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NEWS from the CWC

CWC awards 28 Education Grants

MARGARETVILE, June 15, 2009 – Twenty-eight education grants totaling nearly $150,000 were recently approved by the Catskill Watershed Corporation (CWC) Board of Directors.

The awards will go to schools and non-profit organizations serving school-age students in the Catskills and in New York City. This is the 12th year that grants have been distributed for projects and programs to heighten awareness and understanding of the New York City water system and its vast Watershed West of the Hudson River.

A total of 270 Watershed Education grants have been awarded to date in partnership with the New York City Department of Environmental Protection. The Round 12 grants were approved at the May 5 CWC Board meeting.

In other education news, the Board on June 2 authorized a contract with the Watershed Agricultural Council to bring WAC's forestry bus tour grant program and funds to the CWC, where a Watershed Education Grants Coordinator will administer both the WAC bus tour and CWC education grant programs.

A full-time coordinator is expected to be hired this summer to run the programs from the CWC offices in Margaretville. "Since 20 New York City schools and groups visit the Watershed each year with bus tour funds, and some of them also apply for CWC grants to pay for programming and activities while they're here, it makes sense to streamline the delivery of both of these educational efforts under one roof," explained CWC Education Committee Chairman Paul Dibbell.

Some changes are anticipated when the grant programs are aligned. Prospective applicants are advised to consult the Education Program page on the CWC's website, www.cwconline.org.

Recipients of CWC Education Grants this year include, from the Watershed: Jefferson Central School, Hunter Elementary School and Gilboa-Conesville Central School (all with two awards); the Arc of Delaware County (Arkville center); Onteora Middle School; Phoenicia Elementary School; Walton and Fallsburg Central Schools; Cornell Cooperative Extension of Ulster County; Catskill Center for Conservation & Development; Mountaintop Historical Society; Zadock Pratt Museum; Pine Hill Community Center; Northern Catskills Occupational Center and the Ashokan Center.

New York City-based recipients are South Street Seaport Museum, Alley Pond Environmental Center, Council on the Environment of NYC, Neighborhood School PTA, Friends of PS 166, Central Park East II Elementary School, Horticultural Society of New York, University Settlement, Earth School, and Trout Unlimited.

The CWC is a non-profit, local development corporation responsible for several environmental protection, economic development and education programs in the New York City Watershed West of the Hudson River. For more information, go to www.cwconline.org, or call toll-free 877-928-7433.