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**GOVERNOR ANNOUNCES \$5.8 MILLION TO IMPROVE WATER QUALITY  
Funding to Support 60 Projects to Reduce Runoff and Improve Aquatic Habitat**

Governor George E. Pataki today announced more than \$5.8 million in grants for 60 water quality improvement projects throughout New York State that will help to reduce the amount of pollution in waterways and restore critical aquatic habitats.

“Our efforts to improve water quality in the Empire State are vital to ensuring that people have access to clean, healthy water and our pollution does not harm important aquatic habits,” Governor Pataki said. “These grants support local water quality improvement projects and will provide needed funding to restore, preserve, and protect our water resources. We are pleased to partner with local communities in this effort and will continue to provide assistance to promote beneficial projects.”

State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Commissioner Denise M. Sheehan, who today visited Monroe County to make an award presentation, said, “Governor Pataki and DEC look forward to providing ongoing support to efforts that control water pollution from all sources so that communities can protect and enhance New York’s natural resources. The grants announced today will help municipalities and other entities move forward with important water quality improvement projects and continue making strides in preserving our rivers, lakes and estuaries.”

Senator Joseph Robach said, “We must continue our efforts to improve water quality and protect the environment in our community and this is a tremendous step in the right direction. This grant from Governor Pataki will go a long way to accomplish that goal in Monroe County without impacting our local taxpayers.”

Monroe County Executive Maggie Brooks said, “Once again, Governor Pataki has come through for the people of Monroe County. The grants announced today will support our county’s continuing efforts to prevent soil erosion, and reduce storm water discharge into Lake Ontario. I’d like to thank Governor Pataki and Commissioner Sheehan for their continued support of Monroe County’s efforts to protect our natural resources.”

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A total of \$2,931,644 will be awarded to 34 municipalities and Soil and Water

Conservation Districts (SWCDs) through the State's Nonagricultural Nonpoint Source Abatement and Control Program. These grants will assist with projects to reduce water pollution from runoff sources other than agriculture. Stormwater runoff is a major source of our water pollution in New York since it carries soil, animal waste, automotive fluids, and other contaminants into our waterways.

In addition, 26 projects are being funded with a total of \$2,903,876 to help municipalities comply with the State's implementation of the federal Clean Water Act's Phase II stormwater controls. The projects will help 253 municipalities in 19 counties protect water quality by implementing measures to limit stormwater runoff and control pollutants from runoff. Previous grants for communities working on Phase II stormwater management programs totaled more than \$5.8 million.

The Phase II stormwater program requires approximately 450 communities across the State to obtain permit coverage of their Municipal Separate Storm Sewers Systems (MS4) to reduce stormwater discharges into waterways. A municipal separate storm sewer system is a conveyance or system of conveyances that could include roads with drainage systems, municipal streets, catch basins, curbs, gutters, ditches, man-made channels, or storm drains that move water and discharge it into streams, rivers, and lakes. Under the Phase II stormwater program, regulated MS4s are to develop and implement a Stormwater Management Program by January of 2008. By providing these grants to municipalities, New York will help these communities achieve Phase II compliance by this deadline.

Since 1995, New York State has committed \$62.3 million from the Environmental Protection Fund (EPF) for nonpoint source abatement and control projects. This includes more than \$27 million in non-agricultural nonpoint source abatement and control projects. New York also has committed approximately \$9.7 billion in grants and loans through the Clean Water State Revolving Fund, the 1996 Clean Water/Clean Air Bond Act, and the EPF for projects that protect and enhance water quality.

A list of the projects receiving funding announced today follows.

## **Nonagricultural Nonpoint Source Abatement and Control Program Grants**

### **Chautauqua County**

- Town of Portland – \$45,830 for the Burr and Thayer Road ditch erosion control project.
- Chautauqua County SWCD – \$29,060 for Chautauqua Lake Watershed road/ditch stabilization demonstration project.

### **Chemung County**

- Chemung County SWCD – \$165,000 for Chemung County road bank/ditch training and stabilization project.

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### **Erie County**

- Town of Amherst – \$110,500 for stormwater management improvements at town facilities.

### **Jefferson County**

- Jefferson County SWCD – \$36,000 for a soil stabilization project.

### **Monroe County**

- Monroe County Stormwater Coalition – \$16,174 for the purchase of a hydroseeder for critical area seeding.

### **Nassau County**

- City of Glen Cove – \$95,000 for design and construction of stormwater retrofit systems.
- Village of Laurel Hollow – \$40,000 for Laurel Hollow Road drainage improvements.
- Village of Oyster Bay – \$80,000 for Yellow Cote Road drainage improvements.

### **Onondaga County**

- Onondaga County SWCD – \$73,050 for Onondaga County critical area seeding.

### **Orange County**

- Orange County SWCD – \$15,000 for Pine/Maple Park stormwater retrofit project.

### **Putnam County**

- Town of Patterson – \$72,000 for stormwater basin retrofit project.
- Town of Putnam Valley – \$87,500 for Putnam Valley Road maintenance and stormwater improvement project.
- Town of Patterson – \$60,000 for Putnam Lake stormwater project.
- Department of Highways and Facilities – \$120,000 for maintenance facility stormwater improvement.

### **Rockland County**

- Village of Piermont – \$90,267 for the implementation of a stormwater management and maintenance project.

### **Schuyler County**

- Schuyler County – \$22,500 for Coon Hollow Road streambank stabilization.

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### **Seneca County**

- Seneca County SWCD (2 grants) – \$24,250 for Town road bank stabilization project in the Cayuga Lake Watershed and \$12,250 for
- Seneca County Roadbank Stabilization Project in the Cayuga Lake Watershed.

### **Steuben County**

- Steuben County SWCD (2 grants) – \$43,185 for Meads Creek streambank stabilization project and \$43,185 for Cohocton River Smith Hill Road streambank stabilization.

### **Suffolk County**

- Suffolk County (2 grants) – \$677,500 for stormwater remediation to County Road 80, Montauk Highway at Forge River (Segment 1 and Segment 2), Southampton – \$125,000 for stormwater abatement activities in the Peconic Estuary and the South Shore Estuary Reserve (Segment 1).
- Town of Huntington – \$100,000 for Bayview Drive/ Knollwood Beach stormwater runoff mitigation.
- Suffolk County, Department of Public Works – \$275,000 for stormwater remediation to Narrow Bay at County Road 46, William Floyd Parkway (Segment 1).

### **Tioga County**

- Tioga County SWCD (3 grants) – \$22,000 for the Ross Hill Road stream restoration project, \$14,200 for the Chrisfield Conservation Center Low-Impact Development demonstration project, and \$116,700 for Headwater Wetland Complex development in the Susquehanna/Chemung basins.

### **Tompkins County**

- Tompkins County SWCD – \$65,000 for road bank/ditch critical area seeding.

### **Ulster County**

- Town of New Paltz – \$30,493 for Tributary 13 stormwater treatment project.

### **Warren County**

- Warren County Department of Public Works – \$27,500 for Diamond Point drainage improvement.

## **Westchester County**

- Town of Yorktown – \$72,500 for Yorktown Heights Downtown Area phosphorus reduction.
- Town of Mamaroneck – \$125,000 for Sheldrake River Water Quality Improvement Project.

## **Phase II Stormwater Grant Recipients**

### **Albany County**

- Albany County and 11 participating communities – \$258,000, Phase II Stormwater Program Implementation.

### **Chemung County**

- Chemung County SWCD and 12 participating communities – \$183,000, Local Law Implementation and Implementation of Stormwater Management Program.

### **Dutchess County**

- Town of Fishkill – \$9,000, Town of Fishkill Local Law Implementation.
- Dutchess County SWCD and 11 participating communities – \$99,000, Local Stormwater Law Project.

### **Erie County**

- Erie County and 39 participating communities – \$270,000, Western New York Stormwater Coalition MS4 Project.

### **Monroe County**

- Monroe County and 24 participating communities –\$537,500, Stormwater Coalition of Monroe County Collaborative Compliance Program.

### **Nassau County**

- Village of Laurel Hollow and 1 participating community –\$8,000, Phase II Stormwater Program.
- Village of Cove Neck and 1 participating community –\$8,000, Phase II Stormwater Program.
- Village of Oyster Bay Cove and 1 participating community –\$8,000, Phase II Stormwater Program.
- Nassau County and 56 participating communities –\$300,000, Implementation of the Nassau County Stormwater Management Program.
- Village of Roslyn –\$21,500, Stormwater Management Plan Implementation.

### **Ontario County (with Wayne County)**

- Ontario County SWCD and six participating communities – \$120,000, Ontario and Wayne counties MS4 Program.

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### **Orange County**

- Town of Wallkill-- \$16,500, MS4 Stormwater Pollution Protection Program.

### **Putnam County**

- Town of Patterson and 7 participating communities – \$25,500, MS4 Education Strategy.

### **Rensselaer County**

- Rensselaer County and 6 participating communities – \$98,500, MS4 Communities Permit Implementation Program.

### **Rockland County**

- Rockland County SWCD and 16 participating communities – \$344,000, Comprehensive Phase II Development and Implementation Program.

### **Saratoga County**

- Saratoga County and 15 participating communities – \$344,000, Inter-municipal Stormwater Management Program.

### **Schenectady County**

- Schenectady County and 6 participating communities – \$28,536, MS4 Implementation and Education Program.

### **Suffolk County**

- Town of Brookhaven and 6 participating communities – \$18,000, Illicit Discharge Reporting and Response Program.
- Village of Islandia – \$9,000 Implementation of Required Stormwater Laws.

### **Tompkins County**

- Tompkins County SWCD and 10 participating communities –\$112,840 Phase II Stormwater Permit Implementation.

### **Warren County**

Warren County Department of Public Works –\$9,000, Stormwater Phase II MS4 Implementation of Local Laws.

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### **Washington County**

- Washington County SWCD and 5 participating communities – \$20,000, MS4 Training and Implementation.

### **Westchester County**

- Town of Pound Ridge – \$16,500, Stormwater Management Program Enhancements.
- Village of Buchanan – \$18,000, MS4 Phase II Stormwater Permit Implementation.
- Town of North Salem – \$21,500, MS4 Stormwater Phase II Drainage Improvements.

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