

Our mission: To support towns in the watershed by protecting and restoring stream corridor stability and ecologic integrity.

About the

Ashokan Watershed

Stream Management Program

Who We Are

The Ashokan Watershed Stream Management Program (AWSMP) is a collaborative effort of three agencies:

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Ulster County (CCEUC) coordinates community funding for stream related projects, works with local governments and other relevant groups and agencies on stream and floodplain programs and policies, and conducts education, training and outreach programs.

Ulster County Soil and Water Conservation District (UCSWCD) coordinates and provides technical services such as stream assessments, construction of stream projects, and direct technical assistance to municipalities and landowners.

New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Provides technical assistance and focused field studies, integration with Stream Management Programs in the Schoharie, Delaware, Rondout and Neversink Watersheds and program funding through the DEP Stream Management Program.

The Ashokan Watershed Advisory Council is composed of 15-20 watershed stakeholders representing county, state and federal agencies, as well as watershed towns, non-profit organizations, and residents. The Advisory Council supports the program by reviewing the AWSMP's Annual Action Plans, staff projects, and Implementation Fund project proposals.

Other Working Groups, such as the Highway Managers Working Group and Education and Outreach Working Group, provide technical guidance to staff and ensures the enhanced involvement of the local community.

What We Do

The Ashokan Watershed Stream Management Program seeks to:

- Protect and Restore water quality, stream stability, and aquatic and streamside ecosystems, as well as reduce flooding and erosion hazards and enhance stream-based recreational opportunities
- Coordinate stream management activities in the watershed
- Educate local municipalities, landowners, students and tourists about stream stewardship practices
- Develop Stream Management Plans which provide the basis for the program's work in the Ashokan Watershed. The plans are a comprehensive review of stream characteristics, data, maps and recommended management strategies. The plans recommend measures that help improve water quality, reduce flood risks to public infrastructure and private property, and improve the ecology of the stream and floodplain.



Who we serve:

Service Area

The Ashokan Watershed includes five towns (Shandaken, Olive, Woodstock, Hunter, and Lexington) in Ulster and Greene counties. Most of our programs are restricted to the watershed.

Local Government

The AWSMP supports local governments with stream management by providing:

- ◆ Grants for stream and stormwater related projects, education, training and planning that help to implement stream management plan recommendations
- ◆ Design and construction of streambank protection projects
- ◆ Coordination and assistance on stormwater improvements
- ◆ Coordination and technical support for post-flood stream restoration and mitigation of flood hazards
- ◆ Training for local government staff and elected officials on topics such as roadside ditches and culverts, floodplain management, and an Annual Watershed Conference

Streamside Landowners and Community Organizations

We assist landowners with streamside living by providing:

- ◆ Advice to landowners on managing streambanks and riparian areas
- ◆ Landowner workshops



Above: AWSMP staff coordinated the design and installation of road protection projects.



Above: USGS staff and interns collect fish for fish habitat study supported by the Matching Grant Program.



The Ashokan Watershed

A watershed is the land area that drains into a single feature — in this case the Ashokan Reservoir. This watershed provides high quality drinking water for nine million New Yorkers.

- ◆ Educational materials, newsletters and factsheets
- ◆ Opportunities to learn by volunteering through the Stream Stewards Program
- ◆ Mini and Matching Grants Programs to organizations for watershed-related projects that help to implement stream management plan recommendations
- ◆ Funding for riparian corridor planting and bio-engineering (Catskill Streams Buffer Initiative)

Contractors and Watershed Professionals

AWSMP coordinates trainings and provides technical assistance to contractors who carry out stream management projects for landowners and local governments. The program also coordinates with regulatory agency staff on project designs, permit requirements, and trainings.

Other Groups and Agencies

The AWSMP coordinates with numerous groups and agencies to address the broad set of interests within the watershed. The program seeks input and involvement from environmental groups, landowner associations, and sporting and recreational groups in its stream management activities and educational programs.

What we offer:

Catskill Streams Buffer Initiative

The Catskill Streams Buffer Initiative informs and assists streamside landowners in the West of Hudson NYC Watershed through enhancement, management, and restoration of streamside vegetation. The initiative provides individualized management plans with prescriptive measures, restoration designs, installation of plant materials, and educational materials and activities.



Catskill Streams Buffer Initiative

At the Root of Streamside Protection

For more information about Catskill Streams Buffer Initiative, go online to www.catskillstreams.org/csbi. If you would like to apply for the program, speak with Adam Doan, CSBI Coordinator for the Ashokan Watershed at (845) 688-3047 or by email at adam.doan@ashokanstreams.org.

Ashokan Watershed Implementation Fund Programs

The purpose of the Implementation Fund is to encourage and support projects that are consistent with the goals of the stream management program.

Matching Grants

The Matching Grant Program can provide up to 25 percent match of a total proposed budget, with a maximum of \$100,000. Examples of funded projects:

\$ 29,000: Town of Woodstock, Habitat Mapping for the Town of Woodstock

\$ 90,990: USGS Quantitative Assessment of Water Quality in the Upper Esopus Creek

Mini-Grants

The Mini Grant Program provides grants of up to \$5,000 for projects in the Ashokan Watershed related to education, outreach, training, and other activities that help improve stream management. Examples of funded projects:

\$5,000: Catskill Center for Conservation and Development, Support for Rt. 28 Information Kiosk

\$925: Trout Unlimited Ashokan-Pepacton Chapter, Leaping Trout Art Project Support



Above: Stream Expert Dave Rosgen teaches a field class on stream processes. Right: Streamside tree plantings create a riparian buffer.



Municipal Grants

The AWSMP provides up to 75 percent of the funds to municipalities to support stream, stormwater, and public access projects that are consistent with stream management plan objectives and have a high public benefit. Stream projects are coordinated with Ulster County Soil and Water Conservation District staff. Examples of funded projects:

\$35,075: Town of Shandaken, Woodland Valley at Fawn Hill Streambank Stabilization

\$90,046: Town of Olive, Bradkin Road Culvert Replacement

For more information on AWSMP grant program priorities and application information, go online to www.ashokanstreams.org.

Annual Events

Annual events are held to provide a variety of educational and hands-on activities for residents, municipalities and interested groups to get involved.

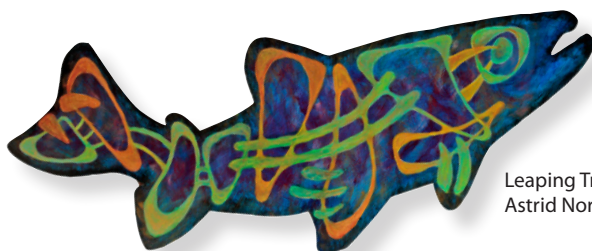
Spring: Annual Ashokan Watershed Conference

Early Summer: Stream Clean-up

Late Summer: Creek Week Activities

Spring & Fall: Volunteer Tree Planting Projects

Throughout the Year: Community & Landowner Workshops



Leaping Trout by artist Astrid Nordness

Program Staff

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Ulster County Staff

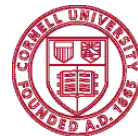
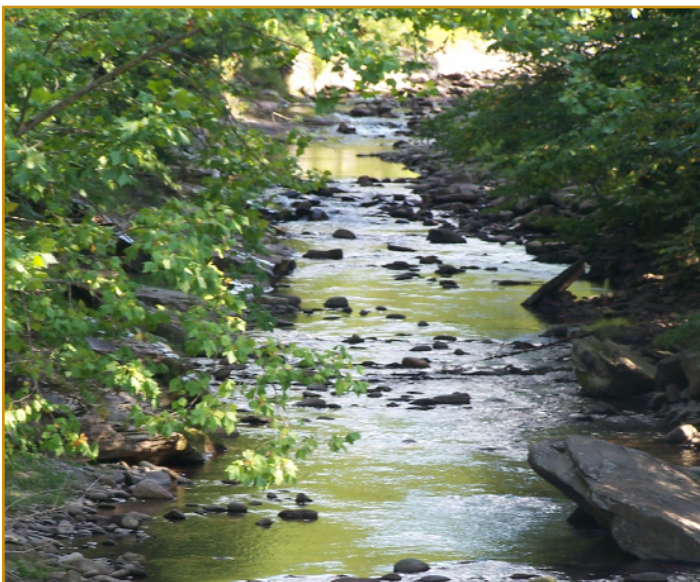
Position	Name	Email	Area of Responsibility
Executive Director	Lydia Reidy	lmr5@cornell.edu	Program oversight
Program Coordinator	Elizabeth Higgins	emh56@cornell.edu	Grants, contracts coordination with partner agencies, supervision of CCE Ashokan Program staff
Office Manager	Gretchen Rae	gr283@cornell.edu	Administrative and program support

Ulster County Soil and Water Conservation District Staff

Position	Name	Email	Area of Responsibility
Executive Director	Gary Capella	gary.capella@ny.nacdnet.net	Responsible for project contracts administration and supervision
Project Manager	Cory Ritz	cory.ritz@ashokanstreams.org	Field assessment, landowner questions, technical assistance
Catskill Streams Buffer Initiative Coordinator	Adam Doan	adam.doan@ashokanstreams.org	Streamside vegetation, CSBI program grants stream assessment
Stream Assessment Coordinator	Bobby Taylor	bobby.taylor@ashokanstreams.org	Stream assessments
District Technician	Jake Wedemeyer	jake.wedemeyer@ny.nacdnet.net	Stream assessments and technical support
NRCS Engineer	Deron Davis	deron.davis@ny.usda.gov	Engineering design for the program
Program Assistant	Margarete Wagner	Margarete.Wagner@ny.nacdnet.net	Administrative support

NYC DEP Stream Management Program Staff

Position	Name	Email	Area of Responsibility
Program Manager	Beth Reichheld	ReichheldE@dep.nyc.gov	Supervision for DEP Stream Management Program
Contract Manager, Geologist	Dan Davis	DDavis@dep.nyc.gov	DEP related issues, stream assessments and research coordination
Stream Engineering Coordinator	Doug Dekoskie	DDekoskie@dep.nyc.gov	Engineering design and review for the program



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