

NEWS from the Catskill Watershed Corp

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December 3, 2015

CWC awards three stormwater grants

Three grants for projects to correct stormwater problems in Greene and Delaware Counties were approved December 1 by the Board of Directors of the Catskill Watershed Corp. (CWC).

The grants, totaling \$595,366, were awarded under the Stormwater Retrofit Program which addresses existing stormwater runoff problems that threaten water quality.

The Onteora Club in Tannersville, the Greene County Highway Department and the Village of Margaretville were successful applicants in the 2015 funding round.

The Onteora Club's \$236,366 grant will be utilized to complete a design to treat stormwater runoff from more than 136 acres, nine acres of which are impervious surfaces like pavement and roofs. The project area includes 60 homes and four miles of roadway along County Road 23C in the Schoharie Reservoir basin.

The proposed scope of work could potentially include bioretention areas, vegetated filter strips and 36 rain gardens. Two miles of ditches could be widened, stabilized and vegetated. The Club will cover the cost of roadway drainage improvements as its share of the project, which will be designed by Kaaterskill Engineers.

The Club is expected to return to the Catskill Watershed for construction funding when design plans are complete and approved.

The Village of Margaretville was awarded \$99,000 to develop plans for a project to treat runoff that currently carries pollutants and sediment into the Binnekill Stream and the East Branch of the Delaware River from the parking lot behind the municipal building and along a stretch of Main Street between Walnut Street and the Bull Run Stream crossing.

Lamont Engineers proposes to replace four catch basins with deep sump basins, regrade a section of Main Street to drain into those basins, install a new stormwater outfall in the Village Park, and install underground pipe storage arrays under the NBT and municipal parking lots.

The Village is expected to return to the CWC for construction funding when design plans are complete and approved.

The Greene County Highway Department will use its \$260,000 grant to purchase a new street sweeper and vacuum truck to clean streets and roads and maintain culverts, inlets and other stormwater infrastructure in Mountaintop Towns within the New York City Watershed. The vehicle will be stored in Hunter and will be used in the Towns of Hunter and Lexington, the Villages of Hunter and Tannersville, and part of the Town of Jewett. It will also be available for use on Schoharie basin roads in the Towns of Gilboa, Conesville and Roxbury.

An older sweeper/vacuum truck which was acquired with an earlier CWC grant remains in service and is used in the Towns of Ashland, Windham, Prattsville and parts of Jewett. Together these vehicles service 626 lane miles, curbing pollutant loading into the Schoharie Creek and its tributaries.

The CWC is a non-profit, Local Development Corporation responsible for several environmental protection, economic development and education programs in the New York City Watershed West of the Hudson River. www.cwconline.org.

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