

Program Highlights
May & June 2005
Esopus Creek Stream Management Plan
Jeremy E. Magliaro, Project Coordinator

1) Focus Group Meetings and the formation of the Project Advisory Council (PAC)

Three meetings of the Esopus Creek Corridor Plan Focus Group were convened on May 3rd, May 24th, and June 7th. Average attendance was 11 persons. Topics of discussion included: the flooding event of April 2nd and town, county, and agency responses; updates on the various planning initiatives ongoing in the watershed; debris removal and its impact on the tubing/kayaking businesses and the desire to explore the possibility of a more coordinated response; recommendations for the goals, ground rules, and stakeholder group representation on a Project Advisory Council (PAC); and the structure for public input and participation in the planning process via the formation of four (4) task-driven working groups to address hazard mitigation, education and outreach, cultural resources, and watershed assessment.

2) Hiring of Part-Time Community Educator:

A position description was drafted and approved by Cornell University. Applications are being accepted through July 29th.

3) Job Education & Training:

- a. Geomorphology Based Stream Stability Assessment: Attended two days out of a week-long training session held June 13th to 17th by the Greene County Soil and Water Conservation District in Acra, NY.
- b. LEAPE Training - Locally-led Education and Action for Protecting the Environment (LEAPE) is an educational program for local governments interested in protecting water resources in their communities..

4) Public Meetings / Miscellaneous:

- a. ACOE Flood Damage Tour (May 9th).
- b. Flood Response Workshop (May 10th).
- c. Hazard Mitigation Planning Workshop (May 20th).
- d. Phoenicia Rotary (May 26th).
- e. Shandaken Comprehensive Plan Public Hearing (June 17th).
- f. Meeting with Extension Associates and Cornell Professors (June 22nd).

5) Equipment & Supplies:

- a. Satellite Office: In process of signing lease through April 15, 2008 for CCE-UC Satellite Office to administer Stream Corridor Planning process at the Phoenicia Plaza, 5575 State Route 28, Phoenicia. The lease start date is anticipated to be July 15, 2005.
- b. Laptop Computer: Purchased for Project Coordinator under consultation with DEP for system capability and specifications.