

SITE ASSESSMENT CHECKLIST

RESOURCE	INFO NEEDED	SOURCES
Ecological Communities		
Land Cover		
1. What natural or agricultural ecological communities are on the site? 2. Any rare or vulnerable land cover types? (i.e., Silver Maple Ash Swamp or Floodplain Forest)	Specify acres of each by category: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rare/ Vulnerable • Other Open Space • Not Open Space 	a) NRI Maps #1: Woodlands & Wetlands; #3: Old Fields & Shrublands; and #8: Strategic Farmland Protection Area b) Visual check against current aerial photo c) Field check for characteristic plant / animal species and to delineate boundaries
Endangered or Threatened Species		
1. Any species listed as threatened or endangered in the general area?	Yes / No List any species identified in EAF Mapper (e.g., Bald Eagle)	a) ONCOR / NYSDEC EAF Mapper or Environmental Mapper b) NYS Natural Heritage Program
Woodlands		
1. How much of the site is woodland? a. Is the site part of a larger wooded area? b. Is it in the middle or along the edge of the larger area?	# acres / proportion of site Describe location / extent	a) NRI Map #1: Woodlands & Wetlands b) Visual check against current aerial photo c) Field check to delineate boundaries
2. Is the site known to support woodland or edge habitat? Any known bat or bird populations?	Describe habitat	a) Local knowledge b) Technical investigation
3. How much of the site is within the Strategic Forest Protection Area?	# acres / proportion of site	a) NRI Map #2: Strategic Forest Protection Area
4. What is the quality of the woodland? 5. Any ash trees susceptible to infestation?		a) Local knowledge b) Technical investigation
Water Resources / Hydrology		
Watershed		
1. What watershed(s) is it in? 2. Is any portion of site in the Canandaigua Lake Watershed?	# acres / proportion of site within each sub-watershed	a) NRI Map #5: Streams, Ponds, Watersheds b) ONCOR

SITE ASSESSMENT CHECKLIST

RESOURCE	INFO NEEDED	SOURCES
Water bodies		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What waterbody does the site drain into? 2. Is the site along the Canandaigua Lake shore? 3. What stream or pond is within 300 feet of the site? 4. What is the NYS DEC Stream Classification? 5. Is the stream suitable for trout? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Name of waterbody • Distance from waterbody • NYSDEC Stream Classification • Linear feet within site 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) NRI Map #5: Streams, Ponds, Watersheds b) ONCOR c) Current aerial d) Field verification of alignment
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Is the stream perennial, intermittent or ephemeral? 		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Aerial photos b) Field check
Riparian/ Lakeshore Buffer		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How much of the site is within the riparian or lakeshore buffer? (50', 100', 300') 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delineate each buffer • Specify # acres in each 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) NRI Map #5: Streams, Ponds, Watersheds b) ONCOR
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. What is the current vegetation within the buffer (trees/ other established vegetation; lawn or minimal vegetation; eroded/ bare 	Describe based on observations in aerial photos and/ or in the field	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Current aerial photo b) Field check
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Are any highly erodible soils within the riparian buffer? 	# acres in each buffer	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) USDA Web Soil Mapper/ ONCOR
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Does the buffer include steep stream banks? 	Calculate # acres from GIS / ONCOR or describe	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) NRI Map #7: Steep Slopes b) ONCOR
Wetlands		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Within a NYS DEC mapped wetland or check zone? 2. What Class? (I, II, III or IV) 	# acres in each DEC wetland class	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) NRI Map #15: Regulated Resources b) NYSDEC EAF Mapper or Environmental Mapper c) Field delineation (NYS) or verification (Federal)
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Have boundaries been verified in the field? 	Yes / No	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Are there hydric soils? 	# acres	USDA Web Soil Mapper/ ONCOR

SITE ASSESSMENT CHECKLIST

RESOURCE	INFO NEEDED	SOURCES
5. Are the wetlands on the site connected hydrologically to surrounding waterbodies?	Describe based on technical analysis	Field observation / Technical expert
6. Are any wetlands located within 300 feet of the site? Are they hydrologically connected to those on the site?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify by name and show distance from site Assess potential hydrologic connection 	a) NYSDEC EAF Mapper or Environmental Mapper b) Technical investigation by experts
Floodplains		
1. Any areas in mapped flood hazard areas? (100-year flood; 500-year flood; Floodway)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # acres in each category Specify flood zone elevation 	a) NRI Map #15: Regulated Resources (FEMA flood zones) b) NYSDEC EAF Mapper or Environmental Mapper
Stormwater		
1. How much of the site's land cover is currently impervious?	# acres	a) NRI Map: Impervious surfaces b) Field verification
2. What waterbody does the site drain into?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Watershed(s) Name of waterbody 	a) NRI Map #5: Streams, Ponds, Watersheds b) StreamStats tool/ ONCOR
Steep Slopes / Erodible Soils		
1. Does the site include areas with slopes >15%?	# acres	NRI Map #7: Steep Slopes Map
2. Are there highly erodible soils on the site?	# acres	USDA Web Soil Mapper/ ONCOR
Cultural Resources		
Parks, Trails, Recreation		
1. Is the site near a public park, trail or recreational facility? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trail within or adjoining site Park adjoining site or within 300 feet of the site 	Name of and distance from park, trail or recreational facility	a) ONCOR b) NRI Map #14: Public & Protected Land

SITE ASSESSMENT CHECKLIST

RESOURCE	INFO NEEDED	SOURCES
Historic Resources		
1. Are any historic resources within or adjacent to the site? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Register Locally designated 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Name and location of historic resource 	a) NRI Map #10: Historic Sites b) NYSDEC EAF Mapper or Environmental Mapper c) CRIS: https://cris.parks.ny.gov/Login.aspx?ReturnUrl=%2f
Scenic Views		
1. Is the site visible from Canandaigua Lake?	Yes / No	a) NRI Map #11: Land visible from Canandaigua Lake
2. Is the site above 1000 feet in elevation?	Yes / No	a) NRI Map #12: Elevations
Public or Protected Land		
1. Does the site include or adjoining any public or protected land?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yes / No Identify protected parcels 	NRI Map #14: Public & Protected Land
Agricultural Land		
1. How many acres of the site are prime farmland, farmland of statewide importance, or soils that are prime if drained?	# acres	a) NRI Map #8: Strategic Farmland Protection Area b) USDA Web Soil Mapper / ONCOR
2. Is the site located within the Town’s Strategic Farmland Protection Area?	Yes / No Proportion of site	NRI Map #8: Strategic Farmland Protection Area
3. Is the site currently in agricultural use? If not, was it recently (within the last 3 years) taken out of production?	Yes/ No If no, last year of agricultural production (if known)	a) Current aerial photo b) Field observation c) Local knowledge
4. Is there active farmland adjoining or near the site?	Yes / No	a) Current aerial photo b) Field observation
5. Is any protected farmland adjoining or near the site?	Yes / No	NRI Map #14: Public / Protected Land

PROJECT REVIEW GUIDE

Site design should avoid impacts on natural and cultural resources through conservation-oriented design. If impacts cannot be avoided, they should be reduced or mitigated.

POTENTIAL IMPACT	INFO NEEDED	POTENTIAL MITIGATION
I. Does the project propose removal of existing natural vegetation? If yes:		
A. Ecological Communities (other than wetlands) / Wildlife Habitat		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Does the vegetation proposed to be removed exist as part of an ecological community with high native plant integrity (few to no invasive species)? 2. Is the vegetation proposed to be removed mostly or entirely exotic or invasive species? 3. Is the vegetation in an early, middle or later stage of natural succession since any previous disturbance? 4. Is the vegetation part of a plant community known to support any rare or endangered species? (e.g., trees for bats or bald eagles). 5. Will the removal of vegetation affect a wildlife corridor or edge habitat? 6. Will the removal increase fragmentation of woodlands or other habitat? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Determine whether and how project footprint would require the removal of natural and native vegetation and how this might affect local ecological communities and wildlife habitat. • Require a biological site assessment as needed to better understand the value of the site’s vegetation to the local ecological community and to determine potential impacts of its removal. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Retain undisturbed forests, especially those composed of mostly native species and in a mature or late stage of succession. b) Avoid riparian corridors, floodplains and wetlands. c) When possible, site projects in areas that have already been disturbed or that are in an early (herbaceous, non-woody) stage of natural succession. d) When possible, avoid areas with natural vegetation at a mid-successional stage of development (i.e. have young trees 6-10” dbh.) These plant communities are recognized to have high ecological value as edge habitat, bird nesting habitat and also for high rates of phytometabolic carbon sequestration. e) When possible, site projects in areas that already have high levels of invasive species as the natural cover. f) Retain vegetation communities needed by any identified protected plant species, protected wildlife or other species of concern.

PROJECT REVIEW GUIDE

Site design should avoid impacts on natural and cultural resources through conservation-oriented design. If impacts cannot be avoided, they should be reduced or mitigated.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> g) Limit tree removal to winter months (November through March) to avoid disturbing bat breeding habitat. h) Retain edge habitat. i) Retain wildlife corridors by avoiding woodland fragmentation. j) Restore disturbed sites with plantings of native vegetation (refer to list).
B. Wetlands		
<p>Will vegetation be removed from any regulated wetlands or their buffer zones?</p> <p>Are there any wetlands on the site that are not regulated?</p> <p>(For any Waters on site) Is the project area sited near or steeply up-slope from Waters?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delineate boundaries of regulated wetlands and consider slope/erosion challenges.¹ • Identify and delineate smaller wetlands that may not be subject to State or Federal regulation. • Define and delineate the riparian buffer area that supports habitat and protects water quality. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Retain natural vegetation within wetlands to prevent loss of ecological functional values. b) Require wetlands mitigation consistent with NYS and/or Federal wetlands permits. c) Design and build in robust and effective erosion controls that are appropriate for the local grades and erosion/water pollution potential during construction.

¹ Development within regulated wetlands is subject to NYS Environmental Conservation Law and Federal Clean Water Act. Permits are required from the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation and/or the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The Town’s Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control Law requires a permit for stripping or grading of more than 500 sq. ft. of ground surface within a NYS DEC wetlands.

PROJECT REVIEW GUIDE

Site design should avoid impacts on natural and cultural resources through conservation-oriented design. If impacts cannot be avoided, they should be reduced or mitigated.

Streams, Riparian Buffers, Lakeshore ²		
<p>Will vegetation be removed from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land within the Canandaigua Lake Watershed? • Land within 25 feet of the Canandaigua Lake shore? • Stream bank or riparian buffer (25-300 feet)? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Define and delineate the lakeshore or riparian buffer area that supports habitat and protects water quality. • Assess how the removal of vegetation would impact stormwater management, aquatic habitat and ambient temperature of stream beds, stream banks, lake shore and riparian buffers. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Minimize the amount of clearing and grading. Retain natural vegetation within riparian buffer areas. Avoid steep grades with receiving Waters at the bottom.
C. Flood Zones ³		
<p>Will vegetation be removed from any Flood zone or Floodway?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Determine how the vegetation removal would affect flood erosion. 	<p>Retain vegetation that helps manage stormwater and prevent flooding and erosion in accordance with the Town’s flood prevention local law.</p>

² Note: The Town’s Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control Law requires a permit for site preparation which involves stripping or grading of more than 10,000 sq. ft. of ground surface, or 500 sq. ft. of ground surface within a NYS DEC wetlands, in areas greater than 10% slope in the Canandaigua Lake Watershed, in areas with greater than 15% slope outside of the Canandaigua Lake Watershed, areas within the 100-year flood zone or floodway or any watercourse or lake; or in areas within 500 feet of Canandaigua Lake or a tributary to Canandaigua Lake shown on a USGS Map.

The Town’s Zoning Code § 220-9 Regulations applicable to all districts prohibits construction of most structures within 100 feet of the bed of a stream carrying water on an average of six months of the year or within 25 feet of the mean high-water elevation of Canandaigua Lake.

³ The Town’s Flood Damage Prevention regulations (Chapter 115 of the Town Code) requires proposed development within designated areas of flood hazard or floodways to meet construction standards that minimize the potential for flood damage.

The Town’s Stormwater Management regulations (Chapter 170) establishes stormwater management standards and controls to minimize flooding risks.

The Town’s Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control Law (Chapter 165) requires a permit for stripping or grading of more than 500 sq. ft. of ground surface within the 100-year flood zone or floodway.

PROJECT REVIEW GUIDE

Site design should avoid impacts on natural and cultural resources through conservation-oriented design. If impacts cannot be avoided, they should be reduced or mitigated.

D. Steep Slopes/ Erodible Soils ⁴		
<p>Will vegetation be removed from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steep slopes? • Erodible soils? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess site topography and how the removal of vegetation would increase the potential for erosion along slopes or in areas of erodible soils 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Retain vegetation along steep slopes and in areas of highly erodible soils to prevent erosion. b) If slopes are disturbed during construction, utilize effective erosion control measures and restore vegetation in accordance with erosion control plan. Provide compliance documentation system.
E. Views of a scenic vista or views of the project site from a public or recreational facility		
<p>1. Will natural vegetation be removed from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A site visible from Canandaigua Lake? • A site over 1000 ft. in elevation? • Land visible from public or recreational facility? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess the impact of vegetation removal on views – both of the affected site and from the affected site. • Require a Viewshed Analysis if impact may be significant. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Retain natural vegetation that is a key part of a scenic view or vista from public or recreational land. b) Restore disturbed land with plantings of native species
II. Will the project change the amount of impervious surface or alter drainage patterns? ⁵ If yes:		

⁴ The Town’s Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control Law (Chapter 165) requires a permit for stripping or grading of 500 sq. ft. of ground surface within areas greater than 10% slope in the Canandaigua Lake Watershed and in areas with greater than 15% slope outside of the Canandaigua Lake Watershed, and for stripping or grading of more than 10,000 sq. ft. of ground surface elsewhere in the Town.

⁵ The Town’s Stormwater Management Law (Chapter 170), requires a permit for construction activity, including clearing, grading, excavating, soil disturbance or placement of fill, that results in land disturbance of equal to or greater than one acre. A SWPPP will be required if the project meets this threshold.

PROJECT REVIEW GUIDE

Site design should avoid impacts on natural and cultural resources through conservation-oriented design. If impacts cannot be avoided, they should be reduced or mitigated.

A. Ecological Communities/ Wetlands ⁶		
Will the change in hydrology affect designated wetlands or other natural ecological communities?	Require the stormwater analysis to address potential impacts on natural ecological communities and wildlife habitat.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Minimize the increase in impervious surfaces b) Manage stormwater on-site in a manner that retains the existing quantity of flows to neighboring properties and retains or improves the water quality of the runoff. c) Ensure that the project does not alter the quantity and quality of water flow into and out of documented wetlands
B. Streams/ Canandaigua Lake		
Will the change in drainage patterns affect the amount or quality of stormwater runoff into existing streams or Canandaigua Lake?	Stormwater analysis to address potential water quality impacts.	Ensure that the project does not alter the quantity or quality of water flow into and out of documented wetlands or streams, and that the project design protects or improves the water quality of Canandaigua Lake.
C. Flood zones		
Will the change in drainage patterns increase flood risk?	Stormwater analysis to address potential flooding impacts.	Manage stormwater flow to minimize flood hazards.
III. Will the project affect agricultural resources? If yes:		
Farmland		

⁶ State and federal wetlands permits will require maintenance of water flows into and out of regulated wetlands.

PROJECT REVIEW GUIDE

Site design should avoid impacts on natural and cultural resources through conservation-oriented design. If impacts cannot be avoided, they should be reduced or mitigated.

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Will the project result in conversion of active farmland? 2. Is the project within the Town’s Strategic Farmland Protection Areas? 3. Will the project utilize soils classified by USDA as Prime Farmland or Soils of Statewide Importance? 4. Will the project increase fragmentation of farmland? 	<p>Determine whether the farmland affected is high quality, significant to the Townwide or regional agricultural economy, or integral to a larger farm operation.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Retain farmland for continuing agricultural production if the location and configuration of the farmland is suitable b) If high quality farmland is converted, acquire permanent conservation easements to similar farmland elsewhere in the Town c) Design development to minimize fragmentation of farmland
<p>Agricultural Infrastructure</p>		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Will the project impact existing drainage (either ditches or sub-surface tiles), access or other agricultural infrastructure? 	<p>Determine what affect the impact will have on agricultural operations</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Avoid damaging or disrupting access to farm fields, farm drainage or other agricultural infrastructure. b) Replace or relocated affected infrastructure as needed.
<p>IV. Will the project affect Cultural Resources?</p>		
<p>Parks, Trails, Recreation</p>		

PROJECT REVIEW GUIDE

Site design should avoid impacts on natural and cultural resources through conservation-oriented design. If impacts cannot be avoided, they should be reduced or mitigated.

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Would the proposed structure be visible or the operations of the project audible from any public park, trail or recreational facility? 2. Could additional trail access or other recreational amenities be incorporated into the site? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Determine the potential impact of the project on the recreational facility • Determine whether the project could incorporate trail access or other amenities 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Require screening or noise control. b) Incorporate trail access into site design.
Historic Resources⁷		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Would the proposed structure be visible or the operations of the project audible from any historic site? 	Determine impact on historic site	Modify project to avoid or minimize impacts on historic resources
Scenic Views		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Would the proposed structure be visible from Canandaigua Lake or other public lands? 2. Would the proposed development block scenic views from elsewhere? 	Determine whether visual impact is potentially significant and impact require Visual Impact Assessment if needed.	Require screening or modify design to avoid, reduce or mitigate visual impact.
Public or Protected Land		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Would the project impact the use of or adjoining any public or protected land? 	Determine impact on public lands	Modify project to avoid or minimize impacts on public or protected land

⁷ SHPO consultation required as part of SEQR