

Hudson Estuary Watershed Resiliency Project

Flood Resilience Resources



Cornell University
Cooperative Extension



New York State
Water Resources Institute
Cornell University

For Municipal Officials

Flood Preparedness and Response: A Guide for Municipalities

This is a guide for municipal officials, highway supervisors and contractors to help them address the flooding of streams and creeks that affects bridges, roadways and other public infrastructure. It includes an overview of flooding concepts and terminology, outlines flood-smart strategies and how to prepare for a storm, explains what to do during and after a storm, provides information about a number of technical and funding resources and contact information for local, state, and federal agencies that can help.

Recommendations for Stream and Flood Management in Dutchess County

An excellent resource for any municipality in the Hudson Valley. Although this document was produced in Dutchess County, the recommendations are appropriate for all counties in the Hudson River Estuary Watershed. The purpose of the recommendations is to assist communities as they consider various options in addressing flooding and potential stream management. The information provided is up-to-date and presented in a clear and concise way. All municipal personnel involved in flood and stream management are encouraged to read this document.

Climate Smart Communities Certification Manual

New York State established the Climate Smart Communities (CSC) Program in 2009 to provide local governments with guidance on how to reduce GHG emissions, save taxpayer dollars, and advance community goals for health and safety, economic vitality, energy independence, and quality of life. This Certification Manual describes the actions Climate Smart Communities can take, the standards they must meet, and the procedures for submitting documentation for credit toward certification.

For Residents & Landowners

When flooding hits close to home... Who can you call?

How do I prevent erosion and stabilize the stream bank? What do I do when my property has been damaged by flooding? Do I need a permit? The handouts below guide landowners in answering these questions, and include technical and regulatory contacts that can help in each target region of the Mid-Hudson Valley:

- [Columbia County](#)
- [Dutchess County](#)
- [Greene County](#)
- [Orange County](#)
- [Putnam County](#)
- [Ulster County](#)

Stand by Your Stream

Streamside habitats are integrally connected to the health and ecology of fish and other organisms within the stream and to many terrestrial species as well. Streamside habitats also help improve water quality. Protection of the streamside habitat is critical. Proper care and management, however, depends not only on maintaining the integrity of the streamside but also on controlling activities in the watershed surrounding it. The three following guides from Cornell University's Department of Natural Resources are excellent resources for streamside landowners:

- [Streamside Protection: Why Bother?](#)
- [Streamside Management: Do's and Don'ts](#)
- [Streamside Restoration: A Team Effort](#)

Life at the Water's Edge

Developed by the Cuyahoga River Remedial Action Plan, Cuyahoga Soil & Water Conservation District, Summit Soil & Water Conservation District, and Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency, this colorful and informative guide provides recommendations for living in harmony with your backyard streams.

For Highway & Public Works Personnel

Post Flood Stream Intervention Training Manual

This training manual, created by the Delaware County Soil & Water Conservation District and Planning Department in partnership with NYS DEC, provides information on how to assess a post-flood scenario, decide where to begin the clean-up work, and how to properly approach an emergency response situation after a flood has occurred.

Stream Processes: A Guide to Living in Harmony with Streams

This resource, developed by the Chemung County Soil & Water Conservation District, provides background on stream basics and function, lends insight into how to manage streams and maintain stream buffers, and offers recommendations for living safely and prosperously in the watershed near to streams.

The Benefits of Reconnecting Hudson Valley Waterways

This brochure is a short & sweet resource highlighting the benefits of dam removal in the Hudson Valley. It discusses in brief the current state of dams in the region, the financial, infrastructural, ecological, and safety benefits of removing aquatic barriers in our watershed, and provides a short list of options and resources for dam removal.

Roadside Ditches: Best Management Practices to Reduce Floods, Droughts, and Water Pollution

This short guide, created by the Cornell Local Roads Program, was designed for highway and public works personnel and aims at providing best management practices regarding roadside ditches and their use for stormwater management.