

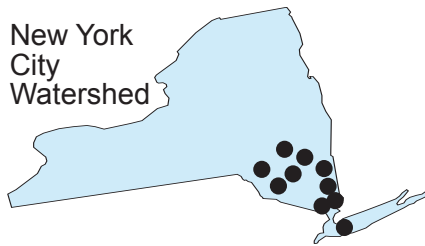
## Watershed Operations

April 2009

## *Investing in the New York City Watershed, New York State*

### Introduction

This project covers an area of 1.2 million acres. It is part of a much larger effort to supply 9 million New York City residents with clean drinking water. Through the use of extensive environmental assessments, planning, and improved management practices, the risk of pollution is reduced and water quality is improved.



Project location in Delaware, Greene, Schoharie, Dutchess, Putnam, Rockland, Nassau, Westchester, Ulster, and Sullivan Counties.

### Project Description

- **Location:** Delaware, Greene, Schoharie, Dutchess, Putnam, Rockland, Nassau, Westchester, Ulster, and Sullivan Counties; 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, and 22nd Congressional Districts
- **Federal Funding:** \$1,000,000
- **Sponsor Funding:** \$3,800,000

This project is located in the southeast corner of New York. The area's water supply system contains 19 reservoirs and 3 lakes with controlled water levels. Funding will support 85 agricultural construction projects to be installed in 2009 and 2010. These projects generate the development of farm plans and the design and installation of conservation practices with a particular emphasis on waterborne pathogens, nutrients, and sediments.

### Partners

- USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service
- New York City Department of Environmental Protection
- New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
- Delaware County Soil and Water Conservation District
- New York Watershed Agriculture Council
- Cornell University Cooperative Extension

Funded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009, this project is part of the Obama Administration's plans to modernize the nation's infrastructure, jump-start the economy, and create jobs. NRCS is using Recovery Act dollars to update aging flood control structures, protect and maintain water supplies, improve water quality, reduce soil erosion, enhance fish and wildlife habitat, and restore wetlands. NRCS acquires easements and restores floodplains to safeguard lives and property in areas along streams and rivers that have experienced flooding.



Waste storage during construction.

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## Investing in The New York City Watershed, New York State

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### Benefits

This project is part of a much larger effort to provide improved drinking water for 9 million people in New York City. It assists farmers in building better management systems, and supports sustainable agriculture.

### Economic Opportunities

The project will create or save jobs in the construction industry and increase farm productivity. The expanded demand for construction supplies and agricultural equipment will provide a local economic boost to assist in community development. The long-term environmental improvements will enhance farm sustainability and profitability.

### Statewide Perspective

The use of proven conservation practices will result in improving the overall water quality in the State of New York. The New York City water supply system is one of the largest surface water storage and supply systems in the world. These practices benefit the entire resource conservation effort in New York.

### For More Information

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Covered barnyard during construction to reduce pollution and improve quality.

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