Using the expertise and knowledge of its agencies as well as other local, state, and federal cooperating agencies to protect and conserve the water resources of Tioga County.
In 1991 the Tioga County WQCC was formed to address issues of Non-point Source Pollution and problems of water quality. In 2010 it continued its work on a watershed wide basis, identifying priority issues and solutions in a Water Quality Strategy. Together, participating agencies agree on the county’s greatest needs and work to access the funds necessary to implement the Water Quality Strategy.

**Participating Agencies and Organizations**
- Tioga County Soil & Water Conservation District
- Tioga County Planning Department
- Tioga County Environmental Health Department
- Tioga County Solid Waste
- Town of Owego
- Cornell Cooperative Extension
- USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service
- NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
- NYS Soil & Water Conservation Committee
Tire Clean-up

With the participation of the Town of Barton and the Town of Owego, 56 tons of tires were cleaned up during the 2010 tire clean-up program. This marked the 3rd year of a five year program originally established in 2009 when a grant was awarded to Tioga County Solid Waste for funding. The program has provided a safe and economical method for both resident and municipalities to dispose of waste tires.
2010 was the 10th annual stream clean-up sponsored by the Tioga County WQCC. Since 2001, this event, which coincides with National River Clean-Up Week, has helped to improve the health and beauty of our county’s streams, creeks, and rivers, as well as providing a way to bring more awareness to the general public. The program is largely supported by local organizations and businesses. All organizations, groups, or individuals are encouraged to participate and are provided with garbage bags and a gift. They just have to register with the Tioga County Soil & Water Conservation District.

Some long-term sponsors include:
- Best Buy
- CNYOG
- Hiawatha Island Boat Club
- Jouchum Logging
- Kenny Construction
- Mead Farm
- NYSDOT
- Owego Kiwanis
- Taylor Garbage Service
- Tioga State Bank
- Town of Owego
- Wagner Lumber Company
Storm Water Management Plan

With the Broome-Tioga Stormwater Coalition, the WQCC has developed a storm water management plan for the Town of Owego and Tioga County. Effective March 2010, the plan includes regulations to improve many of the issues that contribute to and stem from stormwater erosion and runoff. This plan is in compliance with the NYSDECs General Permit for Stormwater Discharges from MS4s and aims to maintain or improve water quality.

Storm Drain Markers were installed in 2010 to help prevent dumping contaminants and other refuse at street drains that lead into local water resources.

The Elements of the SWMP include:

- Public Education and Outreach
- Public Involvement/Participation
- Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination
- Construction Site Runoff Control
- Post-Construction Stormwater Management
- Pollution Prevention/Good Housekeeping for Municipal Operations

Stormwater Management Training

In conjunction with the Broome-Tioga Stormwater Coalition, the WQCC held several training sessions for contractors, developers, and engineers regarding erosion and sediment control practices. This training is required under the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation’s Stormwater Permit for at least one individual per company on any construction site where the soil is being disturbed (equal to or exceeding 1 acre). In 2010 the WQCC held six training sessions, in January, February, March, May, July and December.

The WQCC is a member of the BTSC
In 2010, public meetings were held in Owego and Binghamton regarding the Chesapeake Bay that were attended by the WQCC. Discussion centered around the TMDL requirements being issued from the EPA in an effort to improve the health of the Chesapeake Bay. The EPA and NYSDEC presented, as well as local groups including the Susquehanna River Basin Coalition and the Town of Owego. At the end of the presentations time was allowed for questions from both people present, as well as those submitted remotely through an online “webinar”.

Waters contributing to the Chesapeake Bay
In 2010 Tioga Investigates Natural Gas took steps to establish model ordinances for wellhead and aquifer protection. With the Aquifers of Tioga County being so sensitive to surface contaminants and the source of most of the county’s drinking water, the ordinances will provide protection against the contaminants that may infiltrate the aquifer.

Clinton Street– Ballpark Aquifer
Within Tioga County