

Cayuga County Water Quality Management Agency

2009 Work Plan

Approved 3/5/09

2009 WQMA Membership

Chair: Bruce Natale

Vice-Chair: Gary Duckett

Cayuga County Legislature's Environmental Advisors:

Director of Cayuga County Planning and Economic Development
Director of Cayuga County Environmental Health
Director of Cayuga County Parks and Trails
Director of Cayuga County Soil and Water Conservation District
Cayuga County Solid Waste Management Program Administrator
Cayuga County Cooperative Extension Executive Director

Stephen Lynch
Eileen O'Connor
Gary Duckett
Ron Podolak
Bruce Natale
Doug Ververs

Non-County, Local Officials

Town of Owasco
City of Auburn
Cayuga County Association of Town Supervisors
Cayuga County Association of Villages

Edward Wagner
Bruce Ross
Keith Batman
Harry Hinman

Representatives from Waterbody Associations in Cayuga County

Cayuga Lake Watershed Network
Duck Lake Association
Lake Como Association
Owasco Watershed Lake Association
Tri-County Skaneateles Lake Pure Waters Association

Jim Young
Dale Powell
Barb Harvey
John Corcoran
Bill Hecht

Acronyms and Abbreviations

CCE: Cayuga County Cornell Cooperative Extension
 Cayuga Lake RPP: Cayuga Lake Watershed Restoration and Protection Plan
 CLWN: Cayuga Lake Watershed Network
 CNY RPDB: Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board
 City: City of Auburn
 DEC: New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
 Duck: Duck Lake Association
 FLOWPA: Finger Lakes Lake Ontario Watershed Protection Alliance
 FLI: Finger Lakes Institute
 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
 IO: Cayuga Lake Watershed Intermunicipal Organization
 OWLA: Owasco Watershed Lake Association
 OLWIP: Owasco Lake Watershed Inspection Program
 Parks: Cayuga County Parks and Trails Commission
 Planning: Cayuga County Department of Planning and Economic Development
 SWCD: Cayuga County Soil and Water Conservation District
 SWMO: Cayuga County Solid Waste Management Office
 WQMA: Water Quality Management Agency

WQMA Major Projects for 2009

Action	Responsible Organizations	Watershed
Revise and follow the process to officially adopt the WQMA By-Laws	WQMA	All
Update the WQMA Strategy.	WQMA	All
Participate in the Owasco Lake Watershed Inspector re-negotiation process.	WQMA	Owasco Lake
Develop templates for stormwater ordinances for Cayuga County municipalities.	WQMA	Owasco Lake
Develop templates for steep slope ordinances for Cayuga County municipalities.	WQMA	All

WQMA Administration

Action	Responsible Organizations	Watershed
Maintain the WQMA website.	WQMA	All

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

Program	Responsible Organizations	Watershed
Upgrade the Owasco Inlet Monitoring Station to USGS standards.	Planning	Owasco Lake
Continue monitoring of Dutch Hollow Brook and Owasco Inlet.	Planning	Owasco Lake
Continue water sampling of County Lakes with the Citizens Statewide Lake Assessment Program (CSLAP).	Duck, CLWN, Como	Duck Lake, Cayuga Lake, Lake Como

Finger Lakes Lake Ontario Watershed Protection Alliance (FOLLOWPA) Funded Projects (cont.)

Program	Responsible Organizations	Watershed
Continue the nutrient monitoring and education program which includes Owasco Lake tributary nitrate and phosphorus monitoring and Duck Lake phosphorus monitoring. Also includes the P-Project phosphorus education program.	CCE, Planning, Duck	Owasco Lake, Duck Lake and others
Develop a model citizen stream sampling program.	CCE	Owasco Lake
Continue to have Cayuga County certified inspectors conduct septic system inspections as required in the Cayuga County Sanitary Code.	Health	All
Continue to remove nuisance and invasive aquatic vegetation by mechanical harvesting.	SWCD	All
Conduct education on invasive species county-wide. Conduct hand pulling of water chestnut on Sterling Creek, Cross Lake and other waterbodies in Cayuga County as needed.	CCE, Planning, Parks, SWCD	All
Educate municipalities on Phase II Stormwater Rules and Regulations and stormwater management.	Planning	All
Continue work on the Owasco Flats Special Project Fund project "Feasibility Study and Preliminary Cost Benefit Analysis for the Owasco Inlet Channel and Owasco Flats Wetlands Restoration."	Planning, Health	Owasco Lake

Agriculture

Action	Responsible Organizations	Watershed
Assist in the development and review of Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plans and Agricultural Environmental Management (AEM) Plans for farms.	SWCD	All
Promote and assist in the implementation of best management practices (BMPs).	SWCD	All
Encourage and assist farmers in participating in state and federal programs that relate to water quality and issues. Programs include PDR (purchase of development rights), Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP), and GrazeNY.	SWCD, CCE, NRCS, CLWN, Planning,	All
Assist with hazardous waste and pesticide collection days for farms as funding is available.	Planning, CCE, SWCD	All
Continue with the development and use of technologies to deal with agricultural waste.	SWCD	All
Continue the Lake Friendly Farms program.	CLWN	Cayuga Lake

Education

Action	Responsible Organizations	Watershed
Provide education on water, water quality, watersheds, agriculture and related issues to schools, children and adults; including use of Project WET.	CCE, Planning	All

Exotic, Invasive, Introduced and Nuisance Species Management

Action	Responsible Organizations	Watershed
Continue existing County aquatic vegetation control program utilizing FLOWPA and County funds.	SWCD	All
Continue aquatic weed control program in Duck Lake including herbicide applications and use of harvester.	Duck	Duck Lake
Monitor, educate and attempt control of exotic, introduced and invasive species before they become established. Includes maintaining the Weeds Watch Out! Program website.	CCE, Parks, Planning, CLWN	All
Participate in the CNY Water Chestnut Task Force and Finger Lakes Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management (PRISM).	CNY RPDB, CCE, CLWN	All

Forestry

Action	Responsible Organizations	Watershed
Provide forestry information and technical services for landowners.	CCE	All
Provide the Trade-A-Tree Program.	CCE, Planning, SWCD	All

Funding

Action	Responsible Organizations	Watershed
Search for funding for the actions listed in this work plan.	WQMA	All

Hazardous Materials

Action	Responsible Organizations	Watershed
Provide opportunities to reduce hazardous material in the County including household hazardous waste, tire, electronics and propane tank collections.	Planning, SWCD, CCE	All
Provide information and education on reducing the use of hazardous materials, and the proper use and disposal of household chemicals and other hazardous material.	Planning, CCE, SWCD	All
Provide education on petroleum spill prevention and what to do in the event of a spill or a leak, especially in regards to boats.	Planning, CCE, SWCD	All

Highway Deicing

Action	Responsible Organizations	Watershed
Provide assistance to those municipalities that need salt storage structures and contained mixing areas.	Planning	All
Educate highway departments on deicers.	Planning	All

Highway Maintenance

Action	Responsible Organizations	Watershed
Continue hydroseeding assistance programs, use of structural controls, and other methods to reduce roadbank erosion and other issues caused by highways.	SWCD	All
Provide bi-annual verbal report to the Cayuga County Highway Superintendents Association.	SWCD	All
Provide education to Highway Departments on stormwater issues and who to call if they find a problem.	SWCD, Planning	All

Land Use

Action	Responsible Organizations	Watershed
Educate planning boards about land use issues that affect water quality such as drainage, buffer zones, stormwater runoff, PDR, etc.	Planning	All
Provide assistance to towns and villages to design, adopt and/or implement standards and guidelines; provide model ordinances, regulations, standards, and guidelines that protect water quality.	Planning	All
Develop comprehensive plans for County municipalities.	Planning	All

Monitoring

Action	Responsible Organizations	Watershed
Continue water sampling of County Lakes with the Citizens Statewide Lake Assessment Program (CSLAP).	CLWN, Como, Duck	Cayuga Lake, Lake Como, Duck Lake
Upgrade the Owasco Inlet Monitoring Station to USGS standards.	Planning	Owasco Lake
Continue monitoring of Dutch Hollow Brook and Owasco Inlet.	Planning	Owasco Lake
Continue Owasco Lake tributary nitrate and phosphorus monitoring and Duck Lake phosphorus monitoring.	CCE, Planning, Duck	Owasco Lake and Duck Lake
Continue work on the monitoring buoy for Owasco Lake with IAGT.	OWLA	Owasco Lake
Continue coliform monitoring of public bathing beaches.	Health	Owasco, Cayuga and Cross Lakes
Continue coliform monitoring of County lakes.	OWLA, Duck	Owasco Lake and Duck Lake

Nutrient Management

Action	Responsible Organizations	Watershed
Provide education on nutrient management and reduction with the P-Project education program and website, as well as other educational materials.	Planning, CCE, Health	All
Encourage the use of and assist in the development of nutrient management plans for golf courses, developments, parks, etc.	SWCD	All

Private and Municipal Wastewater Treatment

Action	Responsible Organizations	Watershed
Continue to implement the Cayuga County Sanitary Code and provide information to others as needed.	Health	All
Provide input to the NYSDEC regarding the pending upgrade of the Groton Wastewater Treatment Plant and the development of Groton's new SPDES permit.	Health, Planning	Owasco Lake
Provide education on proper septic system and holding tank use and maintenance.	Health, Planning, CCE	All

Solid Waste Issues

Action	Responsible Organizations	Watershed
Provide education on solid waste issues.	Planning, CCE	All
Conduct cleanup activities in the County.	CCE, Planning, Parks, SWCD, CLWN	All

Stormwater and Sediment Control

Action	Responsible Organizations	Watershed
Provide education and assistance on the Phase II Stormwater Rules & Regulations.	SWCD, Planning	All
Provide information and education on methods and ways to reduce the quantity and improve the quality of stormwater.	CCE, Planning	All
Continue the Cayuga County Stormwater Management Projects Inspection and Monitoring Program (use of hydrolab).	SWCD	All
Assist the NYSDEC with their inspection program.	SWCD	All

Streambank, Lakeshore and Stream Corridor Management

Action	Responsible Organizations	Watershed
Conduct streambank stabilization work on tributary/tributaries to Owasco Lake and other waterbodies in Cayuga County.	SWCD, Planning	All
Continue to participate in the future work and management of the Owasco Flats and Owasco Inlet area.	WQMA	Owasco Lake
Provide education and information for farmers and landowners about the importance of buffers adjacent to streambanks, lakeshore and other sensitive areas.	SWCD, NRCS, Planning	All

Waterborne Illness

Action	Responsible Organizations	Watershed
Continue to enforce the Owasco Lake Watershed Rules and Regulations.	Health	Owasco Lake
Continue coliform monitoring of public bathing beaches.	Health	Owasco, Cayuga, and Cross Lakes
Provide information as requested to 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. Provide educational materials on waterborne illnesses.	Health	All
The Owasco Lake Watershed Inspector will make a recommendation on whether to continue the geese harassment program at Emerson Park. Parks is exploring a nuisance permit from the NYSDEC.	Parks, SWCD, OLWIP	Owasco Lake