

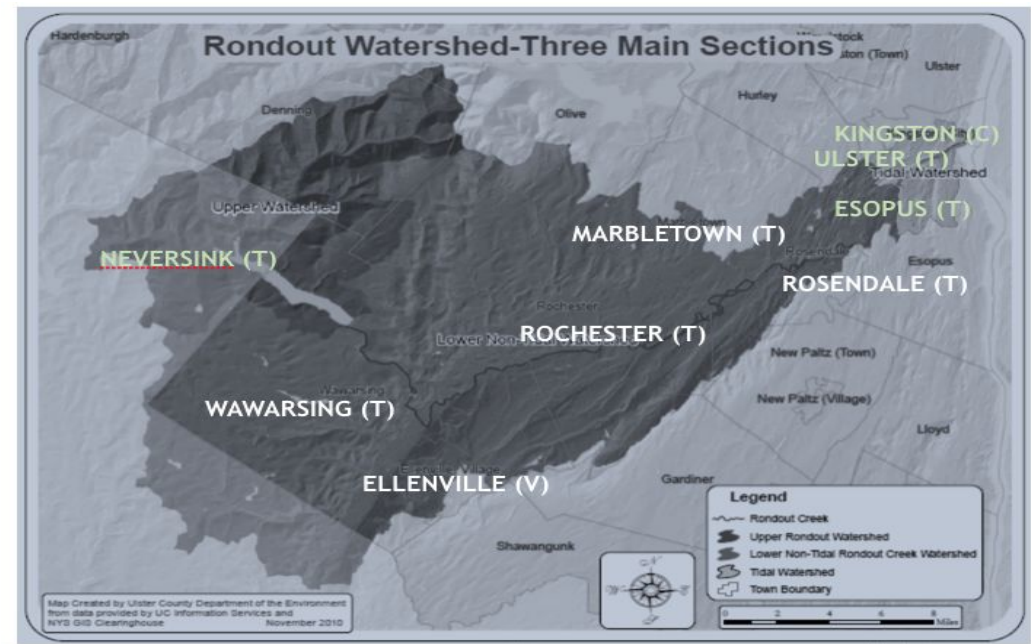
Image from The Interim Lower Non-Tidal Rondout Creek Watershed Management Plan, 2010

MISSION

Rondout Creek Watershed Alliance. “Jump in it Don’t Dump in it”

There is no life without water. A creek that we can swim in and eat from is both our right and our responsibility. The Rondout Creek Watershed Alliance was founded to restore the Rondout Creek and its tributaries to their prime, to act as the voice of the Creek, and to advocate for the protection and improvement of the watershed by increasing community awareness and implementing collaborative conservation efforts.

Updated August 15, 2019



MISSION AREA

Tidal, Lower Non-Tidal and Upper Rondout Watershed.

STEERING COMMITTEE

Definition: one/two people from each municipality

RCWA Contact: Laura Finestone via Rebecca Martin, Riverkeeper
 rmartin@riverkeeper.org

MUNICIPALITY	Committee Member #1	Committee Member #2
Town of Neversink		
Town of Wawarsing	Sarah Underhill	Andrew Faust
Village of Ellenville		
Town of Rochester	John Messerschmidt	

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Town of Marbletown	Eric Stewart	Tom Konrad
Town of Rosendale	Richard Parisio	Matt Igoe
Town of Esopus		
Town of Ulster		
City of Kingston	Daniel Carey	
At-Large	Laura Finestone	
NGO	Jen Epstein and Rebecca Martin, Riverkeeper	Manna Jo Greene, Hudson River Sloop Clearwater

PROJECT COMMITTEES

Communications

Member Definition:

Name	Location	Phone	Interests	Projects
Eric Stewart	Marbletown			Brochure
Laura Finestone	Rochester			Articles

Riparian Zone Planting Committee

Member Definition:

Initiatives: Mapping of existing Tft projects on the Rondout Creek

Tft Documents [VIEW](#)

Name	Location	Phone	Interests	Projects
Andrew Faust	Wawarsing			
John Messerschmidt	Rochester			
Eric Stewart				
Laura Finestone				

Outreach and Education Committee

Member Definition:

Initiative: General Outreach and RCW Education in Rondout School District

Name	Location	Phone	Interests	Projects
Richard Parisio	Rosendale			Education
Andrew Faust	Wawarsing			
John Messerschmidt	Rochester			
Laura Finestone				Summit

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RCWA Internal Educational Events

1. Nate Nardi-Cyrus, HREP Conservation and Land Use Specialist (other HREP staff?)
2. Jared Buono and Nordica, CCE

PARTNERS

MUNICIPALITIES

CORE

Neversink, Wawarsing, Ellenville, Rochester, Marbletown, Rosendale, Esopus, Ulster and Kingston

OUTER

Denning, Olive, Hurley, Gardiner, Fallsburg

AGENCIES

Ulster County Department of the Environment, Cornell Cooperative Extension, NYC DEP, NYS DEC, Hudson River Estuary Program, Soil and Water Conservation Districts, USDA FSA, Sullivan County (?), NYS Parks, NYS Prisons

NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS (NGO's)

Riverkeeper, Clearwater, High Falls Conservancy, Trout Unlimited, Hudson River Watershed Alliance, Open Space Institute, Kingston Land Trust, Rondout-Esopus Conservancy, Mohonk Preserve, Rondout Valley Growers Assoc.,

WATERSHED GROUPS

Wallkill River Watershed Alliance, Hudson River Watershed Alliance, Sawkill Watershed Community

SCHOOLS

Rondout Valley Schools

Important Now (from May 2018 meeting exercise to rank recommendations from 4 existing plans)

- Protect and restore riparian zones throughout the watershed using a variety of approaches.
 - Goal is a Trees for Tribs project in Spring 2019
 - Restore tributary streams, including enhancing riparian vegetation, reducing streambank and channel erosion, and preventing or minimizing flood damage
- Assimilate existing information about water features, natural areas, open space, biodiversity, etc. into a digital Rondout Creek Watershed Atlas, and develop into a comprehensive resource.
- Amend/enhance zoning protections and utilize planning tools to protect streams, stream corridors, wetlands, other important natural areas and open spaces, biodiversity, forestry, and agriculture.
- Increase training, education, and stewardship, including targeted programs for planning boards and other municipal departments, advisory groups and agencies. **(and educaionl programs for children)**

Important for Later (from May 2018 meeting exercise to rank recommendations from 4 existing plans)

- Intermunicipal collaborations/intermunicipal agreement
- Expand adoption of stormwater best management practices, e.g., green infrastructure, without and outside of MS4 areas
- Improve wastewater management
- Manage land use and redevelopment
- Increase efforts to obtain grants
- Expand source water and groundwater aquifer protection

Participate/learn more about the following:

- Hudson River Watershed Alliance (HRWA) Roundtable
- HRWA Omelet Series

Visiting groups (or attend their meetings):

- HRWA
- Wallkill River Watershed Alliance
- Saw Kill Watershed Community? (Eli Dueker, East Side of HR)

Materials

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/udsonriverkeeper/sets/72157668564822021/with/27232830126/>