

Our mission: We work with communities to protect and restore stream corridor stability and ecosystem integrity in the Ashokan Watershed.

About the Ashokan Watershed Stream Management Program

Who We Are

The Ashokan Watershed Stream Management Program (AWSMP) is a collaborative effort between 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 Ashokan, Schoharie, Delaware, Rondout and Neversink Watersheds and program funding through the DEP Stream Management Program.

The Ashokan Watershed Stakeholder 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 Stakeholder 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 enhance 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 that 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 to improve water quality, reduce flood risks to public infrastructure and private property, and improve the ecology of the stream and floodplain.



Ashokan Watershed
Stream Management Program

Who we serve:

Service Area

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

Local Governments

The AWSMP assists local governments with stream management by providing:

- ◆ Grants for stream and flood mitigation projects, education, training and planning that help to implement stream management plan recommendations
- ◆ Design and construction of stream stabilization projects
- ◆ Coordination and assistance with flood hazard mitigation and floodplain management
- ◆ Coordination and technical support for post-flood stream restoration
- ◆ Methods for comprehensively assessing and sizing road-stream crossings
- ◆ Training for local government staff and elected officials on topics such as stream restoration and floodplain management

Streamside Landowners

We assist landowners with streamside living by providing:

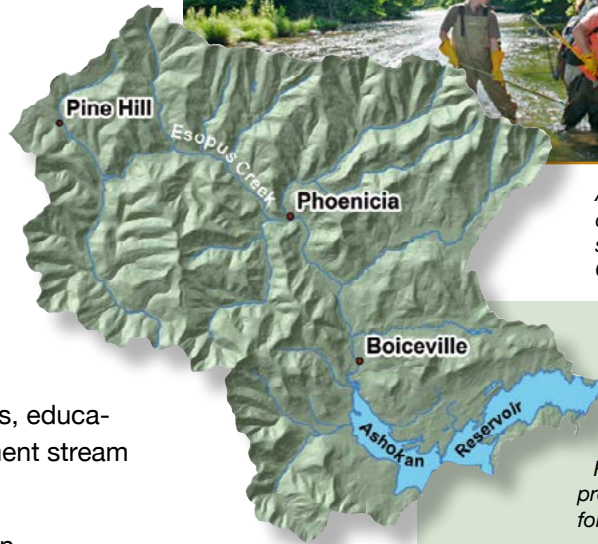
- ◆ Advice to landowners on managing streambanks and riparian areas



Above: AWSMP oversaw the construction of a stream restoration project on Woodland Creek to stabilize the channel and improve water quality.



Above: USGS staff and interns collect fish for fish habitat study supported by the Implementation 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.

- ◆ Funding for riparian corridor restoration and streambank bioengineering (Catskill Streams Buffer Initiative)
- ◆ Landowner workshops
- ◆ Educational materials, newsletters and factsheets
- ◆ Advice on flood-resilient sizing of privately managed stream crossings

Contractors and Watershed Professionals

AWSMP coordinates trainings and provides technical assistance to contractors and watershed professionals who carry out stream and floodplain 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.

We provide grants to organizations serving the watershed to implement stream management projects.

What we offer:

Catskill Streams Buffer Initiative



Catskill Streams Buffer Initiative

At the Root of Streamside Protection

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.

For more information about the Catskill Streams Buffer Initiative, go online to www.catskillstreams.org/catskill-streams-buffer-initiative. If you would like to apply for the program, speak with Bobby Taylor, CSBI Coordinator for the Ashokan Watershed at (845) 688-3047, or by email at bobby.taylor@ashokan-streams.org.

Ashokan Watershed Implementation Grants

Implementation Fund grants support projects that implement recommendations of the Ashokan Watershed Action Plan and stream management plans.

Local Flood Analysis Grants

Local Flood Analysis grants are for projects to determine the conditions contributing to flooding, and to develop and implement flood mitigation solutions in population centers. Examples of funded projects:

- \$1,100,000:** Boiceville Stream Crossing Enlargements
- \$150,000:** Design Analysis for Phoenicia Bridge St. Bridge

Education, Planning, Research and Assessment Grants

Examples of funded projects:

- \$9,000:** Catskill Center, Riparian Buffer Education at the Maurice D. Hinchey Catskill Interpretive Center
- \$143,145:** U.S. Geological Survey, Study of Fish Assemblages and Habitat in the Ashokan Watershed
- \$15,000:** Shandaken, Enter the NFIP Community Rating System
- \$2,000:** Trout Unlimited, Catskill Heritage Brook Trout Study



Above: Youth and families learn more about streams during stream snorkeling events. Right: Volunteers plant riparian buffers along streams.



Infrastructure and Stream Restoration Grants

Grants to support municipalities with stream restoration and public infrastructure projects consistent with stream management plan objectives. Stream projects are coordinated with Ulster County Soil and Water Conservation District staff. Examples of funded projects:

- \$524,931:** Town of Woodstock, Construction of Mink Hollow Bridge Upsizing and Stream Stabilization
- \$221,038:** Town of Shandaken, Enlargement of Peck Hollow Bridge
- \$145,660:** Town of Olive, Engineering Design for Bostock Road and Red Maple Road Stream Crossings

For more information on AWSMP grant program priorities and application information, go online to www.ashokan-streams.org/projects-funding/.

Annual Events

- Spring: Stream Explorers Youth Adventure
- Summer: Public Programs and Booths at Festivals
- Spring & Fall: Stream Walks, Watershed Conference
- Throughout the Year: Community & Landowner Trainings



Leaping Trout by artist Astrid Nordness

Program Staff

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Ulster County Staff

Position	Name	Email	Area of Responsibility
Executive Director	Jared Buono	jb2559@cornell.edu	Program oversight
Program Leader	Leslie Zucker	laz5@cornell.edu	Grant and contract management, stakeholder coordination, education and outreach
Watershed Educator	Brent Gotsch	bwg37@cornell.edu	Flood hazard mitigation education, coordination
Stream Educator	Tim Koch	tk545@cornell.edu	Stream education, project coordination
Watershed Youth Educator	Matt Savatgy	mjs593@cornell.edu	After-school and enrichment programs
Education Admin Coordinator	Laura Gust	lg542@cornell.edu	Education program administration

Ulster County Soil and Water Conservation District Staff

Position	Name	Email	Area of Responsibility
Executive Director / AWSMP Project Manager	Adam Doan	adam.doan@ashokanstreams.org	Project contracts administration and supervision, field assessment, landowner questions, technical assistance
Catskill Streams Buffer Initiative Coordinator	Bobby Taylor	bobby.taylor@ashokanstreams.org	Streamside vegetation, CSBI program grants, stream assessments
Stream Assessment Coordinator	Allison Lent	allison.lent@ashokanstreams.org	Stream assessments
Watershed Technician	Tiffany Runge	tiffany.runge@ashokanstreams.org	Project assistance, GIS support
District Technician	Jake Wedemeyer	jake.wedemeyer@ny.nacdnet.net	Stream assessments and technical support
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
Project Manager	Dave Burns	DBurns@dep.nyc.gov	DEP related issues, stream project assessment
Stream Engineering	Doug Dekoskie	DDekoskie@dep.nyc.gov	Engineering design and review



Above: Trees providing excellent bank stabilization and habitat on a tributary to the Esopus Creek - the Little Beaver Kill, near Willow, NY.



Cornell Cooperative Extension
Ulster County



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