

Esopus Creek Stream Management Planning Process
Education & Outreach Working Group Meeting
CCE Phoenicia Office
Wednesday, January 11, 2006
Meeting Report

Present: Christine Baltz, Aaron Bennett, Jenny Burkins, Michael Courtney, Dan Davis, Ted French, Jenn Greiser, Pat Rudge, and Michelle Spark, Ros McIntosh

1. Accepted minutes of December 7, 2005
2. Updates and Reports

Website – Contract has been approved with Dave Channon. The homepage is up. Currently working on interactive additions to the site. This should be completed within the next 4 months.

- Riparian Buffers Brochure Meeting to be held in Margaretville.
- Watershed Brochure – DEP is partnering to produce a brochure on Riparian Buffer information. This should be ready by summer.

Calendar dates – Dates were discussed for the Open House and Streamside Landowners Meetings. General consensus was that the meetings needed to be held on weekends. Not enough notice in Newsletter for the meetings. Suggestion also made to expand office hours outside business hours.

3. Planning 2006 Activities –

Planned Upcoming Events:

- Open House: Friday, Feb. 10, 4pm-7pm (This is the new date since meeting)
- Diane Galusha – Information on the Watershed, Wednesday, February 22, 2006 from 6:30 – 8:00.
- Bob Titus – Geologist, March 29 – 7pm-8:30pm
- Streamside Landowners Focus Group – Feb 2, 6:30-8pm. (This is the new date since meeting)
- Kayakers/whitewater focus group- Feb. 28 6pm-7:30. (This is the new date since meeting)
- Stream 101 – For professionals and landowners, 2 Saturdays, one inside, one out on the stream. Date/time TBA

Working Group Suggested Activities:

- Ted French spoke about a community spirit project he is interested in organizing. Would be a breakfast with a short opportunity for education, then clean up loose-lying flood debris outside of the creek (with wood being

donated to those in need or to Shandaken Day) followed by an evening town dinner/dance. He will return with a list of what needs to be done. Ted will meet with Jeremy and Michael before the next meeting.

- Pat Rudge suggested producing a magnet with information about Japanese knotweed. She will look into more information, prices, design with 4H youth.
- Michelle would like to do a mural project with teens. She will look into cost, arts grant opportunities, partners.
- Dan suggested a habitat assessment, creek survey, Anglers Catch.
- Michael will further research capacity required for “Master Watershed Steward” Program.
- Ros M. stated that Zen Environmental Studies Institute has a stream monitoring program, which Michael will discuss further with Ros about possibilities of training other groups.
- Michael will follow-up with members to assist with finding any needed resources or information.
- Jenn mentioned that as we develop activities, we need to ensure that it results in a cohesive outreach program.
- Michael will follow up with talking to County Soil & Water Conservation District about interest in participating in the Education WG.

Summary: Working Group members will gather information on proposed projects for next meeting - group will discuss: project steps, look at one-year timeline, and aligning in cohesive plan.

4. Newsletter was handed out for review

**NEXT MEETING DATE:
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 11AM-1PM**