

We believe that *all water that falls onto any property, whether lakeside or inland within the Lake George Park, must be managed on that property, at or close to the source.*

The Assembly Point Water Quality Awareness Committee will present its revisions of Queensbury Town Code 147.11 to the Lake George Park Commission and encourages other committees and towns to support the revisions to the Stormwater Management Regulations. The goal is to have all properties within the Lake George Park responsible for reasonably retrofitting their property to manage stormwater.

Until we enact actual regulations, property owners can do a great deal to protect Lake George. Committees can help raise awareness specific to their own neighborhoods; for example, our committee has learned when considering paving or repaving driveways and parking areas, owners can choose **permeable** pavement alternatives. Instead of repaving to this: do this:



Pervious pavers

Everyone's neighborhood has different concerns; we won't all have the same approaches and solutions to the common problems. Will **your neighborhood** form a **Water Quality Awareness Committee**? For information on Assembly Point Water Quality Awareness Committee: Lisa Adamson: 656-9794; teccaluza@hotmail.com Lorraine Ruffing: 656-9440; lorraineruffing@hotmail.com The Fund for Lake George: Kathy Bozony, Natural Resource Specialist: 668-9700; kbozony@lakegeorgewaterkeeper.org

A CALL TO RESIDENTS IN AND NEAR THE LAKE GEORGE PARK TO ESTABLISH WATER QUALITY AWARENESS COMMITTEES

Concerned residents and property owners around lakes, rivers and stream corridors throughout the United States are forming local action groups, becoming involved in and speaking out on the health and safety issues relating to our waterbodies. Lake George needs water quality awareness committees in each town and community to help stem increasing nutrient loading sediment in runoff and fertilizer and pesticide use, which is stimulating the growth of algal blooms at an alarming rate. **Lake George is deteriorating.**



Dead zone off Diamond Island, Southern Basin, Lake George due to reduced oxygen levels from increasing algal blooms

WHAT CAN A NEIGHBORHOOD WATER QUALITY AWARENESS COMMITTEE DO FOR THE LAKE?



Residents working with resource specialist to create shoreline buffer

- Contact our representatives and environmental agencies; attend town meetings
- Share resource lists of landscapers, lawn maintenance companies, contractors and companies who are eco-friendly
- Share lists of safe products for use in our homes and septic systems
- Create a network of Lake George Water Quality Awareness Committees through internet and mailing lists
- Ask questions, make use of resource specialists around the lake to educate ourselves about best management practices and solutions

WHAT/WHO IS THE ASSEMBLY POINT WATER QUALITY AWARENESS COMMITTEE?

Several years ago, a number of us began walking the length of Assembly Point daily. We saw that our road, right next to and sloping toward the lake with a steep drop to the lake, was inadequately buffered, and stormwater was not being managed. The runoff from the road was worsened by the fact that properties with impervious driveways and even intersecting roads also released stormwater onto roadways next to the lake. Assembly Point Road is similar to a number of roads around the Lake George Park which have inadequate stormwater management.

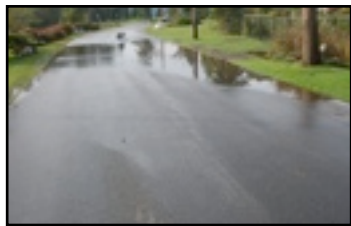


Infiltration was lacking and properties had little or no apparent stormwater management (rain gardens, buffers or other stormwater management devices).

Road salt and de-icers, snow runoff, sand, fertilizers and pesticides all flow freely into the lake off nearby roads.



In the wake of Tropical Storm Irene,



we walked the Point to inventory downed trees (over 900 counted). Assembly Point has a high water table, and now, with the impact of losing these trees and their root systems, denuded ridges and a saturated condition may increase runoff.

Our daily exercise routine took on a different meaning as we organized into an action group. We hoped that we could be the eyes for this small part of Lake George, reporting what we saw regarding water quality impacts to the responsible agencies.

ACTIONS INITIATED BY THE ASSEMBLY POINT WATER QUALITY AWARENESS COMMITTEE

Fall 2010

- *Education:* Resource specialist from the Fund for Lake George, Kathy Bozony, was invited to talk to property owners
- *Door to door:* Passed out copies of the "Do It Yourself Water Quality" guide to property owners on Assembly Point
- *Contacted representatives:* Walked Assembly Point Road with Councilmen Tony Metivier and John Strough; later invited them to meet with concerned residents



Winter 2011

- *Voiced concern:* Spoke at two Queensbury Town Board Meetings, presenting to the Board our concerns about the necessity to create infiltration for road runoff

Late summer 2011

- *Shore Colony* homeowners planted shoreline buffer on lakeside slopes
- *Informal group, "Ladies of the Lake," formed:* Resident committee addressed lack of action by Town to manage stormwater on Assembly Point Road and met to assess the extreme situation caused by Tropical Storm Irene

Fall 2011

- *Revisions began* to strengthen the Town of Queensbury and LGPC Stormwater Management Regulations. Proposed regulations included requiring stormwater management retrofits

Winter 2012

- *"Assembly Point Water Quality Awareness Committee"* (new name) met with, and made a presentation to, the Queensbury Town Board and representative from Warren County Soil and Water Conservation District to clarify Town responsibility for runoff on Assembly Point Road; Town agreed to support an information campaign to educate property owners on stormwater management

Upcoming

- Collaborate with the Fund to create a pamphlet with ideas for residents to protect and restore Lake George water quality

April/May/June 2012

- Pass out donated seedlings (trees and shrubs) to residents to replant trees lost during Tropical Storm Irene
- Encourage residents to join water quality committees

May 2012

- Attend the LGPC meeting together with other local neighborhood committees to address lake water quality issues



Lakeside buffer planting