



Watershed Agricultural Council  
**EAST of HUDSON**  
P R O G R A M

**T**he East of Hudson Program of the Watershed Agricultural Council provides farm and forest management expertise and source water protection funding for farms in the Croton Watershed of the New York City Water Supply Watershed. The Croton Watershed, New York City's original water supply, encompasses northern Westchester County, the majority of Putnam County and small portions of Dutchess County and Fairfield County, CT.



Partnering with the Council is a voluntary endeavor that watershed farmers pursue to protect water quality, improve their farms, and increase the regional viability of agriculture. Farms located within the watershed boundary earning an average annual minimum of \$1,000 in gross sales are eligible to participate. By joining the program, landowners partner with the Council to begin a process called "Whole Farm Planning." This evaluation of your farm and its activities helps assess any existing and potential impacts to water quality. With your approval, a staff planner

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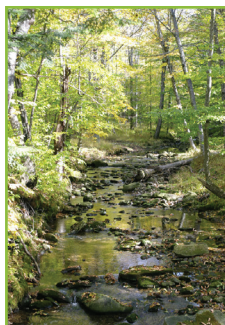


will devise a series of Best Management Practices to address these water quality concerns. Some practices are physical installations such as fences and manure dumpster pads; others may be alternative management techniques found in a revised pasture management plan.



Following approval from our advisory committee, the Council provides funding and technical expertise for the implementation of these Best Management Practices.

Forest owners can also protect water quality. If you own 10 or more acres of woodland in the Croton Watershed, our foresters can develop a forest management plan for your property that will help you achieve a variety of desired outcomes for your forest. Forest management planning can help build and diversify wildlife populations, increase the ecological health and vigor of your forest and trees, promote wise timber harvest methods, and bolster the filtration capabilities of forest parcels.



To speak with a program representative about farm or forest planning, call our office at (914) 962-6355. You can also visit the East of Hudson Program or the Forest Management Planning pages at [www.nycwatershed.org](http://www.nycwatershed.org) to download preliminary applications for these programs. All information shared with Council is confidential.

### **East of Hudson Program**

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[www.nycwatershed.org](http://www.nycwatershed.org)

