

Program Highlights
April 2005
Esopus Creek Stream Management Plan
Jeremy E. Magliaro, Project Coordinator

The flooding event of April 2nd – 4th, 2005 has demonstrated the strong need for an effective stream management plan on the upper Esopus Creek. I have made an effort to be a presence in the watershed (post-flood) to assess flood damage, document the questions and concerns of the community, and understand the institutional dynamics of the various decision-making bodies (DEC, DEP, Town government, UCSW, USDA/NRCS, etc.). Below please find a list of accomplishments for the dates of April 11th – April 30th, 2005:

1) Public Meetings Attended:

- Legislative Public Hearing and Issues Conference on the SPDES permit for NYCDEP to discharge water from the outfall at the Shandaken Tunnel to the Esopus Creek, held April 12th at Onteora High School and April 13th at Town of Olive Public Library.
- FEMA Flood Response Informational Meeting, Village of Phoenicia Elementary School, April 25th.
- FEMA Public Assistance Meeting, Ulster County Legislative Chambers, April 28th.

2) Stakeholder Meetings:

- Tour of flood damage with Mike Malloy, Zoning Officer and Floodplain Administrator, Town of Shandaken, April 19th.
- Hazard Mitigation and post-flood stream assessment discussion with Bob Cross, Supervisor, Town of Shandaken, Town Hall, April 22nd.

3) Outreach & Education:

- Esopus Creek SCMP Educational Display and Info Packet handout, CCEUC booth at the Volunteer Showcase, Kingston Mall, Saturday, April 30th 9 am – 7 pm (project coordinator outreach from 12-4pm).

4) Job Education & Training:

- Tour of the watershed with Lydia Reidy and Susannah Erwin, April 14th.
- Esopus Creek, tributaries and Ashokan Reservoir turbidity/erosion assessment via helicopter photo-documentation with Dan Davis, DEP April 20th.
- GIS tutorial and resource review with Susannah Erwin at DEP, April 21st.

5) Equipment / Supplies: (cost details to be furnished in contract invoicing)

- 3-year lease on 4-door Jeep Liberty 4-wheel drive vehicle with 25,000 mile annual allowance (under budget).
- Kodak digital camera (under budget).
- Office Equipment & Supplies

Remarks / Other:

CCEUC Administrative Staff deserve recognition for providing an easy transition to new employment. The ability to find handicapped-accessible office space in the Phoenicia area has proven difficult to date. Immediate administrative goals for next month include procuring computer equipment and posting for the Part-Time Educator position. An ECSCMP Focus Group meeting is scheduled for May 3rd at 10 am at the Shandaken Town Hall. Updates from this meeting will be included in next month's accomplishments.