

INTERMUNICIPAL AGREEMENT FOR THE WAPPINGER CREEK WATERSHED

WHEREAS, the Wappinger Creek Watershed is an irreplaceable natural resource providing recreation, scenery, fisheries, groundwater recharge and other amenities to our communities; and

WHEREAS, the continued health and beauty of the Wappinger Creek are dependent upon cooperation among all of us in the proper management of the lands and waters that comprise its watershed; and

WHEREAS, the economic vitality and growth of our communities depend in part on retention of our attractive landscapes and streams for which the entire Hudson Valley region is world-renowned; and

WHEREAS, a healthy and secure water supply depends on adequate groundwater recharge and natural stream flows; and

WHEREAS, certain portions of the Wappinger Creek remain impaired due to pollution from stormwater runoff from developed areas, and agricultural activities in rural areas; and

WHEREAS, forested buffers, which are an excellent means to protect the stream and absorb pollutants, have been removed over the centuries along portions of Wappinger Creek and its upstream tributaries; and

WHEREAS, municipalities are empowered under the New York State Constitution to serve as the primary means for government to deal with many of these issues,

NOW THEREFORE, we, the duly appointed representatives of our respective municipalities hereby voluntarily enter into this **INTERMUNICIPAL AGREEMENT FOR THE WAPPINGER CREEK WATERSHED**, and are committed to work cooperatively to achieve the following goals for the preservation, restoration and management of the Wappinger Creek Watershed:

WE WILL inventory and map all the stormwater discharge points, within municipal rights of way, in our municipality by 2006. Further, we will work together to share the standardized inventory method, results of the effort, and updates over time; and actively seek to learn from each other through the demonstration of new technologies in each of our communities.

WE WILL develop municipal water use plans to address the competing needs in our community for water resources, including human, industrial and agricultural uses as well as the requirements of the natural environment, with the goal of having such plans in place by 2006. The groundwater protection plans will be based on the water quantity study and build-out analysis to current zoning that will be completed in 2004. Furthermore, we will coordinate our plans with the plans of other municipalities in the watershed.

WE WILL seek to protect existing forest buffers, and develop cooperative programs to restore such buffers where they no longer exist in the Wappinger Creek Watershed. Our combined restoration and protection goal is 15 miles by 2006, and we will allocate this mileage among those of us willing to assume a portion of the goal.

WE WILL, by 2006, each identify a stream, wetland and/or steep slope area in our municipality that is critical to the health of our water resources. We will identify a technique to protect and restore the identified resource as appropriate. Furthermore, we will share our techniques with other municipalities in the watershed.

With the active assistance of the development community, **WE WILL** each review our municipal codes for inconsistencies and regulations that induce sprawl; and promote low impact development and green site designs to minimize the creation of new impervious surfaces by 2006.

FINALLY, WE WILL meet regularly to review our progress toward these goals and to celebrate our successes.

ENTERED INTO ON THIS ___ DAY OF July, 2003:

FOR THE TOWN OF CLINTON:

name _____
title _____

FOR THE TOWN OF FISHKILL:

FOR THE TOWN OF HYDE PARK:

FOR THE TOWN OF LAGRANGE:

FOR THE TOWN OF MILAN:

FOR THE VILLAGE OF MILLBROOK:

FOR THE TOWN OF PINE PLAINS:

FOR THE TOWN OF PLEASANT VALLEY:

FOR THE TOWN OF POUGHKEEPSIE:

FOR THE TOWN OF STANFORD:

FOR THE TOWN OF WAPPINGER

FOR THE VILLAGE OF WAPPINGERS FALLS

FOR THE VILLAGE OF WASHINGTON:
