

Upper Esopus Creek Management Plan Program Highlights: July - September 2007

Summary: Program staff continued to meet with stakeholders to review and revise the draft Upper Esopus Creek Management Plan during the time period. A meeting of the Project Advisory Council was held July 11th. Significant time was spent discussing CCE's potential role in administering DEP funding for the Ashokan Basin through 2012, and in scoping the draft contract with DEP project management. In addition to volunteer recruitment and landowner outreach activities, innovative and successful education programs were carried out as detailed below:

Lecture by Dr. Anne Riley, of California Regional Water Quality Control Board, in Phoenicia (July 10): Approximately 40 people attended this lecture. Anne discussed erosion and flooding problems faced by other watersheds and how various methods have been successful or exacerbated those problems.



Mountain Top to Tap Trek (July 14): Youth participants of this program were hosted at the Phoenicia office with presentations followed by field trip to Woodland Valley restoration site on the Esopus.



Stream Monitoring Program: Leaf-Pack Training (July 21)

A day-long training was held at the Phoenicia Office for the public. Twelve people attended, including several that also assisted with the Trout Unlimited-partnered stream monitoring project. Next Steps: discuss continued monitoring with committed volunteers at meeting this winter.

Ulster County Fair (July 30-August 5): Organized display on native riparian plants for the 4-H building.

Paint the Stream Summer Youth Mural Project (Aug. 6-11)

Eleven Youth participated in this week long program with two teens assisting. CCE provided stream education programming the first two mornings as well as assisted with logistics, ensuring program safety communication with parents, required paperwork and posting of murals. Murals were completed and posted along Main St. Phoenicia. An opening reception with about 45 people attending was held on Saturday, Aug. 11 including a local band and tours of the art led by the youth.



Shandaken Day (August 25): Hosted booth with native riparian plants display at this event in the hamlet of Pine Hill.

Jeremy Magliaro, Coordinator
Walt Keller, Aquatic Ecosystem Scientist

Michael Courtney, Educator