

CODE AND ORDINANCE WORKSHEET FOR DEVELOPMENT RULES IN NEW YORK STATE

The Code and Ordinance Worksheet allows an in-depth review of the standards, local laws, ordinances, and codes (i.e., the development rules) that shape how development occurs in your municipality. You are guided through a systematic comparison of your local development rules against the model development principles. Institutional frameworks, regulatory structures and incentive programs are included in this review. The worksheet consists of a series of questions that correspond to each of the model development principles. Points are assigned based on how well the current development rules agree with the site planning benchmarks derived from the model development principles.

The worksheet is intended to guide you through the first two steps of a local site planning roundtable.

- Step 1: Find out what the Development Rules are in your municipality.
- Step 2: See how your rules stack up to the Model Development Principles.

The homework done in these first two steps helps to identify which development rules are potential candidates for change.

PREPARING TO COMPLETE THE CODE AND ORDINANCE WORKSHEET

Two tasks need to be performed before you begin in the worksheet. First, you must identify all the development rules that apply in your municipality. Second, you must identify the local, state, and federal authorities that actually administer or enforce the development rules within your municipality. Both tasks require a large investment of time. The development process is usually shaped by a complex labyrinth of regulations, criteria, and authorities. A team approach may be helpful. You may wish to enlist the help of a local plan reviewer, land planner, land use attorney, or civil engineer. Their real-world experience with the development process is often very useful in completing the worksheet.

Identify the Development Rules

Gather the key documents that contain the development rules in your municipality. A list of potential documents to look for is provided in Table 1. Keep in mind that the information you may want on a particular development rule is not always found in code or regulation, and may be hidden in supporting design manuals, review checklists, guidance documents or construction specifications. In most cases, this will require an extensive search. Few communities include all of their rules in a single document. Be prepared to contact state, federal, or local agencies to obtain copies of the needed documents.

Table 1: Key Local Documents that will be Needed to Complete the Code and Ordinance Worksheet

Comprehensive Plan Zoning Ordinance or Local Law Zoning Overlay District Regulations (such as a Conservation Overlay District enacted after the Zoning Law) Subdivision Regulations Site Plan Review Regulations Highway Specifications, Street Standards or Road Design Manual Parking Requirements Building and Fire Regulations/Standards Flood Damage Prevention Regulations Wetland and/or Watercourse Ordinance or Local Law Grading Ordinance or Local Law Erosion and Sediment Control Ordinance or Local Law Stormwater Management Local Law or Drainage Criteria Tree Protection or Landscaping Ordinance or Local Law Steep Slopes Ordinance Emergency Response Master Plans
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Identify Development Authorities

Once the development rules are located, it is relatively easy to determine which local agencies or authorities are actually responsible for administering and enforcing the rules. Completing this step will provide you with a better understanding of the intricacies of the development review process and help identify key members of a future local roundtable. Table 2 provides a simple framework for identifying the agencies that influence development in your municipality. As you will see, space is provided not only for local agencies, but for state and federal agencies as well. In some cases, state and federal agencies may also exercise some authority over the local development process (e.g., wetlands, some road design, and stormwater).

USING THE WORKSHEET: HOW DO YOUR RULES STACK UP TO THE MODEL DEVELOPMENT PRINCIPLES?

Completing the Worksheet

Once you have located the documents that outline your development rules and identified the authorities responsible for development in your municipality, you are ready for the next step. You can now use the worksheet to compare your development rules to the model development principles. The worksheet is presented at the end of this chapter. The worksheet presents 95 site planning benchmarks. The benchmarks are posed as questions. Each benchmark focuses on a specific site design practice, such as the minimum diameter of cul-de-sacs, the minimum width of streets, or the minimum parking ratio for a certain land use. You should refer to the codes, ordinances, and plans identified in the first step to determine the appropriate development rule. The questions require either a yes or no response or specific numeric criteria. If your development rule agrees with the site planning benchmark, you are awarded points.

Calculating Your Score

A place is provided on each page of the worksheet to keep track of your running score. In addition, the worksheet is subdivided into three categories:

- Preservation of Natural Features and Conservation Design (Principles No. 1 - 12)
- Reduction of Impervious Cover (Principles No. 13 - 21)
- Source Control for Stormwater Management (Principles No. 22 - 28).

For each category, you are asked to subtotal your score. This “**Time to Assess**” allows you to consider which development rules are most in line with the site planning benchmarks and what rules are potential candidates for change.

The total number of points possible for the 95 site planning benchmarks is 100. Your overall score provides a general indication of your municipality's ability to support environmentally sensitive development. As a general rule, if your overall score is lower than 80, then it may be advisable to systematically reform your local development rules. A score sheet is provided at end of the Code and Ordinance Worksheet to assist you in determining where your municipality's score places in respect to the Model Development Principles. Once you have completed the worksheet, go back and review your responses. Determine if there are specific areas that need improvement (e.g., development rules that govern road design) or if your development rules are generally pretty good. This review is key to the implementation of better development: assessment of your current development rules and identification of impediments to innovative site design. This review also directly leads into the next step: a site planning roundtable process conducted at the local government level. The primary tasks of a local roundtable are to systematically review existing development rules and then determine if changes can or should be made. By providing a much-needed framework for overcoming barriers to better development, the site planning roundtable can serve as an important tool for local change.

Table 2: Local, State, and Federal Authorities Responsible for Development in Your Municipality			
Development Responsibility	State/Federal	County	City, Village or Town
Sets road standards	Agency:		
	Contact Name:		
	Phone No.:		
Review/approves subdivision plans	Agency:		
	Contact Name:		
	Phone No.:		
Establishes zoning ordinances	Agency:		
	Contact Name:		
	Phone No.:		
Establishes subdivision ordinances	Agency:		
	Contact Name:		
	Phone No.:		
Reviews/establishes stormwater management or drainage criteria	Agency:		
	Contact Name:		
	Phone No.:		
Provides fire protection and fire protection code enforcement	Agency:		
	Contact Name:		
	Phone No.:		
Oversees stream buffer ordinance	Agency:		
	Contact Name:		
	Phone No.:		
Oversees wetland protection	Agency:		
	Contact Name:		
	Phone No.:		
Establishes grading requirements or oversees erosion and sediment control program	Agency:		
	Contact Name:		
	Phone No.:		
Reviews/approves septic systems	Agency:		
	Contact Name:		
	Phone No.:		
Review/approves utility plans (e.g., water and sewer)	Agency:		
	Contact Name:		
	Phone No.:		
Reviews/approves forest conservation/tree protection plans	Agency:		
	Contact Name:		
	Phone No.:		
Oversees rare species and habitat protection	Agency:		
	Contact Name:		
	Phone No.:		

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Category I: Preservation of Natural Features and Conservation Design

1. Community Planning for Natural Areas

Does the municipality have a natural resource inventory (NRI) or open space inventory (OSI) that is used by the planning and zoning boards in plan review?

YES/NO

If your answer is **YES**, give yourself **.5** point for each of the following included in the NRI for a possible total of 6 points (NRI may be paper-based or digital (GIS))

- Surface water-streams, rivers, ponds, lakes
- Floodplains and Flood Hazard Areas
- NYS Regulated Wetlands
- National Wetland Inventory
- Groundwater/aquifers
- Surficial and bedrock geology
- Topography
- USDA Soil Survey
- Land cover
- Maps of significant habitat or natural areas
- NY Natural Heritage Program information:
- Rare plants Rare animals

Notes on Resource Inventories (include source documentation such as name of document, section and page #):

2. Locating Sites in Less Sensitive Areas

Does the municipality have a **floodplain** management ordinance or local law that **prevents** new building and filling in the 100-year floodplain (i.e. **more** stringent than a Flood Damage Prevention Law, commonly adopted to meet minimum requirements for participation in the FEMA flood insurance program)?

YES/NO

If your answer is **YES**, give yourself **1** point.

Does the municipality have a steep slope, grading, or erosion and sediment control law that requires avoidance of development on **steep slope areas** and minimizes grading and flattening of hills and ridges?

YES/NO

If your answer is **YES**, give yourself **1** point.

Does the municipality require avoidance and protection of **highly erodible soils** through a steep slope, grading, or erosion and sediment control law?

YES/NO

If your answer is **YES**, give yourself **1** point.

Does the municipality provide incentives for development on previously altered sites or in designated priority growth areas?

YES/NO

If your answer is **YES**, give yourself **.5** point.

Notes on Sensitive Areas (include source documentation such as name of document, section and page #):

3. Preservation of Undisturbed Areas

Does the municipality require that natural conservation areas are delineated and defined **before** site layout and design are conducted?

YES/NO

If your answer is **YES**, give yourself **1 point**. 

Does the municipality require that conservation areas and native vegetation be protected in an undisturbed state during the design, construction and occupancy stages?

YES/NO

If your answer is **YES**, give yourself **1 point**. 

Notes on Undisturbed Areas (include source documentation such as name of document

4. Stream Buffers

Does the municipality have a stream buffer ordinance or local law?

YES/NO

If your answer is **YES**, give yourself **1 point**. 

If so, what is the minimum buffer width?

_____ feet

If your answer is **100 feet or more**, give yourself **2 points**. 

If your answer is **between 50-100 feet**, give yourself **1 point**. 

Is expansion of the buffer to include freshwater wetlands, steep slopes or the 100-year floodplain required?

YES/NO

If your answer is **YES**, give yourself **1 point**. 

Does the ordinance also regulate intermittent streams?

YES/NO

If your answer is **YES**, give yourself **1 point**. 

Notes on Stream Buffers (include source documentation such as name of document, section and page #):

5. Wetland Protection and Wetland Buffers

Does the municipality have a local wetland ordinance or local law?

YES/NO

If your answer is **YES**, give yourself 1 point. *ES*

In the wetland ordinance, what is the minimum regulated wetland size?

_____ acres

If your answer is **all wetlands regardless of size**, give yourself 1 point. *ES*

If your answer is **between 0-5 acres**, give yourself .5 point. *ES*

In the wetland ordinance, what is the minimum regulated wetland buffer width?

_____ feet

If your answer is **200 feet or more**, give yourself 2 points. *ES*

If your answer is **between 100-200 feet**, give yourself 1 point. *ES*

If your answer is **between 50 and 100 feet**, give yourself .5 point. *ES*

Is expansion of the wetland buffer required as needed for rare species or habitat protection?

YES/NO

If your answer is **YES**, give yourself 1 point. *ES*

Does the local wetland ordinance include habitat creation as adequate mitigation for destruction of existing habitats?

YES/NO

If your answer is **NO**, give yourself .5 point. *ES*

Notes on Wetland Requirements (include source documentation such as name of document, section and page #):

6. Stream and Wetland Buffer Uses and Enforcement

Do the stream and wetland ordinances specify low impact uses in the buffer that are compatible with conservation such as passive recreation?

YES/NO

If your answer is **YES**, give yourself .5 point for wetland buffers and .5 point for streams buffers for a possible total of 1 point. *ES*

Do the ordinances/local laws specify enforcement and education mechanisms?

YES/NO

If your answer is **YES**, give yourself .5 point for wetland buffers and .5 point for streams buffers for a possible total of 1 point. *ES*

Do stream and wetland buffer ordinances/local laws specify that at least part of the buffer be maintained with native vegetation?

YES/NO

If your answer is **YES**, give yourself .5 point for wetland buffers and .5 point for stream buffers for a possible total of 1 point. *ES*

Notes on Buffer Maintenance (include source documentation such as name of document, section and page #):

7. Open Space and Flexible Design

Does the municipality have open space design, conservation subdivision or cluster development provisions in local zoning or subdivision laws?

YES/ NO

If your answer is **YES**, give yourself **1 point**. 

If your answer is **NO**, skip to question No. 8.

Is land conservation or impervious cover reduction a major goal or objective of the open space, conservation subdivision or cluster development ordinance?

YES/ NO

If your answer is **YES**, give yourself **1 point**. 

Are the submittal or review requirements for open space, conservation subdivision or cluster development greater than those for conventional development?

YES/ NO

If your answer is **NO**, give yourself **1 point**. 

Does the open space or cluster subdivision ordinance provide density bonuses when a certain percentage of open space is preserved (incentive zoning)?

YES/ NO

If your answer is **YES**, give yourself **1 point**. 

Does the open space or cluster subdivision ordinance require that open space areas associated with development be connected or consolidated into larger units?

YES/ NO

If your answer is **YES**, give yourself **1 point**. 

Are flexible site design criteria available for developers that utilize open space or cluster design options (e.g., smaller setbacks, road widths, lot sizes)?

YES/ NO

If your answer is **YES**, give yourself **1 point**. 

Are irregular lot shapes (e.g., pie-shaped, flag lots) allowed in the municipality to allow for flexibility in protecting important habitats and open space?

YES/ NO

If your answer is **YES**, give yourself **.5 point**. 

Notes on Open Space Design (include source documentation such as name of document, section and page #):

8. Open Space Management

Does the municipality have enforceable requirements to establish agreements that can effectively manage open space?

YES/ NO

*If your answer is **YES**, give yourself 1 point.*

Does a minimum percentage of open space have to be managed in a natural condition?

YES/ NO

*If your answer is **YES**, give yourself 1 point.*

Are allowable and unallowable uses for open space in residential developments defined?

YES/ NO

*If your answer is **YES**, give yourself 1 point.*

Can open space be managed by a third party using land trusts or conservation easements?

YES/ NO

*If your answer is **YES**, give yourself 1 point.*

Notes on Open Space Management (include source documentation such as name of document, section, page #):

9. Clearing and Grading

Is there an ordinance or local law that requires erosion and sediment control on development sites using the design criteria in, "New York Standards and Specifications for Erosion and Sediment Control"?

YES/ NO

*If your answer is **YES**, give yourself 1 point.*

Is there an ordinance that requires buffer zones be maintained between development and land preserved for habitat?

YES/ NO

*If your answer is **YES**, give yourself 1 point.*

Do reserve septic field areas need to be cleared of trees at the time of development?

YES/ NO

*If your answer is **NO**, give yourself 1 point.*

Notes on Clearing and Grading (include source documentation such as name of document, section and page #):

10. Tree and Forest Conservation

If forests are present at residential development sites, does at least 5 acres of the stand have to be preserved?

YES/ NO

If your answer is **YES**, give yourself 1 point. 

Are the limits of disturbance shown on construction plans adequate for preventing clearing of trees and natural vegetative cover during construction?

YES/ NO

If your answer is **YES**, give yourself 1 point. 

Is there an ordinance or local law that requires forestry best management practices for timber harvesting and tree cutting?

YES/ NO

If your answer is **YES**, give yourself 1 point. 

Notes on Tree Conservation (include source documentation such as name of document, section and page #):

11. Habitat Protection and Conservation Overlays

Does the municipality have information about rare or unusual habitats and habitats known to support or may support rare species in a Natural Resource Inventory, Open Space Inventory, Biodiversity/Habitat Assessment or Comprehensive Plan?

YES/NO

If your answer is **YES**, give yourself 1 point. 

Does the habitat protection information encourage protecting large, contiguous and unaltered tracts of forests, meadow and shrubland complexes, wetlands, stream and river corridors, and areas with high habitat diversity?

YES/NO

If your answer is **YES**, give yourself 1 point. 

Does the NRI, OSI or Comprehensive Plan prioritize higher quality habitats for protection?

YES/NO

If your answer is **YES**, give yourself 1 point. 

Does the habitat protection information encourage connecting conservation areas on adjacent properties and using *broad connections*, not narrow corridors to do so?

YES/ NO

If your answer is **Yes**, give yourself .5 point. 

Has the municipality adopted habitat protection guidelines or a conservation overlay district that requires habitat assessment?

YES/ NO

If your answer is **Yes**, give yourself 1 point. 

Does the required habitat analysis assess the probable species present on site, including species of concern on Federal, State and regionally rare lists?

YES/ NO

If your answer is **Yes**, give yourself 1 point. 

Does the required habitat analysis assess habitat quality or condition for both non-protected and protected species?

YES/NO

If your answer is **Yes**, give yourself 1 point. 

Notes on Habitat Protection (include source documentation such as name of document, section and page #):

12. Conservation Incentives

Does the municipality have a local open space fund through bonding, real estate transfer tax, or other funding mechanism to encourage open space protection?

YES/ NO

If your answer is Yes give yourself 1 point.

Does the municipality use local, county, state, federal or private open space funding for purchase or transfer of development rights programs?

YES/ NO

If your answer is Yes give yourself 1 point.

Does the municipality provide information to landowners about reduced tax assessment under NYS Forest Tax Law, Section 480-A of Real Property Tax Law?

YES/ NO

If your answer is Yes give yourself 1 point.

Does the municipality provide information to landowners about reduced tax assessment under NYS Agricultural District Law?

YES/ NO

If your answer is Yes give yourself 1 point.

Does the municipality provide information to landowners about reduced local tax assessment for wetlands regulated under the NYS Freshwater Wetlands Act, Section 24-0905 of the Act (Tax Abatement)?

YES/ NO

If your answer is Yes give yourself 1 point.

Notes on Conservation Incentives (include source documentation such as name of document, section and page #):

Code and Ordinance Worksheet

Subtotal Page 11

 **Time to Assess:** Principles 1 - 12 focused on the local laws, ordinances and procedures that promote (or impede) protection of existing natural areas and incorporation of open spaces into new development. There were a total of **53** points available for Principles 1 - 12. What was your total score?

Subtotal Page 5 ___ + Subtotal Page 6 ___ + Subtotal Page 7 ___ + Subtotal Page 8 ___ +

Subtotal page 9 ___ + Subtotal page 10 ___ + Subtotal page 11 ___ =

Where were your codes and ordinances most in line with the principles? What codes and ordinances are potential impediments to better development?

Category II: Reduction of Impervious Cover

13. Street Width

What is the minimum pavement width allowed for streets in low density residential developments that have less than 500 daily trips (ADT)? _____ feet

If your answer is between **18-22 feet**, give yourself **1 point**. 

At higher densities are parking lanes allowed to also serve as traffic lanes (i.e., queuing streets)? YES/ NO

If your answer is **YES**, give yourself **1 point**. 

Notes on Street Width (include source documentation such as name of document, section and page #):

14. Street Length

Do street standards promote the most efficient street layouts that reduce overall street length? YES/ NO

If your answer is **YES**, give yourself **1 point**. 

Notes on Street Length (include source documentation such as name of document, section and page #):

15. Right-of-Way Width

What is the minimum right of way (ROW) width for a residential street? _____ feet

If your answer is **less than 55 feet**, give yourself **1 point**. 

Does the code allow utilities to be placed under the paved section of the ROW? YES/ NO

If your answer is **YES**, give yourself **1 point**. 

Notes on ROW Width (include source documentation such as name of document, section and page #):

16. Cul-de-Sacs

What is the minimum radius allowed for cul-de-sacs? _____ feet

If your answer is **less than 35 feet**, give yourself **1 point**. 

If your answer is **36 feet to 45 feet**, give yourself **.5 point**. 

Can a landscaped island be created within the cul-de-sac? YES/ NO

If your answer is **YES**, give yourself **1 point**. 

Are alternative turnarounds such as "hammerheads" allowed on short streets in low density residential developments? YES/ NO

If your answer is **YES**, give yourself **1 point**. 

Notes on Cul-de-Sacs (include source documentation such as name of document, section and page #):

17. Sidewalks and Curbs

What is the minimum sidewalk width allowed in the municipality?

_____ feet

If your answer is **4 feet or less**, give yourself **1 point**. 

Are sidewalks always required on both sides of residential streets?

YES/ NO

If your answer is **NO**, give yourself **1 point**. 

Are sidewalks allowed to be sloped to drain to the front yard instead of the street?

YES/ NO

If your answer is **YES**, give yourself **1 point**. 

Can alternate pedestrian networks be substituted for sidewalks (e.g., trails through common areas)?

YES/ NO

If your answer is **YES**, give yourself **1 point**. 

Is curbing with 1:4 slope ("Cape Cod" curbing) allowed in areas of amphibian migration routes?

YES/ NO

If your answer is **YES**, give yourself **1 point**. 

Notes on Sidewalks (include source documentation such as name of document, section and page #):

18. Driveways

What is the minimum driveway width specified in the municipality?

_____ feet

If your answer is **9 feet or less (one lane) or 18 feet (two lanes)**, give yourself **1 point**. 

Can pervious materials be used for single family home driveways (e.g., grass, gravel, porous pavers, etc)?

YES/ NO

If your answer is **YES**, give yourself **1 point**. 

Can a "two track" design be used at single family driveways?

YES/ NO

If your answer is **YES**, give yourself **1 point**. 

Are shared driveways permitted in residential developments?

YES/ NO

If your answer is **YES**, give yourself **1 point**. 

Notes on Driveways (include source documentation such as name of document, section and page #):

19. Parking Ratios

What is the minimum parking ratio for a professional office building (per 1000 ft² of gross floor area)?

_____ spaces

If your answer is **less than 3.0 spaces**, give yourself 1 point. 

What is the minimum required parking ratio for shopping centers (per 1,000 ft² gross floor area)?

_____ spaces

If your answer is **4.5 spaces or less**, give yourself 1 point. 

What is the minimum required parking ratio for single family homes (per home)?

_____ spaces

If your answer is **less than or equal to 2.0 spaces**, give yourself 1 point. 

Are your parking requirements set as maximum or median (rather than minimum) requirements?

YES/ NO

If your answer is **YES**, give yourself 1 point. 

Notes on Parking Ratios (include source documentation such as name of document, section and page #):

20. Shared Parking

Is the use of shared parking arrangements promoted?

YES/ NO

If your answer is **YES**, give yourself 1 point. 

Are model shared parking agreements provided?

YES/ NO

If your answer is **YES**, give yourself 1 point. 

Are parking ratios reduced if shared parking arrangements are in place?

YES/ NO

If your answer is **YES**, give yourself 1 point. 

If mass transit is provided nearby, is the parking ratio reduced?

YES/ NO

If your answer is **YES**, give yourself 1 point. 

Notes on Shared Parking (include source documentation such as name of document, section and page #):

21. Parking Lot Design Standards

What is the minimum stall width for a standard parking space?

_____ feet

If your answer is **9 feet or less**, give yourself **1 point**. 

What is the minimum stall length for a standard parking space?

_____ feet

If your answer is **18 feet or less**, give yourself **1 point**. 

Are at least 30% of the spaces at larger commercial parking lots required to have smaller dimensions for compact cars?

YES/ NO

If your answer is **YES**, give yourself **1 point**. 

Can pervious materials be used for spillover parking areas?

YES/ NO

If your answer is **YES**, give yourself **1 point**. 

Is a minimum percentage of a parking lot required to be landscaped?

YES/ NO

If your answer is **YES**, give yourself **1 point**. 

Is the use of bioretention areas and other stormwater practices within landscaped areas or setbacks allowed?

YES/ NO

If your answer is **YES**, give yourself **1 point**. 

Are there any incentives to developers to provide parking within garages rather than surface parking lots?

YES/ NO

If your answer is **YES**, give yourself **1 point**. 

Notes on Parking Lot Design Standards (include source documentation such as name of document, section and page #):

Code and Ordinance Worksheet

Subtotal Page 15

 **Time to Assess:** Principles 13 through 21 focused on the laws, ordinances and standards that determine the size, shape, and construction of roads, driveways, parking lots and building lots in the suburban landscape. There were a total of **32** points available for Principles 13 - 21. What was your total score?

Subtotal Page 12 ____ + Subtotal Page 13 ____ + Subtotal Page 14 ____ + Subtotal Page 15 ____ =

Where were your codes and ordinances most in line with the principles? What codes and ordinances are potential impediments to better development?

Category III: Source Control for Stormwater Management

22. Vegetated Open Channels

Are curb and gutters required for most residential street sections?

YES/ NO

If your answer is **NO**, give yourself 1 point. *☞*

Is there a local stormwater law that refers to NYS Stormwater Management Design Manual criteria for dry swales and wet swales for stormwater quality treatment?

YES/ NO

If your answer is **YES**, give yourself 1 point. *☞*

Are swale side slopes not steeper than 4 horizontal to 1 vertical required in areas that are amphibian migration routes?

YES/ NO

If your answer is **YES**, give yourself 1 point. *☞*

Notes on Vegetated Open Channels (include source documentation such as name of document, section, page #):

23. Rain Gardens and Bioretention Areas

Do the local boards encourage installation of bioretention and rain gardens for stormwater quality treatment in new development and redevelopment?

YES/ NO

If your answer is **YES**, give yourself 1 point. *☞*

Is there a local stormwater law that uses NYS Stormwater Management Design Manual criteria for bioretention and rain gardens?

YES/ NO

If your answer is **YES**, give yourself 1 point. *☞*

Notes on Rain Gardens and Bioretention (include source documentation such as name of document, section, page #):

24. Rooftop Runoff

Can rooftop runoff be discharged to yard areas?

YES/ NO

If your answer is **YES**, give yourself 1 point. *☞*

Do current grading or drainage requirements allow for temporary ponding of stormwater on front yards or rooftops?

YES/ NO

If your answer is **YES**, give yourself 1 point. *☞*

Is there a local stormwater law that uses NYS Stormwater Management Design Manual criteria or equivalent for cisterns, rain barrels, rain gardens, stormwater planters and green roofs to capture rooftop runoff?

YES/ NO

If your answer is **YES**, give yourself 1 point. *☞*

Notes on Rooftop Runoff (include source documentation such as name of document, section and page #):

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25. Infiltration

Do the local boards encourage installation of stormwater infiltration practices and permeable surfaces to promote groundwater recharge in appropriate areas?

YES/ NO

If your answer is **YES**, give yourself 1 point. 

Is there a local stormwater law that uses NYS Stormwater Management Design Manual criteria for infiltration practices and permeable surfaces?

YES/ NO

If your answer is **YES**, give yourself 1 point. 

Notes on Infiltration (include source documentation such as name of document, section, page #):

26. Stormwater Credits

Has the municipality adopted a system of stormwater credits to allow developers or landowners to reduce the size of stormwater treatment practices when they conserve stream and wetland buffers, promote infiltration, and use conservation design?

YES/ NO

If your answer is **YES**, give yourself 1 point. 

Notes on Stormwater Credits (include source documentation such as name of document, section and page #):

27. Stormwater Ponds and Stormwater Wetlands

Is there a local stormwater law that uses NYS Stormwater Management Design Manual criteria for design of stormwater ponds and wetlands as ecologically functioning systems?

YES/ NO

If your answer is **YES**, give yourself 1 point. 

Are dry detention basins discouraged?

YES/ NO

If your answer is **YES**, give yourself 1 point. 

Are stormwater ponds, wetlands and detention basins prohibited at least 750 feet from vernal pools and primary amphibian overland migration routes?

YES/ NO

If your answer is **YES**, give yourself 1 point. 

Notes on Stormwater Ponds and Wetlands (include source documentation such as name of document, section, page #):

28. Hydrodynamic Separators

Are hydrodynamic separators discouraged in suburban and rural areas to prevent trapping of amphibians and other small animals?

YES/ NO

If your answer is **YES**, give yourself 1 point. 

Notes on Hydrodynamic Separators (include source documentation such as name of document, section, page #):

 **Time to Assess:** Principles 22 through 28 addressed the laws and ordinances regulating stormwater management and stormwater design to promote on-site source control for stormwater. There were a total of **15** points available for Principles 22 - 28. What was your total score?

Subtotal Page 16 ___ + Subtotal Page 17 ___ =

Where were your codes and ordinances most in line with the principles? What codes and ordinances are potential impediments to better development?

To determine final score, add up subtotal from each  **Time to Assess**

Community Planning for Natural Areas: Principles 1 – 12 (Page 11) _____

Reduction of Impervious Cover: Principles 13 - 21 (Page 15) _____

Source Control for Stormwater Management: Principles 22 - 28 (Page 18) _____

TOTAL

SCORING (A total of 100 points are available):	
Your Municipality's Score	
90- 100	 Congratulations, your municipality's development rules and land use policies will help protect streams, lakes, estuaries and wildlife habitat.
80 - 89	 Your local development rules are pretty good, but could use some tweaking in some areas.
79 - 70	 Significant opportunities exist to improve your development rules. Consider creating a site planning roundtable.
60 - 69	 Development rules are inadequate to protect your local natural resources. A site planning roundtable would be very useful.
less than 60	 Your development rules definitely are not environmentally friendly. Serious reform of the development rules is needed and a site planning roundtable is recommended.