

JAMES D. BENSON, AICP, PWS, CPESC/CPSWQ

Senior Planner / Project Manager

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Science, Environmental Management
State University of New York, New Paltz, New York, 1978

Associate of Applied Science, Natural Resource Conservation
Dutchess Community College, Poughkeepsie, New York, 1975

CERTIFICATIONS

- Certified Professional in Stormwater Quality, CPESC Council, February 2005 - present
- Professional Wetland Scientist, Society of Wetlands Scientists, September 1995 - present
- Certified Planner, American Institute of Certified Planners, July 1993 - present
- Certified Erosion and Sediment Control Specialist, CPESC Council, January 1986 - present

EXPERIENCE

2005 to Present

Senior Planner / Project Manager, TIM MILLER ASSOCIATES, INC. Mr. Benson has over 25 years of public and private sector experience as a professional land use and environmental planner. He currently provides project management services in the fields of planning, environmental impact assessment and mitigation, wetlands, and stormwater management. Mr. Benson also develops and implements strategies for achieving project objectives and securing necessary regulatory approvals. He coordinates and manages project staff and team consultants, and represents clients before regulatory agencies and provides expert guidance in the land use and development proposal review and approval process.

Mr. Benson has earned far reaching respect for developing effective regulatory approval and compliance strategies, and for his project management and environmental design skills. He provides environmental planning expertise through his writing and production of environmental impact statements, development feasibility studies, and land use and zoning assessments. As a recognized expert witness, Mr. Benson has been instrumental throughout his career in achieving success in environmental litigation. With professional certifications in planning, wetlands science, erosion and sediment control, and stormwater quality, Mr. Benson also provides expert land planning and site design expertise. His experience includes broad interface with federal, State, New York City, and municipal regulatory agencies. Project involvement with TMA clients includes the following projects:

- ◆ Sheldrake Estates Condominium Development, Village of Mamaroneck, New York. Project manager in charge of environmental review documents for a 114 unit residential development.
- ◆ E&S Development, Development Feasibility Study, Village of Kerhonkson, New York. Project manager for development feasibility study of a 590 acre site.
- ◆ Carmel Senior Housing, Carmel, New York. Stormwater management design and implementation.
- ◆ Realife Land Improvement, Incorporated, Patterson, New York, State and municipal regulatory violation, Project manager for resolution.
- ◆ Waters Edge at Dobbs Ferry Residential Subdivision, Dobbs Ferry, New York. Project manager for regulatory wetland approvals.
- ◆ Hollowbrook Mews, Jacobs Hill, Cortlandt Estates, Cortlandt, New York, Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan oversight.
- ◆ Salem Hunt, June Road, North Salem, New York, Project Manager for wetland, surface water, and stormwater management components of SEQRA.
- ◆ Orange Regional Medical Center, Town of Walkill, New York, SEQRA project Manager.

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1992 - 2006

Division Director, New York City Department of Environmental Protection, Valhalla, New York. Oversaw professional staff developing and implementing large scale drinking water supply protection programs and administering New York State's Environmental Quality Review Act as it applies to actions proposed by independent sponsors, and City agencies, in New York City's 2,000 square mile drinking water supply watershed. Developed and managed large and complex watershed protection programs, and program implementation contracts, upon which compliance with the City's filtration avoidance mandate depends. Secured regulatory approvals from federal, State and municipal agencies for City projects and ensure program compliance with applicable regulations, deadlines, and budgets. Prepared and managed pollution prevention and abatement strategies and managed the regulatory component of the Department's wetland protection program. Served as technical advisor to executive staff, providing expert counsel that required specialized knowledge and authoritative interpretations of policies, regulations, and standards as they applied to complex problems involving regulatory and public affairs, environmental planning, wetland management, pollution prevention and remediation, land use, and zoning.

1991 - 1992

District Manager, Dutchess County Soil and Water Conservation District. Millbrook, New York. Managed technical staff developing inter municipal agreements, and preparing land use studies, non-point pollution prevention and remediation programs, environmental management plans, and regulatory compliance programs. Served as an advisor to County and municipal governments, and the public, developing Plans of Development and environmental protection legislation, and assessing and mitigating the potential environmental impacts from existing and proposed land uses and developments. Developed and oversaw implementation of environmental management and impact mitigation strategies and erosion and sediment control plans.

1989 - 1991

Senior Environmental Analyst, Land Tech Consultants, Incorporated. Southbury, Connecticut. Represented municipal and private clients providing land use planning and environmental management services. For municipal clients, prepared Land Use Plans and accompanying environmental protection legislation, pollution prevention and abatement plans, and reviewed land use proposals to assess and mitigate environmental impacts and ensure regulatory compliance. For private clients, prepared land use and development plans, environmental impact assessments and impact mitigation plans, and wetland management plans. Represented land use and development proposals, and violations, before federal, State, and municipal agencies.

1979 - 1988

Conservation Director, Newtown Conservation Commission/Inland Wetlands Agency. Newtown, Connecticut. Oversaw wetland management program development and implementation, staff, budgets, and public affairs. Developed and enforced municipal environmental protection legislation and represented municipal environmental matters before federal and State agencies. Designed and implemented wetland protection and restoration plans, and nonpoint pollution management plans, and administered municipal erosion and sediment control plan certification program.

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PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- Speaker, Using GIS to Maintain Pollution Prevention Facilities, Environmental Systems Research Institute International User's Conference, San Diego, California, July 2005
- Author/Program Manager, Kensico Reservoir Water Quality Protection Program, New York City Department of Environmental Protection, March 2003
- Speaker, Westchester County Department of Planning, Stormwater Management Conference, Westchester County Center, White Plains, New York, 2003
- Author/Program Manager, New York City Drinking Water Supply Watershed: Non-Point Pollution Management Plan, New York City Department of Environmental Protection, April 2003
- Project Manager, Kensico Stormwater Management Program, Westchester/Putnam County Chapter: New York State Society of Professional Engineers, Project of the Year, June 2002
- Legislative and Regulatory Update, New York State Wetlands Forum, Annual Meeting, 2000
- Program Manager/Speaker, Interagency Stormwater Symposium, Fishkill, New York, September 1999
- Councilman, Town of Pawling, New York, August 1995 - present
- Member Pawling Planning Board, Zoning Board of Appeals, and Conservation Advisory Board, August 1991 - August 1995
- Graduate, Community Leadership Alliance, Pace University Environmental Law Center, 1995

PUBLICATIONS

Coauthor, *Use of ArcGIS for Facilities Management in Watershed Management Programs*, Environmental Systems Research Institute, International User's Conference Proceeding, July 2005

Coauthor, *Connecticut Guidelines for Erosion and Sediment Control*, Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection, 2002

Coauthor, *Stormwater Retrofitting of Reservoirs Protects New York's Drinking Water*, United States Environmental Protection Agency, Nonpoint Sources News-Notes, 2002

Coauthor, *Stormwater Retrofitting to Protect Drinking Water Reservoirs from Stormwater Runoff* Water-Wastewater Products, 2001, Land and Water, 2001, Water Engineering and Management, 2002

New York City Liaison, *Watershed Management for Potable Water Supplies, Assessing the New York City Strategy*, National Research Council, 2000

Coauthor, *Retrofitting to Protect Drinking Water Reservoirs from the Impacts of Urban Runoff*, National Conference on Retrofit Opportunities for Water Resource Protection in Urban Environments, United States Environmental Protection Agency/Office of Research and Development, Proceedings, 1999

Reviewer, *Stormwater Strategies: Community Responses to Runoff Pollution*, Natural Resources Defense Council, 1999

Contributing author, *Catalogue of Urban Stormwater Practices* New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, 1994

Contributing author, *New York State Nonpoint Management Program*, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, 1992

Editor, *Protecting Connecticut's Water Supply Watersheds: A Guide for Local Officials* Connecticut Departments of Environmental Protection, Health Services, and Policy Management, 1992

Coauthor, *Nepaug Reservoir Watershed Protection Study* Litchfield County Connecticut Council of Elected Officials, 1991