

## **I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report has been prepared for the Seneca County Water Quality Coordinating Committee (WQCC) in order to partially fulfill the requirements of the 2004 New York State Soil and Water Conservation Committee (SWCC) Level 2 mini-grant. This award was designed by the State SWCC in an effort to promote consistency between local land use laws and practices and those of the Statewide Phase II Construction Permit. In order to advance this goal, this report seeks to fulfill the following Level 2 mini-grant requirements:

- Carry out a gap analysis of local land use regulations on a county-wide basis using the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation's "Local Codes Assessment Worksheet"
- In examining these regulations, outline the ways, if present, that local laws begin to meet or exceed the requirements of the State Construction Permit (GP 02-01)
- Summarize the findings of the gap analysis in a report for distribution and presentation to local officials and relevant local decision-makers. The report should include summaries for each community, as well as information on floodplain management, road ditch development and maintenance and the connection of local laws and the code enforcement officer.

The purpose of this report is to identify changes that can be made to local laws based on relevant local water quality needs. An overall goal is to provide municipalities with practical information so that they may devise a pragmatic local strategy for addressing the issues outlined above. Relevance to effective implementation is another important goal that this report should assist the Seneca County SWCD and WQCC in meeting. Conveying the relevance of regulations and procedures to various departments, such as highway, public works, and code enforcement, is therefore an important overall component to this mini-grant project.