

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The *Controlling Sediment in the Black and Oatka Creek Watersheds* project was funded in part by a grant awarded by the Great Lakes Commission (GLC) Program on Erosion and Sediment Control. As stated on the GLC website, the Program's purpose is to "protect and improve water quality in the Great Lakes by reducing soil erosion and controlling sedimentation through financial incentives, information and education, and professional assistance."¹

The project consists of five major components:

- **Task 1** – Erosion and Sediment Control - Municipal Meetings (Black Creek)
- **Task 2** – Report: *Identification and Analysis of the Riparian Corridor in the Black and Oatka Creek Watersheds*
- **Task 3** – Report: *Municipal Law Review and Analysis*
- **Task 4** – Report: *Water Resource Issue Identification and Prioritization*
- **Task 5** – Assistance to the Towns of Bethany, Sweden and Warsaw in Revising Local Laws

Funds for this project were applied for in February 2004 and awarded in June 2004. Tasks 1 and 2 were completed in autumn of 2005; tasks 3, 4 and 5 were completed in June 2006.

The following compilation is intended to satisfy the requirements of *Task 4: Water Resource Issue Identification and Prioritization*. The document brings together major findings from the body of scientific reports that have been written on water quality issues in and around the Black and Oatka Creek watersheds over the past 16 years. The intent of this compilation is to facilitate the future preparation of watershed management plans by organizing all of the pertinent water quality issues that have been identified at an earlier point in time into one document.

All information related to Tasks 1–5 of this project – including background information, maps, fact sheets, forms and completed reports – may be viewed and downloaded at the following webpage:

Project Website:

<http://gflrpc.org/Publications/ControllingSediment/ControllingSediment.htm>

¹ Great Lakes Commission Program on Erosion and Sediment Control. <http://www.glc.org/basin/background.html>. Last visited 6/5/06.