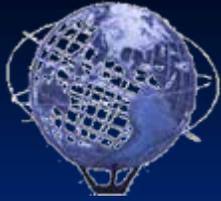


QCC



*Queens Civic Congress*

2009



# *By-Laws* PURPOSE

*Section 1 - To provide a forum for the civic associations and neighborhood organizations of Queens County to inform and address themselves to the full spectrum of issues, developments, and conditions which may affect the quality of life of our neighborhoods.*

*Section 2 - To develop and present common policies and positions on all matters which may affect our neighborhoods, the Borough and County of Queens, and New York City.*

*Section 3 - To furnish effective leadership and advocacy for the advancement of the welfare and interests of Queens' neighborhoods.*

# Queens Civic Congress Membership

Association of Old Forest Hills " Auburndale Improvement Association " Bayside Civic Database "Bayside Clear-Spring Council " Bayside Hills Civic Association " Bayswater Civic Association " Bay Terrace Community Alliance, Inc. " Bellaire-BellVill Civic Association " Belle Harbor Property Owners Association " Bellerose Commonwealth Civic Association " Bellerose Hillside Civic Association " Bell Park Manor Terrace Community Council " Bowne Park Civic Association " Briarwood Community Association " Cambria Heights Civic Association " Civic Association of Utopia Estates " C.O.M.E.T. (Communities of Maspeth-Elmhurst Together) " Concerned Citizens of Laurelton " Cornucopia Society " Creedmoor Civic Association " Deerfield Area Association " Doug-Bay Manor Civic Association " Douglas Manor Association " Douglaston Civic Association " Dutch Kills Civic Association of Long Island City " East Elmhurst Corona Civic Association " East Flushing Civic Association " Federated Block Associations of Laurelton " Federation of Civic Associations of Southeast Queens " Floral Park Community Council " Flushing Heights Civic Association " Flushing on the Hill Taxpayers Association " Forest Hills Chamber of Commerce " Forest Hills Crescents Association " Forest Hills-Van Court Association " Fresh Meadows Homeowners Association " Georgetown Mews " Glendale Civic Association of Queens " Glen Oaks Village Owners, Inc. " Greater Astoria Historical Society " Greater Whitestone Taxpayers Civic Association " Harding Heights Civic Association " Hillcrest Estates Civic Association " Hilltop Village Co-Op #1 " Hilltop Village Co-Op #2 " Hilltop Village Co-Op #3 " Hilltop Village Co-Op #4 " Hollis 11423 Block Association " Hollis Hills Civic Association " Holliswood Civic Association " Hollis Park Gardens Association " Holly Civic Association " Hyde Park Gardens Cooperative " Jackson Heights Beautification Group " Jamaica Estates Association " Jamaica Hill Community Association " Juniper Park Civic Association " Kew Gardens Civic Association " Kew Gardens Hills Homeowners Association " Kew Gardens Improvement Association " Kissena Park Civic Association " Little Neck Bay Civic Association " Little Neck Pines " Long Island City Alliance " Malba Civic Association " Meadowlark Gardens Owners " Middle Village Property Owners Association " Mitchell Linden Civic Association " Neponsit Property Owners Association " Newtown Civic Association " North Bellerose Civic Association " North Flushing Civic Association " North Hills Estates Civic Association " Northwest Clearview Homeowners Association " Norwood Neighborhood Association " Oakland Terrace/ Gardens Community Council " Off Broadway Homeowners Association " Our Neighborhood Improvement Association " Our Neighbors Civic Association of Ozone Park, Inc. " Parkway Village Historical Society " Queensboro Hill Neighborhood Association " Queens Colony Civic Association " Queens Community Civic Corp. " Queens Village Civic Association " Ramblersville-Hawtree Civic Association " Richmond Hill Historical Society " Ridgewood Property Owners and Civic Association " Rockaway Park Homeowners/Residents " Rocky Hill Civic Association " Rosedale Civic Association " Royal Ranch Association. " Southeast Queens Concerned Neighbors " South Ozone Park West Association Civic " Springfield/Rosedale Community Action Association " Station Road Civic Assoc. of Auburndale " Sunnyside Gardens/Harrison Place Homeowners " Surrey Estates Civic Association " Union Turnpike Merchants Association " United Forties Civic Association " United Mutual Veterans Housing, Inc. " Waldheim Neighborhood Association " Wayanda Civic Association " West Cunningham Park Civic Association " Westmoreland Association " Woodside Community Council

*CWCWC*



**Croton Watershed Clean Water Coalition, Inc.**

**2009**



## *Mission Statement*

The Croton Watershed Clean Water Coalition strives to protect and improve the waters of New York City's Croton Watershed, a critical component of the water supply for over half the population of New York State. We are an alliance of individuals and groups who believe that safe, clean and affordable drinking water is a basic human right.

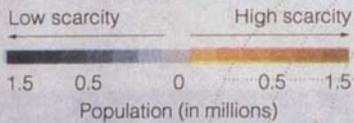
Concerned Residents of Summit Manicpas  
Concerned Residents of Southeast  
Council of Chelsea Block Associations  
Croton Heights Community Association  
Dickerson Mountain Preservation Assoc.  
Diocesan Missionary & Church Extension Society  
Episcopal Diocese of New York  
Federated Conservationists of Westchester County (FCWC)  
Friends of the Great Swamp (FrOGS)  
Friends of Hudson River Sloop Clearwater- NYC  
George Nikitovich, et al  
Goldens Bridge Community Association  
Grassroots  
Hands Across the Border (HAB)  
Housing Development Fund Cooperative Council (HDFC)  
Hudson River Audubon Society  
Hudson River Sloop Clearwater  
Huntersville Association  
INTERLOC  
Jay Heritage Center  
Junior League of Westchester on Hudson  
Lake Dutchess Association, Inc.  
Lower Hudson Group Sierra Club, Atlantic Chapter  
Metropolitan Council on Housing  
NYC Group Sierra Club, Atlantic Chapter  
Putnam County Tree Advisory Commission  
Putnam County Coalition to Preserve Open Space  
Queens Civic Congress  
Ramapo-Catskill Sierra Club, Atlantic Chapter  
Regional Review League - Bedford  
Rusticus Garden Club  
Saw Mill Audubon Society  
Shorewalkers  
Southern Yorktown Homeowners' Association  
Teatown Lake Reservation, Inc.  
Trout Unlimited, Croton Watershed Chapter  
Trout Unlimited , NYC Chapter  
Westchester Land Trust  
Yorktown Land Trust



# A Dwindling Resource

## Map Key

The map shows 1995 world population relative to water scarcity.



## Distribution of World's Water



America Online 9.0.Ink

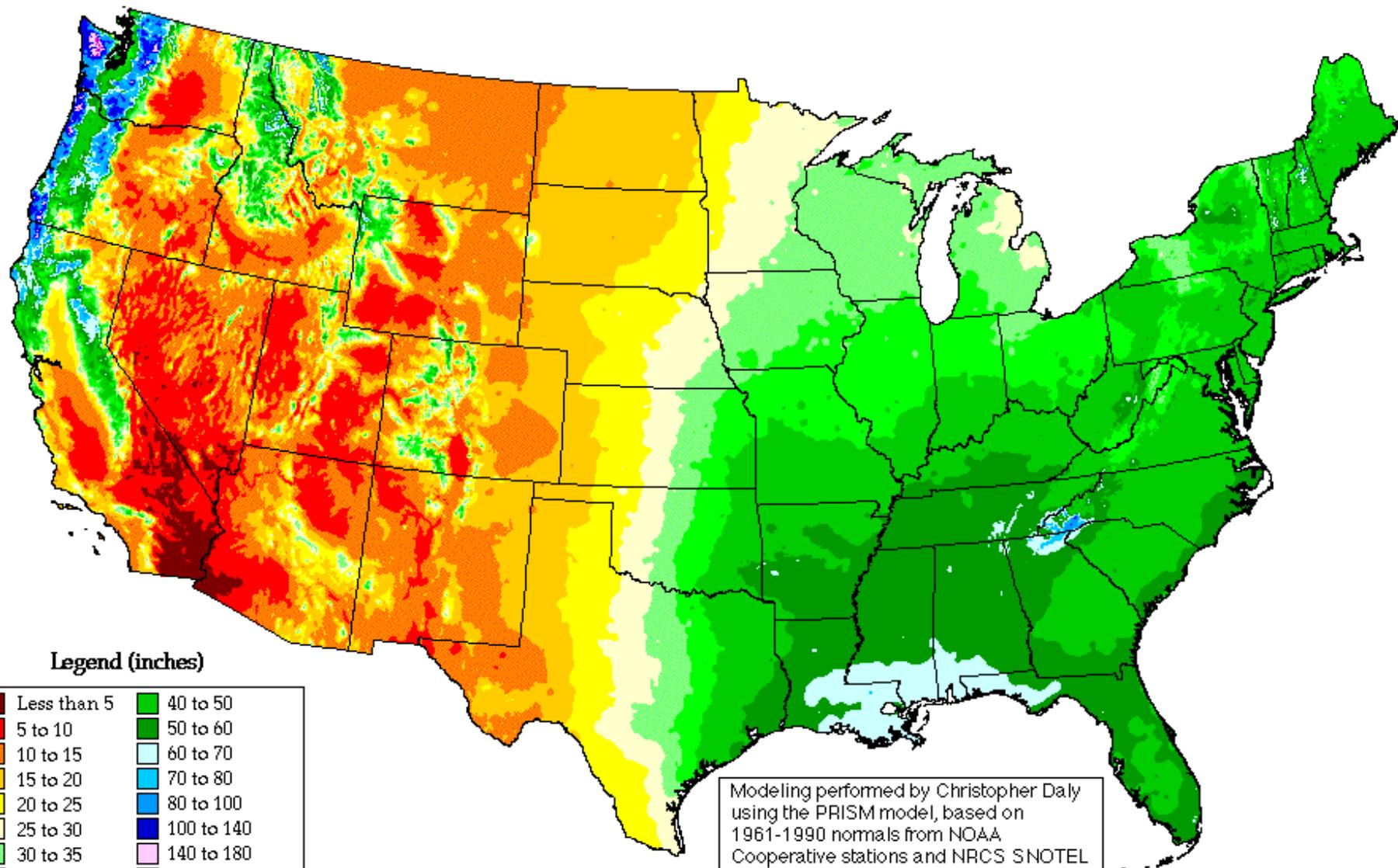
Sources: Water Systems Analysis Group, University of New Hampshire; Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

William McNulty and Farhana Hossain/The New York Times

# Water Distribution On Our Planet

# Annual Average Precipitation

United States of America



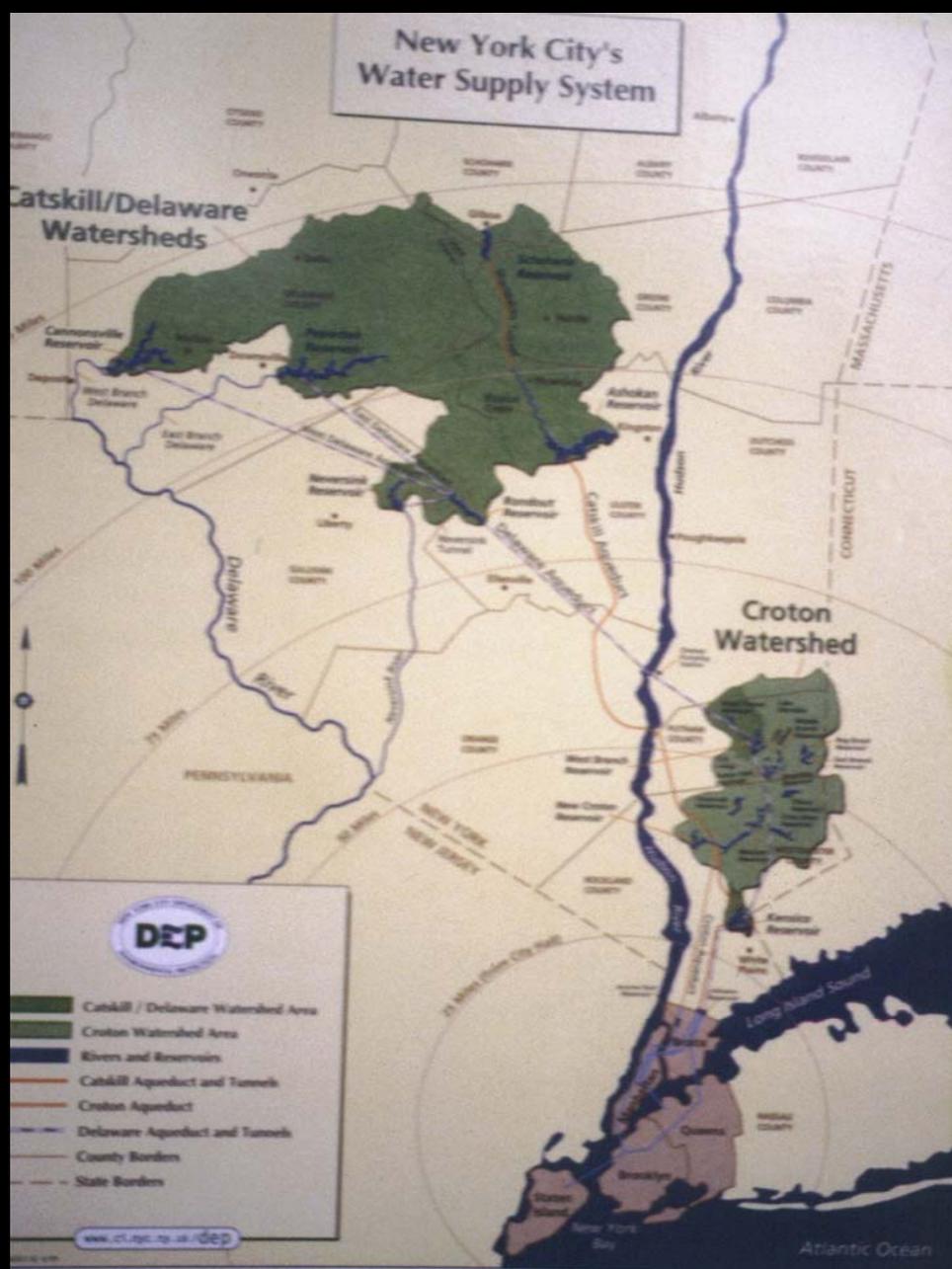
## Legend (inches)

Less than 5	40 to 50
5 to 10	50 to 60
10 to 15	60 to 70
15 to 20	70 to 80
20 to 25	80 to 100
25 to 30	100 to 140
30 to 35	140 to 180
35 to 40	More than 180

Period: 1961-1990

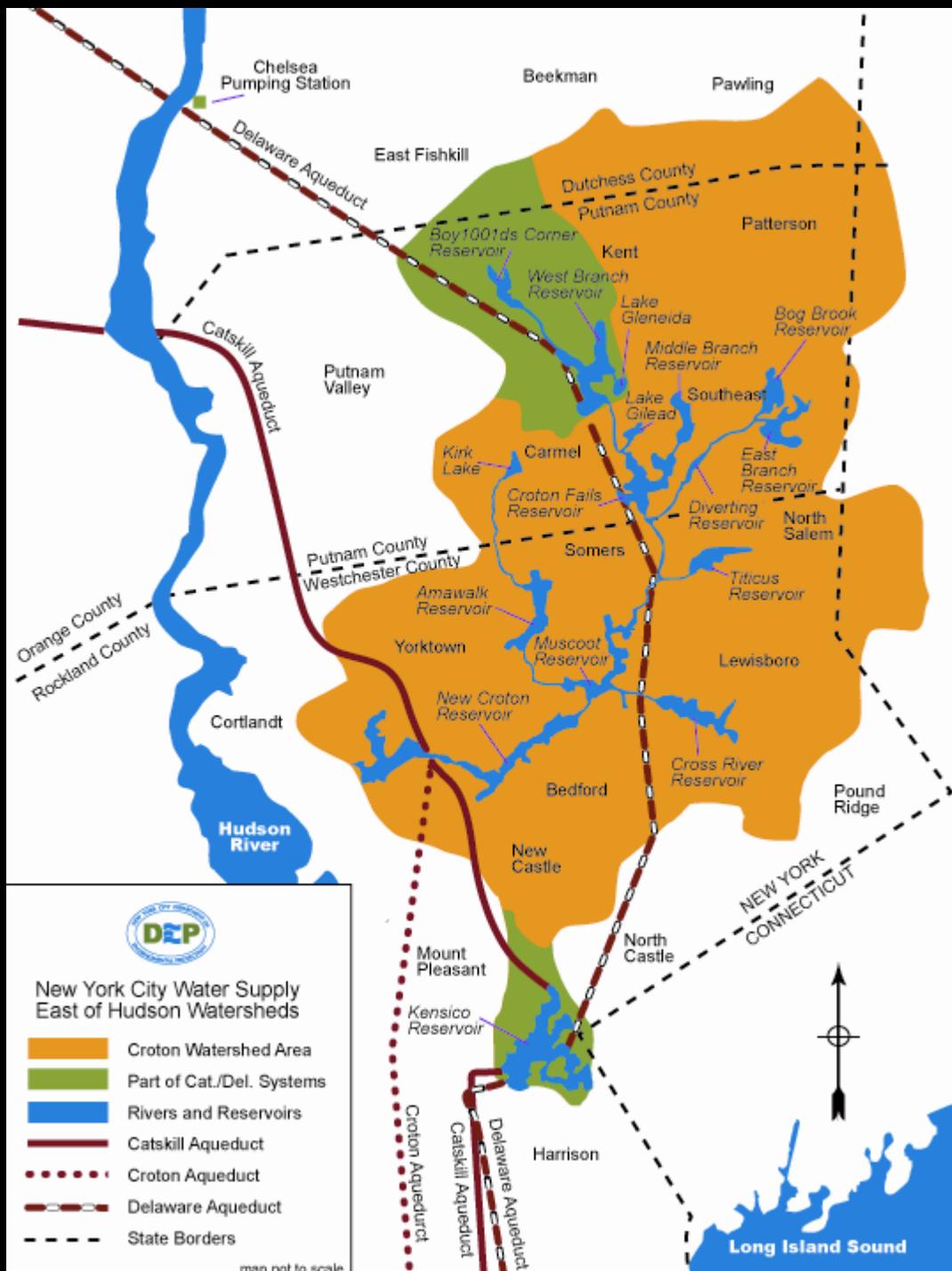
Modeling performed by Christopher Daly using the PRISM model, based on 1961-1990 normals from NOAA Cooperative stations and NRCS SNOTEL sites. Sponsored by USDA-NRCS Water and Climate Center, Portland, Oregon.

Oregon Climate Service  
George Taylor, State Climatologist  
(541) 737-5705



The New York City Watershed

# New York City Water Supply East of Hudson Watersheds





The New Croton Reservoir





Wetlands help to filter out contamination



“New York City has some of the best water in the world because it maintains healthy forest in its Catskill, Delaware and Croton watershed systems.” Mike Dombeck, U.S. National Forest Service



GOING OUT OF BUSINESS

LINENS-N-THIN





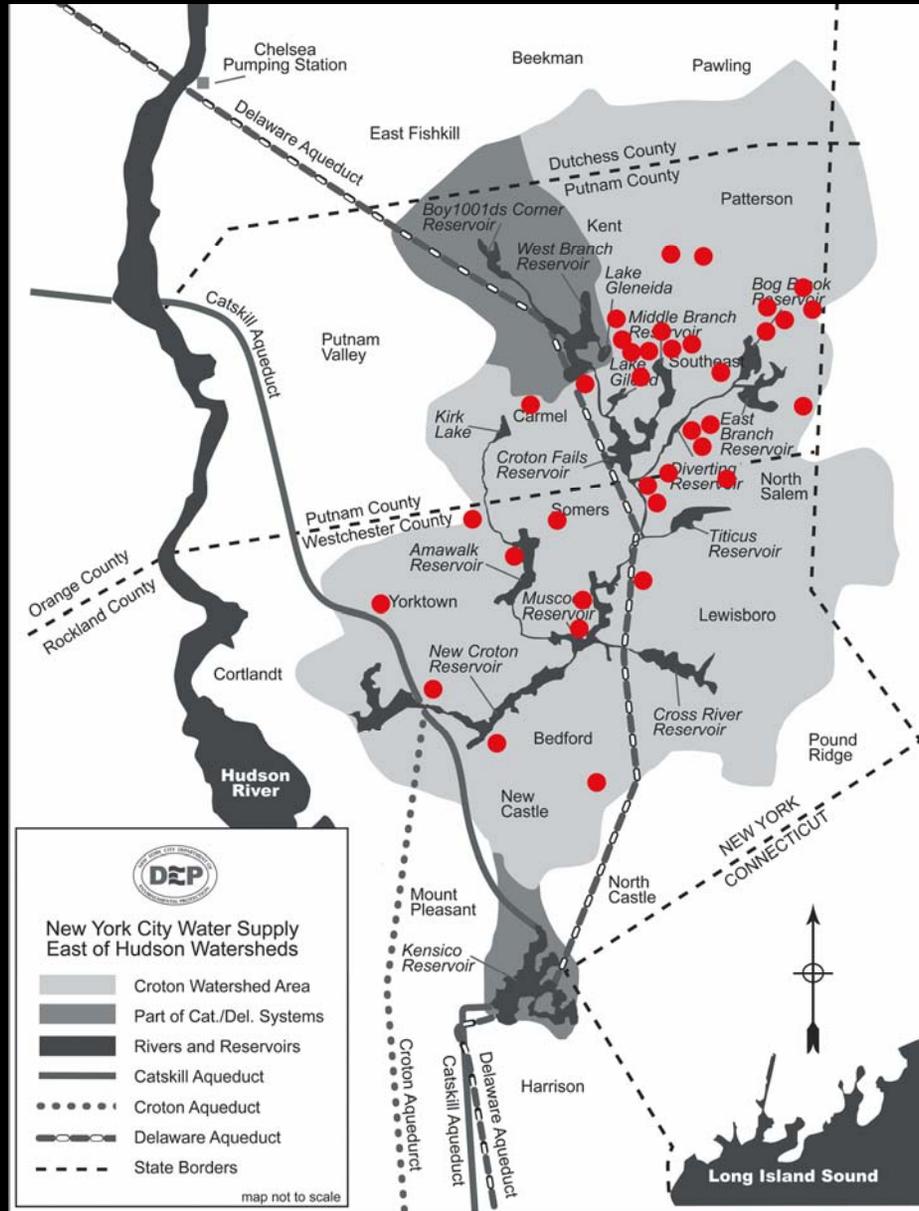
Oil Runoff from Parking Lot





**1 pound of phosphorus can trigger  
the growth of 115 pounds of algae**

# DEVELOPMENTS IN THE CROTON WATERSHED



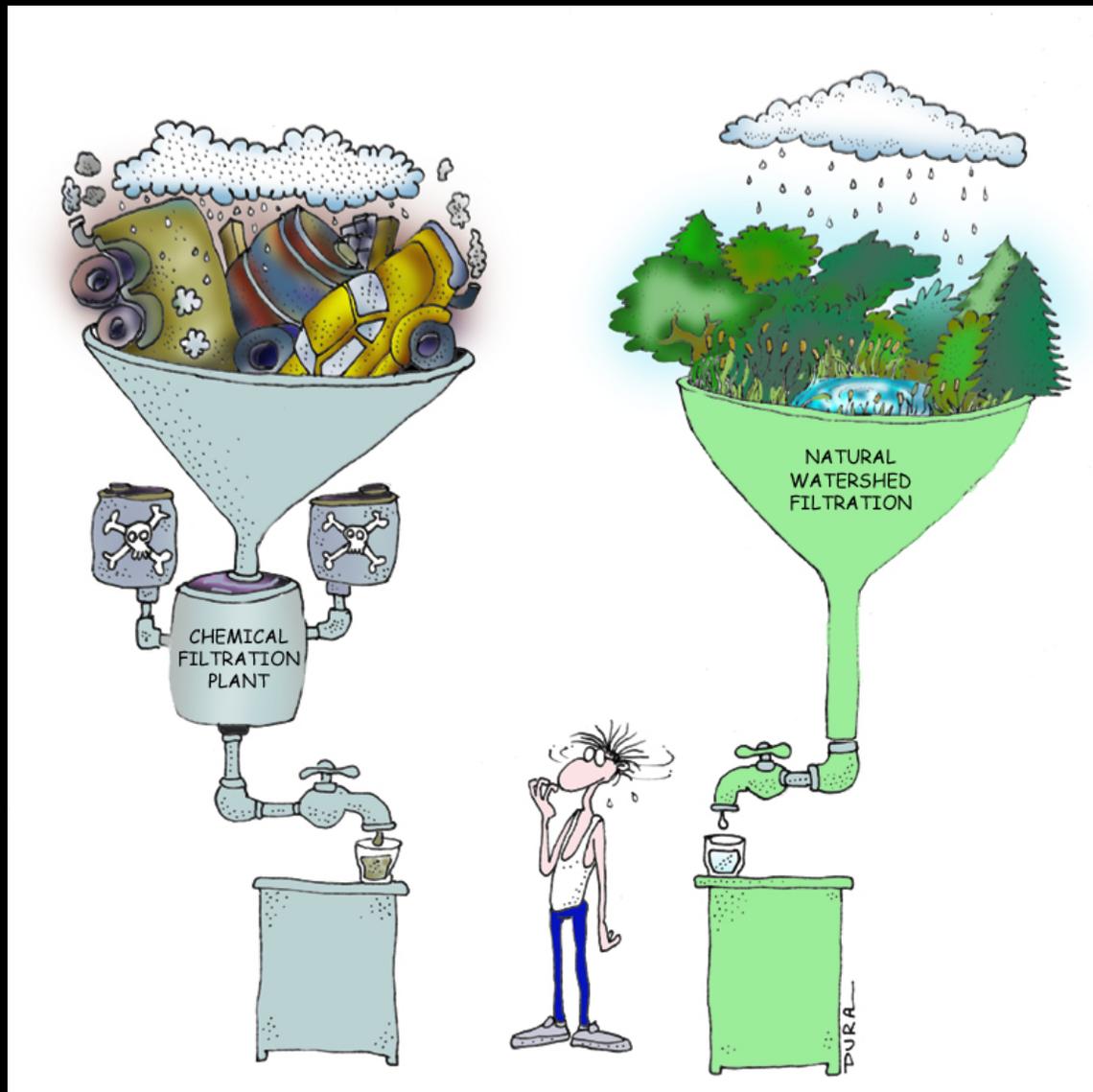
## Developments/Projects Opposed

- Kent Manor
- Patterson Crossing
- Pulte's Retreat
- StateLine Retail
- Granite Pointe
- Hillcrest Commons
- Fairways Gateway
- Belleayre
- Salem Hunt
- Somers Realty
- Union Place
- Marcellus Shale Gas & Oil Drilling in NYC Watersheds

### • Projects Supported

- Kisco River IMA





Watershed protection versus pollution from over-development and chemical treatment/filtration

Water/Wastewater  
Cumulative Increase  
Rate History

If your water  
& sewer charge  
had been  
\$100 in 1987

<u>Year</u>	<u>% Increase</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Cumulative total</u>
1996	5.0%	\$13.48	\$283.14
1997	6.5%	\$18.40	\$301.54
1998	6.5%	\$19.60	\$321.14
1999	4.0%	\$12.85	\$333.98
2000	4.0%	\$13.36	\$347.34
2001	1.0%	\$ 3.47	\$350.81
2002	3.0%	\$10.52	\$366.38
2003	6.5%	\$23.49	\$384.87
2004	5.5%	\$21.17	\$408.04
2005	5.5%	\$22.33	\$430.37
2006	3.0%	\$12.91	\$443.28
2007	9.4%	\$41.67	\$484.95
2008	11.5%	\$55.77	\$540.72
2009	14.5%	\$78.40	\$619.12

# NYCDEP forecasts

DEP forecasts a 14% - 18% annual increase compounded going forward.

Water Board has announced in Blue Book a 14% increase for 2010.

This is unsustainable and unacceptable.

# NYC Comptroller Thompson audits of DEP

- Slow pace of bids, contracts and construction with missed milestone dates resulted in \$4 million in fines and an additional \$11 million when DEP doesn't complete plant by 2011, already delayed from 2007.
- Misled public on cost estimates, poor oversight and cost documentation, quadrupling the cost of Croton filtration plant with taxpayers' money.
- Did not audit why DEP chose DAF chemical treatment versus membrane, today's technology of choice.
- 16 recommendations for DEP to improve performance in cost estimates, planning, construction and meeting deadlines including calling on DOH to waive the fines.

## DAF

2006 construction cost  
\$20.80 per gallon

Size 11 acres

Electricity use 32.3 MW

Pathogen removal e.g.  
Cryptosporidium 0% -  
must add ultraviolet

Maintenance

## Membrane

\$1.59 per gallon

2-3 acres

21.6 megawatts

Cryptosporidium removal  
100% effective if use  
ultra filtration

Fewer steps to maintain

# NYC water and sewer rates

## Recommendations to cease escalation:

1. Secure federal and state stimulus money to fund mandated capital improvements of upgrading Croton wastewater treatment plants to tertiary level, and safe disposal of sludge;

# NYC water and sewer rates

2. Fund capital costs for water supply, wastewater disposal, and treatment facilities from NYC Capital Budget rather than from regressive Water and Sewer rates;

# NYC water and sewer rates

3. Cease making the water system pay for street cleaning, fire hydrant maintenance and other functions that City General Expense Budget should rightly fund. IBO's May 2008 brief identifies costs that can be reduced or are wrongly charged against the water rates: higher fringe benefits accounting (\$19 million), debt service savings from delays to non-essential projects (\$17 million), and holding code 499 (\$94 million);

# NYC water and sewer rates

4. Eliminate annual rental payments by the City to its Water Board (currently \$178 million and expected to increase further) and return the current payment of \$147 million;

# NYC water and sewer rates

5. Cease practice of setting rates before the City adopts its budget. Pass legislation A 03250 <http://assembly.state.ny.us/leg/?bn=A03250> sponsored by Assembly Member Mark Weprin and passed annually since 2001 in the Assembly;

# NYC water and sewer rates

6. Support efforts to ease impacts of high water rates on senior homeowners and tenants by passing legislation A 07059 <http://assembly.state.ny.us/leg/?bn=A07059> which would provide a tax levy subsidy to households 65 or older with incomes below current Senior Citizens Homeowner Exemption eligibility limit;

# NYC water and sewer rates

7. Improve Water and Sewer billing policies;

# NYC water and sewer rates

8. Have NYCDEP address the ongoing waste of 1.2 million gallons a day of groundwater at Croton filtration plant site in Van Cortlandt Park;

# NYC water and sewer rates

9. Improve NYCDEP's obligation to keep in a state of good repair the existing storm and combined sanitary-storm systems to prevent recurrences of summer 2007 backups into Queens' homes and apartments;

# NYC water and sewer rates

10. Have DEP disclose all capital costs for infrastructure maintenance and new infrastructure both current and over next 10 years (including Delaware Aqueduct leak, dam upgrades, tunnel #3, etc.);

# NYC water and sewer rates

11. Ban inappropriate Marcellus Shale gas and oil drilling in the NYC Watersheds.

Hydro fracturing uses up to 5 million gallons per well of groundwater, adds toxic chemicals, pressure drives deep into earth leaving contaminated water.

City Comptroller predicts a 30% rise in water rates to build a second filtration plant for Catskill/Delaware systems - now estimated at \$20 billion.

# Press Coverage

- These concerns have received wide media and public attention. Articles and letters to editors in Riverdale Press, The New York Times, NY Daily News, NY Post, Norwood News and local television coverage have expressed public outrage about the Money Pit, conflict of interest,

## Press Coverage – cont'd

Croton filtration plant site choice, technology choice, cost overruns, wasted groundwater, the Delaware Aqueduct leak and Marcellus Shale gas drilling in the NYC Watershed.

Additional information may be found at [www.newyorkwater.org](http://www.newyorkwater.org) and [www.QueensCivicCongress.org](http://www.QueensCivicCongress.org).

# NYC water and sewer rates

12. Have DEP enforce regulations to prevent unsuitable development in the NYC Watershed allow only “lake friendly” fertilizers without phosphorus;

# NYC water and sewer rates

13. And finally, invest in more land purchases and conservation easements in the Croton Watershed for the most cost-effective and best source water protection of Bronx and Manhattan water supplies.

The more that water is allowed to degrade by pollution from over-development, the more chemicals that have to be added at treatment, the poorer the taste, and the greater the cost for NYC ratepayers.







CWCWC & QCC appeal to your Community Board to adopt a resolution in support of the above recommendations and to call for a similar resolution by the Borough Board.

We welcome your input  
and partnership.

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

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

**The End**

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