

GUIDEBOOK

WATERSHED PLANS

Protecting and Restoring Water Quality



NEW YORK STATE

David A. Paterson, Governor
Lorraine A. Cortés-Vázquez, Secretary of State
Alexander B. Grannis, Commissioner, Environmental Conservation

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A MESSAGE FROM SECRETARY OF STATE LORRAINE A. CORTÉS -VÁZQUEZ AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION COMMISSIONER PETE GRANNIS

Whether we live in an urban neighborhood, a suburban community or the countryside, water plays a key role in our lives, supporting local businesses, providing recreational opportunities, sustaining fish and wildlife, and enriching our everyday experiences. Stewardship of our coastal and inland waterways and their watersheds is a privilege and responsibility shared by all New Yorkers.

This guidebook, prepared by the Department of State Division of Coastal Resources in partnership with the Department of Environmental Conservation Division of Water, presents the essential steps to watershed planning and contains case studies of dedicated individuals, agencies, and organizations across the State who are making a positive difference in the quality of their watersheds and their communities.

We hope this guidebook will encourage you to take a closer look at the waterbodies in your community, and build the neighborhood and broader networks needed to enhance communication and spur additional interest in watershed planning and implementation across the State. Our staff stand ready to help you protect and restore New York's diverse waterbodies and watersheds and look forward to hearing your ideas and questions.

For information about programs to restore and protect New York's water resources, visit the Department of Environmental Conservation's website, www.dec.ny.gov and the Division of Coastal Resources website www.nyswaterfronts.com, where you can also download this guidebook, view case studies, access additional information, or provide feedback.

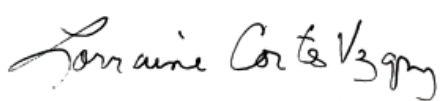

 

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Wappinger Creek, Wappingers Falls