



**Office of Planning  
and Development**

# **Watershed Planning and Community Revitalization: Opportunities for Communities**



**An Office of New York Department of State**

May 3, 2018

Boat launch – Village of Dexter, NY (Black River)

## Presentation Outline

1. Planning: DOS Intermunicipal Watershed Management Planning Program
2. Funding: DOS Local Waterfront Revitalization Program (LWRP)
3. Inland Waterway Designation
4. Successful Case Studies

May 3, 2018

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# 1.DOS Intermunicipal Watershed Management Planning Program

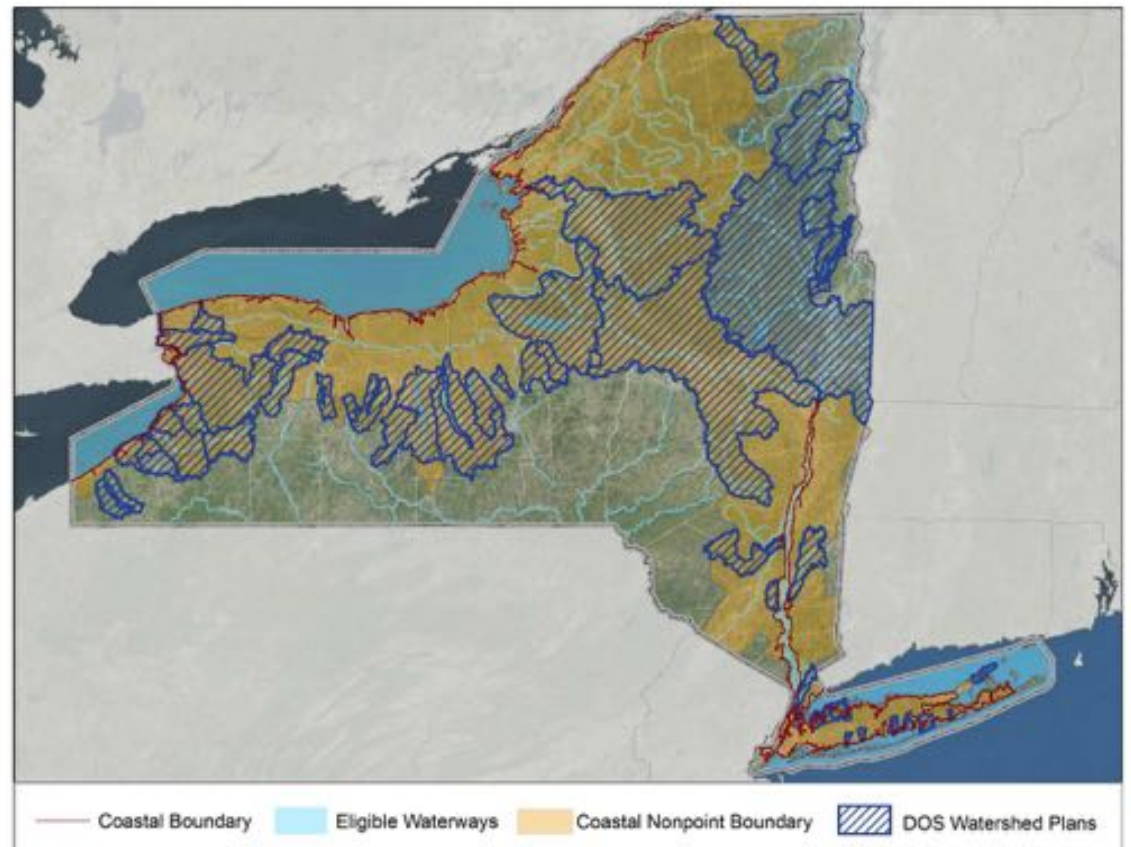


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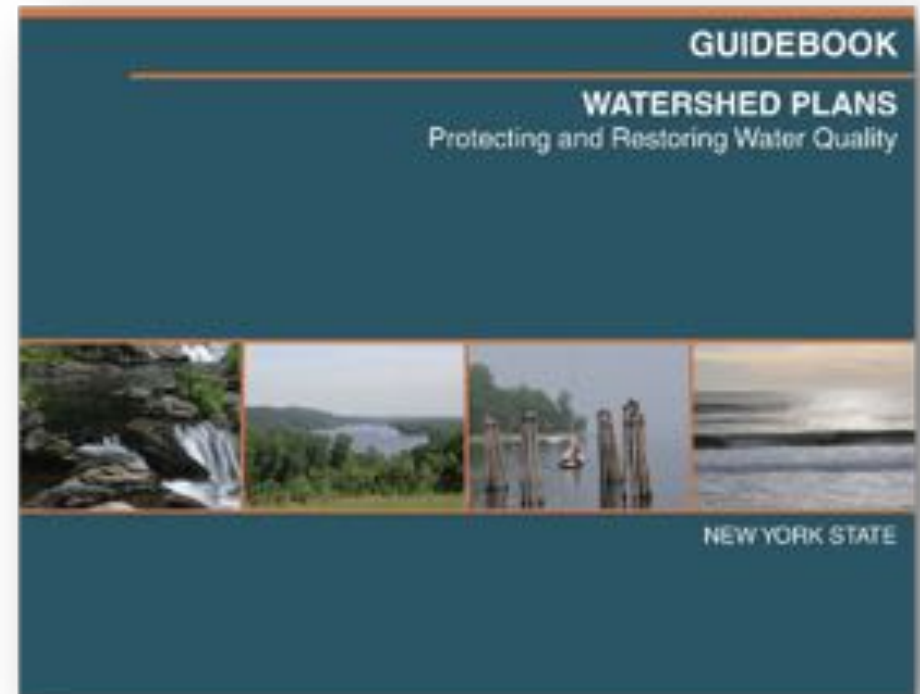
# Watershed Management Plans

- Coastal Waterways
- Designated Inland Waterways
  - NYS Executive Law, Article 42
- CNPCP Boundary
- 50+ Watershed Management Plans
  - 590 communities



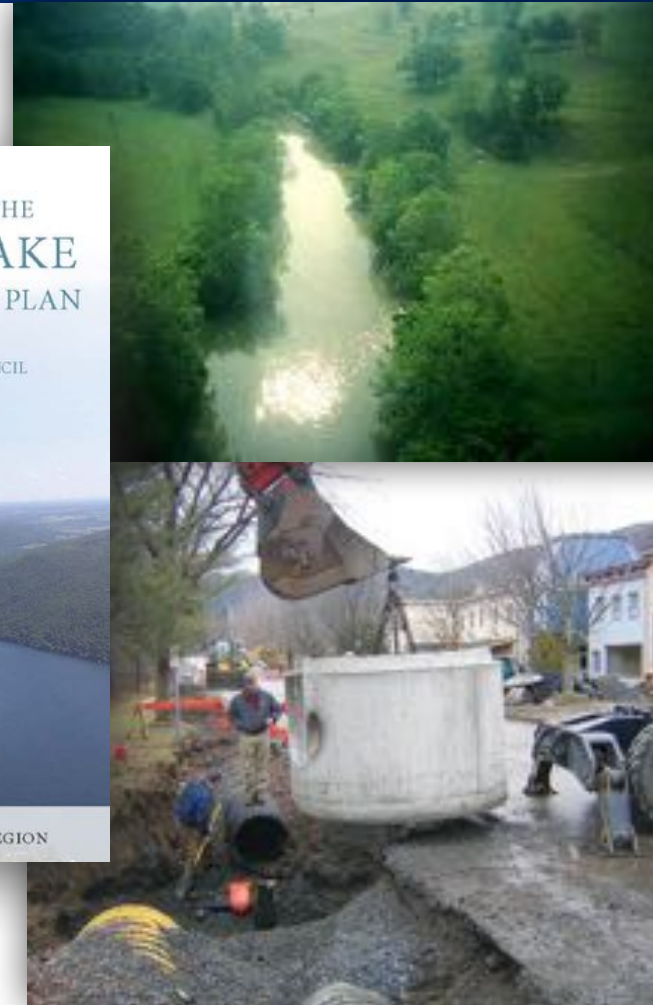
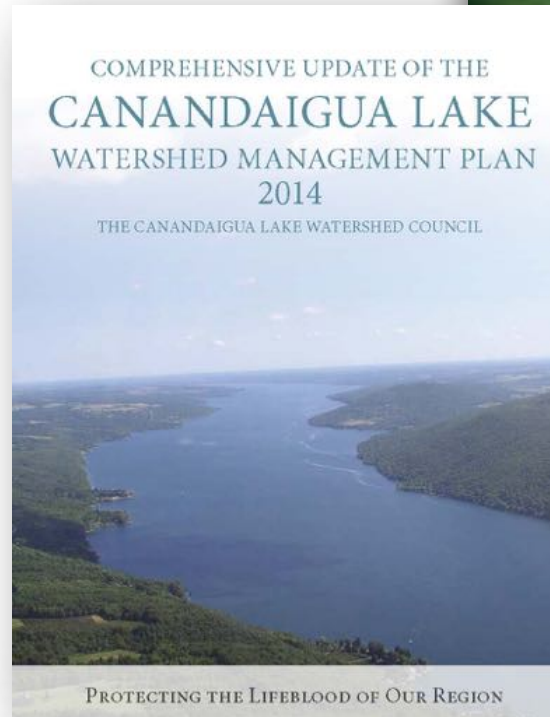
# Watershed Management Plans

- Why?
- Where?
- What?
- Who?
- How?



# Intermunicipal Organizations

- Create capacity
- Share
  - services
  - implementation
  - education and training
- Structure:
  - MOA/MOU
  - Organization



## Public Participation

- Outreach plan
- Advisory Committees
- Focus Groups



## Water Quality

- Impairments
  - Sediment, excess nutrients, pathogens
- Sources
  - Stream/road bank erosion, agriculture, road maintenance practices
- Trends
  - Changes over time

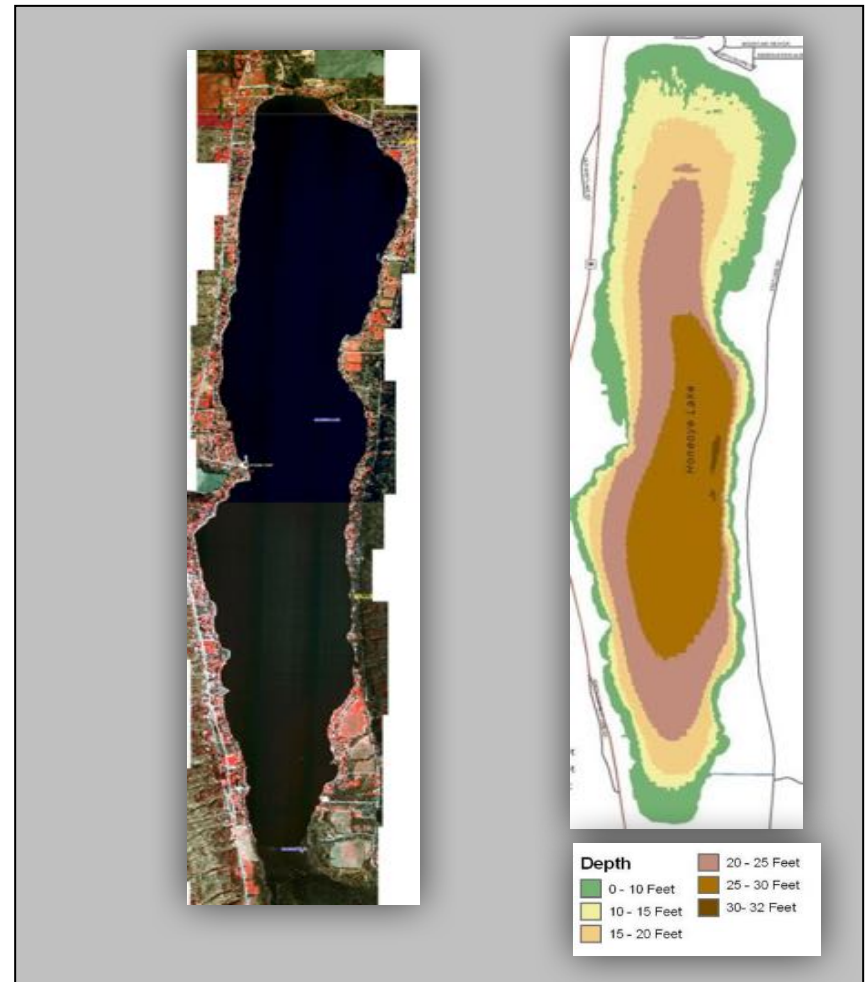




# Watershed Characterization

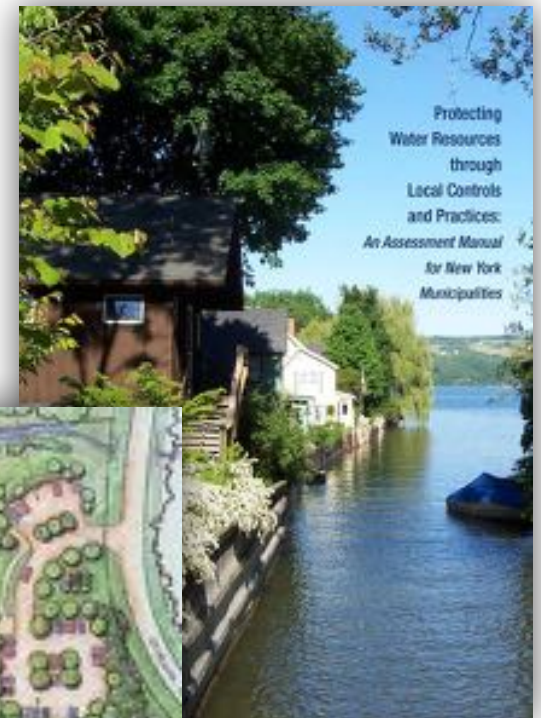
- Topography
- Subwatershed Delineation
- Soils
- Bedrock Geology
- Surficial Geology
- Land Cover
- Steep Slopes
- Sewer Districts
- Bathymetry

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## Regulatory and Programmatic

- Land use controls
- Municipal practices
  - Maintenance of stormwater infrastructure
  - Deicing
  - Planting
  - Education and outreach



# Restoration and Protection

- Stormwater BMPs
- Green Infrastructure
- Stream stabilization
- Wetland restoration
- Local land and water controls
  - Regulatory
  - Programmatic
- Municipal practices



# Implementation Strategy

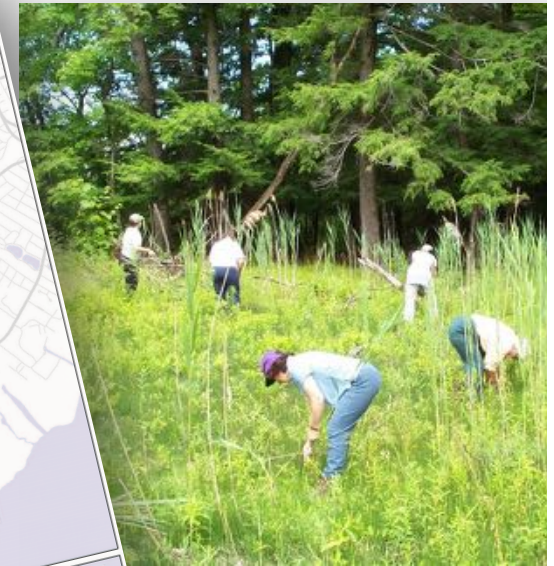
- Prioritizing recommendations
- Project leaders and involved organizations
- Timing
- Costs and funding sources

**Table 5.1 Sample Watershed Implementation Strategy**

Management Recommendation	Goal	Target Sub-watershed	Project Leader* & other involved organizations	Potential Funding Sources	Potential Cost†	Implementation Timing		
						1 year	2-5 years	5+ years
Build capacity of watershed organization and coordinator	1, 2, 4, 5	All	Watershed Task Force* SWCD, County Planning Dept., Town A, Town B	NYS DOS, NYS DEC, EPA	\$15,000	X		
Adopt local laws for environmental protection	10, 13, 14	All	Town A*, Town B*, NYSDOS, Regional Planning Council	NYS DOS	\$20,000-\$60,000	X		
Implement priority stream restoration	7, 10	A, C, E	Watershed Task Force*, NYS DEC, SWCD, Town B,	NYS DEC; Hudson River Estuary Program	\$260,000		X	
Install priority stormwater retrofit	11, 12	B, D, E	SWCD*, Watershed Task Force, Town A, NYS DOS, NYS DEC	NYS DEC; NYS DOS; NYS DOT	\$350,000		X	
Illicit discharge detection and elimination	11	C, E, F	Watershed Task Force*, Town B, County DOH	NYS DEC, NYS DOH, EPA	\$7,200	X		
Monitoring and project tracking	2, 3	All	Watershed Task Force*, NYS DEC, USGS			X	X	X

† Potential costs are for illustrative purposes only \* Denotes project leader

# Water Quality and beyond....



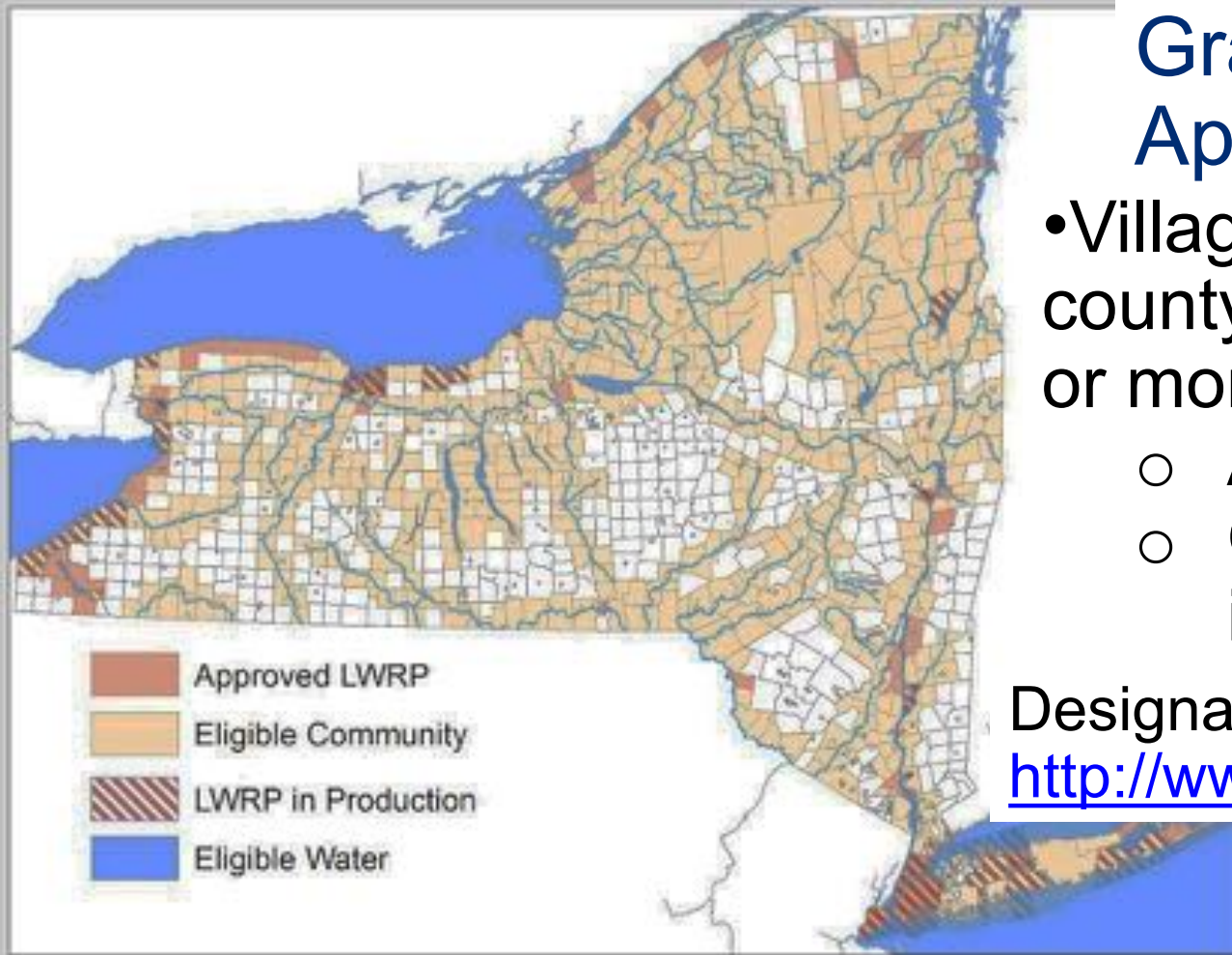
## 2. DOS Local Waterfront Revitalization Program (LWRP)



# DOS Office of Planning & Development

- Technical assistance
  - direct assistance
  - technical resources
- Facilitate partnerships
- Funding:
  - EPF-LWRP (Title 11)
    - municipal grants (75/25)
    - develop, update, implement





## Grants – Eligible Applicants

- Village, town, city, or county on behalf of one or more municipalities
  - Along NYS coast
  - On designated inland waterway

Designated Waterways List:  
<http://www.dos.ny.gov/funding/>



# Watershed Planning

Step 1: Prepare watershed plan  
use DOS/DEC framework

Step 2: Implement projects to  
protect and restore water resources

- Green infrastructure
- Stormwater management
- Revitalize waterfronts
- Support water dependent uses



# Watershed Planning

- Visioning
- Public Participation
- Inventory, analyze and characterizing
- Quantifying pollutant loading
- Preparing strategies for water quality
- Prioritizing project and actions
- Development of implementation strategies

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## Watershed Implementation

- Implement priority actions to protect and restore water resources
  - Green infrastructure
  - Stormwater management
- Amend or adopt local land and water use controls
- Education and outreach

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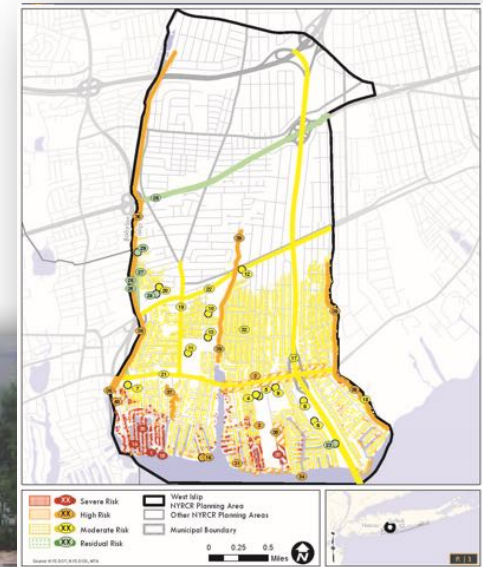


# Preparing or Implementing a Local Waterfront Revitalization Program (LWRP)



# Community Resiliency Strategy

- Flood-resilience plan for your community
- Assessment of risks and impacts to assets
- Identification of strategies



# 3. Inland Waterway Designation Process

# Steps to Waterway Designation

1. Contact: Your NYS Senator and Assembly Member
2. Request: They introduce a bill to:
  - Amend Section 1. Subdivision 4 of Section 911 of the NYS Executive Law, Article 42 to include the proposed waterway within the definition of inland waterways



## Steps to Waterway Designation

4. Prepare & provide to Senator & Assembly Member:

- Draft Bill – 1/2 page
- Draft Bill Summary – 1 to 3 pages including:
  - Historical significance of the waterway
  - Water resource significance of the waterway
  - Recreational significance of the waterway
  - Communities along the waterway
- Current Waterways list (2017)





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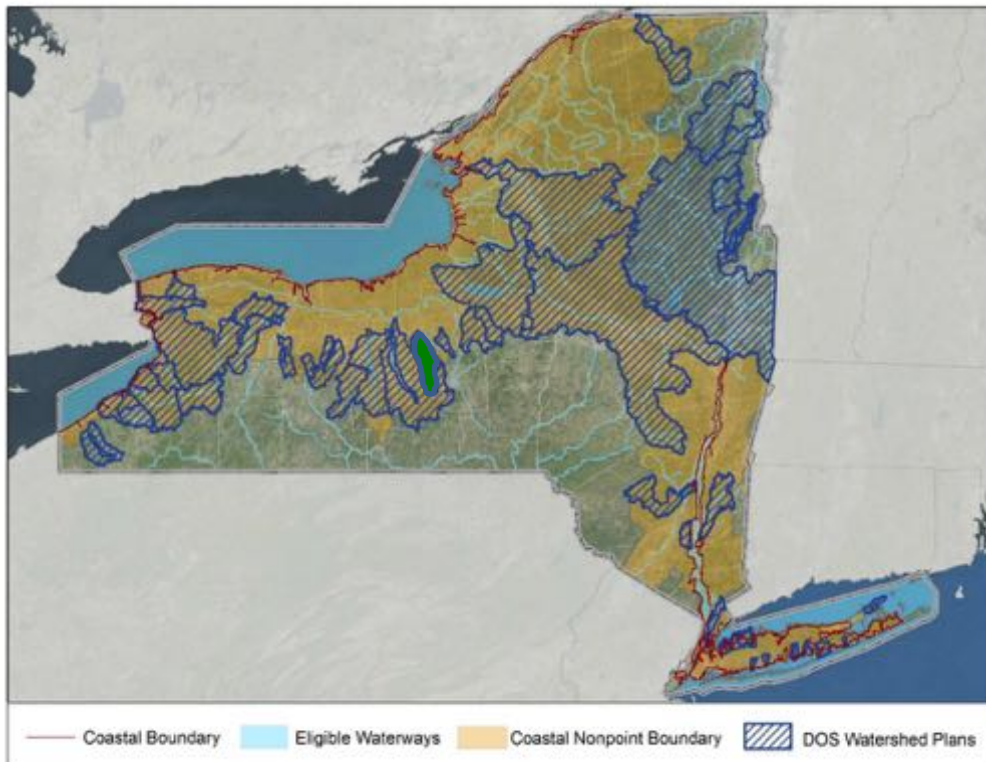
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## 4. Successful Case Studies

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# Owasco Lake Watershed- Overview

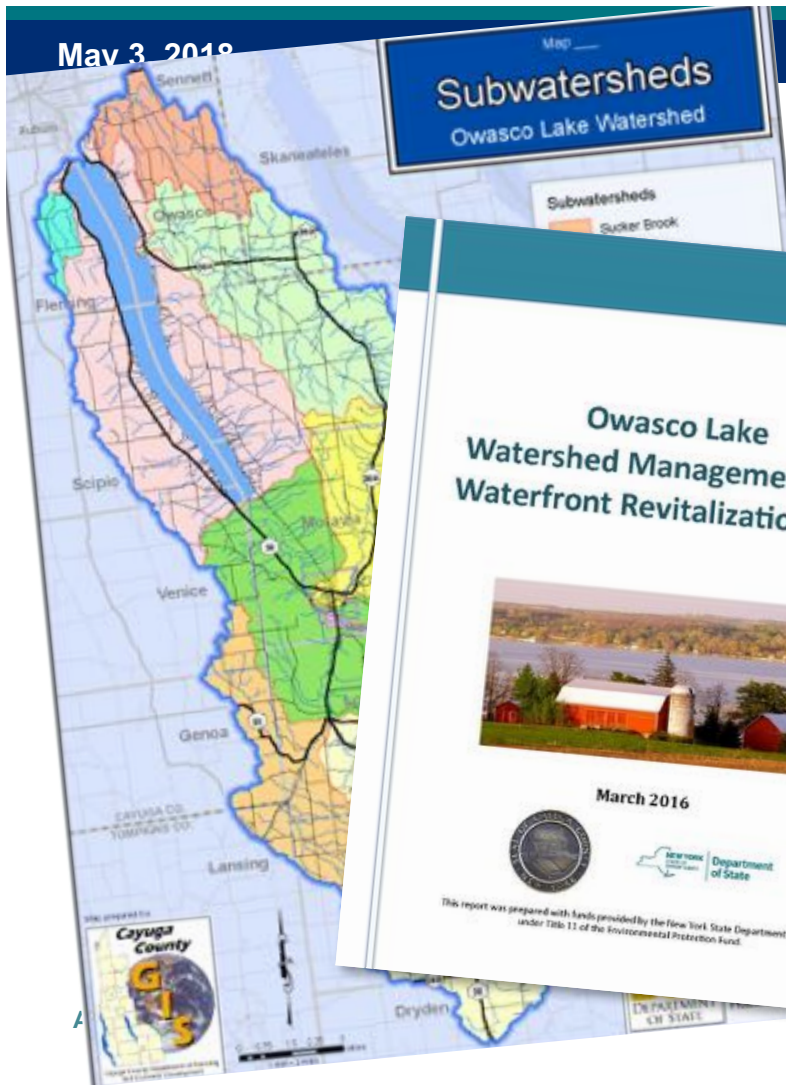


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- Finger Lakes Region
- 205 square miles
- 3 Counties
  - 13 Towns
  - 2 Villages
- Planning oversight: **Cayuga County**
- Watershed Management Council

# Owasco Lake Watershed

- Vision Statement
- Defined Main Challenges
- Identified Water Quality Changes
- Identified Recommendations
- Identified Metrics for Measuring Progress



# Canandaigua Lake Watershed - Overview

- Finger Lakes region
- 174 square miles
- 14 municipalities,  
4 counties
- Primary issue: Non-point source pollution



# Canandaigua Lake Watershed – Planning

- 1980's - Canandaigua Lake Watershed Task Force
- 1994 - State of the Lake Report
- 1998 - Municipalities partnered on DOS/EPF Watershed Plan grant



# Canandaigua Lake Watershed – Planning

- 1999
  - Watershed Plan
  - **Canandaigua Lake Watershed Council formed by Intermunicipal Agreement**
  - **Watershed Manager**
- 2014
  - Update of Watershed Plan.
- 8 implementation grants



## Canandaigua Lake Watershed – Projects

- Road & streambank stabilization
- Boat Carrying Capacity Study
- Watershed signs and kiosks
- Canandaigua Lake Water Trail
- Stormwater wetland–flood control
- Regulations: Development setbacks; Soil Erosion & Stormwater Management
- Municipally-adopted Lawn and Landscape Management Policy



## Ausable River Watershed - Overview

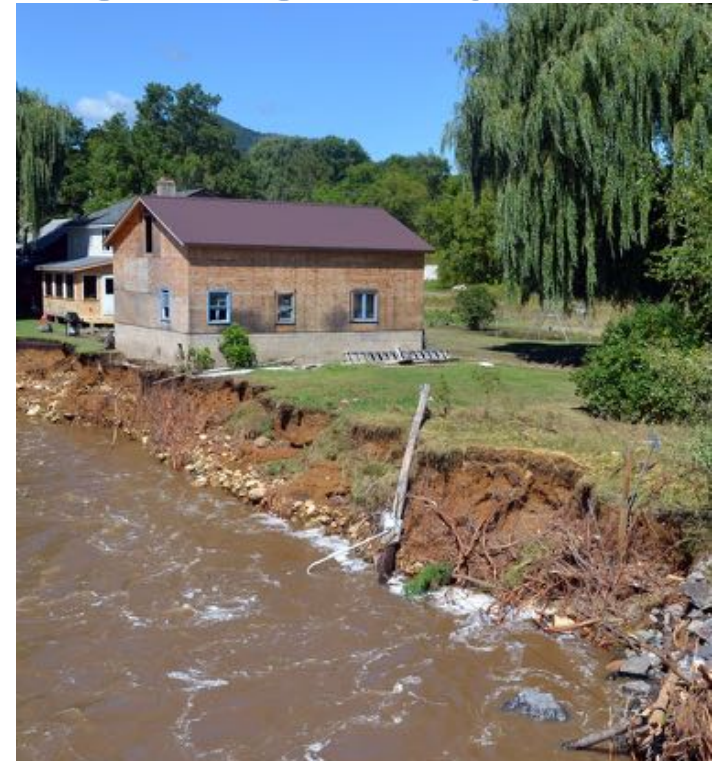
- Adirondack peaks to Lake Champlain
- 512 square miles 10 municipalities, 2 counties
- Planning oversight:  
**Ausable River Association**
- Primary issue: Point and non-point source pollution





## Ausable River Watershed – Ongoing projects

- Prioritizing stream banks for stabilization/restoration
- Outfall inventory - mapping:
  - Storm drains, culverts & bridges
  - Large impervious surfaces
- Monitoring - Water quality and invasive species
- Assessing gaps in local laws



# Ausable River Watershed – Success Story

## \*Leveraging projects through partnerships\*

### 1. Prioritize culverts for replacement

- Scientific Assessment: The Nature Conservancy, USFWS, SUNY Plattsburgh
- Local Priorities: Town Highway Depts, Essex Co. DPW, SWCD
- Workshops for best practices
- **\$\$** DOS, Lake Champlain Basin Program



# Ausable River Watershed – Success Story

## \*Leveraging projects through partnerships\*

2. Culvert replacement –  
NYSDOT; NY Rising  
Community Reconstruction  
Plan (Jay/Keene); listed in  
North Country REDC

- Benefits:

- Restore fish passage (trout)
- Reduce flooding, storm-related road closures



## DOS OPD - Watershed Program

NYS DOS, 99 Washington Ave, Suite 1010  
Albany, NY 12231 <http://www.dos.ny.gov/opd/>

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# Thank you!

