



WATERSHED CHARACTERIZATION AND PLANNING: INTERACTIVE WORKING SESSION TO IDENTIFY NEXT STEPS



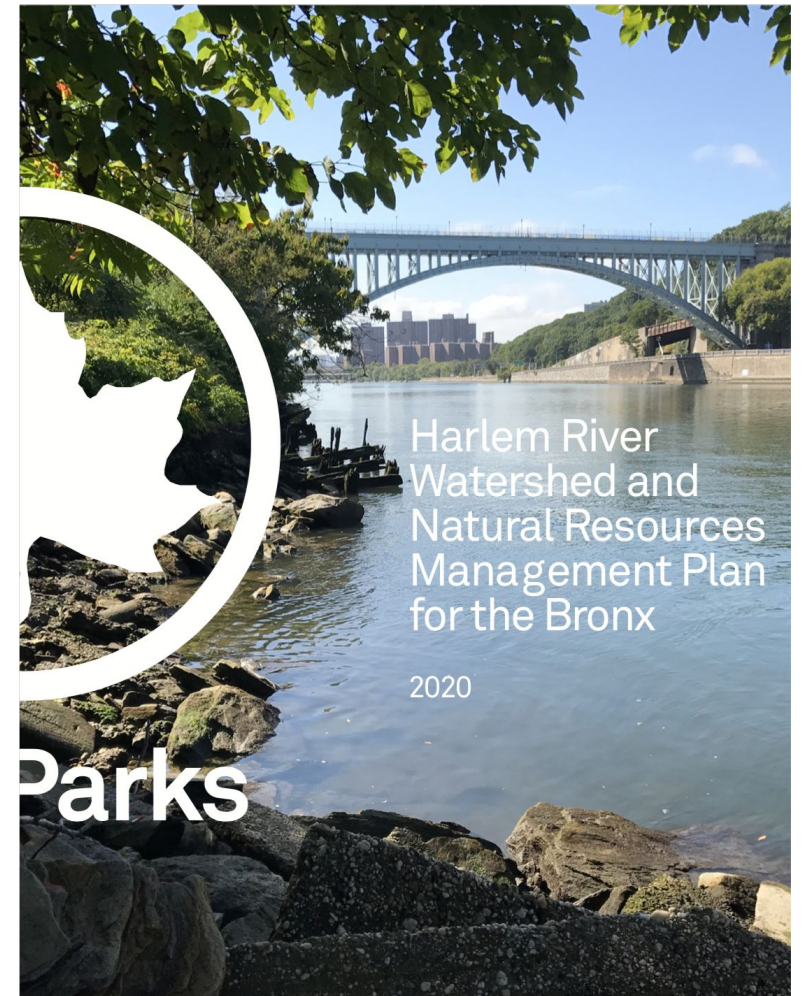
strong
OUTCOMES

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PRINCIPAL
STRONG OUTCOMES

Watershed Characterization & Planning Workshop | Vassar College | March 24, 2026

SELF-ASSESSMENTS FOR NEXT STEPS

- A key goal of this workshop is to help prepare participants for next steps—wherever you are



THREE SELF ASSESSMENT WORKSHEETS

1. Supporters of locally-led watershed efforts

2. For locally-led groups who are planning or starting

3. For locally-led groups who are in process or finished

Not part of local group and not working on a specific watershed

Part of a local group OR working on a specific watershed

STEP 1: WORK ON YOUR OWN

- Each worksheet has similar structure
- Set of statements related to watershed characterization and planning
- Decide how much you agree with each statement
- Write down potential next steps



Watershed Characterization & Planning Workshop: Worksheet 1

This worksheet will help individuals or organizations who are interested in supporting a locally led watershed characterization or plan to identify the different types of contributions that can support this work.

Please review each statement and circle the number that best reflects your opinion for each:
5-strongly agree 4-agree 3-neutral 2-disagree 1-strongly disagree ?-don't know
 As you finish each section, reflect on some next steps you might take based on your responses.

Motivation and Focus					
I am clear on why I want to support a locally led watershed characterization or plan.	1	2	3	4	5 ?
I understand how my watershed or organization can benefit from strong, locally led watershed characterizations and plans.	1	2	3	4	5 ?
I am focused on supporting a specific watershed.	1	2	3	4	5 ?
I am able to support watershed work at a broader regional scale (e.g., county, region-wide).	1	2	3	4	5 ?
I am clear on how much time I can commit to supporting locally led watershed efforts.	1	2	3	4	5 ?
I am clear whether I will volunteer my time, participate as part of my job, or need to be paid for my time.					
<i>What do the answers to these questions tell us about my next steps?</i>					

STEP 2: TALK TOGETHER

- In pairs, discuss:
 - What stood out to you as you worked through the worksheet?
 - e.g., Was anything surprising or validating?
 - With your partner, explore the next steps you wrote down.
 - e.g., Why did you choose these next steps? Who might you talk to refine them?
 - Is there anything you would change after talking it through?

STEP 3: SHARE INSIGHTS AND QUESTIONS

Everyone: Complete two post-it notes

- One thing you will do as a result of what you explored today
- A question you have

Watershed groups only:

- Add to the Watershed Planning Wish List



SAVE THE DATES!

- Upcoming programs:
 - Watershed group capacity-building cohort
 - WaveMaker Awards Benefit: Wednesday, June 3 at the Falcon in Marlboro
hudsonwatershed.org/wavemaker/
 - Nominate a WaveMaker by Friday, March 27!
 - Annual Watershed Conference: Tuesday, October 27 at FDR Presidential Library & Museum in Hyde Park

2025 WaveMaker Awards Benefit



THANK YOU!

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Hudson River
Watershed Alliance



*Uniting & empowering communities to
protect our shared waters*