

CHAPTER 1
INTRODUCTION

Background of the Fishing Creek/Cedar Run Study

Clinton County prepared this document to comply with the Stormwater Management Act of 1978 (Act 167). This Act requires each county in Pennsylvania to prepare and adopt stormwater management plans for each designated watershed in their county. The Fishing Creek/Cedar Run Watershed (hereinafter referred to as the Combined Watershed) was Clinton County's second stormwater management plan. It is an important plan because the potential for development and land use change in this watershed is increasing due to its proximity to both The Pennsylvania State University and Lock Haven University. Accordingly, this plan provides a mechanism for municipalities within the Combined Watershed to plan for and manage increased runoff associated with possible future development and land use change. Figure 1-1 contains the location maps of the Combined Watershed.

Requirements of Act 167

The following summary includes the basic elements of Act 167 in terms of specific responsibilities assigned to various units of state and local government:

1. Each county shall develop regional stormwater management plans for each watershed within its boundaries, recognizing that most watersheds will cross county boundaries, and will require collaboration with neighboring counties.
2. Each municipality will adopt local ordinances and engineering design criteria which conform to the provisions of their respective stormwater management plans.
3. Developers must implement stormwater management techniques that meet the standards and criteria set forth in the appropriate municipal ordinances, as supported by the watershed stormwater management plan. In general, these stormwater management techniques will ensure that post-development runoff rates throughout the watershed do not exceed pre-development levels.
4. PA DEP will serve as the review agency for each watershed stormwater management plan submitted by the counties. The Act 167 planning process involves three essential steps:

- a. Documentation of existing watershed characteristics, including land use, soils, runoff conditions, peak flows, sub-area timing relationships, existing storm drainage problems, and flow obstructions. The existing conditions in the watershed represent the base line for evaluating the effects of future runoff caused by land development.
- b. Preparation of a watershed stormwater management plan to manage stormwater based on possible future development and land use change within the watershed. The plan would include criteria and performance standards for managing urban runoff, and a listing of alternative stormwater management techniques.
- c. Development of priorities for implementing stormwater management practices within each municipality in accordance with the objectives set forth in the watershed stormwater management plan. This step is crucial to the entire planning process, since local level control is the only mechanism by which we can achieve total watershed-wide stormwater management. While this may seem contradictory to our objective of watershed-wide planning, we ask the reader to bear in mind that responsibility for managing excessive stormwater would reside with each municipality, in accordance with Act 167.

Goals and Limitations of Fishing Creek/Cedar Run Watershed Stormwater Management Plan

Attempts at stormwater management often are on a municipal boundary or development site basis and do not consider downstream communities or properties. Accordingly, the purpose of this plan is to provide a watershed-wide approach to stormwater management since runoff does not recognize municipal boundaries. By treating the watershed as a single unit, it is possible to achieve a coordinated approach to stormwater management that maintains runoff peaks, by considering the timing relationships of runoff.

This stormwater management plan will not control or reduce development within the Combined Watershed. However, the plan will provide standards and criteria that can be incorporated into local ordinances to manage and maintain peak runoff flows throughout the Combined Watershed as development occurs. Also, it is not the intent of this plan to solve existing flooding or runoff problems, but to identify them for future correction and assure that problems do not get worse. More specifically, this plan does not require the municipalities to correct the existing drainage problems.

Watershed Plan Advisory Committee (WPAC)

The Act allows municipalities, conservation districts and other interest groups to provide input and direction during the planning process through participation in a Watershed Plan Advisory Committee. The original committee representatives included:

COUNTY AGENCIES

Clinton County Commissioners	Union County Commissioners
Clinton County Conservation District	Union County Conservation District
Clinton County Planning Commission	Union County Planning Commission
Clinton County Solicitor's Office	Union County Solicitor
Centre County Commissioners	Lycoming County Commissioners
Centre County Conservation District	Lycoming County Cons. District
Centre County Planning Commission	Lycoming County Planning Comm.
Centre County Solicitor	Lycoming County Solicitor

STATE AGENCIES

Bald Eagle State Forest	PA Department of Transportation
PA Fish and Boat Commission	PA DEP Water Supply and Community Health
PA Game Commission	

FEDERAL AGENCIES

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (Formerly SCS)

CLINTON COUNTY MUNICIPALITIES

Bald Eagle Township	Logan Township
Castanea Township	Loganton Borough
Crawford Township	Mill Hall Borough
Greene Township	Porter Township
Lamar Township	

CENTRE COUNTY MUNICIPALITIES

Gregg Township	Spring Township
Marion Township	Walker Township
Miles Township	

LYCOMING COUNTY MUNICIPALITIES

Washington Township

UNION COUNTY MUNICIPALITIES

Lewis Township

WATER COMPANIES

Booneville Water Company
Bull Run Water Assoc. Inc.
Eastville Water Company
Greenburr Water Company
Mackeyville Water Company
Nittany Water Company

Rote Mutual Water Company
Spring Township Water Authority
Tylersville Water Company
Walker Township Water Assoc.
64 Water Company, Inc.

OTHER PARTIES

Big Fishing Creek Cottage Association
Lock Haven University

This committee promoted municipal involvement that insured inter-municipal cooperation and ultimately aided in the overall preparation of the plan. The success and effectiveness of the Fishing Creek/Cedar Run Stormwater Management Plan are contingent upon the continued cooperation and input from the municipalities.

Other Plan Participants

Sweetland Engineering & Associates, Inc., was the engineering consultant for original Stormwater Management Plan. The Consultant was responsible for preparing the technical components of this plan including model selection, calibration, and runs, and developing the technical standards and criteria of the Model Ordinance.

The Clinton County Conservation District (hereinafter referred to as the Lead Agency) was the agency responsible for preparing this stormwater management plan, while Centre, Lycoming and Union County Government Offices were participating organizations during the preparation of the original. Specific government offices from each county that participated in the original planning process are listed under the WPAC section above. The 2006 update was completed for the Clinton County Watershed area only.