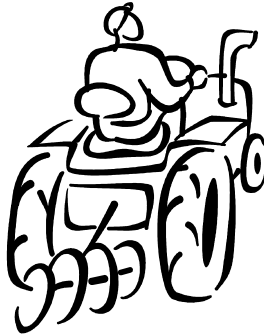


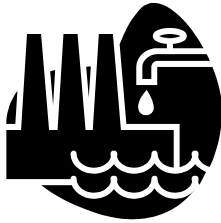
Agricultural Runoff

Farmers should use sound conservation practices to preserve their vital soils and to produce the most crop per drop. Visit or call the Soil & Water Conservation District or the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service for information and assistance.



Storm-Water Runoff

Remember, bodies of water are potential collecting basins for pollutants generated within the watershed. Use good judgment when using and disposing of potential pollutants.



Remember that you are living on or near a watershed that is a drinking water reservoir either above or below ground. Awareness and understanding of Chautauqua County's watersheds, and the impact of our activities will help to insure their protection.

For more information of how you can help keep our waters healthy, contact the:

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY WATER QUALITY TASK FORCE

Frank W. Bratt Agricultural Center
3542 Turner Road
Jamestown, NY 14701
716-664-2351

Chautauqua
County—Cornell Cooperative Extension 664-9502
County—Environmental Health 753-4481
County—Soil & Water Conservation District 664-2351
County—Planning Department 664-3262

Principal SubWatersheds In Chautauqua County

1. Brokenstraw Creek
2. Canadaway Creek
3. Cassadaga Creek
4. Cattaraugus Creek
5. Chautauqua Creek
6. Chautauqua Lake
7. Conewango Creek
8. French Creek
9. Lower Conewango Creek
10. Silver Creek
11. Stillwater Creek
12. Twentymile Creek
13. North East Creek



Great Lakes
Drainage Basin

Allegheny
Drainage Basin



CHAUTAUQUA *county* WATER QUALITY TASK FORCE

Our Mission is to support a County-wide water quality strategy that recommends best management practices to be used in areas of construction, agriculture, road maintenance, forestry and residences to ensure water quality. We will support decision makers (local governments) with educational resources to better protect water resources within their localities.

Member Agencies:

Bear Lake Association	Conewango Creek Watershed Association
Cassadaga Lakes Association	Cornell Cooperative Extension
Chautauqua County Department of Health	Findley Lake Watershed Foundation
Chautauqua County Department of Planning	Jamestown Community College
Chautauqua County Department of Public Facilities	NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
Chautauqua County Environmental Management Council	Ohio River Valley Water Sanitation Commission
Chautauqua County Soil & Water Conservation District	Seneca Trail RC&D
Chautauqua County Town Hwy. Superintendents Association	Southern Tier West Regional Planning & Development Board
Chautauqua County Watershed Coordinator	SUNY Fredonia
Chautauqua Lake Association	The Nature Conservancy
Chautauqua Region Professional Wastewater Operators Association	USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy	USDA Farm Service Agency
Chautauqua Waterworks Association	Western Southern Tier Building Officials' Association

What You Can Do To Help?

By practicing a few simple ideas everyone can help reduce water pollution and keep our water safe, clean, and beautiful.

The Program

As the demand in use of our fresh water resources grows, and as watershed activities increase, we are continuously faced with the challenge of managing the quantity and quality of water in Chautauqua County. Water is an important economic resource for our County. All of our County residents, businesses and visitors presently depend on surface and ground water as their source of drinking water. Protection and preservation of Chautauqua County's water assets should be a concern for all of us.

Public Education / Participation

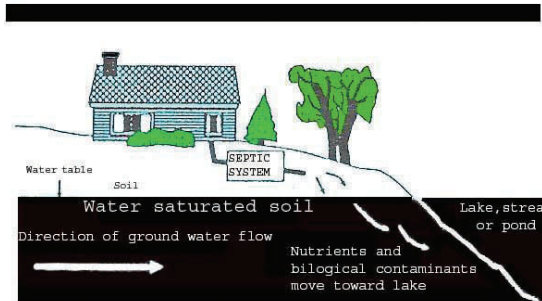
Since many water quality problems begin in our own backyards, we all must pitch in to do our part in keeping Chautauqua and its watersheds healthy. By informing the public of potential water quality concerns, the Task Force hopes to create a cooperative effort among homeowners, the business community, local elected officials, and visitors to help preserve water quality. We all enjoy the water, we can help keep it clean.

Non-point Source Pollution

Non-point source pollution (NPS) originated from many diffuse sources rather than from a single specific source. NPS pollution may include such things as failing septic systems, excessive lawn fertilizing, bilge water effluent, storm-water runoff, agricultural runoff, etc. By monitoring water quality within the watersheds, the Task Force hopes to develop effective strategies to control non-point source pollution.

Septic Systems

A poorly functioning septic system will allow untreated waste to enter the water underground water system. Have your septic tank pumped out and inspected regularly, usually every three years depending on use. Never dispose of hazardous or toxic materials into your septic system. Upgrade undersized or failing systems. Contact Cornell Cooperative Extension or the Chautauqua County Environmental Health Department for septic system management information.



Boating

Always use on-shore rest room or pump-out facilities.

Never release raw sewage into open waters.

Never use detergents or chemicals when washing your boat in the water. Instead use a soft cloth or scouring pad.



Lawn Fertilizers & Pesticides



Make sure the fertilizers and pesticides you use are the appropriate ones for your situation. Have your soil tested before applying, so you don't apply the wrong grade of fertilizer. Never over-apply. "A little more" does not mean "a little better." Dispose of and store your fertilizers and pesticides properly, someplace where they won't be wasted into surface and groundwater. Apply pesticides according to their labeled instructions. Contact Cornell Cooperative Extension for lawn care and gardening information.

Motor Oil & Household Chemicals

A single quart of motor oil could contaminate thousands of gallons of water. New York State requires service stations providing oil changes to accept used oil from individuals of recycling.

Purchase "green" cleaners, and especially those free of phosphates because phosphates are nutrients for algal and weed growth in waterbodies. Do your best to prevent spills or leakage of oils and chemicals.

Contact Cornell Cooperative Extension, Chautauqua County Department of Public Health, or Chautauqua County Department of Public Facilities for household hazardous waste information.

