

Program Highlights
September & October 2005
Esopus Creek Stream Management Plan
Jeremy E. Magliaro, Project Coordinator

Community Educator Hired:

CCE has hired a Community Educator: Mr. Michael Courtney. Michael is originally from Walton, NY and is currently living in Ulster County. He has a Masters of Social Work, and his most recent professional experience is coordinating Youth Violence Prevention with the New Mexico Department of Health. Michael will work 30 hours per week out of the Kingston & Phoenicia offices to coordinate Education and Outreach for the project.

Education & Outreach Working Group meeting:

This Working Group consists of local citizens and representatives from regional non-profit and resource protection agencies. The goal of the group is to identify and understand stream-stewardship related information needs of the community, and to advise and assist with implementing educational delivery methods. The first meeting was held on September 15th at the CCE-Phoenicia office where participants discussed project resources and held an initial brainstorming session.

Meeting of the NYS Hydrologic and Habitat Modification (HHM) Work Group (9/20): CCE hosted this meeting at the Phoenicia office. Approximately 25 persons from around the state attended. Jeremy Magliaro gave a brief presentation on the purpose and scope of the Esopus Creek planning process. The meeting concluded with a stream restoration field trip project.

Meeting with Congressman Hinchey's Office / Army Corps of Engineers (9/14): Dan Ahouse, District Director for Mr. Hinchey coordinated a meeting with Jason Shea, U.S. ACOE, along with representatives CCE, DEP, UC Soil & Water Conservation District, and NYSDEC. The ACOE may gain authority to perform watershed planning in the Esopus basin (above and below the reservoir). Meeting participants stated that there may be opportunities for coordinated planning in the upper Esopus. The ACOE is also exploring using the potential watershed planning authority on the lower Esopus Creek (below Ashokan Reservoir)

Coordinated Planning of Phoenicia Sewer Project & Riverwalk (9/27): Project planners (Town and CCCD representatives and local interests were also present) to explore ways to assist Phoenicia in constructing a proposed riverwalk. CCE expressed possible interest for providing signage/kiosks for stream and riparian corridor interpretation. A riparian planting demonstration project through Ulster Co. SWCD was also discussed. Hazard Mitigation Planning may also be a potential source of matching project funds.

Important Upcoming Dates:

Public Information Meeting, Monday, November 14th @ 7pm in the Shandaken Town Hall Meeting Room. Refreshments will be served.