

The Skaneateles Open Space Plan

A Skaneateles Open Space Plan is currently being developed as a partnership between local elected officials, residents, agricultural representatives, and agencies such as the Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board (CNY RPDB), Onondaga County Cooperative Extension, and the Soil and Water Conservation District. This collaboration is providing an opportunity to identify agricultural land, open space, and valuable natural resources and to provide tools such as conservation easements that could help to protect them. The Plan will serve as a living document that can be referenced and updated. The recommendations in the report are being compiled to support and promote wise land use decisions regarding the future of Skaneateles.

The Open Space Planning Committee

A Skaneateles Open Space Planning Committee has meeting over the past several months with guidance from the CNY RPDB. Concerned with the loss of open space throughout the Town, the Committee goal is to establish recommendations to protect natural resources, to support agricultural sustainability, and to protect Skaneateles Lake.

Benefits of an Open Space Plan

The Open Space Plan will provide numerous benefits for the Town of Skaneateles. The recommendations will help to safeguard the natural, historic, and cultural heritage that define the community character. The Plan will focus on agricultural land, forests, wildlife habitats, outdoor recreation, scenic views, and critical environmental areas. Open space protection can also help to mitigate pollution, improve water quality in Skaneateles Lake, and reduce stormwater runoff and soil erosion.

Additional Information

Additional information about the Skaneateles Open Space Plan is available by contacting Anne Saltman, Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board, asaltman@cnyrpdb.org or (315) 422-8276 ext 206.



Photo by Rob Howard