



Stormwater Coalition of Albany County

Charter Members

Albany County

City of Albany

Town of Bethlehem

City of Cohoes

Town of Colonie

Village of Colonie

Village of Green Island

Town of Guilderland

Village of Menands

Town of New Scotland

Village of Voorheesville

City of Watervliet

Supporter

Capital District
Regional Planning
Commission

Albany County
Soil and Water
Conservation
District

DATE: 2/3/09

CONTACT: Nancy Heinzen (447-5645)
Mary Witkowski (447-7040)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Eleven Local Municipalities and Albany County Sign an Intermunicipal Agreement to Tackle Stormwater Pollution!

In response to Federal and State-level stormwater regulations and a need to address stormwater pollution entering local streams, lakes, and rivers, eleven municipalities and Albany County agreed to share municipal services and collaborate on key stormwater program requirements.

As stewards of local water resources, members of the recently formed Stormwater Coalition of Albany, will collectively plan and implement a variety of water-related programs, focusing on public education, public participation activities, training, mapping, and enforcement of recently adopted local laws to protect water quality.

Albany County is serving as host of the Coalition, providing much needed administrative support. County Executive Michael Breslin praised the Coalition as an opportunity to work collaboratively and share resources to improve water quality. "Stormwater pollution is an intermunicipal problem, defined by gravity. Stormwater flows downhill, and all of the municipalities within a shared watershed have a role to play to protect and improve water quality. This is also a cost effective way to both share services and collaborate effectively."

Nancy Heinzen, Stormwater Program Coordinator for the Coalition, is also excited about the Coalition. "For the past three years, I've been working with the same group of municipalities, now members of the Coalition, implementing a variety of water quality programs funded with NYSDEC grant money. Each member of the Coalition brings to the table valuable skills all grounded in the day-to-day reality of providing municipal services. This is a talented and attentive intermunicipal team and I look forward to working with the Coalition."

From Sean Ward, Chairman of the Stormwater Coalition, "This is a textbook example of the benefits of working together toward a common goal, in this case the protection of water, our greatest natural resource. Through the Stormwater Coalition, our 12 municipal entities will collaborate in meeting the mandates as set forth in the Federal Clean Water Act and work as one in our efforts to better the water quality in all of our communities."

For more information about the Coalition and to get involved with Coalition public participation activities, call 447-5645.

c/o Albany County Department of Economic Development, Planning, and Conservation
112 State Street, Room 720, Albany, NY 12207
(518) 447-5645(voice) (518) 447-5662(fax)