

**G. SOUTHERN TIER CENTRAL REGIONAL PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD
(STC RPDB)**

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Agency Name:

Southern Tier Central Regional Planning and Development Board
8 Denison Parkway East, Corning, New York
14830
(607) 962-5092

Title of Project:

EPA Watershed Initiative: Project #3 Supporting Local Initiatives to Tackle Stormwater Issues

Time Period of Project:

2003–2007

Project Location:

Portions of fourteen counties in the Upper Susquehanna River Basin, eleven in NY and three in PA.

Project Contact:

Jennifer Fais - Principal Planner

Project Description(s):

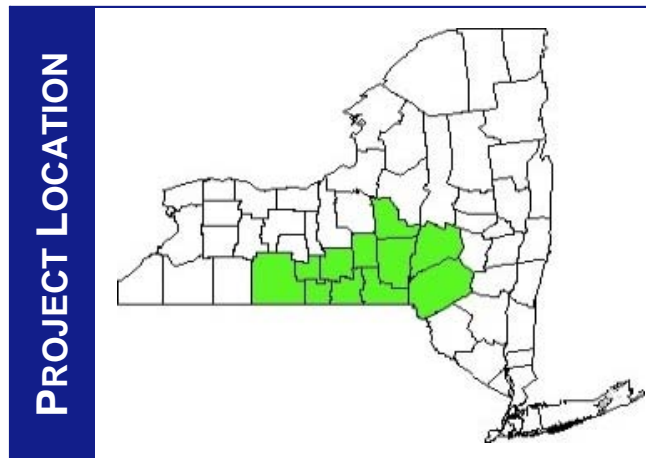
Cooperating Agencies: Upper Susquehanna Coalition (USC) and the USEPA

Purpose/Objective: To increase the understanding and use of Low Impact Development (LID) to reduce runoff and improve stormwater quality.

Methods Employed: 1.) Create a bibliography of LID designs and case studies to share with all 14 county water quality coordinating committees. 2.) Document at least one existing LID per county and showcase at a countywide educational meeting. 3.) Select up to four demonstration sites to re-design stormwater management structures into approved projects. 4.) Create a summary of LID's in the watershed.

Outputs: Four LID demonstration sites, a bibliography of LID designs and case studies with a PowerPoint presentation, and a booklet of LID's in the watershed.

Link to <http://www.u-s-c.org> and the Low Impact Development Center, <http://www.lowimpactdevelopment.org>.



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Title of Project:

Regional Water Resources Management Program

Time Period of Project:

2003–2007

Project Location:

Chemung, Schuyler and Steuben Counties

Project Contact:

Jennifer Fais - Principal Planner

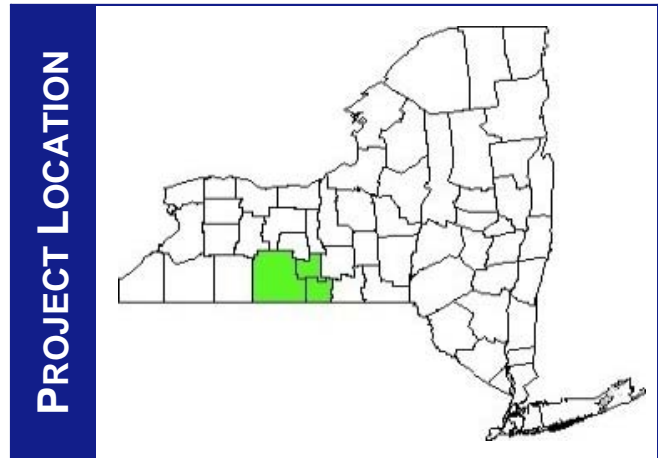
Project Description(s):

Cooperating Agencies: NYSDEC, County Water Quality Coordinating Committees (WQCC's), Chemung County Stormwater Coalition, Chemung Basin River Trail Partnership, Seneca Lake Partners in Five Counties (SLAP-5).

Purpose/Objective: To assist NYSDEC in helping designated Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) communities meet the requirements of their SPDES Phase II Construction Permits by January 1, 2008; work with WQCC's to advance their County Water Quality Strategies, undertake watershed planning and implementation; conduct water resources mapping and GIS data collection and management; undertake floodplain management; and provide outreach and education.

Phase II Stormwater: Provide staff support to the Chemung County Stormwater Coalition, a group of eleven municipalities in the Elmira Urbanized Area working to reduce and manage stormwater runoff. Reviewed the state Sample Stormwater Management and Erosion & Sediment Control local law and drafted a "trial balloon" version for consideration by the Coalition in 2006. Conducted training for municipal officials.

WQCC's: Helped Schuyler County update their Water Resources Strategy in 2006. Assisted small watershed groups in Steuben County and applied for Water Quality Improvement Program (WQIP) funding for a low



impact development project in the Town of Baldwin, Chemung County.

GIS: Created the Water Quality/Stormwater webpage on the STC website. Included are pages for each WQCC, a library of water resources data layers, and links to all related water resources groups and agencies in the region.

Watershed Planning: Co-chaired the *Chemung Basin River Trail Partnership*. Organized the Seventh Annual River Float on May 20, 2006, for local officials and residents to help them appreciate the Chemung River and its environs; completed construction of seven additional river access sites; and undertook river clean up projects.

Worked with the *Upper Susquehanna Coalition (USC)* and NYSDEC to develop the draft Chesapeake Bay Program Tributary Strategy to help communities, business, industry and agriculture meet limits for nutrients and sediment in the Susquehanna River by 2011.

Assisted *the Seneca Lake Partners in Five Counties (SLAP-5)* as they reorganized with new staffing in 2006.

Floodplain Management: Helped communities draft amendments to their floodplain management regulations; provided flood map information; reviewed development applications for projects in floodplains; and continued to serve as a Director of the Environmental Emergency Services, Inc. (EES).

Outreach and Education: Wrote "Stream Processes: A Guide to Living in Harmony with Streams" in cooperation with NYSDEC, the USC, and the Chemung County Soil and Water Conservation District.

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Title of Project:

Chesapeake Bay Program Task #5 Development of Conservation Designs

Time Period of Project:

2002–2004

Project Location:

Cortland ('03), Schuyler ('04), Steuben ('03), and Tioga ('02) Counties

Project Contact:

Jennifer Fais - Principal Planner

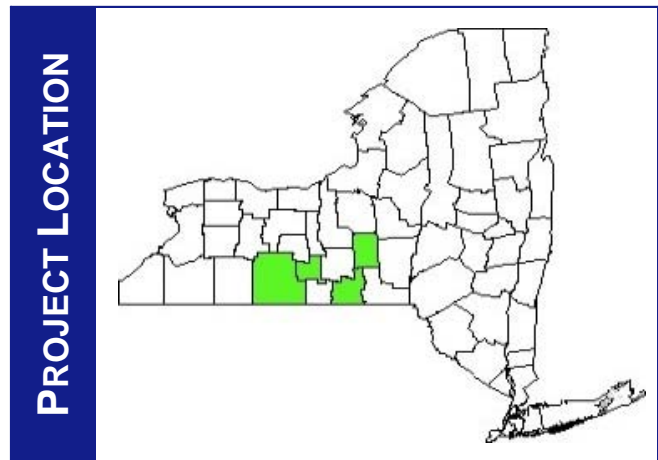
Project Description(s):

Cooperating Agencies: USEPA Chesapeake Bay Program, County Water Quality Coordinating Committees (CWQCC's), Cornell University Department of Landscape Architecture, and the Upper Susquehanna Coalition.

Purpose/Objective: to improve water quality in the Chesapeake Bay by fostering good development design.

Methods Employed: Two rural properties per county were selected as the basis for concept development designs which incorporate water quality protection elements into a layout which is also economically viable. The designs are being created by Cornell U. landscape architecture students.

Outputs: Four chapters of the Rural Design Workbook, focusing on designs created for each of the selected properties; one public presentation per county to legislators, planning board chairs, large landowners, CWQCC members, developers and interested residents; digital images of each site, site design alternatives and background drawings, and the Rural Design Showcase Presentation.



For more information, visit:

<http://www.stcplanning.org>.

Upon entering the site:

- a) Click on “Documents Library”;
- b) Then click on “Rural Design Workbook”

Additional information can be obtained by visiting the following web site links:

- EPA Chesapeake Bay Program, <http://www.chesapeakebay.net>
- Upper Susquehanna Coalition, <http://www.u-s-c.org>

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Title of Project:

Regional Water Resources Management Program

Time Period of Project:

1998–2003

Project Location:

Chemung, Schuylar and Steuben Counties

Project Contact:

Jennifer Fais - Principal Planner

Project Description(s):

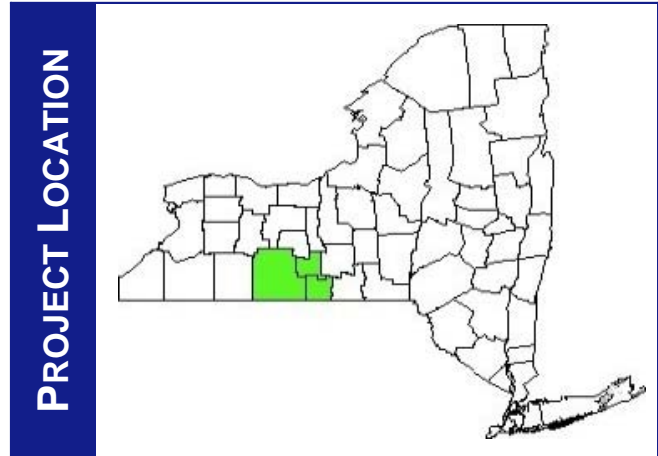
Cooperating Agencies: NYS DEC, County Water Quality Coordinating Committees (WQCCs), Chemung Basin River Trail Partnership, Cornell U. Landscape Architecture

Purpose/Objective: To assist the DEC in the preparation of a pilot Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy, work with the Chemung Basin River Trail Partnership to encourage stewardship of the Chemung Basin; develop creative rural housing/commercial design to incorporate water quality protection features, and follow up on implementation of ongoing source water protection efforts.

Pilot Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy (WRAPS):

Worked with NYS DEC, NRCS and the Upper Susquehanna Coalition to develop a strategic plan which characterizes the water quality, natural resources, flooding issues and land uses in the Chemung and Upper Susquehanna watersheds, suggests implementation measures and state/local partners to complete the work.

Chemung Basin River Trail Partnership: Helped establish the Chemung Basin River Trail Partnership, a voluntary organization of agencies, groups and residents created to improve public access to



the Chemung, Tioga, Canisteo and Cohocton Rivers for everyone’s enjoyment while promoting the protection of the watershed.

For more information, visit the Chemung Basin River Trail web site:

<http://www.chemungrivertrail.com>

Rural Design Clinic: Developed, with the assistance of twenty Cornell University landscape architecture students and professors, “showcase” concept designs for three rural properties in Steuben County which, when built, should result in water quality, stream corridor and natural resource protection as well as good economic return to the landowner.

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Title of Project:

Regional Water Resources Management Program

Time Period of Project:

1996–1998

Project Location:

Chemung, Schuyler and Steuben Counties

Project Contact:

Jennifer Fais - Principal Planner

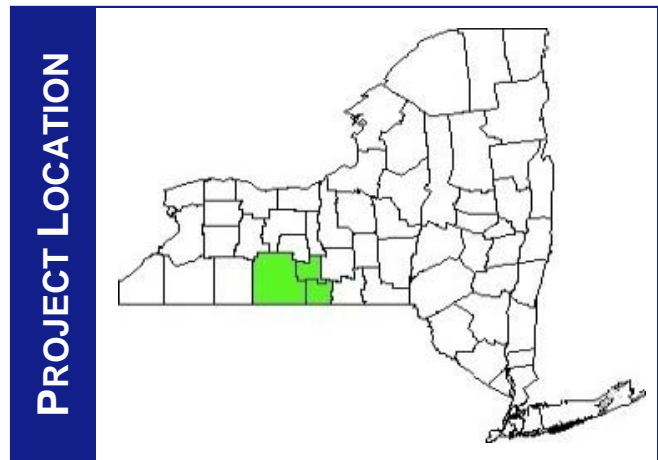
Project Description(s):

Cooperating Agencies: NYS DEC, County Water Quality Coordinating Committees (WQCCs)

Purpose/Objective: To strengthen watershed cooperation across municipal lines, provide water quality education and outreach, provide water resources mapping and assistance to WQCCs, coordinate with NYS DEC to ensure that local issues can be addressed by NYS DEC when appropriate, communicate state watershed initiatives to local water resources groups, follow up on implementation of ongoing source water protection efforts.

Watershed Planning: Provided GIS mapping and helped each WQCC prioritize watersheds; active member of the ad hoc Finger Lakes Bond Act group made up of local water resources interests committed to a cost effective expenditure of Bond Act funds in the Finger Lakes Basin; assisting in the COE Chemung River Basin Water Resources Study, a watershed analysis of flood damage correction and prevention; participation on the Statewide Wellhead Protection Coordinating Committee.

Education and Outreach: Conducted water tasting events at the Chemung and Steuben County Fairs, downlinked the “Tools for Drinking Water Protection” teleconference, hosted the Fall 1996 Con-



tractors’ Workshop on erosion and sediment control with Don Lake, presented a site design/stormwater management panel at the STC Local Government Conference, April 1997, and gave media recognition to area contractors/developers for compliance with state stormwater laws.

Source Water Implementation: Tracked the Drinking Water Protection Law through the process to ensure adoption by the City of Corning on May 5, 1997.

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Title of Project:

Source Water Protection: A Demonstration Program to Prevent Nonpoint Pollution Impacts on Drinking Water Sources in the Southern Tier Central Region

Time Period of Project:

1992–1995

Project Location:

Communities overlying high-priority primary aquifers in Chemung, Schuyler and Steuben Counties

Project Contact:

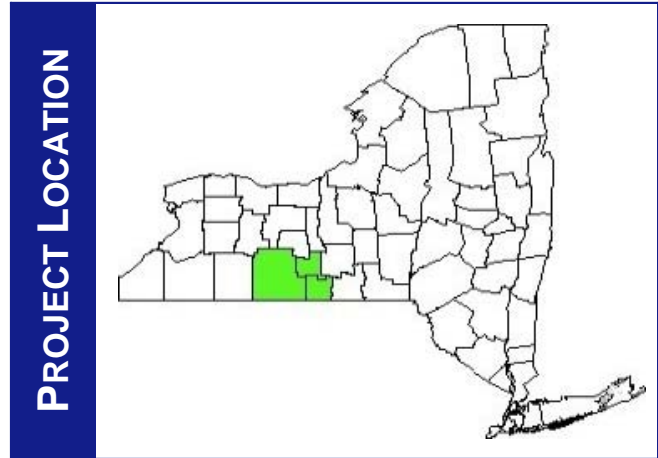
Jennifer Fais - Principal Planner

Project Description(s):

Cooperating Agencies: (For seminar series) County Planning Boards, Soil & Water Conservation Districts, Cooperative Extensions, County EMCs, and others

Purpose/Objective: To create institutional changes necessary to prevent nonpoint contamination of drinking water supplies and improve groundwater quality through: (1) continuing previous work on ordinance preparation and adoption; (2) updating the nonpoint Database GIS and creating a Tri-County GIS Users Group, and other relationships such as a statewide GIS policy group in order to improve the exchange of information among levels of government; and (3) sponsoring a Nonpoint Seminar Series and other educational and/or management efforts.

Methods Employed: Strategic planning tools were used to determine vision and mission statements, objectives, and a schedule of tasks for each of the new or expanding groups.



Outputs: (1) Revised model Site Plan Review process to include aquifer protection elements; (2) a model Drinking Water Protection Law which regulates smaller chemical bulk storage and handling facilities, which are sources of low level, but pervasive urban nonpoint contamination (the law authorizes municipal inspections without requiring paper work from the businesses — industry specific educational materials on BMPs are provided as part of the program); (3) formation of the Tri-County GIS Users Group which meets at least quarterly to keep members current on available GIS layers and ways to share the data; (4) presentations to local government and civic groups; and (5) assistance to the County Water Quality Coordinating Committees in Chemung, Schuyler, and Steuben Counties.

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Title of Project:

Source Water Protection: Regional Groundwater Resources Protection

Time Period of Project:

1989–1993

Project Location:

Groundwater-dependent communities in Chemung, Schuyler and Steuben Counties

Project Contact:

Jennifer Fais - Principal Planner

Project Description(s):

Cooperating Agencies: Cooperative Extension Association of Steuben County

Purpose/Objective: To propose land-use management strategies for land within a one-mile radius around each municipal well in Chemung, Schuyler, and Steuben Counties.

Methods Employed: (1) Use of a groundwater impacts model, “SEEPAGE,” developed by the U.S. SWCS, and the Risk Ranking Screening System, developed by the U.S. EPA; (2) compilation of lists and maps of land-uses of concern; and (3) establishment of Town Board/Planning Board committees.

Outputs: Twenty-eight (28) public water supplies serve about fifty (50) communities in the three counties. “Implementation Packets” with suggested changes were submitted to five communities in Chemung County, two in Schuyler County, and six in Steuben County. Land-use tours were conducted and background mapping and information booklets were provided to the remaining communities.

