

## DRAFT

### May 18 RCWC Watershed Training:

#### Next Steps: Interactive Evaluation and Where Do We Go From Here?

**Stream Monitoring:** Invite people who live along stream to join us for **July Stream Monitoring** (with Martha Cheo of Hudson Basin River Watch) and **September Stream Walk** (with Jake Weydemeyer, Ulster County Soil & Water Conservation District).

**Saturday, July 7 (Raindate: Sunday, July 8) -- RCWC Stream Monitoring Training** -- see attached draft flyer. Martha and I would like to find 15 people, so that would be 2 or 3 per town, who will then help us to bring the information back to their town and actually perform ongoing stream monitoring once or twice a season, with support from Basin Watch and Clearwater.

#### Follow-up:

#### Watershed Education and Outreach Opportunities:

There is a “new breed” of code enforcement officers, now required by Dept. of State to take 24 hours of training per year; planning board members also have a training requirement.

Be sure to make “big picture” connections

Provide additional information on **Biological Values/Species:** More on local species (beyond benthic macroinvertebrates), especially fish and other vertebrates (brook trout is indicator species).

Offer **Land Conservation Workshop:** Include information on funding to landowners for land set aside for conservation; what are their options? Who can hold conservation easements?

- Natural Resource Conservation Service: [www.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov)
- NYS Forest Stewardship Plan/funding: [www.dec.ny.gov/docs/lands\\_forests\\_pdf/fsp.pdf](http://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/lands_forests_pdf/fsp.pdf)
- Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program (WHIP): [www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/whip/](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/whip/)  
Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program: CREP  
[www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/webapp?area=home&subject=copr&topic=cep](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/webapp?area=home&subject=copr&topic=cep)
- Invite **Walter Levy** to next meeting; ask him to present briefly and if they would co-sponsor such an event.

Walter Levy, President  
Rondout Esopus Land Conservancy  
P.O. Box 345  
17 Creek Road  
High Falls, NY 12440  
[wlevy129@gmail.com](mailto:wlevy129@gmail.com)  
845-626-3140

**How to Organize a Watershed Council:** Provide more information on this aspect of watershed protection.

**Invasive Species Seminar:** Provide information on identifying non-native plant and animal species; understanding how, when and where control measures are appropriate, and what resources are available. From Jen Grieser: Partnerships for Regional Invasive Species Management (PRISMs). The Rondout area falls in CRISP (for Catskills) and Lower Hudson PRISM for Shawangunks and east. Contact: Troy Weldy of TNC for a potential speaker ([tweldy@TNC.ORG](mailto:tweldy@TNC.ORG)).

**Waste Water Management:** National Small Flows Clearinghouse  
[www.nesc.wevu.edu](http://www.nesc.wevu.edu)  
[www.nesc.wvu.edu/nsfc/nsfc\\_index.htm](http://www.nesc.wvu.edu/nsfc/nsfc_index.htm)

Post May 18 Watershed Management Training Powerpoints on Clearwater's website (by 6/26).

**Municipal Separate Stormwater Systems:** Organize or notify training participants of next MS4 workshops.

**Life-long Learning Institute:** For Fall 2007, enlist 8 volunteers, 2 pairs of 4 to teach retired senior citizens at SUNY/New Paltz about watershed protection and planning using existing Watershed Awareness, Planning and Protection powerpoint presentation, copies of which were distributed at training and are available from [mannajo@clearwater.org](mailto:mannajo@clearwater.org).

**Field Trip:** Field trip to Stone Ridge to do CWP watershed exercise

**Geology of Rondout: A Karst Watershed.**

**Mapping:** Delineate sub-basins to Rondout Creek, by tributary. Identify GIS layers for various features. Which towns have already done this, in which format?

**Hudson Basin River Watch (HBRW) and Rondout Creek Watershed Council:** HBRW is looking for 10 sites (~25 acres) in the Rondout Creek Watershed to monitor in July and September. This is not to include wetlands, and not to include the tidal portion of the Rondout below the Eddyville dam. Simon offered to host a workshop for potentially interested people to explain what he did in Orange County in this regard. Anyone interested in this should contact Doug Reed.

- **Doug Reed**  
Hudson Basin River Watch  
[reed@netheaven.com](mailto:reed@netheaven.com)  
Phone: 518.677.5029

Request a joint meeting with **Wallkill River Watershed Conservation and Management Plan** group:  
see: [www.ocsoil.org](http://www.ocsoil.org) [www.ocsoil.org/pdf/MgmtPlan\\_dpr.pdf](http://www.ocsoil.org/pdf/MgmtPlan_dpr.pdf)

Create (or adapt) a **Watershed Glossary to define watershed-related terms:** This suggestion has been raised before. Who can work on this with us?

Other issues that have been raised previously:

- Need to standardize well-log data and promote well testing
- Create an Intermunicipal Agreement (IMA) regarding watershed protection; seek funding to develop a well-supported and utilized watershed protection plan.
- Develop a watershed protection plan now, or at least a thorough outline of one.
- Habitat Assessment Guidelines: Request Karen Schneller Mac-Donald to do an evening presentation

**The next meeting of the Rondout Creek Watershed Council will be held Tuesday, June 26 at the Marbletown Community Center on Route 209 in Stone Ridge at 7 p.m.**

Interested people from outside the RCWC area are welcome to attend  
if observing our work will be beneficial in other watersheds.