

Summary Report for Owasco Lake Watershed Inspector Activities
February 2008
WQMA Meeting March 6, 2008

Projects that I have Worked on:

Farms

- Notice of Complete Application for Twin Birch Dairy, LLC (2/19/08)
 - Want to rip rap approximately 250 feet at 10 sites along Dutch Hollow Brook
 - Mark Schaub (Onondaga County SWCD) and Ryan Cunningham (Skaneateles Lake Watershed Agricultural Program) have been working on project → giving advice on work that needs to be done, providing technical assistance, and project and construction oversight
 - The use of concrete as rip rap is allowed by DEC as long as the concrete is clean
 - Spoke to Mark Schaub → he looked at the concrete, there is no debris, like rebar, in it; suggested that some of the larger, flatter pieces be broken

Professional Meetings

- SWCD and local farmers met to discuss criteria for AEM Environmental Steward Signs (2/7/08)
 - Breakfast has been postponed until April 12 at 9 AM, Cornell Cooperative Extension
- Meeting with Ellen Hahn (NYS DEC Stormwater Specialist) on dealing with stormwater concerns within the watershed (2/11/08)
- Appeared on “Inside Government with Guy Cosentino” → 30 minute interview that discussed my position and areas of concerns within the watershed (2/19/08)
- Renee Jensen (Cornell Cooperative Extension Environmental Educator) and I gave a presentation on the Importance and Functions of Wetlands to a local Boy Scout group working on their Naturalist Badge (2/20/08)
- Owasco Lake Watershed Inspector meeting (2/26/08)
 - Contract with local design firm was approved → will be designing watershed logo and road signs
 - Tompkins and Cayuga County Environmental Health Departments will be meeting to discuss how the Owasco Lake Watershed Rules and Regulations will apply within Tompkins County
- Scheduled to present at the Association of Villages meeting, but it was cancelled due to inclement weather → would like me to present at a future meeting, will be contacting me when they have an opening for a presenter (2/26/08)
- Anthony DeCaro and I met with Gary Searing regarding Town of Fleming funds for stream sampling → will be using Renee Jensen’s services (2/28/08)
- Met with Renee Jensen to work on Adopt-A-Shoreline project and how I could assist her in making contacts, dispersing information, increasing participation

Miscellaneous

- Eco-Talk Article about phosphorus and its effects on water quality (2/18/08)
- Defensive Driving through SWCD (2/21/08)
- “On the Spot” article in The Citizen → Questioned posed: What tangible results have you been able to attain since starting your job as Owasco Lake Watershed Inspector? (2/26/08)
 - In paper on March 6, 2008

- Wrote several Eco-Talk articles to be used during the summer months
 - Watershed Spring Cleaning List
 - Manure and Phosphorus
 - Owasco Flats, Part I: Importance of a Floodplain
 - Owasco Flats, Part II: Interesting Plants and Animals That Call the Owasco Flats Home
 - Invasive Species: What Are They?

Projects that I have Scheduled:

- Attending the Water Quality Symposium (March 11-14)
 - Drainage Law
 - Basic Hydrology
 - Introduction to Nutrient Management
 - Groundwater in Agriculture
- Septic System training offered through the Cayuga County Health Department (April 1 & 2)
- Received a contact from Linda Russ at Westminster Presbyterian Church → wants me to present to group at their April luncheon regarding watersheds and good steward activities (April 24)