



Open Space Council

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MISSION

To preserve open space on Long Island.

The mission of its affiliated project, the Carmans River Watershed Trust Fund is to work with government, grass roots community efforts, policy makers, and environmental groups in establishing carrying capacity principles and sustainable practices within the Carmans River Watershed. Promoting ongoing related work within other Long Island watersheds. Our work is done through research, science, policy, education, and organizing cooperative efforts for both surface water and ground water activities within this and other watersheds.

WHAT WE'RE DOING TO IMPROVE WATER QUALITY ON LONG ISLAND

We are funding USGS water monitoring efforts, coordinated with Town of Brookhaven funding and selection of water quality sites along the Carmans River. We are collecting, analyzing and monitoring samples from parallel sample sites ourselves.

We are working with the Pine Barrens Commission to deter the destruction of forest and field habitat by ATV (All Terrain Vehicle) activity. The preservation of naturally vegetated areas is critical for clean water filtration.

We are helping to coordinate the three largest water umbrella groups on Long Island however possible: the Long Island Clean Water Partnership *for surface water*; Water for Long Island *for groundwater*; and the Long Island Water Forum *for coordination and communication between the many ongoing and overlapping efforts by water participants in those groups*.

HOW LONG ISLANDERS CAN GET INVOLVED

As we proceed with our goals for establishing concepts of sustainability and carrying capacity calculations to either heal areas or preserve existing health in the Carmans River Watershed, we will be providing research, assistance, and inclusion of those concepts and activities to other cooperating watersheds on Long Island.

Specific activities invite participation, such as sampling along the river joined by community residents and adjacent school programs; providing forums and round-table discussions on issues of water quality concern, such as our work promoting advanced septic systems and waterless, closed wastewater systems within the Carmans, beginning at its headwaters at the Longwood Public Library; and seeking to establish real solutions through writing or supporting effective legislation and creating unique incentive programs.