

VIII- E Water Quality Protection

In the Batavia Kill watershed, the protection of water quality must be recognized as having benefits to local stakeholders as well as NY City. While City residents may rely on the Batavia Kill's runoff to meet their drinking water needs, it is also a critical resource to local communities. Maintaining high water quality in the Batavia Kill and its tributaries is important to recreational activities, drinking water and ecological health of the stream system. Since 1990, the GCSWCD has played some role in each of the many



watershed programs which have been set up between NYC and upstate interests. During this period, the GCSWCD has facilitated the Watershed Agricultural Program, Watershed Forestry Program, CWC Septic Rehabilitation and Repair program and the CWC Stormwater Retrofits program. During the Batavia Kill Phase I program, the GCSWCD identified a number of opportunities to protect and enhance water quality in the Batavia Kill by further coordination of these and other programs.

NO. WQ - 01			
Recommendation	Watershed communities should develop and implement comprehensive stormwater management plans which will protect water quality as well as reduce impacts on stream morphology.		
Priority		Task Leader	GCSWCD
Funding Sources	CWC - Stormwater Grants NYSDOS - Planning Grants NYC DEP Batavia Kill funds	Task Partners	Local Municipalities CWC NYCDEP NYSDEC NYSDOT GC Highway GC Planning
Estimated Cost	Undetermined	Schedule	As soon as program guidelines are in place
Notes	<p>The GCSWCD intends to work on behalf of all watershed municipalities to complete watershed based Stormwater Management Plans. The project will be under the leadership of the GCSWCD Watershed Assistance Program.</p> <p>The GCSWCD will integrate SWMP with Batavia Kill SMP</p>		

NO. WQ - 02			
Recommendation	The GCSWCD should continue to facilitate participation in the Watershed Agricultural Program.		
Priority		Task Leader	GCSWCD
Funding Sources	Watershed Ag Program	Task Partners	WAP NRCS
Estimated Cost	varies by project	Schedule	2003-2006
Notes	<p>The GCSWCD should continue to provide administrative support and technical assistance to implement Whole Farm Plans for farmers in the Batavia Kill watershed. Additional practices are scheduled for Valley View farm and others.</p> <p>The GCSWCD recommends that WAP revisit the Whole Farm Plans for all Batavia Kill farmers to evaluate riparian buffer issues, erosion sources and stream instability. The Schoharie Basis is scheduled for TMDL development for turbidity, and all farms should be reevaluated for their contribution to turbidity.</p>		

NO. WQ - 03			
Recommendation	Continue to mitigate erosion and sedimentation impacts by supporting the GCSWCD Critical Area Seeding Program.		
Priority		Task Leader	GCSWCD-WAP
Funding Sources	CWC NYCDEP NYSDEC	Task Partners	CWC NYCDEP NYSDEC Local Municipalities
Estimated Cost	\$200,000/year	Schedule	on-going
Notes	<p>To increase the benefits of the program, the GCSWCD requires additional funding. The GCSWCD proposes funding a seasonal crew dedicated to implementing seeding projects.</p> <p>Program should continue to be integrated with local highway department maintenance activities.</p>		

NO. WQ - 04			
Recommendation	Riparian landowners should be encouraged to participate in CWC sponsored program to test and repair failing septic systems.		
Priority		Task Leader	GCSWCD-WAP
Funding Sources	CWC - Septic Program	Task Partners	CWC
Estimated Cost	undetermined	Schedule	when program opens again
Notes	CWC Septic Rehabilitation and Repair Program is currently closed to Batavia Kill watershed residents. In Phase II, the CWC will focus on all systems close to streams. The GCSWCD will track program availability and promote participation.		

NO. WQ - 05			
Recommendation	The Town of Windham should develop a Wellhead Protection Plan to ensure high water quality in their municipal water system.		
Priority		Task Leader	Town of Windham
Funding Sources	NYSDOS - Planning Grants NYSDEC - NPS Grants Town of Windham	Task Partners	GCSWCD NYCDEP NYSDEC NYSDOH Landowners
Estimated Cost	\$10,000 estimated	Schedule	Town to determine
Notes	The GCSWCD recommends that the Town of Windham address long term protection of their water supply by developing a wellhead protection plan. Any activities associated with protection of wellheads will have a benefit to the Batavia Kill also. The Town may be able to obtain grant funds from various sources to complete this task.		

NO. WQ - 06			
Recommendation	Watershed municipalities should use winter road abrasives which contain minimal silt and clay.		
Priority		Task Leader	GCSWCD-WAP
Funding Sources	Municipalities CWC NYCDEP NYSDEC	Task Partners	CWC NYSDEC NYCDEP
Estimated Cost	undetermined	Schedule	2004-2006
Notes	The use of winter road abrasive materials which contain a high silt/clay component can have a direct impact on water quality/ Municipalities should be encouraged to use washed sand materials. Cost share funding may be needed to provide incentive to use more highly priced materials.		

NO. WQ - 07			
Recommendation	Watershed landowners should be encouraged to participate in WFP when conducting timber harvesting.		
Priority		Task Leader	GCSWCD-WAP
Funding Sources	NYSDEC WFP USFS	Task Partners	WFP CFA NYSDEC Landowners
Estimated Cost		Schedule	
Notes	The WAP offers a number of services to watershed landowners. The GCSWCD-WAP will assist the WFP in promoting the WFP to watershed landowners		

NO. WQ - 08			
Recommendation	The GCSWCD-WAP should maximize participation in the CWC Stormwater Retrofits Grant Program by providing technical assistance and sponsoring projects in the watershed.		
Priority		Task Leader	GCSWCD-WAP
Funding Sources	CWC ACOE NYSDEC USFWS others	Task Partners	NYCDEP NYSDEC NYSDOH USEPA CWC Landowners Local Municipalities
Estimated Cost	Project Specific	Schedule	2002-2006
Notes	<p>The GCSWCD has been actively seeking CWC Stormwater Retrofit Program funds for implementation of water quality projects in the Batavia Kill watershed. One project has been funded, 2 applications are pending, and the GCSWCD has prioritized several other projects. A summary of priority projects is listed below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Project Funded <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Windham Mill Race Project - Town of Windham sponsor 2. Applications Pending <ul style="list-style-type: none"> County Route 56 Drainage Project County Route 41 Drainage Project 3. Projects Currently Under Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Windham Mountain Stormwater Wetland Project Greene County Stormwater Facility Maintenance Program C.D.Lane Park Stormwater Drainage Project 		

NO. WQ - 09			
Recommendation	The GCSWCD and its partners should continue to facilitate implementation of stream restoration projects which will reduce impacts from turbidity and TSS.		
Priority		Task Leader	GCSWCD/NYCDEP
Funding Sources	NYSDEC WFP USFS NYC DEP	Task Partners	NYSDEC Landowners ACOE USFWS Landowners
Estimated Cost	undetermined	Schedule	2005-2010 2003-2010?
Notes	The GCSWCD has identified a number of reaches that require restoration. While clay exposures are not readily apparent at all sites, GCSWCD experience has been that the entire corridor is underlain by glacial clays at a shallow depth.		