



THE FUND *for* LAKE GEORGE



# NEWS RELEASE

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## New Series of Fact Sheets Released on Low Impact Development to Help Protect Lake George

*General concepts of the Low Impact Development concepts are presented as guidance for proper site design*

*New Fact Sheets are first half of a series on Low Impact Development and part of the successful LAKE GEORGE FACT SHEETS series*

Lake George – The FUND for Lake George and Lake George Waterkeeper today released three new LAKE GEORGE FACT SHEETS dedicated to Low Impact Development. Low Impact Development is a stormwater management design technique that minimizes disturbance of a site and maintains the natural features to reduce the negative impacts from stormwater runoff.

This new series of Fact Sheets is supportive of the recent training sessions that the Lake George Waterkeeper has been providing to local planning and zoning boards around the watershed. This information also summarizes many of the design recommendations the Lake George Waterkeeper provides to local, regional and state agencies regarding development proposals.

“Our focus is on improving the methods for how site design is approached. The natural features of a site – mature vegetation, topography and soils – as well as the way water flows through a site is very important for stormwater management and treatment” said Chris Navitsky, the Lake George Waterkeeper. “These very features have helped to provide the exceptional water quality of Lake George. To maintain that water quality, we need to mimic the existing drainage patterns and minimize the extent of disturbance on a site. This series of Fact Sheets will go a long way at providing the basis for these design concepts.”

The three new FACT SHEETS provide information on ways to implement Low Impact Development to protect Lake George. These three new FACT SHEETS have been posted to the FUND for Lake George and Lake George Waterkeeper websites ([www.fundforlakegeorge.org](http://www.fundforlakegeorge.org))

and [www.lakegeorgewaterkeeper.org](http://www.lakegeorgewaterkeeper.org)) and focus on concepts of Low Impact Development that will minimize the negative impacts to the lake:

- **Concepts of Low Impact Development:** Low Impact Development is defined and five basic concepts are provided: Conservation of natural resources, minimizing impacts, maintain natural drainage patterns, minimize and disconnect impervious surfaces and natural stormwater controls.
- **Conservation of Natural Resources:** Low Impact Development focus on maintaining existing features to reduce impacts from development and this Fact Sheets describes the importance of features such as vegetative buffers, wetlands, mature forests, well drained soils, steep slopes, streams and shorelines.
- **Minimizing Impacts:** The negative impacts from development activities can be reduced and mitigated during the planning phase of a project and various techniques are minimizing clearing and grading, fit the buildings and roads to the landscape, minimize soil compactions and maintain native vegetation.

“All of this information is very critical for review boards and agencies to incorporate into their planning and decisions making process. It is also important to provide this information to the land use professionals so these concepts can be standard practice for the good of Lake George and its watershed,” said Navitsky.

“We have now posted over 50 Lake George Fact Sheets on our websites. These contain all sorts of important information about the water quality of Lake George, ways to protect water quality and minimize impacts as well as information about invasive species, fish and much more. These Fact Sheets also supplement our new publication *Do-It-Yourself Water Quality: A Landowner’s Guide to Property Management that Protects Lake George*” said Peter Bauer, Executive Director of the FUND for Lake George.

### **The FUND for Lake George**

The FUND for Lake George is a not-for-profit, privately funded organization dedicated to the protection of Lake George. Formed in 1980, the FUND takes a science-based approach to the protection of Lake George water quality and the overall health of the Lake George watershed. The FUND pursues this mission through support for long-term scientific research on the lake, launching new initiatives, advocacy for new protections, and partnerships with other organizations and local governments. The FUND is the sponsor of the Lake George Waterkeeper, among other programs on Lake George. The FUND for Lake George is managed by a Board of Trustees and maintains an office in Lake George. See [www.fundforlakegeorge.org](http://www.fundforlakegeorge.org).

### **The Lake George Waterkeeper**

The Lake George Waterkeeper was launched in 2002 with a mission to defend the natural trust public resources of Lake George and its basin, which provides for the common good of the community and the watershed. The Lake George Waterkeeper is a resource for concerned citizens in the Lake George Basin who are concerned about land use and water quality. The Waterkeeper responds to all public inquiries and acts as an ombudsman with respect to issues having an environmental impact on Lake George and its watershed. The Waterkeeper monitors

and intervenes in development proposals around Lake George and provides professional analysis by a licensed engineer to local and state regulatory agencies. The Lake George Waterkeeper ([www.lakegeorgewaterkeeper.org](http://www.lakegeorgewaterkeeper.org)) is a program of the FUND for Lake George. The Lake George Waterkeeper is a member of the Waterkeeper Alliance, which represents over 190 water bodies nationally and internationally.

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