Inspiring People to Stop Water Pollution through Community Science

Dan Shapley
Water Quality Program Manager
Mohawk Watershed Symposium
March 20, 2015
Inspiring Through Citizen Science

• Our Water Quality Monitoring Program
• Grassroots Inspiration
74 Sample sites
155 miles
since 2008

Dr. Gregory O’Mullan
Dr. Andrew Juhl
Community Partners

• Catskill Creek Watershed Awareness Project
• Gardiner Environmental Conservation Commission
• Montgomery Conservation Advisory Council
• New York City Water Trail Association
• Quassaick Creek Watershed Alliance
• Rochester Environmental Conservation Commission
• Rosendale Commission for Conservation of the Environment
• Sparkill Creek Watershed Alliance
• Wawarsing Environmental Conservation Commission
Citizen Studies

Catskill Creek
  19 sites on 45 miles

Esopus Creek
  10 sites on 25 miles

Rondout Creek
  17 sites on 43 miles

Wallkill River
  21 sites on 64 miles

Pocantico River
  13 sites on 10 miles

Sparkill Creek
  16 sites on 8 miles

Quassaic Creek
  14 sites on 17 miles

NYC Waterfront
  39 sites in NYC, NJ & Yonkers

8 Projects
149 Sites
212 Miles
Citizen Non-Tidal Tributary Sampling Sites
% Samples Failing EPA-Recommended Beach Advisory Value (2012-2013)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>River</th>
<th>% Beach Advisory</th>
<th>% Acceptable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Catskill Creek</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Esopus Creek</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rondout Creek</td>
<td>66%</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wallkill River</td>
<td>86%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pocantico River</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sparkill Creek</td>
<td>89%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hudson River (2008-2013)</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>77%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

% Beach Advisory  % Acceptable
Pollution Enforcement

East River
Illegal sewage discharge stopped in Hallets Cove

Catskill Creek
Prosecution of polluter for illegal sewage discharge
Infrastructure Investment

Sparkill Creek
$104,000 repairs to 50-year-old pump station

Catskill Creek
Extension of sewer line to hamlet of Leeds
Public Notification

Wallkill River
Signage at river and New Paltz village hall

New York City
Waterkeeper Alliance
Swim Guide
New & Renewed Watershed Protection Efforts

Sparkill Creek Watershed Alliance

Future of the Wallkill

Save the Rondout

Pocantico River roundtable
Pollution Discharge Permitting

Sparkill Creek
Required signage posted; inspections

Wallkill River
Inspection

More to come… we hope
Inspiring New Sampling Projects

Save the Sound

Charleston Waterkeeper

Peconic Baykeeper

EPA in Washington, D.C.

Waterkeepers Nepal
Financial Support

- Austen-Stokes Ancient Americas Foundation
- Chris and Suzanne Augustin
- Dale and Laura Kutnick
- Dextra Baldwin McGonagle Foundation
- Double R Foundation
- Eppley Foundation for Research
- HSBC Water Programme
- Hudson River Foundation for Science and Environmental Research
- John McLaughlin
- Michele Hertz and Larry Friedman
- The Nancy and Edwin Marks Family Foundation
- New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission (NEIWPCC)
- S. Mackintosh Pulsifer
- Mike Richter
- Sun Hill Foundation
- Wallace Research Foundation
- Riverkeeper members
Sign Our Petition!

Annual gap in wastewater spending
$800 million

20-year need for wastewater infrastructure
$45 billion

Ask your representatives to include money dedicated to wastewater infrastructure in this year’s state budget.