

Conesus Lake

CHAPTER 2

SUMMARY OF VISIONS AND GOALS

In order to develop a management plan for a resource, it is necessary to build a vision of a desired future. The Watershed Management Plan provides a road map from current conditions towards an improved lake and watershed. Several common themes were brought forward during the many meetings and discussions held between 1999 and 2002. The vision of the desired future of the lake and watershed includes elements related to human uses of the resource, restoration of the lake ecosystem, continued viability of agricultural land use, and protection of the rural character of the watershed. The Policy Committee has adopted the following statement to express their vision of both the Watershed Management Plan and the watershed:

“TO DESIGN A MANAGEMENT PLAN THAT PRESERVES, RESTORES, AND ENHANCES THE HEALTH, NATURAL BEAUTY, AND RURAL CHARACTER OF CONESUS LAKE AND ITS WATERSHED.”

What is the objective of the Conesus Lake Watershed Management Plan?

To ensure the sustainability of designated uses for Conesus Lake and its continued role as a positive influence on the social and economic well being of watershed communities.

What are the goals regarding water quality of the lake?

To improve water quality conditions in Conesus Lake to ensure its continued use as a water supply and make it more attractive for water contact recreation.

How does the plan view ecosystem management?

The plan includes actions designed to restore Conesus Lake to a diverse ecosystem composed primarily of native species of plants and animals.

What part does the community play in the plan?

For the plan to succeed, it must promote cooperation of all stakeholders at the local level to develop a comprehensive approach that seeks to build collaboration and balance diverse concerns.

How does the plan address the specific concerns of agriculture?

The plan recognizes the value of high quality agricultural practices in meeting its goals. The plan seeks to promote the viability of agriculture and best management practices in land use.

How does the plan affect residents of the watershed?

The plan seeks to provide necessary services to all watershed residents while preserving the natural beauty and rural character of the countryside.