



NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

**SPDES General Permit for Stormwater Discharges from
Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewers (MS4s), Permit No. GP- 02-02
Municipal Compliance Certification**

Section A. Small MS4 Owner/Operator Information		Annual Report for the year ending: March 9, 2005	
SPDES No.: NYR20A044		MS4 Name: TOWN OF NORTH CASTLE	
Contact Name: JOHN A. LOMBARDI		Contact Title: SUPERVISOR	Phone No.: (914) 273-3001
Mailing Address:	Street or P.O. Box: 15 BEDFORD ROAD	City: ARMONK	
	County: WESTCHESTER	State: NEW YORK	Zip Code: 10504
Is any of this information new or changed since your last certification? (Please circle one answer) Yes No			
Section B. Watershed and MS4 Partnership Information (Please circle one answer for each question)			
1. a) Have you received notification from the Department that you are subject to the special conditions in Part III.B. of the permit ? Yes No			
b) If you answered yes to 1a), have all necessary changes been made to the Stormwater Management Program (SWMP) to ensure compliance with Part III.B. of the permit? Yes No N/A			
2. a) Have any new MS4 partnerships developed, where another municipality will be responsible for carrying out a portion of your municipality's SWMP? If yes, please specify the municipality and the activity. Yes No			
b) Municipality: _____			
c) Activity: _____			
d) Has a legally binding intermunicipal agreement been executed? If yes, please include a copy of the agreement as an appendix to the Stormwater Management Program Annual Report (SWMPAR). Yes No N/A			
Section C. Evaluation of Compliance			
1. For each of the six minimum measures listed below, indicate if your program has made steady progress toward full implementation <i>and</i> has achieved all measurable goals scheduled to be completed this reporting period. (Please circle one answer for each question)			
	<u>Steady Progress</u>	<u>Goals Achieved</u>	
a) Public education	Yes No	Yes No	
b) Public participation/involvement	Yes No	Yes No	
c) Illicit discharge detection and elimination	Yes No	Yes No	
d) Construction site stormwater runoff control	Yes No	Yes No	
e) Post-construction stormwater management	Yes No	Yes No	
f) Pollution prevention/good housekeeping for municipal operation	Yes No	Yes No	
2. Does your SWMP cover all areas, automatically and additionally designated, pursuant to 40 CFR 122.32(a), under your jurisdiction? Yes No			
3. Have adequate resources been allocated to fully implement your SWMP no later than January 8, 2008? Yes No			



**SPDES General Permit for Stormwater Discharges from
Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewers (MS4s), Permit No. GP- 02-02
Municipal Compliance Certification, Page 2**

SPDES No.: NYR20A044	MS4 Name: TOWN OF NORTH CASTLE
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Section D. Explanation of Compliance Evaluation

If you answered No to question 1b in Section B or to any question in Section C, indicate the question in the small box in the upper left hand corner, and provide a brief explanation, including action being taken to address the problem, in the space provided. With respect to any of the six minimum measures, your attached Stormwater Management Program Annual Report (SWMPAR) must include a detailed explanation of why implementation or compliance is not being achieved and what actions have been taken to ensure compliance with each minimum measure. Indicate where this explanation can be found in the SWMPAR. If necessary, attach extra sheets following the same format.

Question # 2b	Explanation
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While the Town prepared the annual report of the SWMP, the public meeting will not be conducted prior to the reporting period deadline. Consequently, all elements identified in the NOI for the reporting year have not been completed. Proposed public involvement and participation efforts related to stormwater issues are on-going and include Town-wide mailings, televised Town Board meetings and the Town website. Additional public involvement and participation efforts will continue through the coming years.

Question #	Explanation
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Question #	Explanation
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Section E. Certification

"I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gathered and evaluated the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations."

Print Name: JOHN A. LOMBARDI Title: SUPERVISOR

Signature:  Date: 5/30/05

The MCC form must be signed by either a principal executive officer or ranking elected official, or duly authorized representative of that person as described in Part VII.2. of the permit. Send this form to both the DEC Regional Office (see list of addresses in the instructions) and the DEC Central Office (MS4 Permit Coordinator, 625 Broadway, Division of Water - 4th Floor, Albany, NY 12233-3505)

TOWN OF NORTH CASTLE - SPDES # NYR20A044
STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM ANNUAL REPORT
(SWMPAR)
MARCH 10, 2004 - MARCH 9, 2005

SPDES GENERAL PERMIT FOR STORMWATER DISCHARGES FROM
SMALL MUNICIPAL SEPARATE STORM SEWERS (MS4s)
PERMIT NO. GP-02-02

JUNE 2005

TABLE OF CONTENTS

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

II. SIX MINIMUM MEASURES

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

III. MONITORING AND MODELING RESULTS - Not Applicable

IV. SUMMARY OF FUNDING/GRANT MONEY - Not Applicable

APPENDIX A - PUBLIC EDUCATION AND OUTREACH TEAR SHEETS

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On May 10, 2003 the Town of North Castle, New York applied for authorization to discharge stormwater from its storm sewer system and obtained coverage under the SPDES General Permit for Stormwater Discharges from Municipal Separate Stormwater Sewer Systems (GP-02-02) - (MS4 SPDES #NYR20A044). The permit requires that the Town develop, implement and enforce a stormwater management program (SWMP) designed to reduce the discharge of pollutants for the municipal storm sewer system to the maximum extent practicable within five years. The initial goals for the North Castle Stormwater Program are identified within the SWMP Notice of Intent (NOI) filed in May 2003.

As required by GP-02-02, the Town's SWMP must be fully implemented no later than January 8, 2008 with evidence of steady progress toward full implementation over the interim years. To monitor progress toward achieving the measurable goals identified within the NOI, the MS4 is required to conduct an annual evaluation of the program. As required, this annual report describes the activities completed during the annual reporting period (March 10, 2004 through March 9, 2005), evaluates the progress in achieving the measurable goals identified within the initial SWMP (Notice of Intent) for each management practice and summarizes the new goals for the coming year. As required, the report is available to the public for comment and a public hearing will be conducted to present the contents of the report.

The Town of North Castle utilized the second year of the Stormwater Management Program to evaluate the current conditions and practices including the continuation of a study of impaired waters within the Town. The Town also agreed to support an application with Westchester County to coordinate the public education and outreach goals.

Specifically the Town accomplished the following tasks:

- Identification/preparation of public outreach messages including town-wide mailings
- Mapping of 6,500 lf of the East Branch Mianus River
- Continued Water Sampling/testing of the East Branch Mianus River
- Training of Municipal Employees on subjects related to the SWMP
- Completion of a Conservation Easement Map
- Completion of an Open Space Map

As listed above, the Town continues to make good progress toward implementation of the SWMP. Many of the Best Management Practices are already in place in the Town of North Castle, including the following:

- Existing regulations address sediment and erosion controls, stormwater, BMP inspection and maintenance
- Established maintenance and inspection practices of the Highway Department including fleet maintenance, salt storage, stormwater sewer cleaning and fleet washing

- Extensive land development reviews by the Town's Planning Board, Building Department, Town Consultants (Engineer, Planning and Wetlands) and Conservation Board which include pre and post development BMPs, inspection and maintenance elements.

All elements identified within the NOI during the reporting year have not been completed. Proposed public involvement and participation efforts related to stormwater issues are on-going and include Town-wide mailings, televised Town meetings and the Town website. Additional public involvement and participation efforts are also in planning stages. Illicit discharge detection and elimination management practice include the mapping and inspection of the storm sewer system. Inspections are on-going and are conducted primarily by the Town Highway Department, Building Department, Town Consulting Engineer and Conservation Board. Mapping of the second geographic area of the storm sewer system will be continued though the next program year as scheduled.

Construction site stormwater runoff control is addressed primarily by practices that have been in control prior to the submission of the NOI. Construction plans including sediment and erosion control plans in addition to grading, drainage and landscaping plans are already required by the Town in Code and practice in the review of permits including site plan, wetland permit and building permits. The Town's consulting Engineer, Wetland and Planning Consultants as well as the Conservation Board are involved in applications for proposed land development. Construction sites are inspected by the Building Department, Town Engineer and/or Wetland consultants dependent upon the approvals or permits required. The stormwater pamphlets for distribution to developers, builders and their representatives included topics such as construction site waste management and avoidance of dumping.

Similarly, post construction stormwater management is addressed primarily by practices in place prior to the NOI submission. Stormwater system inspections by the Highway Department, reviews by the Planning Board and reviews of construction plans and inspections by the Building Department, consulting engineers and wetlands consultants will continue through 2005 and beyond. The Town Highway Department has conducted as an on-going practice the continued inspection, cleaning and maintenance program of stormwater management systems and structures. Specific assessments of existing conditions have been continued within the Banksville/South Branch Mianus River corridor. The Town has also completed a mapping inventory of non-structural practices specifically targeting the conservation easement system throughout the Town. The on-going assessment of existing conditions and identification of appropriate management practices to reduce pollutant discharge will be continued through the coming year.

Pollution prevention and good housekeeping practices are already in place and are continuing as described in the NOI. The Town has policies in place with respect to fleet maintenance, salt storage and other practices related to the maintenance of the fleet and Highway facility material storage. Current practices related to street cleaning, catch basin and storm drain cleaning, vehicle maintenance and washing and roadway/bridge maintenance have been continued and will be continued and documented in the coming years.

Stormwater Management Program Annual Report

Six Minimum Measures Section

March 10, 2004 March 9, 2005

Municipality Name TOWN OF NORTH CASTLE SPDES Number NYR20A044

Use this table to summarize your Stormwater Management Program Minimum Measures for Sections I through VI. We request that MS4s fill out this table electronically. The table is available in Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel and Corel WordPerfect, or you may duplicate this table manually. To request the electronic versions, send an e-mail to stormh2o@gw.dec.state.ny.us with the subject line: SWMPAR/MMC REQUEST. You will receive all three software versions. Once you have completed the table, send a **hard copy only** with your report to the addresses in the instructions.

MINIMUM MEASURE 1: Public Education and Outreach in Stormwater Impacts

A. Narrative Overview: The second year of implementing the Stormwater Management Program included an assessment of existing resources and a study of the south branch of the Mianus River. Town-wide mailing related to stormwater issues have been prepared and distributed town-wide. Outreach will continue through the coming program year.

B. Implementation of Best Management Practices			C. Activities Planned for Upcoming Year	
Type in the management practices selected in your NOI and any additional ones that you worked on.	Any done in the past year?	If YES, describe what measurable goals that were achieved and other accomplishments. If NO, and the item was checked off on your NOI, describe why the task was not accomplished and, if still a measurable goal, list in column C.	Describe SWMP activities that are planned for the next year and changes to selected management practices/measurable goals.	
TECHNIQUES	YES	NO		
Plan and conduct an ongoing public education and outreach program (required)	X		IDENTIFICATION OF TARGET AUDIENCES FOR INFORMATIONAL MAILINGS.	
Preparation and Circulation of Newsletter	X		PREPARE AND DISSEMINATE NEWSLETTERS TO TARGET AUDIENCES - HAZARDOUS WASTE DISPOSAL AND STORMWATER TRAINING OF BUILDING INSPECTORS FOR TARGET ACTIVITIES	
Training of Inspectors/staff	X			

Municipality Name - TOWN OF NORTH CASTLE
SPDES Number - NYR20A044

MINIMUM MEASURE 2: Public Involvement/Participation

A. Narrative Overview: As described in the Executive summary, the Town conducted a public meeting regarding the annual report of the SWMP in May 2004. Proposed public involvement and participation efforts related to stormwater issues are on-going and include Town-wide mailings, televised Town meetings and the Town website. Outreach to the public will continue in the next program year.

B. Implementation of Best Management Practices			C. Activities Planned for Upcoming Year	
Type in the management practices selected in your NOI and any additional ones that you worked on.	Any done in the past year?	If YES, describe what measurable goals that were achieved and other accomplishments. If NO, and the item was checked off on your NOI, describe why the task was not accomplished and, if still a measurable goal, list in column C.	Describe SWMP activities that are planned for the next year and changes to selected management practices/measurable goals .	
	YES	NO		
TECHNIQUES				
Public notice and access to documents and information (required)	X		CONTINUE AVAILABILITY OF ALL DOCUMENTS RELATED TO THE SWMP THROUGH THE TOWN CLERK. REVIEW PUBLIC NOTICE REQUIREMENTS	
Public presentation and comments received on SWMP and annual report (required)		X	PROVIDE PUBLIC PRESENTATION OF ANNUAL REPORT. ADDRESS PUBLIC COMMENTS RECEIVED INCLUDING 2 WEEK WRITTEN COMMENT PERIOD. SUBMIT ANNUAL REPORT AS REQUIRED.	
Public involvement/ participation program(required)	X		CONTINUE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN STORM DRAIN STENCILING PROGRAM AND WATER MODELING	
Contact person identified (required)	X		CONTACT THE TOWN SUPERVISOR	

Municipality Name - TOWN OF NORTH CASTLE
SPDES Number - NYR20A044

MINIMUM MEASURE 3: Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination

A. Narrative Overview: THE TOWN HAS COMPLETED THE MAPPING OF STORMWATER IMPROVEMENTS WITH GEOGRAPHIC AREA #2 AND HAS INITIATED AN INVENTORY OF ILLICIT CONNECTIONS AND DISCHARGES IDENTIFIED WITHIN THE REGION. THE MAPPING PROCESS WILL CONTINUE INTO THE NEXT PROGRAM YEAR.

B. Implementation of Best Management Practices			C. Activities Planned for Upcoming Year	
Type in the management practices selected in your NOI and any additional ones that you worked on.	Any done in the past year?	If YES, describe what measurable goals that were achieved and other accomplishments. If NO, and the item was checked off on your NOI, describe why the task was not accomplished and, if still a measurable goal, list in column C.	Describe SWMP activities that are planned for the next year and changes to selected management practices/measurable goals .	
ACTIVITIES	YES	NO		
Outfall mapping (required)	X		CONTINUE OUTFALL MAPPING PROJECT WITHIN AREAS #2 AND #3. IN ADDITION TO MAPPING STORMWATER IMPROVEMENTS, ANY IDENTIFIED ILLICIT CONNECTIONS AND DISCHARGES WILL BE ADDED TO THE INVENTORY.	
Illicit discharges prohibited (required)	X	X	SCHEDULED FOR 2005-2007 PROGRAM YEAR. CONTINUE THE ON-GOING HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT INSPECTION AND CLEANING OF STORMWATER IMPROVEMENTS. INCLUDING THE IDENTIFICATION OF ILLICIT CONNECTIONS OR DISCHARGES.	
Public, employees, businesses informed of hazards from illicit discharges (required)	X		CONTINUE INFORMATION TO EMPLOYEES AND BUSINESSES THROUGH TRAINING AND TARGETED MAILINGS	
Illicit discharges identified (required)	X		CONTINUED MONITORING AND INSPECTION	

Municipality Name - TOWN OF NORTH CASTLE
SPDES Number - NYR20A044

MINIMUM MEASURE 4: Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Control

A. Narrative Overview: CONSTRUCTION SITE STORMWATER RUNOFF CONTROL IS ADDRESSED PRIMARILY BY PRACTICES THAT HAVE BEEN IN CONTROL PRIOR TO THE SUBMISSION OF THE NOI. CONSTRUCTION PLANS INCLUDING SEDIMENT AND EROSION CONTROL PLANS IN ADDITION TO GRADING, DRAINAGE AND LANDSCAPING PLANS ARE ALREADY REQUIRED BY THE TOWN IN CODE AND PRACTICE IN THE REVIEW OF PERMITS INCLUDING SITE PLAN, WETLAND PERMIT AND BUILDING PERMITS. THE TOWN'S CONSULTING ENGINEER, WETLAND AND PLANNING CONSULTANTS AS WELL AS THE CONSERVATION BOARD ARE INVOLVED IN APPLICATIONS FOR PROPOSED LAND DEVELOPMENT. CONSTRUCTION SITES ARE INSPECTED BY THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT, TOWN ENGINEER OR WETLAND CONSULTANTS DEPENDENT UPON THE APPROVALS OR PERMITS REQUIRED. THE STORMWATER PAMPHLETS WILL BE PREPARED IN 2005 FOR DISTRIBUTION TO DEVELOPERS, BUILDERS AND THEIR REPRESENTATIVES MAY INCLUDE TOPICS SUCH AS CONSTRUCTION SITE WASTE MANAGEMENT AND AVOIDANCE OF DUMPING.

B. Implementation of Best Management Practices			C. Activities Planned for Upcoming Year	
Type in the management practices selected in your NOI and any additional ones that you worked on.	Any done in the past year?	If YES, describe what measurable goals that were achieved and other accomplishments. If NO, and the item was checked off on your NOI, describe why the task was not accomplished and, if still a measurable goal, list in column C.	Describe SWMP activities that are planned for the next year and changes to selected management practices/measurable goals .	
	YES	NO		
REQUIREMENTS				
Require erosion and sedimentation controls through an ordinance or other regulatory mechanism (required)	X		CONTINUE INVENTORY OF BMP PRACTICES. REVIEW TOWN CODE REQUIREMENTS TO DETERMINE WHETHER AMENDMENTS ARE REQUIRED TO ADDRESS STORMWATER MANAGEMENT, EROSIONS AND SEDIMENTATION CONTROL AND OR/SITE WASTE MANAGEMENT.	
Provide opportunity for public comment on construction plans (required)	X		CONTINUE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION /NOTIFICATION PRACTICES PARTICIPATION/NOTIFICATION PRACTICES AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC REVIEW	

Require construction site plan review (required)	X		SITE PLAN REVIEW IS REQUIRED FOR CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES RESULTING IN LAND DISTURBANCES GREATER THAN/EQUAL TO ONE ACRE. PLANNING BOARD REVIEW REQUIRED FOR ALL SINGLE-FAMILY LOTS, TEARDOWNS AND ADDITIONS >1,500 S.F. REQUIRES SEDIMENT/EROSION CONTROL PLAN AND MITIGATION FOR ALL INCREASES IN IMPERVIOUS SURFACE.	CONTINUED INSPECTION AND MONITORING OF BMPS
Require overall construction site waste management (required)	X		CONSTRUCTION SITE WASTE MANAGEMENT REQUIRED AS A COMPONENT OF SITE PLAN REVIEW	CONTINUE ON-GOING SITE INSPECTION/ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM
Site inspection and enforcement (required)	X		CONTINUE ON-GOING SITE INSPECTION/ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM	CONTINUE ON-GOING SITE INSPECTION/ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM CONTINUE S&E INSPECTION TRAINING
Education and training of construction site operators (required)	X		DEVELOP EDUCATIONAL PAMPHLETS FOR DEVELOPERS AND BUILDERS	CONTINUE EDUCATION/TRAINING PROGRAM FOR BUILDERS/DEVELOPERS

Municipality Name - TOWN OF NORTH CASTLE
SPDES Number - NYR20A044

MINIMUM MEASURE 5: Post-Construction Stormwater Management

A. Narrative POST CONSTRUCTION STORMWATER MANAGEMENT IS ADDRESSED PRIMARILY BY PRACTICES IN PLACE PRIOR TO THE NOI SUBMISSION. STORMWATER SYSTEM INSPECTIONS BY THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT, REVIEWS BY THE PLANNING BOARD AND REVIEWS OF CONSTRUCTION PLANS AND INSPECTIONS BY THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT, CONSULTING ENGINEERS AND WETLANDS CONSULTANTS WILL CONTINUE THROUGH 2005 AND BEYOND. THE TOWN HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT HAS CONDUCTED AS AN ON-GOING PRACTICE THE CONTINUED INSPECTION, CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE PROGRAM OF STORMWATER MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS AND STRUCTURES. SPECIFIC ASSESSMENTS OF EXISTING CONDITIONS HAVE BEEN INITIATED WITHIN THE BANKSVILLE/SOUTH BRANCH MIAMIUS RIVER CORRIDOR. THE TOWN HAS ALSO INITIATED A MAPPING INVENTORY OF NON-STRUCTURAL PRACTICES SPECIFICALLY TARGETING THE CONSERVATION EASEMENT SYSTEM THROUGHOUT THE TOWN. THE ON-GOING ASSESSMENT OF EXISTING CONDITIONS AND IDENTIFICATION OF APPROPRIATE MANAGEMENT PRACTICES TO REDUCE POLLUTANT DISCHARGE WILL BE CONTINUED THROUGH THE COMING YEAR.

B. Implementation of Best Management Practices			C. Activities Planned for Upcoming Year	
Type in the management practices selected in your NOI and any additional ones that you worked on.	Any done in the past year?	If YES, describe what measurable goals that were achieved and other accomplishments. If NO, and the item was checked off on your NOI, describe why the task was not accomplished and, if still a measurable goal, list in column C.	Describe SWMP activities that are planned for the next year and changes to selected management practices/measurable goals.	
REQUIREMENTS	YES	NO		
Assess existing conditions throughout the MS4 and identify appropriate management practices to reduce pollutant discharge to the maximum extent practicable (required)	X		INITIATED PROGRAM TO INVENTORY STRUCTURAL AND NON-STRUCTURAL BMPs, CONSERVATION EASEMENTS AND OPEN SPACE MAPPING COMPLETED.	
Regulate post-construction runoff from development through an ordinance or other regulatory mechanism (required)		X	POST CONSTRUCTION RUNOFF FROM DEVELOPMENT IS NOT CURRENTLY REGULATED. SCHEDULED FOR FUTURE PROGRAM YEAR.	
Develop management practice inspection and maintenance program (required)	X		IMPLEMENT BMP INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE PROGRAM TOWN-WIDE ANNUAL STORM DRAIN CLEANING	
			DEVELOP AND ADOPT REGULATORY MECHANISM	
			CONTINUE PROGRAM TO INVENTORY STRUCTURAL AND NON-STRUCTURAL BMPs.	
			CONTINUE MUNICIPAL BMP INSPECTION/MAINTENANCE PROGRAM	

Municipality Name - TOWN OF NORTH CASTLE
SPDES Number - NYR20A044

MINIMUM MEASURE 6: Pollution Prevention/Good Housekeeping

A. Narrative Overview: POLLUTION PREVENTION AND GOOD HOUSEKEEPING PRACTICES ARE ALREADY IN PLACE AND ARE CONTINUING AS DESCRIBED IN THE NOI. THE TOWN HAS POLICIES IN PLACE WITH RESPECT TO FLEET MAINTENANCE, SALT STORAGE AND OTHER PRACTICES RELATED TO THE MAINTENANCE OF THE FLEET AND HIGHWAY FACILITY MATERIAL STORAGE. CURRENT PRACTICES RELATED TO STREET CLEANING, CATCH BASIN AND STORM DRAIN CLEANING, VEHICLE MAINTENANCE AND WASHING AND ROADWAY/BRIDGE MAINTENANCE HAVE BEEN CONTINUED AND DOCUMENTED IN THE COMING YEARS.

B. Implementation of Best Management Practices			C. Activities Planned for Upcoming Year
Type in the management practices selected in your NOI and any additional ones that you worked on.	Any done in the past year?	If YES, describe what measurable goals that were achieved and other accomplishments. If NO, and the item was checked off on your NOI, describe why the task was not accomplished and, if still a measurable goal, list in column C.	Describe SWMP activities that are planned for the next year and changes to selected management practices/measurable goals .
	YES	NO	
REQUIREMENTS			
Prevent discharge of pollutants from municipal operations (required)	X		DEVELOP RECORD KEEPING
Follow DEC NPS management Practices catalog, or equivalent (required)		X	THE TOWN WILL REVIEW CURRENT PRACTICES WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF THE DEC NPS MANAGEMENT PRACTICES CATALOG
Conduct employee pollution prevention training (required)	X		CONDUCT ANNUAL TRAINING IN POLLUTION PREVENTION

Municipality Name - TOWN OF NORTH CASTLE
SPDES Number - NYR20A044

APPENDIX A

TOWN OF NORTH CASTLE CONSERVATION BOARD

FALL 2004

Groundwater

Groundwater is a primary water source for drinking water. It is normally found in aquifers. Wells are drilled to extract groundwater for use. All North Castle residents rely on wells for their water, whether it is an individual well or a community system.

What is groundwater?

It begins as precipitation (rain or snow) that soaks into the ground, where it is stored between rocks and soil in a geological system called an aquifer. It is part of the water cycle of evaporation and condensation.

What is an aquifer?

An aquifer is a subsurface water-bearing layer of the earth. It may consist of sand and gravel, soil, or rock. The more fractures and pores the rock contains, the more water it can hold. Sand and gravel, due to their porous nature, form the richest aquifers. An aquifer is not an underground lake, but is more like a sponge.

What is a well?

A well is a hole drilled into an aquifer. A pump and pipe bring water to the surface. Westchester County Dept. of Health requires a minimum requirement of five gallons per minute (5gpm) for a residence. Wells can be contaminated by toxic materials leaching into their aquifer.

Terminology for wells:

- Depletion—loss of water from a well at a rate greater than recharge. During droughts wells may go dry.
- Contamination—pollution of a well from the improper function of a septic system, animal waste, pesticides or fertilizers or other toxic substances.
- Consumptive Use—drawing amounts of water from a well, which results in a reduction of supply.

What you can do to help:

- Conserve water—don't waste it! Reduce the amount of water used in your home and on your lawn. Repair leaky faucets.

continued on page 2

**You drink
groundwater...
Protect it!**

Groundwater

**Open space is
important because
it helps protect
water resources
and community
character**

North Castle Open Space

**Lawns can have a
negative impact on
water quality**

Lawn Care & Pesticides

**Composting is
Nature's way of
turning refuse into
soil conditioner**

Leaf Composting

North Castle Open Space Can We Make It 12 For 12?

The Town Board unanimously voted to place a \$3 million open space bond proposition on the ballot this November. The Town of North Castle becomes the 12th Westchester community to vote for land preservation.

The town-wide open space survey conducted by the Open Space Committee in July indicated that open space preservation is important to 94% of the respondents. Seventy-six percent replied that they would support an annual tax increase of \$50 for an open space fund. Based on the 2003 average assessment, this is about the annual amount a taxpayer would pay to support this proposal.

Having an open space fund demonstrates the town's commitment to open space and enables the town to leverage other funds from the county, state, and other organizations when purchasing open space parcels. For example, Lewisboro, which passed a \$2 million bond proposition, the town spent \$500,000, combined with \$3.7 million from the state, county and private donors to purchase the Old Field Preserve. There are many successful examples.

In 2003, the Open Space Committee, a sub-committee of the Conservation Board, presented a detailed report on over 100 parcels of 10 or more acres in North Castle.

continued on page 2

Lawn Care & Pesticides

Lawns provide important environmental and recreational functions. However, lawns can have a negative impact, especially on water quality, due to the use of pesticides.

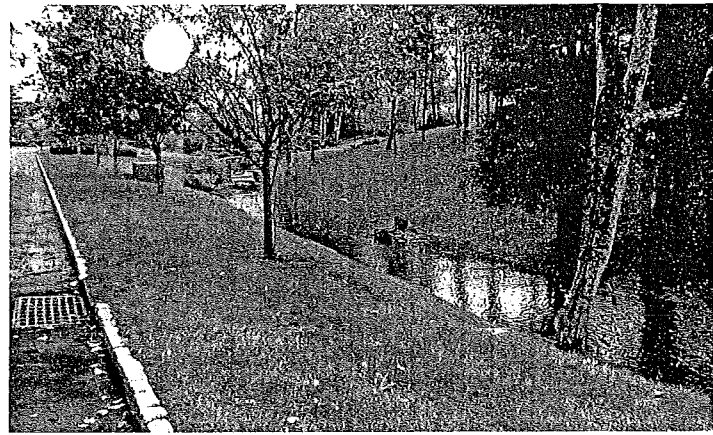
What you can do to help:

- Use seed appropriate for your site, based upon light and soil conditions (i.e., varieties of Kentucky Blue Grass are well adapted for New York State conditions, and blend well with ryegrass and fescues). The best time to seed is between Aug. 15 and Sept. 15.
- Overseed thin areas to help grass compete with weeds, especially after a drought.
- Use fertilizers sparingly. This saves you money as well as reducing the chances of contaminating groundwater. Choose slow-release, low-phosphorus fertilizers (phosphorus is the middle number in fertilizer ratings). Test soil pH (should be 6.0 to 7.0)
- Mow high, 3 to 4 inches. Contrary to opinion, grass does not grow faster when cut short. The opposite happens: it is weakened and weeds are able to proliferate. Grass over 3 inches tends to shade out weeds.
- Leave short clippings on the lawn. They return essential nutrients to the soil, reducing the need to fertilize.

- Keep mower's blades sharp to cut the grass cleanly and avoid frayed, brown tips.
 - Do not over-water. Do not set sprinkler systems on automatic. One inch of water per week, including rain, is adequate.
 - Reduce the size of your lawn area by using ground cover, such as myrtle or pachysandra, where feasible, or turn part of your lawn into a meadow. You'll save on watering and mowing.
- Use a ring of mulch around trees: this protects the trees from injury by lawn mowers.

Remember:

- Pesticides can injure children and pets. Be certain to cover or remove toys from treated areas and prevent children and pets from entering the treated area for the stated warning period. Also, close house and car windows, and set air conditioners to recycle room air rather than bring in air from outside during application.
- Some insects, such as ladybugs, are beneficial; pesticides can kill them too.
- Pesticides that leach into ponds, streams, wetlands and groundwater can contaminate your drinking water.



Mowing up to a stream or pond edge may look neat, but can invite environmental disaster.

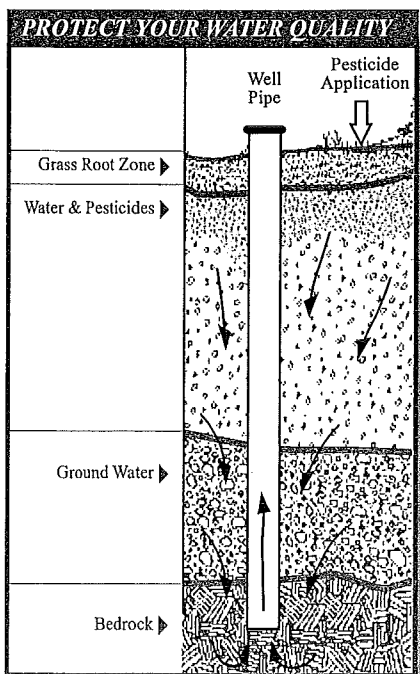
What healthy buffer zones do along streams and ponds:

- Stabilize stream banks
- Reduce erosion
- Provide wildlife habitat
- Increase beauty
- Reduce sediment and chemicals from rainwater runoff
- Provide shade to keep stream-water cooler for healthy plants and animals and less algae growth

Become a Lawn Ranger:

- Learn IPM (Integrated Pest Management).
- Ask your lawn care service, or the Cornell University Cooperative Extension Agent (914-285-4640) about "natural lawn care" and information about soil testing.
- Spot-treat weeds, or remove them manually. ■

Groundwater *(continued from page 1)*



A typical well and aquifer

- Avoid contamination of your well by avoiding pesticide use. Control other contaminants, such as automotive fluids and animal waste.
- Protect wetlands and their buffer zones, which act to clean water soaking into soils that recharge aquifers.
- Use xeriscaping, an environmentally friendly landscaping that uses native and drought resistant plants.
- Maintain your septic system, with a regular (every 2 to 3 years) pump-out.
- Do not use salts or chemicals on your driveway during winter, as they pollute groundwater.
- Dispose of household chemicals properly, not down your sink or toilet.
- A properly maintained septic system is essential for the protection of your groundwater source.
- Your water should be tested for quality at least once a year. ■

Remember - Groundwater is the ultimate source of the water you drink. Protect it.

North Castle Open Space

(continued from page 1)

This report analyzed environmentally sensitive areas in our town and will provide the basis for deciding what open space parcels the town should consider for protection.

Respondents of the town-wide survey indicated that open space is important because it helps protect water resources and air quality, provides recreational facilities, and preserves the natural beauty of North Castle. They also said that open space was important because it helps manage growth of town and school budgets and maintains and enhances property values.

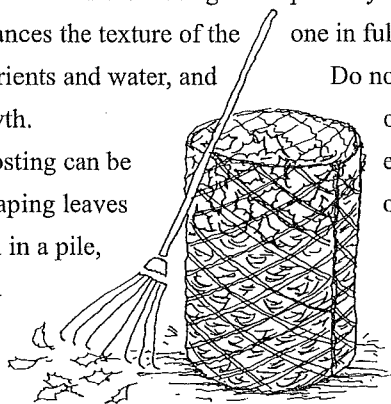
Can we make it 12 for 12? On election Day, North Castle residents will have the opportunity to vote for open space preservation. Please vote and think about voting the Proposition FIRST. ■

Good Environmental Planning equals Good Economics

Leaf Composting

Composting has become a civic responsibility and an easy and cost-saving way to handle grass clippings and leaves. It is easier and cheaper than bagging yard waste and it can be used to improve your lawn, garden, and shrub borders. Adding compost to soil enhances the texture of the soil, holds more nutrients and water, and improves plant growth.

Although composting can be accomplished by heaping leaves and organic material in a pile, placing material in a convenient size bin of various



materials, 3 to 4 feet in height, 4 to 6 feet in depth, and of any desired length is a common solution. The use of welded wire fencing placed in a 5 foot circular manner is a self-supporting simple method. A partially shaded location is preferable to one in full sun.

Do not dump leaves onto a streambank or wetland. They decompose and eliminate critical life-giving oxygen in the water. ■

Composting is Nature's way of turning refuse into a soil conditioner.



Hug a tree today!

Westchester County Household Chemical Clean-up Days 2004

FRIDAY

November 5th, from 1 - 3 pm

SATURDAY

November 6th from 9 am - 3 pm

PLAYLAND PARK
Rye, New York

All chemicals must be in original or labeled containers.

Close all bags and bottles tightly. Place all chemicals in a sturdy box and in the trunk of your car.

Resident chemicals only. Materials from businesses, institutions and schools *will not be accepted*.

There is no fee, but pre-registration is required for 80 pounds or more of solid material or 2 gallons or more of liquid.

Questions?

Call the Household Chemical Info-Line at 914-813-5425

ITEMS ACCEPTED

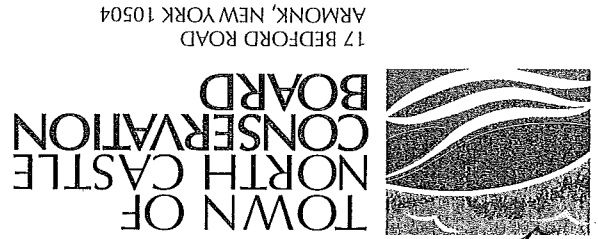
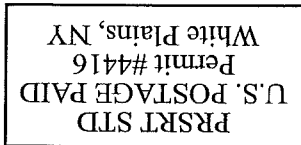
Properly labeled household chemicals, including:

- ✓ Most automotive fluids (i.e., antifreeze, brake fluid, gasoline)
- ✓ Flammable liquids (i.e. kerosene, butane, charcoal fluid, turpentine)
- ✓ Metal, jewelry and furniture polishes & waxes; wood preservatives.
- ✓ Pesticides, insecticides, herbicides
- ✓ Photographic & swimming pool chemicals
- ✓ Car tires (maximum 10)
- ✓ Fluorescent light bulbs
- ✓ Fire extinguishers
- ✓ Small propane tanks – 1 & 2 pound tanks ONLY.
- ✓ Rechargeable & button cell batteries
- ✓ Mercury – including items such as thermometers and thermostats
- ✓ Cell phones
- ✓ TVs and computer monitors – for information on how to recycle computer monitors and TVs year round, call the County's Recycling Hotline at 813-5420.

ITEMS NOT ACCEPTED

- ⊗ PAINT – Oil & Latex - Dispose of with household trash in solid form. Air dry and use kitty litter or waste paint hardener. (Rye Brook, White Plains and Yorktown residents must dispose of hardened paint on bulk pick-up days).
- ⊗ Motor Oil – Take to service station or motor oil retail outlet.
- ⊗ Vehicle Batteries – Take to local scrap metal dealer or any vehicle battery retail outlet.
- ⊗ Non-rechargeable Batteries – Dispose of in trash.
- ⊗ Compressed Gas Cylinders – i.e. helium and oxygen tanks, 20-pound propane/BBQ tanks.
- ⊗ Freon & Appliances with Freon – i.e. air conditioners, dehumidifiers
- ⊗ Smoke & Fire Detectors
- ⊗ Pharmaceutical or Medical Waste
- ⊗ Materials from Commercial and Institutional users.

LOCAL PATRON



Messages from the



The Conservation Board's new visual symbol was developed to highlight important messages to the residents of North Castle.

The Conservation Board, consisting of nine volunteer members appointed by the Town Board, functions in an advisory capacity to the Town Board and other Boards, and assists in the development of sound planning policies to help assure protection of our natural resources.

It reviews all development proposals of parcels of 10 or more acres and all wetland permit applications in coordination with the Planning Board and Town Engineer. Present efforts are focused on public education related to protection of our surface and groundwater resources and the preservation of meaningful open space.

Over 95% of North Castle residents rely on drilled wells for their water supply. Engineering studies of ground-water

supplies conducted over the years by the Conservation Board indicate that of the normal 48 inches of annual rainfall about 5 to 8 inches percolate down and reach our aquifers. They further state that these aquifers are interconnected by rock fractures of various magnitude and that presently the quantity of groundwater is more than adequate and the quality is good.

These messages will provide residents with information regarding important environmental concerns and steps that we can take to help protect our local environment and our drinking water.

Look for and save seasonal Messages with information on:

- Watershed Protection
- Energy Savings
- Pets & Wildlife
- Septic Systems
- Tree Care

The office, located in the Town Hall Annex, is staffed part-time with normal hours 10 am to 3 pm, Tuesday through Thursday. John F. Fava, Chairman.
Phone: 914-273-0346, Fax: 914-273-3554. ■

The Earth's Environment begins at Your Doorstep

Westchester County Household Chemical Clean-up Days

Playland Park, Rye, New York
November 5th (Friday) 1 - 3 pm
November 6th (Saturday) 9 am - 3 pm

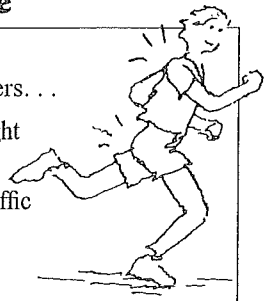
No paint, batteries, motor oil, gas cylinders.

Look inside this issue for more details.

Safety Note

For Roadside Walkers & Joggers. . .

Wear white or bright colored clothing.
Face oncoming traffic and always apply common sense.



Our thanks to Curtis Ames of Curtis Design for his creative input in developing our new symbol and our first Fall newsletter.