



MANLIUS GREENSPACE COALITION

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Environmental Excellence Award to be Given to Village of Manlius

June 17, 2008--Manlius, NY- The Manlius Greenspace Coalition, a local nonprofit dedicated to the preservation of open space in Manlius and surrounding areas, will present its first Environmental Excellence Award for outstanding environmental achievement to the Village of Manlius on Tuesday, June 24th at 7:00 pm at the opening of the Village of Manlius Trustees Meeting. The award recognizes the Village of Manlius for designating the Village portion of Three Falls Woods as a New York State Critical Environmental Area (CEA) in June of 2007.

Three Falls Woods is the easternmost section of a 7-mile long wooded corridor reaching to Clark Reservation, known as The Onondaga Escarpment Nature Corridor, in the New York State Open Space Plan since 2005. "The designated Critical Environmental Area is a prime example of extreme karst topography features inherent in limestone escarpments," explained Benita Rogers, Vice President of the Manlius Greenspace Coalition. "We applauded when the Village recognized the area's environmental and hydrological significance with the CEA designation last year."

The Village CEA district contains a post-glacial gorge with three distinct waterfalls, a disappearing stream with subsurface waterways and floodplain, a 70-foot sinkhole of old-growth hemlock, and comprises a rich plant and wildlife habitat.

The Village's designation of Critical Environmental Area is only the second such designation in Onondaga County. The Nine Mile Creek Corridor in the Town of Camillus was designated a Critical Environmental Area in 1996. CEA designation signifies a municipality's recognition of lands with special features which meet specific criteria according to New York State Environmental Quality Review regulations.

- Who:** The Manlius Greenspace Coalition and Village of Manlius Trustees
- What:** Presentation of MGC's first annual Environmental Excellence Award
- When:** Tuesday, June 24th at 7:00 pm
- Where:** The Board Room in the Manlius Village Centre, located at One Arkie Albanese Avenue, Manlius, New York, 13104.