

**Summary Report for Owasco Lake Watershed Inspector Activities  
November 2007  
WQMA Meeting      December 6, 2007**

*Projects that I have Worked on:*

**Commercial Work**

- NYS DEC Ecosystem Management Project (Corrigan Road, Town of Niles)
  - Went out with SWCD CPESCs (Certified Professional in Erosion and Sediment Control) and Ellen Hahn, CPESC (Stormwater Control Specialist) to generate ideas for stabilizing site (11/30/07)
  - Met with Mark Zubal (NYS DEC Senior Forester), contact person for the site to go over ideas for stabilization (12/5/07)
  - Site should be completed by the end of January
- Spoke with Richard Knaul about a proposed development in the Town of Owasco → federal wetlands located on the property; referred him to the Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) and they are requiring a wetland delineation of property
- Reviewed stormwater plans for The Woodlands Development with Ellen Hahn and CPESCs (11/30/07)

**Farms**

- Gave Brian Aldrich location of a farm that may be a good location for cover crops (large acreage area that are bare since the corn and soybeans had been harvested)
- Working on compiling list of farmers in the watershed to send out introduction letter
- Spoke with resident concerned with manure odors and the effects it is having on residents' health

**Municipality Work**

- Took pictures and noted location of road salt mounds in the Town of Sempronius → Planning Department is working on grant to have a salt shed built
- Town of Niles → built new culvert under Corrigan Road
  - Will not be stabilizing the site until spring
  - Will be doing a similar project on Church Road for the same wetland → will stabilize both banks at that time
- Town of Niles → bank on Cream Hollow Road and stream that runs parallel to road eroded, causing a landslide → SWCD working with the Town of Niles to stabilize bank (11/27/07)

**Professional Meetings**

- Attended a Cover Crop Workshop presented by Brian Aldrich at Cornell Cooperative Extension (11/7/07)
- Planned to attend lawn care class offered at Cornell Cooperative Extension, but it was cancelled
- Met with Tompkins County Soil and Water Conservation District (11/9/07)
  - Discussed projects they have worked on in past and the type of services they provide
- SWCD Board of Directors (11/14/07)
- Initial planning meeting for Watershed Inspector position (11/14/07)
- Owasco Lake Watershed Committee (11/27/07)
  - "Road Signs" to be placed around the watershed

- Agricultural Environmental Management (AEM) Planning meeting with SWCD and NRCS staff → looking to expand program and generate more funding
- Sharon Anderson (Cayuga Lake Watershed Steward) (12/6/07)

### **Residential Work**

- Spoke with Tim DePriest regarding the Town of Owasco seawall incident
  - Wall was placed at mean high water mark which does not require a permit
  - Turf grass has been placed over property (11/15/07)
- Town of Fleming resident concerned with a pond constructed on an adjacent property (referred to me by Doug Kierst)
  - As per the landowner, DEC did not regulate this activity
  - Doug and I spoke with the ACOE
  - Left message with landowner to call ACOE regarding regulation of activity
- Town of Scipio house being constructed on the lake
  - Code Enforcement Officer said that all of the permits for construction are in place, but will speak with contractor about the silt fencing
  - Don Bowen said that the septic system design had been approved by the Health Department
- Town of Niles resident concerned with the use of calcium chloride to knock down dust along a firelane
  - Resident had worked with Anthony DeCaro last summer concerning the issue
  - He concluded at the time that there were no signs of runoff and the chemical is not a regulated substance
- Walked some of the shoreline in the Town of Moravia
  - Tires being used as seawalls
  - Found a mat that is used under boat hoist to keep weeds from growing → will be checking in the spring to see if they have a permit to be using the mat
- Town of Niles property → working with Health Department to determine what small shed on lake shore is used for
  - Pipes lead from two summer homes, to the shed, and outlet pipes end on the shoreline
- Firelane 29 (off Rockefeller Road) experiencing runoff → plan to work with residents to try and implement stormwater control devices
- Spoke with Town of Owasco resident concerned with the level of the lake being too high and damaging his gabion seawall
- Drove Firelanes 23, 23A, 24, 25, 26, Dolphin Point Lane, 29, 30 (East Side of lake), Cascade, Indian Cove, Southeast on Owasco

### **Road Kill**

- Dead deer → Town of Locke, mile marker 1025 (11/9/07)
- 3 butchered deer carcasses on Corrigan Road, Town of Niles (11/26/07)
- Dead deer → Town of Niles, mile marker 1087 (11/27/07)

### **Stream Work**

- Rockefeller Road – stream running under the road experiencing extreme erosion

### **Miscellaneous**

- Website is available: [www.co.cayuga.ny.us/wqma/owascoinspector/](http://www.co.cayuga.ny.us/wqma/owascoinspector/)
  - Contains monthly reports, emergency contact information, and other information regarding the watershed

- Sent previous reports to Dan Fessenden, Executive Director of the Fred L. Emerson Foundation
- Cell phone has been purchased; will be used for internal and emergency use only
- Had article published in The Citizen → was in Renee Jensen's column on Monday, November 19
- Had Violation Notice forms printed
- Working on letter to be sent to all Code Enforcement Officers within the watershed → letter asks for list of construction permits within the town
- Contacted by Jesse Kline of Operation Auburn → will be writing an article featuring the watershed inspector position (11/28/07)
- Read through OWLA's 2007 Water Quality Monitoring Report showing their sampling results for 24 sites testing total coliforms, fecal coliforms, and turbidity

**Projects that I have Scheduled:**

- Writing another article for The Citizen (in paper on Monday, December 17)
- CPESC review of Brookside Trace (once snow melts)
- Meeting with Liz Cameron (Tompkins County Environmental Health Department Director) (12/12/07)
- Owasco Lake Watershed Committee meeting (12/18/07)
- Looking at Tompkins County area to get a general idea of the areas of concern (agriculture, septic systems, other provisions of watershed rules and regulations)