TOWN OF WOODSTOCK, NEW YORK DWSP2
45 Comeau Drive, Woodstock, NY 12498 Tel: (845) 679-2113
E-mail: DWSP2@woodstockny.gov Website: www.woodstockny.gov
Colony of the Arts

DRINKING WATER SOURCE PROTECTION PROGRAM (DWSP2)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 22, 2026

Contact: Julia Blelock, 845-679-8555, jblelock@woodstockny.gov

Town of Woodstock Announces Drinking Water Source Protection Program (DWSP2) Plan

Plan developed with New York State technical assistance will guide long-term protection of the Town's water supply

WOODSTOCK, NY, October 22, 2026 – The Town of Woodstock has developed a Drinking Water Source Protection Program (DWSP2) Plan to improve and protect its public water sources and the surrounding environment for current and future residents.

In 2023, the Town applied to New York State for free technical assistance and was paired with two Technical Assistance Providers from the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH), one of whom is a hydrogeologist. The Plan builds on the Town's previous and ongoing source water protection work and will guide implementation efforts with local partners, including the Ulster County Department of the Environment.

According to Town Supervisor Anula Courtis, "There is nothing more important than protecting Woodstock's water and ensuring access to safe drinking water for our residents and visitors now and into the future. I support the efforts of the DWSP2 working group, which is helping to make that happen."

Woodstock's DWSP2 Plan was approved by NYSDEC and NYSDOH on October 2, 2026.

About the Plan

The DWSP2 Plan focuses on the seven groundwater wells operated by the Woodstock Water District (Public Water ID NY5503394) in the hamlet of Bearsville, and their contributing source water area, which extends up through Town hamlets of Shady, Lake Hill, and Willow. The wells draw from an unconfined sand and gravel aquifer. According to Woodstock's 2025 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report, the Water District serves 2,500 people through 750 service connections.

The Plan builds on a 2004 Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP) report prepared by NYSDOH for the Town's wells. That report delineated the contributing land areas, inventoried potential contaminant sources, and analyzed the susceptibility of the public water supply to contamination.

Developed with Community Input

The DWSP2 Plan was created with a local stakeholder group, which contributed knowledge of current conditions and emerging concerns affecting the Town's source water. Working with their technical assistance providers, stakeholders interpreted data, developed maps, identified potential sources of contamination, built an actionable list of source water protection methods, and researched funding and partnership opportunities.

The DWSP2 process follows a draft "Framework for Creating a Drinking Water Source Protection Program," developed by representatives of NYSDOH, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, the New York State Department of State, and the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets.

Benefits to the Community

Implementing the Plan's source water protection actions can help the Town:

- Promote public health and safety
- Avoid preventable drinking water treatment costs
- Increase community confidence in their drinking water
- Strengthen community partnerships

For More Information

Residents are encouraged learn more about the DWSP2 on the Town of Woodstock's website at **woodstockny.gov**. On the home page, scroll down to the announcement posted October 3, 2026, and from there link to the **Environment** page to discover more about the Drinking Water Source Protection Program (DWSP2) and to review the Plan.

Further, on **Saturday, November 7, from 1 to 3 PM**, please join members of the DWSP2 Plan Management Team at the Woodstock Artists Association and Museum (WAAM) to find out more about the Plan, what it means for you – and most importantly, how you can help in the efforts to protect our Town's shared water supply.

###