastewater Treatment Plant issue, which was shown at the FLOWPA "Unifying Economic Development and the Environment" conference in September.
 - WQMA sent letters to the Regional Director and Regional Engineer.
 - WQMA members responded to a letter from the NYSDEC regarding work the NYSDEC felt was necessary to conduct before they felt that they could examine reducing the proposed permit limit for phosphorus discharge from the upgraded Village of Groton Wastewater Treatment Plant.
- **WQMA assisted in investigating two manure spills in the Owasco Lake Watershed.**
 - NYSDEC is the agency with the permit authority in both cases.

Finger Lakes Lake Ontario Watershed Protection Alliance (FLOWPA) Funded Projects

- 1. Continue monitoring of Dutch Hollow Brook and Owasco Inlet.**
 - Planning continued the monitoring of Dutch Hollow Brook and the Owasco Inlet. The monitoring stations on these tributaries monitor level and rainfall. Samples were collected during rainfall and baseflow events to analyze for total phosphorus, soluble reactive phosphorus and total suspended solids.
- 2. Continue water sampling of Cayuga Lake, Duck Lake and Lake Como under the Citizens Statewide Lake Assessment Program (CSLAP).**
 - CSLAP completed in 2007 for two sites on Cayuga Lake (Aurora and Union Springs), one site on Duck Lake and one site on Lake Como.
- 3. Continue Owasco Lake tributary phosphorus monitoring and begin Duck Lake phosphorus monitoring. Continue to provide the P-Project phosphorus education program.**
 - CCE and Planning sampled Duck Lake three times over the summer after storm events and during baseflow for phosphorus.
 - CCE sampled Owasco Lake tributaries for nitrates as well as phosphorus three times over the summer and fall during storm events.
 - Planning and CCE maintained and updated the P-Project website.
 - CCE Eco-Talk articles in The Citizen: "Healthy Lawn Takes Work" (May 27th) and "Getting to the Root of the Problem" (Nov 5th).
 - Articles in the CCE newsletter, Ecologic: "The P-Project" (Summer 2007) and "P-Project: Lawns and Water Quality Co-existing" (Fall 2007).
- 4. Begin the process of updating the Owasco Lake Watershed Rules and Regulations.**
 - Health and Planning examined updating the Owasco Lake Rules and Regulations.
 - A presentation was developed and shown at the Owasco Lake Standing Committee meeting on June 14th.
 - Information on this process was included in a presentation to the Cayuga County Planning Board in June.
 - Additional work included presentations to the Owasco Lake Standing Committee and meetings with other lake inspection groups.

- 5. Provide assistance on Phase II Stormwater Rules and Regulations to 32 municipalities in Cayuga County by providing education, outreach and model ordinances. Also provide education on stormwater to County youth.**
 - Representatives from Planning attended The Central and Western New York Stormwater Conference and Tradeshow held on March 27, 2007 at the Buffalo Niagara Convention Center in Buffalo. Planning sent announcements on this conference to all the Towns and Villages in Cayuga County,
 - Planning announced the New York State Floodplain and Stormwater Managers Association Annual Conference to the WQMA membership and one representative from Planning attended.
 - Planning provided information to the City of Auburn and Town of Brutus on the Phase II Stormwater Rules and Regulations upon request.

- 6. CCE staff person will become a facilitator for Project WET and help coordinate Project WET workshops in Cayuga County.**
 - Renee Jensen finished the coursework and became a facilitator for Project WET.
 - CCE provided an educational column in the newspaper, The Citizen, entitled “WET Puts Water in a Special Class.”
 - CCE held a Project WET Workshop in March.
 - CCE presented a Project WET activity with Genesee Elementary and Casey Park Elementary School entitled “Incredible Journey.”
 - CCE presented a Project WET activity at Cayuga County Conservation Field Days entitled “Macro Invertebrate Mayhem.”

- 7. Continue to have a Cayuga County certified inspector conduct septic system inspections as required in the Cayuga County Sanitary Code.**
 - Cato, Scipio (Cayuga watershed), Sterling (outside Little Sodus Bay watershed) and properties located within 500 feet of Owasco Lake and Little Sodus Bay but not lakefront were required to be inspected in 2007.

- 8. Continue to remove nuisance and invasive aquatic vegetation by mechanical harvesting.**
 - SWCD mechanically harvested aquatic vegetation from Hoopes Park Pond (30 wet tons, ~11.4 lbs of phosphorus removed), Owasco Lake (750 wet tons, ~285 lbs of phosphorus removed), Cayuga Lake (480 tons, ~182.4 lbs of phosphorus removed), Little Sodus Bay (470 tons, ~178.6 lbs of phosphorus removed), Otter Lake (30 tons, ~11.4 lbs of phosphorus removed) and Lake Como (140 tons, ~53.2 lbs of phosphorus removed).

- 9. Conduct education on invasive species county-wide. Also conduct hand pulling of water chestnut on Sterling Creek, Cross Lake and other waterbodies in Cayuga County as needed.**
 - CCE organized a hand pulling of water chestnut and frogbit in Sterling Creek on June 27th. SWCD provided staff and canoes for this event. Fourteen people attended from SWCD, CCE, Parks and Planning.
 - CCE organized a hand pulling of water chestnut in Cross Lake on August 7th.
 - Sterling Nature Center has an educational exhibit on water chestnut in the interpretive building.
 - Articles in the CCE newsletter, Ecologic: “Are They Here Yet? Invasive Aquatic Species” (Spring 2007) and “Local vs. Invasive” (Summer 2007).

- 10. Conduct streambank stabilization work on a wetland outlet at the Sterling Nature Center to an unnamed tributary that flows into Lake Ontario.**
 - Work completed was completed by SWCD this fall.

11. Continue the geese management program at the Emerson Park Beaches at the north end of Owasco Lake.

- SWCD conducts this program with the assistance of Parks security personnel.
- SWCD and the Owasco Lake Watershed Inspector analyzed the geese harassment program and presented the results at the November WQMA meeting.

Agriculture

1. Assist in the development of Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plans for farms.

- SWCD certified staff member completed 2 farm plans. One was 185 acres and 135 animal units in the Town of Scipio and the other was 261 acres and 162 animal units in the Town of Cato.
- SWCD certified staff member updated one farm plan consisting of 547 acres and 340 animal units in the Town of Aurelius.
- SWCD certified staff member started developing two farm plans. One was 169 acres and 91 animal units in the Town of Mentz and one was 87 acres and 57 animal units in the Town of Conquest.

2. Continue work to have a SWCD staff member certified as a Nutrient Management Plan Specialist. Once this occurs, this staff person can review comprehensive Nutrient Management Plans from consultants to see if plans are adequate.

- SWCD staff member was certified as Nutrient Management Plan Specialist in September by NRCS.

3. Complete Agricultural Environmental Management (AEM) Plans for farms. Identify best management practices (BMPs) from these AEMs and other plans. Look for assistance to install these BMPs and measure their effectiveness.

- SWCD staff completed the following:

| # of Farms | Tier Completed |
|------------|----------------|
| 6 | Tier 1 |
| 6 | Tier 2 |
| 14 | Tier 3A |
| 4 | Tier 4 |
| 5 | Tier 5A |

Description of Tiers:

- **Tier 1** – Inventory current activities, future plans and potential environmental concerns.
- **Tier 2** – Document current land stewardship; assess and prioritize areas of concern.
- **Tier 3** – Develop conservation plans addressing concerns and opportunities tailored to farm goals.
- **Tier 4** – Implement plans utilizing available financial, educational and technical assistance.
- **Tier 5** – Evaluate to ensure the protection of the environment and farm viability.

4. Assist with hazardous waste and pesticide collection days for farms as funding is available.

- There was no separate collection day for farms this year.

5. Continue with the development and use of new technologies to deal with agricultural waste.

- SWCD assisted a farm in the Town of Brutus in constructing a liquid storage tank for liquid from digested manure separator.
- SWCD continues work on the Community Methane Digester.

- 6. Provide information, incentives and programs for farmers to install, maintain and manage buffers adjacent to streambanks, lakeshore and other sensitive areas.**
 - NRCS submitted eight applications to the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) in 2007, all of which have been approved at the state and local Farm Service Agency (FSA) offices. SWCD and NRCS have received several additional inquiries from the FSA. Site visits are being completed by NRCS and SWCD field staff which should result in more contracts in the near future. In CREP, farmers receive payments from the FSA after site approval from NRCS for putting buffers near a stream adjacent to pasture or croplands.
 - SWCD provides information on Graze NY. In this program, farmers next to waterbodies can only receive money if they maintain a 30 foot buffer from the fence to the waterbody.

- 7. Promote the use of Best Management Practices (BMPs) for farmers such as livestock exclusion from streams and vegetative filter strips.**
 - SWCD installed 49,500 feet of Hi-Tensile fence for Prescribed Grazing Systems on 11 farms that were near streams. Five farms were in the Owasco Lake Watershed, three in the Cayuga Lake Watershed, and three in Seneca River Watershed.
 - SWCD worked with a farm in the Town of Owasco and Town of Niles to install a farm lane crossing that would reduce existing erosion and provide access to an existing cropfield and pasture.
 - SWCD implemented a rock-lined waterway on a county farm off of Glen Haven Road in the Town of Niles. The lined waterway is approximately 250 feet long, 15 feet wide, and 1.5 feet deep, and consists of three stone check dams and two sediment traps. The waterway will help to protect the adjacent agricultural field from flooding and erosion, and help protect the existing field ditch from erosion that leads to Skaneateles Lake.

- 8. Encourage farmers to join the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) and the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP).**
 - SWCD did not encourage farmers to join the general Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) this year because a general sign-up was not conducted in 2007 due to lack of funding at the federal level. However, practices were installed on two contracts from 2006. Approximately four acres of warm season and cool season grasses, and tree and shrub establishment were completed on one site. An additional 150 acres of cool season grasses were established on three other sites.
 - SWCD encouraged farmers to join the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) and interest in this program has steadily increased over the past year. Eight applications were submitted in 2007 and all of these have been approved at the state and local Farm Service Agency (FSA) offices. Several additional inquiries have been received from FSA. Site visits are being completed by NRCS and SWCD field staff which should result in more contracts in the near future.

- 9. Assist farmers with PDR (purchase of development rights) applications where applicable. CCE will provide educational materials on PDR.**
 - Planning, SWCD, CCE, and American Farmland Trust met to discuss the PDR program and water quality protection. The result was the requirement of farmers interested in the PDR program to go through Tier 1 and Tier 2 of the Agricultural Environmental Management (AEM) program. Tier 1 is the identification of important non-agricultural natural resources and Tier 2 is the identification of potential issues or threats to those non-agricultural resources from current agricultural practices. Selected farms will be required to go through Tier 3 of the AEM program which requires that a plan be developed to mitigate agricultural impacts on non-agricultural natural resources. SWCD administers the AEM program. Farmers are not required to implement the plan, but the thought is that with a raised awareness of issues by the landowner and SWCD, resources can be garnered to help fund plan implementation.

- Planning advertised and hosted a Farmland Protection Program/PDR informational workshop in conjunction with CCE, American Farmland Trust and Finger Lakes Land Trust.
- CCE in conjunction with Planning and American Farmland Trust, hosted a workshop on the Cayuga County Farmland Protection Program review criteria and application process on March 14th.
- Planning developed and administered the 2007 pre-application for Cayuga County's PDR program. There was record demand for the program with 27 pre-applications received, totaling over 12,000 acres of interest, resulting in the submittal of seven farms and over 6000 acres to the State for protection. (This acreage includes what was submitted ultimately by the County, Town of Fleming, and Onondaga County).
- Planning partnered with Onondaga County to submit 270 acres of farmland in the Town of Cato with 4400 feet of stream frontage on Muskrat Creek to the PDR program. The farm is headquartered in Elbridge with most of the acreage in Onondaga County. This farm was funded.
- Planning assisted Fleming in pursuing an eligibility determination by the New York Department of Agriculture and Markets for PDR. The Town of Fleming Supervisor was invited to the County Ag and Farmland Protection Board meeting and then coordinated local support. The Town was approved and ultimately sponsored two farms for protection through their own application. One of these farms was funded and it is in the Cayuga Lake/Seneca River Watershed.
- Two other farms were funded in Cayuga County. One is for approximately 780 acres in the Owasco and Cayuga Lake Watersheds and the other is in the Cayuga Lake Watershed.
- Planning also met with the Town of Sennett and the Town of Scipio Board to discuss farmland protection and Cayuga County's PDR program. The Town of Sennett is pursuing an eligibility determination from New York Department of Agriculture and Markets, so they can sponsor farms through their own applications.
- Planning held a meeting with County municipalities to discuss the PDR program and the State's municipal agriculture planning program.
- Planning wrote the application for the Town of Brutus to develop a local agriculture and farmland protection plan.
- Planning supported the Towns of Aurelius, Sennett, and Cato's applications for agricultural planning grant funds for regulation development (zoning, subdivision, site plan review, etc).
- Planning worked with New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets to accept modifications to their standard conservation easement to allow construction of methane digesters on protected farms, specifically to allow non-farm substrate to be used in processing, and to allow off-farm energy sale resulting from operation of those digesters, thus allowing protected county dairy farms to handle waste management in a more environmentally friendly manner.

10. Provide public education and news articles/columns on agriculture and the environment.

- CLWN published the Cayuga Lake Watershed Network News quarterly.
- SWCD distributed Spring and Summer editions of Conservation Highlights, which outlines the environmental projects and programs, and the agricultural projects the SWCD has completed or is currently implementing.
- SWCD organized Conservation Field Days in which over 1000 students attended.
- SWCD organized and assisted with the regional, state, and Canon Envirothon Competitions.
- SWCD attended and presented at Cato/Meridian Career Days for High School Students
- SWCD attended and presented to the English Classes at Moravia High School on the AmeriCorps Program.
- CCE provides monthly articles in For Your Information and Ag Alert.
- CCE organized grazing discussion group which included Darrell Emerick speaking on "Behavior Based Grazing," Rob DeClue speaking on "Grazing Infrastructure," Troy Bishopp speaking on

“Custom Grazing-Good for the Land-Good for Your Wallet,” and Karen Sullivan who did a “Dairy Grazing Nutrition Pasture Walk at Schiavi Dairy.”

11. Continue the Lake Friendly Farms program.

- Five farms were recognized as Lake Friendly Farms in the Cayuga Lake Watershed. Two of these were in Cayuga County (Scipio Springs Dairy and Elkendale Farm LLC). These farms are recognized for their environmental stewardship and have incorporated into their operations practices that protect and conserve water resources.

12. Encourage farmer participation in state and federal programs that relate to water quality and issues; and pursue forms of assistance such as continued federal and state grants and cost share programs.

- CCE received a Great Lakes Commission grant to demonstrate cover crops on two farms in Conquest within the Seneca River Watershed
- SWCD implemented a silage leachate collection and treatment system in the Cayuga Lake Watershed for large dairy that was partially funded by a federal cost share program.
- NRCS encourages farmer participation in the Wetland Reserve Program. Through this program, a total of 12 acres of wetlands were restored in 2007 and the cost share assistance for these projects totaled \$30,000.
- NRCS and SWCD encourages farmer participation in the Agricultural Management Assistance (AMA) Program. Structural practices on eight prescribed grazing contracts have been completed. These practices include 12,480 feet of perimeter fence; 214 acres of prescribed grazing; 300 feet of animal laneway and 20.5 acres of pasture and hayland seeding. This represents a total of \$20,480 in cost share assistance. No new contracts were submitted in 2007 due to lack of funding at the state level.
- NRCS encourages farmer participation in the Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program (WHIP). Implementation of prior year contracts has been a priority for 2007. SWCD implemented six acres of cool season grasses were established on one site and management of seventeen acres of warm season grasses has been completed on an additional site. Cost-share dollars earned in 2007 totaled \$4,000.
- SWCD submitted grant funding applications for Agricultural Nonpoint Source Abatement and Control Program Round 14 Grants which include:

| # of Farms | BMP (Best Management Practice) |
|------------|--|
| 1 | Manure Management System |
| 1 | Satellite Waste Storage |
| 1 | Pad for Silage Agriculture Bags |
| 1 | Anaerobic Digestion System |
| 2 | Waste Storage Facilities |
| 1 | Satellite Waste Storage & Conservation Tillage |
| 1 | Silage Leachate Treatment System |
| 1 | Grassed Waterway & Underground Outlet |
| 1 | Barnyard Runoff Management System |
| 1 | French Drain |
| 1 | Fuel Containment Vessel |
| 17 | Rotational Grazing Systems |

- NRCS encourages farmer participation in the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). New applications for FY 2008 funding were accepted until November 9th. To date, NRCS has received 42 applications for the 2008 program which will be evaluated and ranked by the middle of January 2008. Implementation has occurred on several prior year EQIP contracts. Installed practices include two waste storage facilities, 12,500 feet high tensile fencing, one water well and 2,000 feet of pipeline, fourteen acres of pasture and hayland planting, three silage leachate collection systems and filter areas, two water and sediment control basins and underground outlets, three Nutrient Management Plans for a total of 1,100 acres, two Integrated Pest Management plans for a total of 12,000 acres, 383 acres of cover crop, 660 acres of residue management and one roof runoff management system.

13. Search for funding for and implement grazing best management practices.

- SWCD has developed eleven 3A plans for 2007. Twelve prescribed grazing best management practices (BMPs) were implemented in 2007.
- SWCD applied for Agricultural Nonpoint Source Abatement and Control Program Round 14 Grants for 17 Rotational Grazing Systems.

14. Encourage agritourism.

- Ongoing.

15. Miscellaneous

- CCE organized a soybean pest scouting program for six farms in Genoa and Venice this summer. This included hiring a part-time pest scout with funding obtained from the NE Soybean Promotion Board.

Biosolids

- 1. Continue to enforce the Owasco Lake Watershed Rules and Regulations which state: “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.”**
 - Health and Planning examined updating the Owasco Lake Rules and Regulations. A presentation was developed and shown at the Owasco Lake Standing Committee meeting on June 14th. Information on this process was included in a presentation to the Cayuga County Planning Board in June. Additional work included presentations to the Owasco Lake Standing Committee and meetings with other lake inspection groups.
 - WQMA continued to work on getting an inspector for the Owasco Lake Watershed. The Agreement was signed on June 27th between the Town of Owasco, City of Auburn, WQMA and SWCD to hire a watershed inspector. The Owasco Lake Watershed Inspector began work in August.

Boating

- 1. Provide information on the safe and proper fuel storage of boats, slips, etc. Include information on what to do in a spill.**
 - CCE provided an educational column, Eco-Talk, on June 18th in the newspaper, The Citizen, entitled “Fueling a Boat Requires Know-How.”
- 2. Provide a forum “Docks and Moorings: A Forum for Municipalities.”**

- The CLWN and the IO sponsored the forum “Docks and Moorings: A Forum for Municipalities on March 29th in Fayette.

Collaboration

- 1. Assist the Center for Environmental Information, Inc. as they work on developing the Lake Ontario Coastal Initiative.**
 - Planning provided information and completed surveys for the Lake Ontario Coastal Initiative upon request.
- 2. Continue to provide the Regional Non-point Source Strategy meeting series.**
 - CNYRPDB organized the Regional Non-Point Source Strategy meeting held on October 25th.
- 3. Miscellaneous**
 - CNYRPDB funded the “Owasco Flats Conservation Planning and Stakeholder Survey Project,” which was conducted by the Finger Lakes Land Trust. WQMA members participated in this project. The CNYRPDB has also worked with the Finger Lakes Land Trust to develop a similar project for the Skaneateles Highlands area (southern portion of lake).

Education

- 1. Provide education on water, water quality, watersheds and related issues to schools and school aged children.**
 - CCE and Planning participated in the 4th Grade Tour Program at the Cayuga County Office Building on May 18th. CCE presented “Recycling: It's the Right Thing to Do & It Starts with You!” and Planning presented “Water Quality and You.”
 - CCE participated in Conservation Field Days and presented “Water Bugs.”
 - CCE conducted a project with a fifth grade class at Genesee Elementary School which utilized GPS equipment and taught watershed awareness.
 - CCE article in the Summer 2007 CCE newsletter, Ecologic, entitled “GPS: Making Tracks.”
 - CCE helped form an environmental club at Casey Park Elementary school that focused on recycling, water quality and community service.
 - CCE held a hands-on watershed and water quality display at Owasco Elementary Science Fair in the Spring of 2007.
- 2. Provide Project WET workshops for teachers and water education for local schools.**
 - CCE held a Project WET workshop in March.
- 3. Provide education to citizens on water, water quality, watersheds and related issues.**
 - CLWN published and distributed 1500 copies of *Network News*, which provides information on watershed issues. Articles include: “Trees at Work, Floods are an Act of Nature: True or False,” “Four Years of Managing Stormwater Onsite at the Sciencenter,” “Coping with Flooded Septic Systems,” “Seeking the Source: How Much Pollution Comes to the Lake Via the Tributaries,” and “Roadside Ditches Link the Land to Streams” from the Spring 2007 edition. “Solving Weed Problems Takes a Watershed,” “At Work in the Watershed,” “Lake Foam Unpleasant but Often Harmless Oily Sheens,” “Sustaining Our Precious Water Resources: What Can an Individual Do?,” “Fish Virus Spreads to Nearby Skaneateles,” and “10th Annual Celebration of Lakefest” from the Summer 2007 edition. “Less Phosphorus Entering Cayuga Lake,” “At Work in the Watershed,” “Morehouse Award Goes to Desch,” “Sharing the Planet with Birds,” “10th Anniversary Lakefest

Surpasses all Expectations,” “Members Support Clean Water,” and “Lake-Friendly Farms Recognized” from the Fall 2007 edition.

- Eco-Talk articles written by CCE staff on environmental education and water quality topics were published in The Citizen. They include: “Winter’s Slippery Situation” (Jan 8th), “WET Puts Water in a Special Class” (Jan 29th), “Making Sense of Solid Waste” (Feb 12th), “Rain Gardens: Pollution Solution” (April 23rd), “Spring Cleaning Made Easy” (April 30th), “Healthy Lawn Takes Work” (May 21st), “Recycling Tires Benefits Everyone” (June 11th), “Fueling a Boat Requires Know-how” (June 18th), “Education, GPS and Water Quality” (June 25th), “Keeping Owasco Lake Safe” (July 16th), “Lesson Draws Class Response” (Aug 6th), “Get Rid of Home’s Harmful Waste” (Sept 24th), “Getting to the Root of the Problem” (Nov 5th).
- CCE publishes a newsletter, Ecologic. Articles include “Fighting Stormwater: Rain Gardens” (Spring 2007), “Community Composting” (Summer 2007), “The P-Project” (Summer 2007), and “P-Project: Lawns and Water Quality Co-existing” (Fall 2007).
- “Rain Gardens: A Beautiful Step for Clean Water” training held on May 10th at CCE and conducted by Sharon Anderson of the CLWN.
- CLWN held Lakefest on August 18th in Ithaca which included education.
- CCE had a booth at TomatoFest in September with information on watersheds and water quality.
- CCE has an environmental listserve that distributes environmental information to interested County residents.
- CNY RPDB maintains a water quality website containing statewide and regional information on a wide range of water quality and watershed related issues.

4. Develop promotional campaigns that will interest a larger variety of participants in education programs.

- WQMA members utilized The Citizen, Post Standard, Moravia Republican Register, Post Herald, Shopper and Scotsman Press newspapers to promote programs, highlight events, and draw larger audiences.

5. Provide displays at Emerson Park tied to watershed protection and information from USGS water monitoring station.

- Parks provides signs at Emerson Park tied to watershed protection including signs for the WQMA, OWLA, invasive species, Dog Doody signs, and dog waste stations with signs.

6. Provide educational columns for the newspaper on water, water quality, watersheds, waterbodies and related issues.

- CCE provided an educational column, Eco-Talk, in the newspaper The Citizen. Articles included: “Winter’s Slippery Situation” (Jan 8th), “WET Puts Water in a Special Class” (Jan 29th), “Making Sense of Solid Waste” (Feb 12th), “Rain Gardens: Pollution Solution” (April 23rd), “Spring Cleaning Made Easy” (April 30th), “Healthy Lawn Takes Work” (May 21st), “Recycling Tires Benefits Everyone” (June 11th), “Fueling a Boat Requires Know-how” (June 18th), “Education, GPS and Water Quality” (June 25th), “Keeping Owasco Lake Safe” (July 16th), “Lesson Draws Class Response” (Aug 6th), “Get Rid of Home’s Harmful Waste” (Sept 24th), and “Getting to the Root of the Problem” (Nov 5th).

7. Provide award for leadership and commitment to protect the Cayuga Lake Watershed.

- The 2007 David Morehouse Award was given to Noel Desch for his role in the establishment and evolution of the Ithaca Area Waste Water Treatment. This is a joint award from the CLWN and IO.

8. SWCD provide an educational tour.

- Not held this year.

Exotic, Invasive, Introduced and Nuisance Species Management

1. Continue existing County aquatic vegetation control program utilizing FLOWPA and County funds.

- SWCD mechanically harvested aquatic vegetation from Hoopes Park Pond (30 wet tons, ~11.4 lbs of phosphorus removed), Owasco Lake (750 wet tons, ~285 lbs of phosphorus removed), Cayuga Lake (480 tons, ~182.4 lbs of phosphorus removed), Little Sodus Bay (470 tons, ~178.6 lbs of phosphorus removed), Otter Lake (30 tons, ~11.4 lbs of phosphorus removed) and Lake Como (140 tons, ~53.2 lbs of phosphorus removed). FLOWPA provided \$32,500 to this program.

2. Continue aquatic weed control program in Duck Lake including herbicide applications and use of harvester.

- The Duck Lake Association treated 49 acres of Duck Lake with Navigate in mid-May.

3. Monitor and attempt control of exotic, introduced and invasive species before they become established. For example, conduct hand pulling of water chestnut in Sterling Creek.

- CNYRPDB published “The Current State of Aquatic Invasive Species in Central New York” in March.
- CCE organized a hand pulling of water chestnut and frogbit in Sterling Creek on June 27th. SWCD provided staff and canoes for this event. Fourteen people attended from SWCD, CCE, Parks and Planning.
- CCE organized a hand pulling of water chestnut in Cross Lake on August 7th.

4. Provide education on exotic, introduced and invasive species to attempt to prevent their spread into Cayuga County waterbodies.

- CCE articles in the CCE newsletter, Ecologic. They include “Are They Here Yet? Invasive Aquatic Species” (Spring 2007) and “Local vs. Invasive” (Summer 2007).
- CLWN had an article in Cayuga Lake Watershed Network News, Summer 2007, “Solving Weed Problems Takes a Watershed.”
- CLWN held an aquatic plant training in Union Springs on July 25th.
- CLWN and the WQMA have received a FLOWPA Special Projects Fund award for “Weed Management Education for Lakeshore Property Owners in the Central Finger Lakes.”
- Sterling Nature Center has an educational exhibit on water chestnut in the interpretive building.
- CLWN Newsletter articles and website keeps people informed on new invasive species and issues such as the VHS virus.

4. Maintain the Weeds Watch Out! Program website.

- CCE and Planning maintain and update the Weeds Watch Out! website.

5. Continue to participate on CNY Water Chestnut Task Force to assist region in formulating strategies and solutions to water chestnut problems.

- CLWN, CNYRPDB and a CCE educator participate in this group.

- 6. Provide educational materials about how to put in intake pipes and treatment methods for dealing with zebra mussels in intake pipes.**
 - Health will provide educational materials at the request of landowners about how to put in intake pipes and treatment methods for dealing with zebra mussels in intake pipes.
- 7. Search for funding to inventory, monitor and control exotic, introduced and invasive species in Cayuga County waterbodies and watersheds.**
 - Ongoing.
- 8. Search for funding to support education on exotic, introduced and invasive species.**
 - Ongoing
- 9. Miscellaneous**
 - WQMA members participate in the Finger Lakes Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management (PRISM). CNYRPDB representative serves as chair of the Finger Lakes PRISM Aquatic Species sub-committee.

Fish and Wildlife Management

- 1. Request that the NYSDEC contact the Duck Lake Association before any stocking is conducted to discuss why stocking is being conducted and to get their input.**
 - Planning spoke to NYSDEC Fisheries representative.
- 2. Miscellaneous**
 - CCE stocked brown trout with NYSDEC on April 12th in Salmon Creek and on April 13th in North Brook and Owasco Inlet.
 - CNYRPDB, CCE and Planning participated on the Southeast Lake Ontario Watershed Action Plan working group to develop action steps for the Land Use/Forestry/Water Quality recommendations from the Southeast Lake Ontario basin section of New York State's Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy.

Forestry (Includes Community and Urban Forestry)

- 1. Coordinate forestry information and technical services with landowners.**
 - CCE educator assists in coordinating Cayuga County Master Forest Owner Volunteer landowner visits and keeps volunteers current with on-going forestry information.
- 2. Provide forest landowners with information about available resources & services that are available for forest management; information & training on proper forest management practices; and other topics.**
 - CCE has information available upon request.
- 3. Work with Grow Auburn's Trees to implement an urban forestry education program for City residents.**
 - Not completed.
- 4. Encourage development of forest plans.**
 - Ongoing.

5. Encourage owners to apply for cost-sharing forest management programs.

- Ongoing.

6. Encourage towns and villages to apply to grant programs for tree planting.

- Ongoing.

7. Provide a model town or village tree ordinance.

- Available at Planning.

8. Miscellaneous

- Trade-a-Tree program where SWCD allows residents to bring their Christmas trees to the Natural Resource Center to be chipped into mulch, which is used in public works projects and is available to the public. In return, residents receive a voucher for a Norway Spruce transplant. Event is funded by Planning and promoted by CCE.
- SWCD conducted wood recycling for the City of Auburn, Cayuga County Highway Department, Town of Owasco, Town of Sennett, Town of Fleming, Town of Brutus, New York State Department of Transportation, and NYSDEC.

Hazardous Materials

1. Update the County's watershed database with the updated NYSDEC database on bulk petroleum storage facilities.

- Planning received the updated NYSDEC database in January.

2. Assist with household hazardous waste collection event offerings.

- CCE articles in the CCE newsletter, Ecologic: "Electronics Collection Approaches" (Spring 2007) "HHW Approaches" (Summer 2007) and "Household Hazardous Waste Day Approaches" (Fall 2007).
- CCE Eco-Talk article in The Citizen, entitled "Recycling Tires Benefits Everyone" (June 11th).
- CCE, Planning and SWCD assisted with the Electronics and Propane Tank Collection Day in May, the Tire Event in June, and the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event in October.

3. Provide opportunities to reduce hazardous material in the County.

- Electronics and Propane Tank Collection Event was held on May 19th and 18,944 pounds of electronics were collected. This included 108 televisions and 133 computer monitors. 152 propane tanks were also collected.
- Tire Collection Event was 2007 was held on June 16th. Approximately 2,600 tires collected and 40 pounds of lead were collected.
- Household Hazardous Waste Event Held October 13th with 557 households participating for a total of 41,105 pounds of chemicals collected. 27,414 pounds of electronics were also collected which included 325 TVs and CRTs. Largest fall event in 10 year history.
- CCE and Planning participate in the RecycleFirst cellular phone recycling program and printer cartridge recycling program. RecycleFirst provides free recycling plus CCE gets a small deposit for solid waste and watershed protection. The cartridge recycling collection boxes are located in 32 locations in the County and postage paid envelopes for recycling have been provided.
- SWCD applied for an Agricultural Nonpoint Source Abatement and Control Program Round 14 Grant for an on farm fuel containment vessel

- 4. Provide information on proper use and disposal of household chemicals and other hazardous material.**
 - CCE provided Eco-Talk articles in the newspaper, The Citizen: “Making Sense of Solid Waste” (Feb 12th), “Spring Cleaning Made Easy” (April 30th) and “Get Rid of Home’s Harmful Waste” (Sept 24th).
 - CCE and Planning update the Cayuga County Solid Waste Management Program Office webpage which includes information on proper use and disposal of household chemicals and other hazardous materials.
 - CCE and Planning provided information in the litter bags distributed during collection events.
 - Planning provided the federal guidelines for proper disposal of prescription drugs to attendees of the March WQMA meeting and linked this information to the Cayuga County Solid Waste Management Program website.
 - CCE provides year-round information to county residents.

- 5. Promote and provide education on pest management practices that reduce pesticide use in the County, including integrated pest management and non-toxic pest management.**
 - CCE Master Gardeners provide Integrated Pest Management information through their gardening hotline.
 - CCE Soybean Rust IPM program involved a tactical agriculture team that provided guidance to six Cayuga County farms during the summer of 2007.
 - CNYRPDB maintains a Pesticide Awareness page on their regional website containing recommendations on pesticide precautions and links to information for making informed decisions regarding pesticide use on lawns and in homes.

- 6. Educate to change people’s attitudes about the “perfect lawn.”**
 - CCE provided Eco-Talk articles in the newspaper, The Citizen: “Healthy Lawns Take Work” (May 21st) and “Getting to the Root of the Problem” (Nov 5th).
 - CCE article in the Fall 2007 CCE newsletter, Ecologic, entitled “P-Project: Lawns and Water Quality Co-existing.”

- 7. Conduct education programs to help homeowners prevent water and groundwater contamination.**
 - CCE article in the Fall 2007 CCE newsletter, Ecologic, entitled “P-Project: Lawns and Water Quality Co-existing.”
 - “Rain Gardens: A Beautiful Step for Clean Water” training held on May 10th at CCE and conducted by CLWN.

- 8. Provide education on petroleum spill prevention and what to do in the event of a spill or a leak.**
 - CCE provided an educational column in the newspaper, The Citizen, entitled “Fueling a Boat Requires Know-How” (June 18th).

- 9. Search for funding for educational programs on yard, garden and household chemicals.**
 - FLOWPA funds were utilized to conduct P-Project work. Future FLOWPA funds will continue the program.

- 10. Search for funding to provide household hazardous waste, pesticide and other hazardous materials collection days.**
 - Ongoing

Highway Deicing

- 1. Explore funding options for those that need salt storage structures and contained mixing areas.**
 - WQMA provided a letter of support to Planning for a Cayuga County Highway and Town of Sempronius Shared Municipal Services Incentive grant proposal for a shared salt storage facility in Sempronius.

Highway Maintenance

- 1. Continue hydroseeding assistance programs for local governments in critical areas to reduce roadbank erosion and promote the program to increase use throughout the County.**
 - SWCD hydroseeding included work on Appletree Point Road in the Skaneateles Lake Watershed.
 - CCSWCD worked with Auburn Sand & Stone to close an eleven acre sand and gravel mine in the Town of Sennett.
 - SWCD conducted a two acre mine reclamation for the Town of Sempronius.
 - SWCD conducted all critical area seedings for the Regional Methane Digester.
 - SWCD conducted road ditch seedings for Cayuga County Highway Department throughout the Towns of Brutus, Fleming, Locke, Moravia, Niles, Owasco, Sempronius, and Sennett.
 - SWCD implemented Proper Road ditch maintenance for 25 acres in 2007.
 - SWCD conducted road ditch seedings for New York State Department of Transportation including portions of 5 & 20, Route 34B, Route 90, Route 370, Route 38, and Route 41A.
- 2. Encourage use of structural controls of sediments on steep roads, roadbanks and in high flow ditches and/or examine ways to prevent roadside ditches from deepening and eroding.**
 - SWCD installed a tile drainage system and three water bars at the New Hope Mill on Glen Haven Road in the Town of Niles. The project will help prevent further erosion to the streambank and to the driveway to reduce the amount of sediment entering the stream.
 - A large volume of rain combined with snow melt caused a retention basin to overflow and wash over Plunkie Point Road in the Town of Niles. A large portion of the bank was eroded that adjoins a tributary to Skaneateles Lake. The SWCD constructed a stone wall above an existing wall to lessen the steepness of the bank slope & increase the stability of the slope. Also, the main overflow channel from the road was lined with large stone to dissipate the energy from future water flows.
- 3. Provide an annual informational report for highway superintendents and workers.**
 - SWCD staff attended the Cayuga County Highway meetings and gave verbal reports to Highway Superintendents.
- 4. 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.**
 - SWCD conducted critical area seedings for permanent vegetative cover of four acres in the Towns of Throop, Scipio, Brutus, and Owasco.
 - SWCD implemented 5.5 acres of vegetative cover in the Towns of Sennett, Sempronius, and Brutus.
- 5. Additional**
 - Christopher Covert from the New York State Department of Transportation presented information on road bank and road ditch practices and methods at the April meeting of the WQMA.

Lakeshore Erosion

- 1. Provide information and assistance to communities with lakeshore erosion issues.**
 - Planning hosts a website “Green Thumbs for Blue Water” which is educational program for riparian and lakeshore residents who are concerned about erosion and water quality.

Lake Level

- 1. Continue to educate Owasco Lake watershed residents on what to expect in regards to lake level, the hydrologic system, the “rule curve,” downstream uses of water, and why different people want different lake levels.**
 - Information available on WQMA website.
- 2. Encourage local officials who are responsible for Owasco Lake level management to continue working with others in their region to coordinate flood period discharges (i.e. Balance lake impacts, downstream impacts, etc).**
 - Ongoing.
- 3. Search for funding to conduct a hydrologic study of Duck Lake, to confirm the boundaries of the Duck Lake Watershed, and to install an official gauge on Duck Lake.**
 - Ongoing.

Lake Water Diversions

- 1. Request that any water diversions in, near or upstream of the Duck Lake Watershed be subject to a formal public comment process, especially those that require local, state and federal permits.**
 - None to date.

Land Use

- 1. Educate planning boards about land use issues such as drainage, buffer zones, stormwater runoff, PDR, etc.**
 - Planning gave a presentation to the Cayuga County Planning Board in June which included information on watershed management planning, Lake Como watershed management plan development, Owasco Lake tributary assessment and management plan development, Stormwater Phase II Rules and Regulations, phosphorus monitoring and education, the Groton Wastewater Treatment Plant, and the Owasco Lake Watershed Inspector.
- 2. Provide assistance to towns and villages to design, adopt and/or implement standards and guidelines; provide model ordinances, regulations, standards, and guidelines.**
 - Planning and CNYRPDB have provided assistance to following towns and villages as they have developed, are developing, or have discussed possibly developing comprehensive plans: Sterling/Fair Haven, Locke, Niles, Scipio, Sempronius and Victory.
- 3. Review and update the webpage directory of zoning provisions and other development regulations of towns and villages.**
 - Planning reviews and updates this webpage directory.

- 4. CNYRPDB & Planning, in conjunction with the IAGT and the Genesee Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council, will evaluate the impacts of future development, urban sprawl and changing land uses on municipalities within the Owasco Lake Watershed and throughout the Finger Lakes region. Technical assistance, staff support and guidance will be provided to municipalities seeking tools and techniques to effectively control the impacts of development, sprawl & changing land uses.**
- The CNYRPDB began working with the Town of Niles Comprehensive Plan Committee to develop a comprehensive plan. A series of public visioning sessions were held, in addition to a meeting focused on renewable energy technologies in the region. This Committee conducted a community survey and received 25% (225 out of 902) of the surveys back. This information will be used to help determine the projects/initiatives that the Town will undertake in the next few years.
 - The CNYRPDB began working with the Town of Victory Comprehensive Plan Committee to develop a comprehensive plan. A series of public meetings were held to discuss the current zoning regulations, changes in land use and opportunities for economic development and recreation. A community survey was conducted and 24% (175 out of 725) of the surveys were returned. The information will be used to help determine the projects/initiatives that the Town will undertake in the next few years.
 - The CNYRPDB began working with the Town of Scipio Comprehensive Plan Committee to develop a comprehensive plan. Staff met with the Committee to determine the scope of the project and create a community survey. The Community Survey will be distributed in January/February 2008.
 - The CNYRPDB continues to work with the Town of Locke Planning Board to revise their Long Term Plan and move toward adopting it by resolution.
 - Planning continues to work with the Town of Sterling/Village of Fair Haven Comprehensive Planning Committee to develop a joint comprehensive plan for the communities.
 - The CNYRPDB and Planning continue to provide technical assistance to all of the communities in Cayuga County, upon request.

Monitoring

- 1. Continue water sampling of Cayuga Lake, Duck Lake & Lake Como under Citizens Lake Assessment Program (CSLAP) through FLOWPA funding.**
 - CSLAP completed for 2007 for two sites in Cayuga Lake (Aurora and Union Springs), one site in Duck Lake and one site in Lake Como with FLOWPA funding.
- 2. Continue monitoring of Dutch Hollow Brook and Owasco Inlet utilizing FLOWPA funds.**
 - Planning continued the monitoring of Dutch Hollow Brook and the Owasco Inlet. The monitoring stations monitor level and rainfall. Samples were collected during rainfall and baseflow events to analyze for total phosphorus, soluble reactive phosphorus and total suspended solids.
- 3. Continue Owasco Lake tributary phosphorus monitoring and begin Duck Lake phosphorus monitoring utilizing FLOWPA funds.**
 - CCE and Planning sampled Duck Lake three times over the summer after storm events and during baseflow for phosphorus.
 - CCE sampled Owasco Lake tributaries for nitrates as well as phosphorus three times over the summer and fall during storm events.
- 4. Continue work on the monitoring buoy for Owasco Lake with IAGT.**
 - OWLA works with IAGT to run a monitoring buoy on Owasco Lake. Data can be found at www.ourlake.org.

5. **Continue coliform monitoring of public bathing beaches.**
 - Health continued coliform monitoring of bathing beaches located on Owasco Lake. Numerous samples were collected from the bathing beaches in 2007.
6. **Continue coliform monitoring of Owasco Lake.**
 - CCE assisted OWLA in retrieving the samples for their Owasco Lake coliform sampling program.
 - CCE assisted OWLA with coliform monitoring of Dutch Hollow Brook after the spill at Twin Birch Farms.
7. **Conduct coliform monitoring in Duck Lake.**
 - The Duck Lake Association sampled Duck Lake for coliform.
8. **Additional**
 - Health sampled Salmon Creek once during July to test for fecal coliform, E. coli, nitrite, nitrate, ammonia and total phosphorus.
 - WQMA members met with representatives from the Town of Fleming in July to discuss a possible sampling program for streams in the Town of Fleming.
 - WQMA members met with Town of Sterling residents to discuss a possible sampling program for Sterling Creek.

Nutrient Management

1. **Maintain P-Project website.**
 - P-Project website is updated and maintained by CCE and Planning.
2. **Encourage the use of and assist in the development of nutrient management plans for golf courses, developments, parks, etc.**
 - SWCD is working on a Nutrient Management Plan for Fillmore Glen Golf Course in Moravia that is to be completed by April of 2008.
3. **Educate the public and developers on how to reduce nutrient introduction to waterbodies.**
 - “Rain Gardens: A Beautiful Step for Clean Water” training held on May 10th at CCE and conducted by Sharon Anderson of the CLWN.
 - CCE articles in the CCE newsletter, Ecologic: “Fighting Stormwater: Rain Gardens” (Spring 2007), “The P-Project” (Summer 2007), and “P-Project: Lawns and Water Quality Co-existing” (Fall 2007).
4. **Identify areas that contribute high external loadings of phosphorus and target areas for education and protection efforts utilizing FLOWPA funds.**
 - To further define the data and determine high external loadings of phosphorus, CCE and Planning conducted total phosphorus testing on tributaries to Owasco Lake and Duck Lake.
5. **Search for funding for nutrient education.**
 - FLOWPA funds were utilized to provide the P-Project which provides education on phosphorus. Future FLOWPA funds will continue this education.
6. **Additional**
 - A. Martin Petrovic, a Professor of Turfgrass Science with the Department of Horticulture at Cornell University presented “Turfgrass and Phosphorus Runoff” at the April WQMA meeting.

Private and Municipal Wastewater Treatment

- 1. Continue to implement the Cayuga County Sanitary Code and provide information to others as needed.**
 - Cato, Scipio (Cayuga watershed), Sterling (outside Little Sodus Bay watershed) and properties located within 500 feet of Owasco Lake and Little Sodus Bay but not lakefront were inspected in 2007.

- 2. Provide input to the NYSDEC regarding the impending upgrade of the Groton Wastewater Treatment Plant and the development of Groton's new SPDES permit.**
 - The Cayuga County Legislature passed a resolution stating their opposition to the NYSDEC's proposed permit limit for phosphorus discharge from the upgraded Village of Groton Wastewater Treatment Plant.
 - WQMA sent a letter to the City of Auburn and all Cayuga County Towns and Villages that are in the Owasco Lake Watershed or who receive their drinking water from Owasco Lake to pass a resolution stating their opposition to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's proposed permit limit for phosphorus discharge from the upgraded Village of Groton's Wastewater Treatment Plant.
 - Developed a poster on the WQMA's stand on the Village of Groton Wastewater Treatment Plant issue, which was shown at the FLOWPA "Unifying Economic Development and the Environment" conference in September.
 - WQMA sent letters to the Regional Director and Regional Engineer.
 - WQMA members responded to a letter from the NYSDEC regarding work the NYSDEC felt was necessary to conduct before they felt that they could examine reducing the proposed permit limit for phosphorus discharge from the upgraded Village of Groton Wastewater Treatment Plant.

- 3. Encourage the adoption of comprehensive 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.**
 - Planning and CNYRPBD have provided assistance to towns and villages as they have developed or are developing their comprehensive plans.

- 4. Provide educational literature that provides examples of good septic system and holding tank use and maintenance.**
 - Health provides Septic System Maintenance folders/information to homeowners that install new septic systems.
 - CCE provided Lake Como residents with Septic System Maintenance folders/information.

- 5. Distribute a septic maintenance log sheet for homeowners.**
 - CCE provided Lake Como residents with Septic System Maintenance folders/information.

- 6. Explore what grants & loans are available for water & waste disposal systems for rural communities.**
 - Ongoing.

- 7. Explore federal or state assistance to replace or upgrade septic systems of people with limited incomes.**
 - Ongoing. Currently limited to funding available through Cayuga County Homsite.

Public Access and Use

- 1. Encourage low impact activities like hiking, canoeing and fishing instead of motorized use.**
 - WQMA passed a motion to take the position that the WQMA is opposed to a gas lease in Owasco Flats due to potential environmental disruption at the drilling site(s) and to get to/from drilling sites.
- 2. Continue to work with Finger Lakes Land Trust and NYSDEC on discussions of Owasco Flats future uses and access.**
 - CNYRPDB funded the “Owasco Flats Conservation Planning and Stakeholder Survey Project,” which was conducted by the Finger Lakes Land Trust. WQMA members participated in this project. The CNYRPDB has also worked with the Finger Lakes Land Trust to develop a similar project for the Skaneateles Highlands area (southern portion of lake).
 - WQMA submitted a grant application to the FLOWPA Special Projects Fund for the project “Feasibility Study and Preliminary Cost Benefit Analysis for the Owasco Inlet Channel and Owasco Flats Wetlands Restoration.”
- 3. Miscellaneous**
 - Parks installed two handicapped parking areas near the canoe launch and boardwalk at Owasco Flats. They also installed large stone barriers to prohibit vehicular access to sensitive areas of Owasco Flats.
 - AmeriCorps members and SWCD staff constructed a log crib at Howland Island State Management Area in the Town of Montezuma on the Seneca River. The crib will increase accessibility for recreational use, improve the aesthetics of Howland Island, and restore aquatic habitat.
 - SWCD staff constructed a handicap ramp at Camp Columbus on Owasco Lake.

Solid Waste Issues

- 1. Discourage open burning and encourage alternatives such as pay by the bag programs for residential solid waste disposal.**
 - Educational materials available upon request from CCE, Health and Planning.
- 2. Survey towns and villages in Cayuga County for their municipal codes and ordinances for roadside and/or illegal dumping.**
 - Not completed.
- 3. Conduct cleanup of Fall Creek.**
 - CLWN Co-sponsored the Fall Creek Cleanup where volunteers removed trash from the creek shores from the source at Lake Como to its outlet at Stewart Park on May 5th.
- 4. Conduct cleanup activities at Sterling Nature Center.**
 - Parks held cleanups at Sterling Nature Center in the Spring and Fall.
- 5. Educate on proper yard waste and pet waste disposal.**
 - CCE Eco-Talk articles in The Citizen: “Healthy Lawn Takes Work” (May 27th) and “Getting to the Root of the Problem” (Nov 5th).
- 6. Continue to monitor inactive waste sites as requested.**
 - No requests.

Spring Quality

- 1. Search for funding for groundwater studies for Duck Lake.**
 - Ongoing.
- 2. Educate people in the Duck Lake Watershed on how to protect groundwater.**
 - Ongoing.

Stormwater and Sediment Control

- 1. Continue to work closely with the DEC on the Phase II Stormwater Rules & Regulations. Provide assistance for towns and villages to comply with the Phase II Stormwater Rules and Regulations.**
 - SWCD contracts with the NYSDEC to help enforce the Phase II Stormwater Rules and Regulations. SWCD has three Certified Professional Erosion and Sediment Control (CPESC) to conduct site inspections at the request of the NYSDEC.
 - Planning provides information upon request. The City of Auburn and the Town of Brutus requested information in 2007.
- 2. Provide education to local decision makers, planning and zoning boards, Code Enforcement Officers, Highway Superintendents, residents, WQMA, and others about the Phase II Stormwater Rules & Regulations and the use of recognized BMPs to protect water quality.**
 - Planning provided a presentation to the Cayuga County Planning Board in June which provided information on the Phase II Stormwater Rules and Regulations.
 - Planning provides information to the Towns and Villages on informational workshops and classes on Phase II Stormwater Rules and Regulations.
 - Free workshop for municipal officials entitled “Phase II Stormwater Construction Regulations” sponsored by CNYRPDB and presented by NYSDEC held June 4th in Clay.
 - Free workshop for construction contractors entitled “Erosion and Sediment Control” sponsored by CNYRPDB and presented by NYSDEC held July 13th in Clay.
 - Certified Professional in Erosion and Sediment Control (CPESC) training program sponsored and organized by CNYRPDB on September 27; CPESC certification test organized and sponsored by CNY RPDB on October 24.
 - CNYRPDB maintains an on-line resource library and informational website at www.cnyrpdb.org/stormwater-phase2.
 - CNY RPDB worked with CPESC, Inc. and NYSDEC to sponsor and hold a regional Certified Professional Erosion and Sediment Control (CPESC) training program on September 27th and a CPESC Certification Examination on October 24th.
- 3. Encourage local governments to create & enforce their own stormwater management and erosion control ordinances.**
 - CNYRPDB provided copies of model erosion and sediment control local laws to municipalities and provided more direct assistance with local law analysis upon request.
- 4. Continue to conduct stormwater control projects and examine the use of new methods as demonstration projects.**
 - SWCD, Planning and Parks continue work on the stormwater management project at Emerson Park. SWCD made more progress on this project over the summer. Emerson Park personnel have been maintaining the pond drain and swale banks.

5. Provide model site design guidelines for contractors.

- Certified Professional in Erosion and Sediment Control (CPESC) staff member provided technical assistance for pre-construction site review for several contractors in Cayuga County.

6. Continue the Cayuga County Stormwater Management Projects Inspection and Monitoring Program

- The Certified Professional in Erosion and Sediment Control (CPESC) who conducted this program left the SWCD. The hydrolab and equipment was given to the Owasco Lake Watershed Inspector for use while SWCD worked on getting staff that have their CPESC.
- Three SWCD staff members were certified in Erosion & Sediment Control in November of 2007.
- CPESCs have conducted four site inspections at the request of NYSDEC.

Streambanks and Stream Corridor Management

1. Identify funding sources for comprehensive streambank restoration & management programs. Stabilize severely eroding streams using fluvial geomorphology and other bioengineering methods where feasible. Reevaluate streambank erosion assessments and search for funding for implementation.

- SWCD received a Non-Agriculture Non-Point Source Abatement and Control Grant for the Cayuga County Organic Residue Recycling Project. The SWCD will stabilize critical areas including road banks and ditches, construction sites, and stream banks to reduce storm runoff. This three year program will stabilize over 7 acres of critical areas. This is a \$95,000 grant with \$105,046 in local match.
- SWCD received a Non-Agriculture Non-Point Source Abatement and Control Grant for the Owasco Inlet Streambank Stabilization. The SWCD will stabilize streambanks along the Owasco Inlet with rock riprap, willow plantings, and hydroseeding to reduce erosion and restore aquatic habitat. This is a \$71,287 grant with \$71,287 in local match.
- SWCD received a Non-Agriculture Non-Point Source Abatement and Control Grant for the Putnam Brook Streambank Stabilization. SWCD will implement stream bank stabilization and debris removal on Putnam Brook to reduce erosion and restore aquatic habitat. This is a \$18,885 grant with \$18,885 in local match.

2. 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.

- NRCS submitted eight applications to the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) in 2007, all of which have been approved at the state and local Farm Service Agency (FSA) offices. NRCS and SWCD have received several additional inquiries from the FSA. Site visits are being completed by NRCS and SWCD field staff which should result in more contracts in the near future. In CREP, farmers receive payments from the FSA after site approval from NRCS for putting buffers near a stream adjacent to pasture or croplands.
- SWCD provides information on Graze NY. In this program, farmers next to waterbodies can only receive money if they maintain a 30 foot buffer from the fence to the waterbody.

3. Provide model buffer and stream corridor protection ordinances to the municipalities.

- None to date.

- 4. Educate landowners on what debris can be removed from streams and how to remove it properly.**
 - Provided information upon request from a County Village regarding who is responsible for removing gravel bars from a local waterbody.
- 5. Conduct tours, put up signs and provide information on demonstration projects for streambank erosion and stream buffering.**
 - None to date.
- 6. Train staff in remedial fluvial geomorphology and conduct pilot projects on tributaries to Owasco Lake, particularly Dutch Hollow Brook and the Inlet.**
 - None to date.
- 7. Miscellaneous**
 - SWCD AmeriCorps members hand placed rock along each side of the outlet for Hoopes Pond in the City of Auburn. 140 feet of the channel was stabilized to help prevent erosion.
 - SWCD completed three streambank stabilization sites on North Brook in the Town of Brutus for a total of 200 feet.
 - SWCD conducted critical area seedings for streambank and shoreline protection of 3 1/3 acres in Owasco Inlet, Morse Creek, North Brook, Putnam Brook, Dutch Hollow Brook, & Hemlock Creek.

Waterborne Illness

- 1. Continue coliform monitoring of public bathing beaches.**
 - Ongoing during the summer.
- 2. Provide information as needed to residents using untreated lake water as a drinking water source and encourage them to install some type of treatment system to disinfect their drinking water.**
 - Health continues to provide information at the request of residents using untreated lake water as a drinking water source and encourage them to install some type of treatment system to disinfect and filter their drinking water.
- 3. Provide educational materials on waterborne illnesses.**
 - Available upon request.
- 4. Use Best Management Practices (BMPs) and Environmental Protection Agency Regulations to reduce contamination from pastures.**
 - SWCD provided 100 acres of pasture seeding to re-establish pastures. Six total farms in the Towns of Niles, Summerhill, Sempronius, Locke and Conquest. Four farms were in the Owasco Lake Watershed, one in Cayuga Lake Watershed, and one in the Seneca River Watershed.
- 5. Continue to work on the Emerson Park swale and pond coliform issue.**
 - SWCD made more progress on this project over the summer. Emerson Park personnel have been maintaining the pond drain and swale banks.
- 6. Continue geese harassment program at Emerson Park utilizing FLOWPA and County funds.**
 - SWCD conducts this program with the assistance of Parks security personnel.
 - SWCD and the Owasco Lake Watershed Inspector analyzed the geese harassment program and presented the results at the November WQMA meeting.

- 7. Continue education on the problems caused by feeding ducks and geese.**
 - Ongoing.