

2010 Annual Report



Using the expertise and knowledge of its agencies as well as other local, state, and federal cooperating agencies to protect and conserve the water resources of Tioga County.

WQCC: Background & Participating Members

In 1991 the Tioga County WQCC was formed to address issues of Non-point Source Pollution and problems of water quality. In 2010 it continued it's work on a watershed wide basis, identifying priority issues and solutions in a Water Quality Strategy. Together, participating agencies agree on the county's greatest needs and work to access the funds necessary to implement the Water Quality Strategy.

Participating Agencies and Organizations

**Tioga County Soil & Water Conservation District
Tioga County Planning Department
Tioga County Environmental Health Department
Tioga County Solid Waste
Town of Owego
Cornell Cooperative Extension
USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service
NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
NYS Soil & Water Conservation Committee**

Tire Clean-up

With the participation of the Town of Barton and the Town of Owego, 56 tons of tires were cleaned up during the 2010 tire clean-up program. This marked the 3rd year of a five year program originally established in 2009 when a grant was awarded to Tioga County Solid Waste for funding. The program has provided a safe and economical method for both resident and municipalities to dispose of waste tires.





Tioga County Water Quality
Coordinating Committee

Stream Clean-up

2010 was the 10th annual stream clean-up sponsored by the Tioga County WQCC. Since 2001, this event, which coincides with National River Clean-Up Week, has helped to improve the health and beauty of our county's streams, creeks, and rivers, as well as providing a way to bring more awareness to the general public. The program is largely supported by local organizations and businesses. All organizations, groups, or individuals are encouraged to participate and are provided with garbage bags and a gift. They just have to register with the Tioga County Soil & Water Conservation District.

Some long-term sponsors include:

- Best Buy
- CNYOG
- Hiawatha Island Boat Club
- Jouchum Logging
- Kenny Construction
- Mead Farm
- NYSDOT
- Owego Kiwanis
- Taylor Garbage Service
- Tioga State Bank
- Town of Owego
- Wagner Lumber Company



Storm Water



The WQCC is a member of the BTSC

Storm Water Management Plan

With the **Broome-Tioga Stormwater Coalition**, the **WQCC** has developed a storm water management plan for the **Town of Owego and Tioga County**. Effective **March 2010**, the plan includes regulations to improve many of the issues that contribute to and stem from stormwater erosion and runoff. This plan is in compliance with the **NYSDEC's General Permit for Stormwater Discharges from MS4s** and aims to maintain or improve water quality.

Stormwater Management Training

In conjunction with the **Broome-Tioga Stormwater Coalition**, the **WQCC** held several training sessions for contractors, developers, and engineers regarding erosion and sediment control practices. This training is required under the **NYS Department of Environmental Conservation's Stormwater Permit** for at least one individual per company on any construction site where the soil is being disturbed (equal to or exceeding **1 acre**). In **2010** the **WQCC** held six training sessions, in **January, February, March, May, July and December**.

The Elements of the SWMP include:

- Public Education and Outreach
- Public Involvement/Participation
- Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination
- Construction Site Runoff Control
- Post-Construction Stormwater Management
- Pollution Prevention/Good Housekeeping for Municipal Operations



Storm Drain Markers were installed in **2010** to help prevent dumping contaminants and other refuse at street drains that lead into local water resources.



Chesapeake Bay Program
A Watershed Partnership

Chesapeake Bay

In 2010, public meetings were held in Owego and Binghamton regarding the Chesapeake Bay the were attended by the WQCC. Discussion centered around the TMDL requirements being issued from the EPA in an effort to improve the health of the Chesapeake Bay. The EPA and NYSDEC presented, as well as local groups including the Susquehanna River Basin Coalition and the Town of Owego. At the end of the presentations time was allowed for questions from both people present, as well as those submitted remotely through an online “webinar”.



Waters contributing to the Chesapeake Bay



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Tioga Investigates Natural Gas

In 2010 Tioga Investigates Natural Gas took steps to establish model ordinances for wellhead and aquifer protection. With the Aquifers of Tioga County being so sensitive to surface contaminants and the source of most of the county's drinking water, the ordinances will provide protection against the contaminants that may infiltrate the aquifer.

Clinton Street- Ballpark Aquifer Within Tioga County

