

## **Section 7. Plan Implementation**

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This Stream Management Plan should ideally evolve with the goals and values of the community, the policy makers and those policies that affect stream management. In order to ensure that the Plan continues to be useful to the community, the Plan needs ongoing maintenance and updating in the months and years ahead. The recommendations in this plan are unlikely to be implemented without ongoing collaboration between agencies, community organizations and the public at large. The first step in that collaborative effort will involve taking the plan to the public for review, comment and revision.

First, we recommend that the Stony Clove Creek Project Advisory Committee (PAC) continue as an organization, meeting at least bi-annually to review progress towards implementing the plan and to assess new issues and opportunities as they arise. A member of the PAC should be selected to serve as a Coordinator to set up meetings and ensure changes get implemented. The Stony Clove Creek Watershed Association will play a central role in keeping the Management Plan current, as streamside residents have “first-responder” knowledge of changes and needs in the watershed. A member of this organization should be selected to work with the PAC representative to ensure meetings are held and changes or updates are made to the plan to best serve the community.

Agenda for ongoing meetings could include:

- Review of the recommendations in the Plan and identification of projects to implement or pursue;
- Identification of obstacles to implementation and development of strategies for overcoming these obstacles;
- Evaluation of progress toward implementing Plan recommendations (List of accomplishments or projects completed);
- Development of proposals and applications for grants available for stream work and stewardship, and documentation of sources both sought and received, to avoid redundancy;
- Updating resource and contact information;
- Identification of emerging issues that may require new recommendations to be included in the Plan;
- Identification of recommendations that are not practicable, or are no longer relevant;
- Review of demonstration project monitoring information, and any landowner ongoing monitoring of specific sites;

- Amendment of the Plan, as needed.

As on-going active members of the PAC themselves, the Ulster and Greene County Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCD), the NYC DEP Stream Management Program (NYC DEP SMP) and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYS DEC) should also provide assistance to these groups, both within the PAC and as needed, and especially to the Towns of Shandaken and Hunter and the Stony Clove Creek Watershed Association, in cooperation with whom most programs or projects are likely to be implemented. These agencies should proactively provide the other members with up-to-date information regarding funding and other resources available for stream-related activities, as well as changing regulations, guidance on best management practices (BMPs), workshops and important contact information.

As members of the Project Advisory Committee change over time, other members should orient them to the effort that went into the development of the Stream Management Plan, including its goals and strategies. As policies change and other issues arise that impact the management of the stream, these changes should be reflected, where necessary, as amendments to the Management Plan.