

Summary Report for Owasco Lake Watershed Inspector Activities
January 2008
Board of Directors Meeting February 13, 2008

Projects that I have Worked on:

Commercial Work

- CPESC review of two developments in the Town of Owasco (1/11/08)
 - Compliance check done on one of the sites
 - Initial review done on other site
 - Ellen Hahn working on response to these inspections
- NYS DEC Ecosystem Management Project on Corrigan Rd, Town of Niles
 - Site #1 has been finished and is waiting to be stabilized in the spring
 - The logger is currently working on Site #2
 - Mark Zubal has been to the site several times over the last few weeks to check on their progress
- Fuel spill into the Owasco Outlet (1/29/08)
 - Spill happened on Friday, January 25 when a new piece of equipment was being unloaded and a diesel fuel line burst
 - Owners placed Speedy Dry over diesel on ground, but some leaked into storm sewers
 - Rain on Monday night and Tuesday caused the fuel in the storm sewer to flow into the outlet
 - Anthony DeCaro and I with NYS DEC Spill Response spoke with the marina owner and emphasized the importance of reporting a spill and cleaning it up as soon as possible to avoid negative impacts on water quality
 - Owner of marina claimed liability and will be posting signs on how to properly address a spill and prepare a spill response kit

Farms

- Worked with Jason Cuddeback at a Town of Sempronius farm to plan on implementation of BMPs on barnyard, runoff concerns, and gutter system to reduce water in the barnyard
- Manure spreading incident in Town of Genoa
 - Jason Cuddeback and I investigated and wrote Odor Complaint form
 - We did not feel that the manure was spread too heavy
 - Manure was not spread when inclement weather was predicted
 - Farmer was contacted by NRCS staff to alert them of the alleged heavy spreading report
- Devising a plan for farms where livestock have access to a protected stream and how these issues are going to be resolved

Professional Meetings

- Met with staff at IAGT to look at the projects they were working on within the watershed (1/4/08)
- Cayuga County SWCD Board of Directors meeting (1/9/08)
- Meeting with Don Bowen, Jerry VeVone (Town of Niles Code Enforcement Officer), and Skaneateles Lake Watershed Inspectors (1/8/08)
- Owasco Lake Watershed Inspector Committee meeting (1/15/08)
- AEM Planning meeting (1/23/08)

- Will be picking farms to receive Environmental Farm Signs (looking at 8 to 10 farms receiving the award)
- Town of Fleming Public Hearing on Development Moratorium (1/30/08)
 - Town Board unanimously voted to extend the moratorium for another 3 month period

Sampling

- Used Hydrolab for the first time in the field to take water quality samples (1/18/08)

Stream Sites

- Work to stabilize bank on Cream Hollow Road was completed (1/4/08)

Miscellaneous

- Worked on Press Release to be sent to Tompkins County
 - Still working on legality of inspection work within Tompkins County
- Wrote article to be placed in the Town of Niles newsletter (1/7/08)
- Bruce Natale and I met with graphic artist to work on a logo design and some sign ideas for the Owasco Lake Watershed (1/14/08)
- Article in The Citizen in CCE's Environmental Issues column ("Edible Earth Parfaits" → activity for children to help them understand aquifers and wells) (1/21/08)
- Helped Renee Jensen make a contact with the Auburn Enlarged City School District to work with students and faculty on environmental issues (1/28/08)
- Year End Report was sent to Cayuga, Tompkins, and Onondaga County Environmental Health Departments, City of Auburn, and the Town of Owasco (1/30/08)
- Wrote letter of support for the anaerobic digester project (1/31/08)

Projects that I have Scheduled:

- Renee Jensen and I will be working with a Boy Scout's troop on the importance and function of wetlands (2/21/08)
 - Will be playing Wetland BINGO and building a graph with many aspects that make wetlands important and unique
- Environmental Article in the Lake Life section of The Citizen on February 18
- AEM Recognition Breakfast at CCE (March 1)
- Meeting with Gary Searing (Town of Fleming Supervisor)
- Meeting with Ellen Hahn (NYS DEC Stormwater Specialist) to look over protocol for developments within the watershed