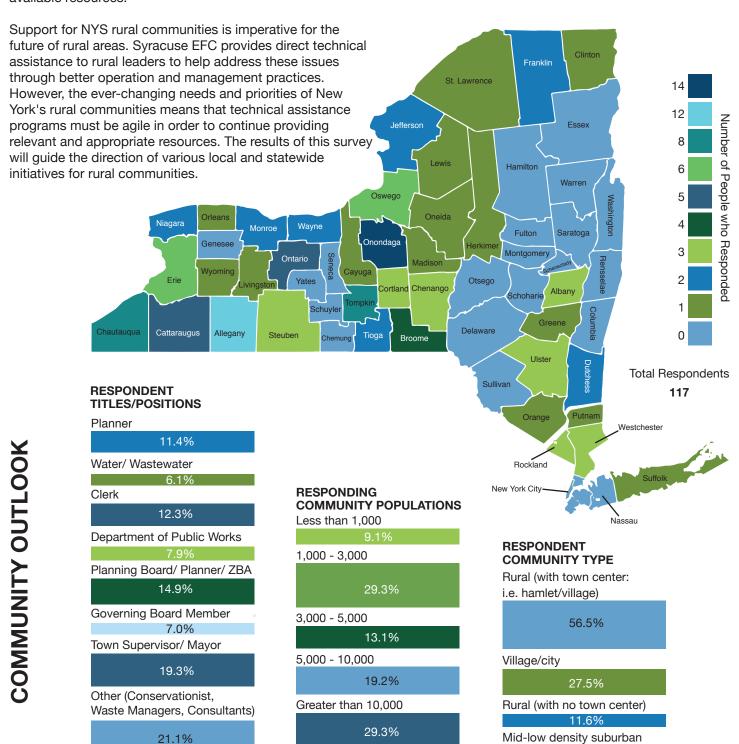
NEW YORK STATE COMMUNITY NEEDS

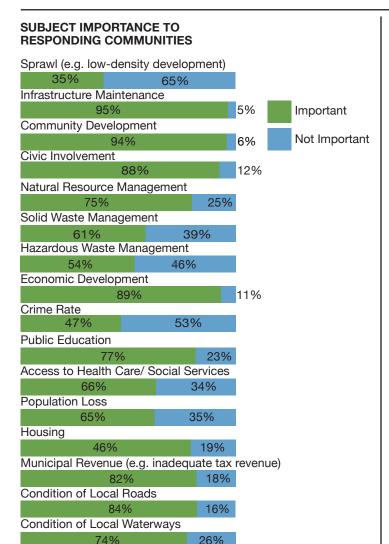
In 2014, the Syracuse University Environmental Finance Center (Syracuse EFC) conducted a survey of village mayors, town supervisors, town clerks, superintendents, and planning and zoning board members to gauge the level of awareness, understanding, and needs that rural communities have regarding rural smart growth, water infrastructure, stormwater management, land-use planning, agricultural districts and available resources.

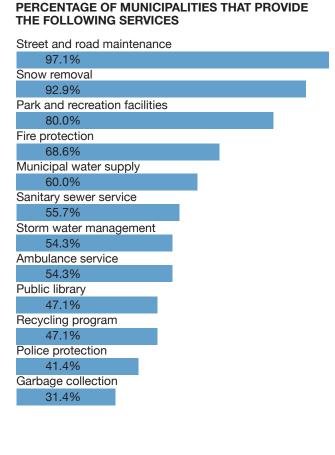




4.3%

STATEWIDE RESULTS FOR RURAL COMMUNITIES (POPULATIONS < 10,000)





AGRICULTURE

49% of respondents believe productive agriculture land is needed for agricultural use

87% of respondents believe productive agriculture land is NOT needed for residential use and

86% of respondents believe productive agriculture land is NOT needed for commercial use

COMMUNITY/BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

55% of respondents believe their community works and coordinates efforts to actively recruit new businesses and industry

78% of respondents believe their community needs the means to provide at least some land with infrastructure (water, sewer, access, etc.) for industrial and commercial uses either owned publicly or privately

82% of respondents believe that tourism and recreation activities are important for revenue in their community

HOUSING

73% of respondents believe greater focus is needed for improving existing housing

66% of respondents believe more elderly housing is needed **64%** of respondents believe more starter (first time buyer) homes are needed

TRANSPORTATION

68% of respondents believe the condition of local roads and streets in their community is adequate for intended uses

71% of respondents believe biking and walking are important modes of transportation in their community

60% of respondents believe the bus service/shared ride van services are important modes of transportation in their community **67%** of respondents believe there is a need for more biking lanes along public roadways

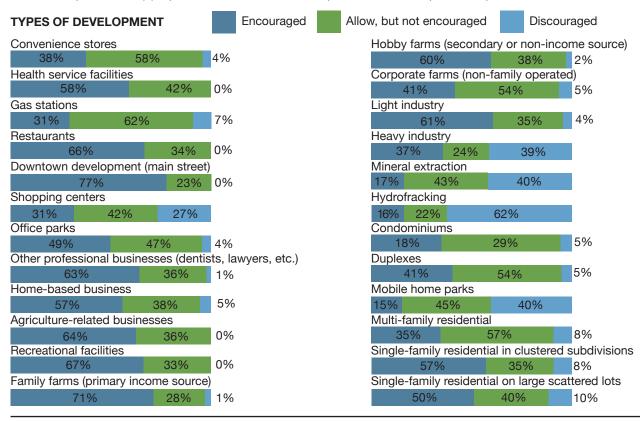
80% of respondents believe there is a need for more sidewalks along public roadways

75% of respondents believe access to local airports is sufficient **52%** of respondents believe access to railroad service is sufficient

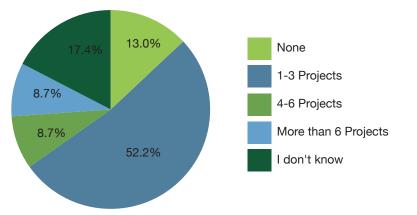
COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE NEEDS TO PROTECT NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES THROUGH FINANCING, TRAINING, AND/OR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

	Assistance Type			
Topic	Financing	Training	Technical Assistance	No Assistance Needed
Air quality	0% (0)	14% (6)	17% (7)	69% (29)
Farmland	14% (7)	20% (10)	18% (9)	48% (24)
Forested lands	8% (3)	20% (9)	22% (10)	51% (23)
Groundwater	16% (12)	35% (26)	31% (22)	18% (13)
Historic and cultural sites	19% (12)	24% (15)	25% (16)	32% (20)
Open space	9% (5)	30% (17)	18% (10)	43% (24)
Rivers and streams	17% (11)	29% (20)	32% (22)	22% (15)
Rural community character	13% (8)	33% (20)	23% (14)	31% (19)

Number in parenthesis (X) equals the actual number of respondants to each question/topic.







METHODS USED BY MUNICIPALITIES TO FINANCE CAPITAL PROJECTS

Municipal Bonds 56.9%	
General Fund Revenues 43.1%	
Grants 56.9%	
Loans 27.7%	

RESPONDENT AWARENESS AND USE OF THE FOLLOWING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDERS AND PUBLIC ORGANIZATIONS

Aware and have used their services:

Professional Engineering Firms (72% Aware) Regional Planning Boards/ Councils (55% Aware) Soil & Water Conservation District (53% Aware) Financial Consulting Firms (45% Aware)

Unaware:

Water Resources Institute (63% Unaware) Environmental Finance Center at SU (55% Unaware) NYS Rural Community Assistance Program (54% Unaware)

New York Water Environment Association (53% Unaware) NYS Rural Water Association (39% Unaware)

CONDITION OF MUNICIPAL WATER AND WASTEWATER SYSTEMS

Drinking Water System

Relatively new/Excellent condition

16% (7)

Moderate annual maintenance/Very good condition

22% (10)

Functioning, but in need of specific repairs/ Good condition

49% (22)

In need of substantial repair/Poor condition

13% (6)

Wastewater (Sewer) System

Relatively new/Excellent condition

201

20% (7)

Moderate annual maintenance/Very good condition

26% (9)

Functioning, but in need of specific repairs/ Good condition

29% (10)

In need of substantial repair/Poor condition

26% (9)

Number in parenthesis (X) equals the actual number of respondants to each question/topic.

MUNICIPAL ASSET MANAGEMENT AND RATE SETTING

62% of respondents said their municipality has conducted an asset management inventory

61% of respondents said their municipality has conducted energy audits

56% of respondents said their municipality has conducted water loss training/evaluations

Only **23%** of respondents said their municipality has conducted ratesetting training

RESPONDENT AWARENESS AND USE OF THE FOLLOWING GOVERNMENT AGENCIES FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Aware and have used their services:

NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (84% Aware)

NYS Department of Health (77% Aware)

NYS Department of State - Division on Local Government (57% Aware)

NYS Energy Research and Development Authority (45% Aware)

NYS Housing and Community Renewal (40% Aware)

Aware, but have not used their services

NYS Empire State Development Corporation (55% Aware) NYS Soil and Water Conservation Committee (45% Aware)

Unaware:

NYS Legislative Commission on Rural Resources (52% Unaware) USDA Rural Utility Services (49% Unaware) NYS Environmental Facilities Corporation (35% Unaware)

HOW MUNICIPALITIES FIND INFORMATION REGARDING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDERS

Trade publications

32.1% (17)

State government agencies

64.2% (34)

Electronic media

58.5% (31)

Mass media

9.4% (5)

Word of mouth

37.7% (20)

Professional associations

73.6% (39)

Other (please specify)

7.5% (4)

Number in parenthesis (X) equals the actual number of respondants to each question/topic.

STORMWATER BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES ADOPTED BY RESPONDING COMMUNITIES (NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS)

Stormwater wetlands

13 12

Bioretention

9 12

Wet detention basin

14 9

Dry detention basin

13 11

Grass swale

14 12

Filter strip

4 15

Level spreaders

1 15

Infiltration devices

8 10

Manufactured or proprietary BMP systems

4 12

Permeable pavement

3 23

Rooftop runoff management (a.k.a. green roofs)

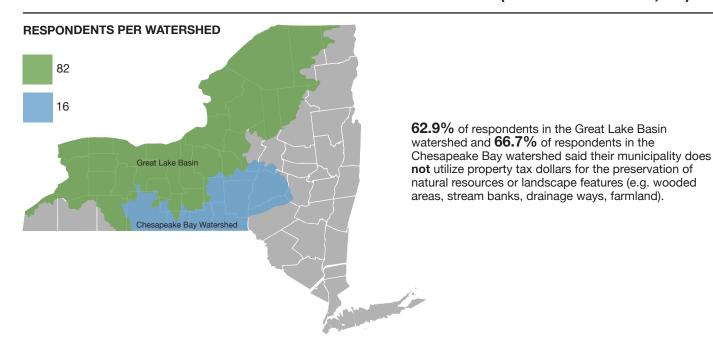
6 20

Practice Installed

Sand filter

Not Adopted

RESULTS BY WATERSHED FOR RURAL COMMUNITIES (POPULATIONS < 10,000)



LANDOWNER COMPENSATION FOR LAND CONSERVATION

Great Lake Basin

80.0% of respondents believe their municipality does **not** have a need to compensate landowners who agree not to develop their undeveloped land.

Chesapeake Bay

71.4% of respondents believe their municipality does **not** have a need to compensate landowners who agree not to develop their undeveloped land.

SEVERE FLOODING/DRAINAGE ISSUES IN THE PAST 10 YEARS

Great Lake Basin

39.4% of respondents have experienced severe flooding/drainage issues in the past 10 years.

Chesapeake Bay

50.0% of respondents have experienced severe flooding/drainage issues in the past 10 years.

MINIMUM LOT SIZE FOR RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT

Great Lake Basin	
Less than 1 acre	50.0%
One to 5 acres	37.5%
5 to 10 acres	0.0%
11 to 40 acres	0.0%
No limitation	12.5%

Chesapeake Bay	
Less than 1 acre 50.0%	
One to 5 acres	25%
5 to 10 acres	12.5%
11 to 40 acres	0.0%
No limitation	12.5%

MS4 VS CSO COMMUNITIES

Great Lake Basin	
MS4	26.7%
CSO	13.3%
Not applicable	50.0%
Other	10.0%

Chesapeake Bay	
MS4	0.0%
CSO	14.3%
Not applicable	85.7%
Other	0.0%

MS4: Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System CSO: Combined Sewer Overflow

LAST CHANGE IN COMMUNITY WATER AND WASTEWATER RATES

Great Lake Basin	
Within the past 1 - 3 years	68.0%
Within the past 4 - 6 years	4.0%
Unknown	28.0%

Chesapeake Bay	
Within the past 1 - 3 years	75.0%
Unknown	25.7%

Percents (%) relate to the number of respondants for each community from each question.

About the EFC

The Syracuse University Environmental Finance Center (Syracuse EFC) facilitates the development of sustainable and resilient communities throughout US EPA Region 2 (New Jersey, New York, Puerto Rico, the US Virgin Islands, and eight tribal nations), across the US, and internationally.

Located at the Syracuse University Center for Sustainable Community Solutions, Syracuse EFC enhances the administrative and financial capacities of state and local government officials, nonprofit organizations, and private sectors to make change toward improved environmental infrastructure and quality of life.



Syracuse EFC programs and projects are supported in part by funding from USDA-RD and EPA. In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, religion, sex, and familial status.

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To reach us via the NYS Relay Service, please dial 7-1-1.