



I. Introduction

Within the Finger Lakes region, watershed management or protection plans have been completed for the Canandaigua, Cayuga, and Conesus Lake Watersheds:

- *Canandaigua Lake Watershed Management Plan* – 1999
- *Cayuga Lake Restoration and Protection Plan* – 2001
- *Conesus Lake Watershed Management Plan* – 2003

Preparation of each plan was undertaken through various partnerships with the New York State Department of State, financed through grants from the Environmental Protection Fund *Local Waterfront Revitalization Program*. The planning process was overseen by inter-municipal organizations comprised of the local governments and organizations involved in watershed protection.

The watershed protection plans identify priority actions needed to protect and improve water quality, including capital projects, education, and local development controls. Building on these watershed protection plans, Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council (G/FLRPC) has assessed and will develop specific water quality control laws and/or ordinances for local governments within the Canandaigua, Cayuga, and Conesus Lake Watersheds through the *Local Laws to Protect Finger Lakes Water Quality* project (often referred to as the “Local Laws” project¹). This project consists of three primary phases:

Phase I – Assessment: Existing local laws, ordinances, and practices that relate to water resources will be evaluated in all 56 case study municipalities (42 towns, 12 villages, 2 cities) that lie within the three watersheds.

Phase II – Local Law Development: Working closely and collaboratively with local boards, specific water quality control laws and/or revisions to existing regulations will be developed for 13 targeted municipalities within the case study area of the three watersheds.

Phase III – Manual and Workshop Development: A manual will be prepared that will consist of model local laws as well as case study examples that illustrate the means by which local laws can be utilized to effectively reduce water pollution from non-point sources. This manual will be developed as a resource intended for local governments (utilizing the experiences of Phase I and Phase II of the project) to be presented at 8 workshops throughout the NYS portions of the Lake Erie and Lake Ontario drainage basins in the fall of 2005.

This project defines watershed municipalities as those having at least 6% or more than three square miles of their land in the watershed. By this definition, there are 56 municipalities in the three watersheds:¹

¹ During the assessment process, it was learned that the Seneca-Cayuga Canal sub-watershed was officially recognized as part of the Cayuga Lake Watershed. In an effort to manage the case study area and adhere to the traditional watershed boundaries, the Town and Village of Waterloo and the Village of Seneca Falls were therefore omitted from the study area of this project.



- **Canandaigua Lake - 11 municipalities**

Town of Canandaigua
City of Canandaigua
Town of Gorham
Town of Hopewell

Town of Italy⊙
Town of Middlesex⊙
Town of Naples
Village of Naples

Town of Potter
Village of Rushville
Town of S. Bristol

- **Cayuga Lake - 38 municipalities**

Town of Aurelius
Village of Aurora
Town of Caroline⊙
Village of Cayuga
Village of Cayuga Heights
Town of Covert
Town of Danby
Town of Dryden⊙
Village of Dryden
Town of Enfield
Town of Fayette⊙
Town of Fleming
Village of Freeville

Town of Genoa
Town of Groton
Town of Harford
Town of Hector
Village of Interlaken⊙
City of Ithaca
Town of Ithaca
Town of Lansing⊙
Village of Lansing
Town of Ledyard⊙
Town of Lodi
Town of Newfield
Town of Ovid

Town of Romulus
Town of Scipio
Town of Sempronius
Town of Seneca Falls
Town of Springport
Town of Summerhill
Village of Trumansburg
Town of Ulysses⊙
Village of Union Springs
Town of Varick⊙
Town of Venice
Town of Virgil

- **Conesus Lake - 7 municipalities**

Town of Conesus⊙
Town of Geneseo⊙
Town of Groveland⊙

Town of Livonia
Village of Livonia
Town of Sparta

Town of Springwater

** "⊙" indicates a Phase II targeted municipality