

**Full Environmental Assessment Form**  
**Part 1 - Project and Setting**

**Instructions for Completing Part 1**

**Part 1 is to be completed by the applicant or project sponsor.** Responses become part of the application for approval or funding, are subject to public review, and may be subject to further verification.

Complete Part 1 based on information currently available. If additional research or investigation would be needed to fully respond to any item, please answer as thoroughly as possible based on current information; indicate whether missing information does not exist, or is not reasonably available to the sponsor; and, when possible, generally describe work or studies which would be necessary to update or fully develop that information.

Applicants/sponsors must complete all items in Sections A & B. In Sections C, D & E, most items contain an initial question that must be answered either "Yes" or "No". If the answer to the initial question is "Yes", complete the sub-questions that follow. If the answer to the initial question is "No", proceed to the next question. Section F allows the project sponsor to identify and attach any additional information. Section G requires the name and signature of the project sponsor to verify that the information contained in Part 1 is accurate and complete.

**A. Project and Sponsor Information.**

Name of Action or Project: A Local Law Adopting a New Town-Wide Zoning Law and Zoning Map		
Project Location (describe, and attach a general location map): Town of Schoharie, County of Schoharie, State of New York		
Brief Description of Proposed Action (include purpose or need): The action is consideration and adoption of proposed Introductory Local Law No. 3 of 2015 entitled "A Local Law Adopting a New Town-Wide Zoning Law and Zoning Map." In 2005 the Town adopted a comprehensive land use law to regulate structures and land uses in the Town. The 2005 law was designed to further the policies of the Town as set forth in the Town & Village of Schoharie Comprehensive Plan that was adopted in 1997. However on February 19, 2014, the 2005 land use law was annulled and set aside as a result of a procedural error. As a result, the Town's 1975 Zoning Ordinance is now in effect. The 1975 Zoning Ordinance does not contemplate, address or regulate many new technologies and land uses that have become prevalent in the region. In general, the 1975 Zoning Ordinance is out of date, does not provide adequate safeguards to ensure orderly growth in the Town, and does not implement the goals and objectives of the 1997 Comprehensive Plan. The Town Board now desires to effectuate its Comprehensive Plan and address, in a careful manner, the undertaking, establishment, siting, placement, construction, and implementation of land uses and activities in the Town (outside of the Village) through the adoption of a new comprehensive land use law.		
Name of Applicant/Sponsor: Schoharie Town Board	Telephone: 518-295-6490 E-Mail: schoharietownclerk@midtel.net	
Address: 300 Main Street, Suite 2 (PO Box 544)		
City/PO: Schoharie	State: New York	Zip Code: 12157
Project Contact (if not same as sponsor; give name and title/role): Mr. Gene Milone, Town Supervisor	Telephone: 518-295-6490 E-Mail: milonedawn@yahoo.com	
Address: Same as above		
City/PO:	State:	Zip Code:
Property Owner (if not same as sponsor): N/A	Telephone: E-Mail:	
Address:		
City/PO:	State:	Zip Code:

## B. Government Approvals

### B. Government Approvals, Funding, or Sponsorship. ("Funding" includes grants, loans, tax relief, and any other forms of financial assistance.)

Government Entity	If Yes: Identify Agency and Approval(s) Required	Application Date (Actual or projected)
a. City Council, Town Board, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No or Village Board of Trustees	Schoharie Town Board Adoption of Local Law	N/A
b. City, Town or Village <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Planning Board or Commission	Referral to the Town of Schoharie Planning Board	
c. City Council, Town or <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Village Zoning Board of Appeals		
d. Other local agencies <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		
e. County agencies <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Schoharie County Planning Board GML 239 Referral	
f. Regional agencies <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		
g. State agencies <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		
h. Federal agencies <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		
i. Coastal Resources.		
i. Is the project site within a Coastal Area, or the waterfront area of a Designated Inland Waterway?		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
ii. Is the project site located in a community with an approved Local Waterfront Revitalization Program?		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
iii. Is the project site within a Coastal Erosion Hazard Area?		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

## C. Planning and Zoning

### C.1. Planning and zoning actions.

Will administrative or legislative adoption, or amendment of a plan, local law, ordinance, rule or regulation be the only approval(s) which must be granted to enable the proposed action to proceed? ☒ Yes ☐ No

- If Yes, complete sections C, F and G.
- If No, proceed to question C.2 and complete all remaining sections and questions in Part 1

### C.2. Adopted land use plans.

a. Do any municipally- adopted (city, town, village or county) comprehensive land use plan(s) include the site where the proposed action would be located? ☒ Yes ☐ No  
If Yes, does the comprehensive plan include specific recommendations for the site where the proposed action would be located? ☒ Yes ☐ No

b. Is the site of the proposed action within any local or regional special planning district (for example: Greenway Brownfield Opportunity Area (BOA); designated State or Federal heritage area; watershed management plan; or other?) ☐ Yes ☒ No

If Yes, identify the plan(s):

N/A

c. Is the proposed action located wholly or partially within an area listed in an adopted municipal open space plan, or an adopted municipal farmland protection plan? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If Yes, identify the plan(s):

<b>C.3. Zoning</b>		
a. Is the site of the proposed action located in a municipality with an adopted zoning law or ordinance. If Yes, what is the zoning classification(s) including any applicable overlay district?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
<hr/>		
b. Is the use permitted or allowed by a special or conditional use permit?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	N/A
c. Is a zoning change requested as part of the proposed action? If Yes,	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
i. What is the proposed new zoning for the site? <u>See Proposed Local Law</u>		
<b>C.4. Existing community services.</b>		
a. In what school district is the project site located?	<u>Schoharie Central School District</u>	
b. What police or other public protection forces serve the project site?	<u>Schoharie County Sheriff's Department; NYS Police</u>	
c. Which fire protection and emergency medical services serve the project site?	<u>Schoharie Fire Department – Niagara Engine Company No. 6 and Central Bridge Fire Department. Scho-Wright Ambulance Service</u>	
d. What parks serve the project site?	<u>Fox Creek Park, LaSalle Park, and the Central Bridge Recreational Area. Other recreational facilities include little league fields near the Fox Creek park and at the Central Bridge Recreational area; tennis and basketball courts; and a new playground at the Schoharie Central School.</u>	

#### D. Project Details

<b>D.1. Proposed and Potential Development</b>		
a. What is the general nature of the proposed action (e.g., residential, industrial, commercial, recreational; if mixed, include all components)? <hr/>		
b. a. Total acreage of the site of the proposed action?	<hr/> acres	
b. Total acreage to be physically disturbed?	<hr/> acres	
c. Total acreage (project site and any contiguous properties) owned or controlled by the applicant or project sponsor?	<hr/> acres	
c. Is the proposed action an expansion of an existing project or use?		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
i. If Yes, what is the approximate percentage of the proposed expansion and identify the units (e.g., acres, miles, housing units, square feet)? % <hr/> Units: <hr/>		
d. Is the proposed action a subdivision, or does it include a subdivision?		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
If Yes,		
i. Purpose or type of subdivision? (e.g., residential, industrial, commercial; if mixed, specify types) <hr/>		
ii. Is a cluster/conservation layout proposed?		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
iii. Number of lots proposed? <hr/>		
iv. Minimum and maximum proposed lot sizes? Minimum <hr/> Maximum <hr/>		
e. Will proposed action be constructed in multiple phases?		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
i. If No, anticipated period of construction: <hr/> months		
ii. If Yes:		
• Total number of phases anticipated <hr/>		
• Anticipated commencement date of phase 1 (including demolition) <hr/> month <hr/> year		
• Anticipated completion date of final phase <hr/> month <hr/> year		
• Generally describe connections or relationships among phases, including any contingencies where progress of one phase may determine timing or duration of future phases: <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>		

f. Does the project include new residential uses? <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</span> If Yes, show numbers of units proposed.				
	<u>One Family</u>	<u>Two Family</u>	<u>Three Family</u>	<u>Multiple Family (four or more)</u>
Initial Phase	_____	_____	_____	_____
At completion of all phases	_____	_____	_____	_____

  

g. Does the proposed action include new non-residential construction (including expansions)? <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</span> If Yes,	
i. Total number of structures _____ ii. Dimensions (in feet) of largest proposed structure: _____ height; _____ width; and _____ length iii. Approximate extent of building space to be heated or cooled: _____ square feet	

  

h. Does the proposed action include construction or other activities that will result in the impoundment of any liquids, such as creation of a water supply, reservoir, pond, lake, waste lagoon or other storage? <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</span> If Yes,	
i. Purpose of the impoundment: _____ ii. If a water impoundment, the principal source of the water: <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Ground water <input type="checkbox"/> Surface water streams <input type="checkbox"/> Other specify: _____</span> iii. If other than water, identify the type of impounded/contained liquids and their source. _____ iv. Approximate size of the proposed impoundment. Volume: _____ million gallons; surface area: _____ acres v. Dimensions of the proposed dam or impounding structure: _____ height; _____ length vi. Construction method/materials for the proposed dam or impounding structure (e.g., earth fill, rock, wood, concrete): _____	

  

**D.2. Project Operations**

  

a. Does the proposed action include any excavation, mining, or dredging, during construction, operations, or both? <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</span> (Not including general site preparation, grading or installation of utilities or foundations where all excavated materials will remain onsite) If Yes:	
i. What is the purpose of the excavation or dredging? _____ ii. How much material (including rock, earth, sediments, etc.) is proposed to be removed from the site? • Volume (specify tons or cubic yards): _____ • Over what duration of time? _____ iii. Describe nature and characteristics of materials to be excavated or dredged, and plans to use, manage or dispose of them. _____ _____ _____ iv. Will there be onsite dewatering or processing of excavated materials? <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</span> If yes, describe. _____ _____ _____ v. What is the total area to be dredged or excavated? _____ acres vi. What is the maximum area to be worked at any one time? _____ acres vii. What would be the maximum depth of excavation or dredging? _____ feet viii. Will the excavation require blasting? <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</span> ix. Summarize site reclamation goals and plan: _____ _____ _____ _____	

  

b. Would the proposed action cause or result in alteration of, increase or decrease in size of, or encroachment into any existing wetland, waterbody, shoreline, beach or adjacent area? <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</span> If Yes:	
i. Identify the wetland or waterbody which would be affected (by name, water index number, wetland map number or geographic description): _____ _____ _____	

ii. Describe how the proposed action would affect that waterbody or wetland, e.g. excavation, fill, placement of structures, or alteration of channels, banks and shorelines. Indicate extent of activities, alterations and additions in square feet or acres:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

iii. Will proposed action cause or result in disturbance to bottom sediments? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If Yes, describe: \_\_\_\_\_

iv. Will proposed action cause or result in the destruction or removal of aquatic vegetation? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If Yes:

- acres of aquatic vegetation proposed to be removed: \_\_\_\_\_
- expected acreage of aquatic vegetation remaining after project completion: \_\_\_\_\_
- purpose of proposed removal (e.g. beach clearing, invasive species control, boat access): \_\_\_\_\_

• proposed method of plant removal: \_\_\_\_\_

• if chemical/herbicide treatment will be used, specify product(s): \_\_\_\_\_

v. Describe any proposed reclamation/mitigation following disturbance: \_\_\_\_\_

c. Will the proposed action use, or create a new demand for water? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If Yes:

i. Total anticipated water usage/demand per day: \_\_\_\_\_ gallons/day

ii. Will the proposed action obtain water from an existing public water supply? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If Yes:

- Name of district or service area: \_\_\_\_\_
- Does the existing public water supply have capacity to serve the proposal? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Is the project site in the existing district? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Is expansion of the district needed? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Do existing lines serve the project site? ☐ Yes ☐ No

iii. Will line extension within an existing district be necessary to supply the project? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If Yes:

• Describe extensions or capacity expansions proposed to serve this project: \_\_\_\_\_

• Source(s) of supply for the district: \_\_\_\_\_

iv. Is a new water supply district or service area proposed to be formed to serve the project site? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If Yes:

- Applicant/sponsor for new district: \_\_\_\_\_
- Date application submitted or anticipated: \_\_\_\_\_
- Proposed source(s) of supply for new district: \_\_\_\_\_

v. If a public water supply will not be used, describe plans to provide water supply for the project: \_\_\_\_\_

vi. If water supply will be from wells (public or private), maximum pumping capacity: \_\_\_\_\_ gallons/minute.

d. Will the proposed action generate liquid wastes? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If Yes:

i. Total anticipated liquid waste generation per day: \_\_\_\_\_ gallons/day

ii. Nature of liquid wastes to be generated (e.g., sanitary wastewater, industrial; if combination, describe all components and approximate volumes or proportions of each): \_\_\_\_\_

iii. Will the proposed action use any existing public wastewater treatment facilities? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If Yes:

- Name of wastewater treatment plant to be used: \_\_\_\_\_
- Name of district: \_\_\_\_\_
- Does the existing wastewater treatment plant have capacity to serve the project? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Is the project site in the existing district? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Is expansion of the district needed? ☐ Yes ☐ No

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do existing sewer lines serve the project site? _____</li> <li>• Will line extension within an existing district be necessary to serve the project? _____</li> </ul> <p>If Yes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Describe extensions or capacity expansions proposed to serve this project: _____</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
iv. Will a new wastewater (sewage) treatment district be formed to serve the project site? _____	
If Yes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Applicant/sponsor for new district: _____</li> <li>• Date application submitted or anticipated: _____</li> <li>• What is the receiving water for the wastewater discharge? _____</li> </ul>	
v. If public facilities will not be used, describe plans to provide wastewater treatment for the project, including specifying proposed receiving water (name and classification if surface discharge, or describe subsurface disposal plans): _____	
vi. Describe any plans or designs to capture, recycle or reuse liquid waste: _____	
e. Will the proposed action disturb more than one acre and create stormwater runoff, either from new point sources (i.e. ditches, pipes, swales, curbs, gutters or other concentrated flows of stormwater) or non-point source (i.e. sheet flow) during construction or post construction? _____	
If Yes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. How much impervious surface will the project create in relation to total size of project parcel?                  _____ Square feet or _____ acres (impervious surface)                  _____ Square feet or _____ acres (parcel size)</li> <li>ii. Describe types of new point sources. _____</li> <li>iii. Where will the stormwater runoff be directed (i.e. on-site stormwater management facility/structures, adjacent properties, groundwater, on-site surface water or off-site surface waters)? _____</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If to surface waters, identify receiving water bodies or wetlands: _____</li> <li>• Will stormwater runoff flow to adjacent properties? _____</li> </ul>	
iv. Does proposed plan minimize impervious surfaces, use pervious materials or collect and re-use stormwater? _____	
f. Does the proposed action include, or will it use on-site, one or more sources of air emissions, including fuel combustion, waste incineration, or other processes or operations? _____	
If Yes, identify: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Mobile sources during project operations (e.g., heavy equipment, fleet or delivery vehicles) _____</li> <li>ii. Stationary sources during construction (e.g., power generation, structural heating, batch plant, crushers) _____</li> <li>iii. Stationary sources during operations (e.g., process emissions, large boilers, electric generation) _____</li> </ul>	
g. Will any air emission sources named in D.2.f (above), require a NY State Air Registration, Air Facility Permit, or Federal Clean Air Act Title IV or Title V Permit? _____	
If Yes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Is the project site located in an Air quality non-attainment area? (Area routinely or periodically fails to meet ambient air quality standards for all or some parts of the year) _____</li> <li>ii. In addition to emissions as calculated in the application, the project will generate:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• _____ Tons/year (short tons) of Carbon Dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>)</li> <li>• _____ Tons/year (short tons) of Nitrous Oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O)</li> <li>• _____ Tons/year (short tons) of Perfluorocarbons (PFCs)</li> <li>• _____ Tons/year (short tons) of Sulfur Hexafluoride (SF<sub>6</sub>)</li> <li>• _____ Tons/year (short tons) of Carbon Dioxide equivalent of Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs)</li> <li>• _____ Tons/year (short tons) of Hazardous Air Pollutants (HAPs)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

<p>h. Will the proposed action generate or emit methane (including, but not limited to, sewage treatment plants, landfills, composting facilities)? <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</span></p> <p>If Yes:</p> <p>i. Estimate methane generation in tons/year (metric): _____</p> <p>ii. Describe any methane capture, control or elimination measures included in project design (e.g., combustion to generate heat or electricity, flaring): _____</p>			
<p>i. Will the proposed action result in the release of air pollutants from open-air operations or processes, such as quarry or landfill operations? <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</span></p> <p>If Yes: Describe operations and nature of emissions (e.g., diesel exhaust, rock particulates/dust): _____</p>			
<p>j. Will the proposed action result in a substantial increase in traffic above present levels or generate substantial new demand for transportation facilities or services? <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</span></p> <p>If Yes:</p> <p>i. When is the peak traffic expected (Check all that apply): <input type="checkbox"/> Morning <input type="checkbox"/> Evening <input type="checkbox"/> Weekend  <input type="checkbox"/> Randomly between hours of _____ to _____.</p> <p>ii. For commercial activities only, projected number of semi-trailer truck trips/day: _____</p> <p>iii. Parking spaces: Existing _____ Proposed _____ Net increase/decrease _____</p> <p>iv. Does the proposed action include any shared use parking? <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</span></p> <p>v. If the proposed action includes any modification of existing roads, creation of new roads or change in existing access, describe: _____</p>			
<p>vi. Are public/private transportation service(s) or facilities available within ½ mile of the proposed site? <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</span></p> <p>vii. Will the proposed action include access to public transportation or accommodations for use of hybrid, electric or other alternative fueled vehicles? <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</span></p> <p>viii. Will the proposed action include plans for pedestrian or bicycle accommodations for connections to existing pedestrian or bicycle routes? <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</span></p>			
<p>k. Will the proposed action (for commercial or industrial projects only) generate new or additional demand for energy? <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</span></p> <p>If Yes:</p> <p>i. Estimate annual electricity demand during operation of the proposed action: _____</p> <p>ii. Anticipated sources/suppliers of electricity for the project (e.g., on-site combustion, on-site renewable, via grid/local utility, or other): _____</p> <p>iii. Will the proposed action require a new, or an upgrade to, an existing substation? <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</span></p>			
<p>l. Hours of operation. Answer all items which apply.</p> <table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p>i. During Construction:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monday - Friday: _____</li> <li>• Saturday: _____</li> <li>• Sunday: _____</li> <li>• Holidays: _____</li> </ul> </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p>ii. During Operations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monday - Friday: _____</li> <li>• Saturday: _____</li> <li>• Sunday: _____</li> <li>• Holidays: _____</li> </ul> </td> </tr> </table>		<p>i. During Construction:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monday - Friday: _____</li> <li>• Saturday: _____</li> <li>• Sunday: _____</li> <li>• Holidays: _____</li> </ul>	<p>ii. During Operations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monday - Friday: _____</li> <li>• Saturday: _____</li> <li>• Sunday: _____</li> <li>• Holidays: _____</li> </ul>
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<p>m. Will the proposed action produce noise that will exceed existing ambient noise levels during construction, operation, or both? <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</span></p> <p>If yes:</p> <p>i. Provide details including sources, time of day and duration: _____</p>
<p>ii. Will proposed action remove existing natural barriers that could act as a noise barrier or screen? <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</span></p> <p>Describe: _____</p>
<p>n. Will the proposed action have outdoor lighting? <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</span></p> <p>If yes:</p> <p>i. Describe source(s), location(s), height of fixture(s), direction/aim, and proximity to nearest occupied structures: _____</p>
<p>ii. Will proposed action remove existing natural barriers that could act as a light barrier or screen? <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</span></p> <p>Describe: _____</p>
<p>o. Does the proposed action have the potential to produce odors for more than one hour per day? <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</span></p> <p>If Yes, describe possible sources, potential frequency and duration of odor emissions, and proximity to nearest occupied structures: _____</p>
<p>p. Will the proposed action include any bulk storage of petroleum (combined capacity of over 1,100 gallons) or chemical products 185 gallons in above ground storage or any amount in underground storage? <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</span></p> <p>If Yes:</p> <p>i. Product(s) to be stored _____</p> <p>ii. Volume(s) _____ per unit time _____ (e.g., month, year)</p> <p>iii. Generally describe proposed storage facilities: _____</p>
<p>q. Will the proposed action (commercial, industrial and recreational projects only) use pesticides (i.e., herbicides, insecticides) during construction or operation? <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</span></p> <p>If Yes:</p> <p>i. Describe proposed treatment(s): _____</p>
<p>ii. Will the proposed action use Integrated Pest Management Practices? <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</span></p>
<p>r. Will the proposed action (commercial or industrial projects only) involve or require the management or disposal of solid waste (excluding hazardous materials)? <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</span></p> <p>If Yes:</p> <p>i. Describe any solid waste(s) to be generated during construction or operation of the facility:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Construction: _____ tons per _____ (unit of time)</li> <li>• Operation : _____ tons per _____ (unit of time)</li> </ul> <p>ii. Describe any proposals for on-site minimization, recycling or reuse of materials to avoid disposal as solid waste:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Construction: _____</li> <li>• Operation: _____</li> </ul> <p>iii. Proposed disposal methods/facilities for solid waste generated on-site:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Construction: _____</li> <li>• Operation: _____</li> </ul>



s. Does the proposed action include construction or modification of a solid waste management facility? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If Yes:

i. Type of management or handling of waste proposed for the site (e.g., recycling or transfer station, composting, landfill, or other disposal activities): \_\_\_\_\_

ii. Anticipated rate of disposal/processing:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Tons/month, if transfer or other non-combustion/thermal treatment, or
- \_\_\_\_\_ Tons/hour, if combustion or thermal treatment

iii. If landfill, anticipated site life: \_\_\_\_\_ years

t. Will proposed action at the site involve the commercial generation, treatment, storage, or disposal of hazardous waste? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If Yes:

i. Name(s) of all hazardous wastes or constituents to be generated, handled or managed at facility: \_\_\_\_\_

ii. Generally describe processes or activities involving hazardous wastes or constituents: \_\_\_\_\_

iii. Specify amount to be handled or generated \_\_\_\_\_ tons/month

iv. Describe any proposals for on-site minimization, recycling or reuse of hazardous constituents: \_\_\_\_\_

v. Will any hazardous wastes be disposed at an existing offsite hazardous waste facility? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If Yes: provide name and location of facility: \_\_\_\_\_

If No: describe proposed management of any hazardous wastes which will not be sent to a hazardous waste facility: \_\_\_\_\_

#### E. Site and Setting of Proposed Action

**E.1. Land uses on and surrounding the project site**

a. Existing land uses.

i. Check all uses that occur on, adjoining and near the project site.

☐ Urban ☐ Industrial ☐ Commercial ☐ Residential (suburban) ☐ Rural (non-farm)

☐ Forest ☐ Agriculture ☐ Aquatic ☐ Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

ii. If mix of uses, generally describe: \_\_\_\_\_

b. Land uses and covertypes on the project site.

Land use or Covertype	Current Acreage	Acreage After Project Completion	Change (Acres +/-)
• Roads, buildings, and other paved or impervious surfaces			
• Forested			
• Meadows, grasslands or brushlands (non-agricultural, including abandoned agricultural)			
• Agricultural (includes active orchards, field, greenhouse etc.)			
• Surface water features (lakes, ponds, streams, rivers, etc.)			
• Wetlands (freshwater or tidal)			
• Non-vegetated (bare rock, earth or fill)			
• Other Describe: _____			

<p>c. Is the project site presently used by members of the community for public recreation?  <i>i. If Yes: explain:</i> _____</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<p>d. Are there any facilities serving children, the elderly, people with disabilities (e.g., schools, hospitals, licensed day care centers, or group homes) within 1500 feet of the project site?          If Yes,  <i>i. Identify Facilities:</i> _____          _____</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<p>e. Does the project site contain an existing dam?          If Yes:  <i>i. Dimensions of the dam and impoundment:</i>              • Dam height: _____ feet              • Dam length: _____ feet              • Surface area: _____ acres              • Volume impounded: _____ gallons OR acre-feet  <i>ii. Dam's existing hazard classification:</i> _____  <i>iii. Provide date and summarize results of last inspection:</i> _____          _____</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<p>f. Has the project site ever been used as a municipal, commercial or industrial solid waste management facility, or does the project site adjoin property which is now, or was at one time, used as a solid waste management facility?          If Yes:  <i>i. Has the facility been formally closed?</i>              • If yes, cite sources/documentation: _____  <i>ii. Describe the location of the project site relative to the boundaries of the solid waste management facility:</i> _____          _____  <i>iii. Describe any development constraints due to the prior solid waste activities:</i> _____          _____</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No     <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<p>g. Have hazardous wastes been generated, treated and/or disposed of at the site, or does the project site adjoin property which is now or was at one time used to commercially treat, store and/or dispose of hazardous waste?          If Yes:  <i>i. Describe waste(s) handled and waste management activities, including approximate time when activities occurred:</i> _____          _____</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<p>h. Potential contamination history. Has there been a reported spill at the proposed project site, or have any remedial actions been conducted at or adjacent to the proposed site?          If Yes:  <i>i. Is any portion of the site listed on the NYSDEC Spills Incidents database or Environmental Site Remediation database? Check all that apply:</i>              <input type="checkbox"/> Yes – Spills Incidents database      Provide DEC ID number(s): _____              <input type="checkbox"/> Yes – Environmental Site Remediation database      Provide DEC ID number(s): _____              <input type="checkbox"/> Neither database  <i>ii. If site has been subject of RCRA corrective activities, describe control measures:</i> _____          _____  <i>iii. Is the project within 2000 feet of any site in the NYSDEC Environmental Site Remediation database?</i>          If yes, provide DEC ID number(s): _____  <i>iv. If yes to (i), (ii) or (iii) above, describe current status of site(s):</i> _____          _____          _____</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No           <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

v. Is the project site subject to an institutional control limiting property uses? <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</span>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If yes, DEC site ID number: _____</li> <li>• Describe the type of institutional control (e.g., deed restriction or easement): _____</li> <li>• Describe any use limitations: _____</li> <li>• Describe any engineering controls: _____</li> <li>• Will the project affect the institutional or engineering controls in place? <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</span></li> <li>• Explain: _____</li> </ul>	
<b>E.2. Natural Resources On or Near Project Site</b>	
a. What is the average depth to bedrock on the project site? _____ N/A _____ feet	
b. Are there bedrock outcroppings on the project site? <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</span> If Yes, what proportion of the site is comprised of bedrock outcroppings? _____ %	
c. Predominant soil type(s) present on project site: _____ N/A _____ % _____ % _____ %	
d. What is the average depth to the water table on the project site? Average: _____ N/A _____ feet	
e. Drainage status of project site soils: <input type="checkbox"/> Well Drained: _____ % of site <input type="checkbox"/> Moderately Well Drained: _____ % of site <input type="checkbox"/> Poorly Drained: _____ % of site <span style="float: right;">N/A</span>	
f. Approximate proportion of proposed action site with slopes: <input type="checkbox"/> 0-10%: _____ % of site <input type="checkbox"/> 10-15%: _____ % of site <input type="checkbox"/> 15% or greater: _____ % of site <span style="float: right;">N/A</span>	
g. Are there any unique geologic features on the project site? <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</span> If Yes, describe: _____	
h. Surface water features.	
i. Does any portion of the project site contain wetlands or other waterbodies (including streams, rivers, ponds or lakes)? <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</span>	
ii. Do any wetlands or other waterbodies adjoin the project site? <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</span>	
If Yes to either <i>i</i> or <i>ii</i> , continue. If No, skip to E.2.i.	
iii. Are any of the wetlands or waterbodies within or adjoining the project site regulated by any federal, state or local agency? <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</span>	
iv. For each identified regulated wetland and waterbody on the project site, provide the following information:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Streams: Name _____ Classification _____</li> <li>• Lakes or Ponds: Name _____ Classification _____</li> <li>• Wetlands: Name _____ Approximate Size _____</li> <li>• Wetland No. (if regulated by DEC) _____</li> </ul>	
v. Are any of the above water bodies listed in the most recent compilation of NYS water quality-impaired waterbodies? <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</span>	
If yes, name of impaired water body/bodies and basis for listing as impaired: _____	
i. Is the project site in a designated Floodway? <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</span>	
j. Is the project site in the 100 year Floodplain? <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</span>	
k. Is the project site in the 500 year Floodplain? <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</span>	
l. Is the project site located over, or immediately adjoining, a primary, principal or sole source aquifer? <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</span>	
If Yes:	
i. Name of aquifer: _____	

<p>m. Identify the predominant wildlife species that occupy or use the project site:</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>_____</p> <p style="text-align: center;">N/A</p> <p>_____</p>
<p>n. Does the project site contain a designated significant natural community? <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</span></p> <p>If Yes:</p> <p>i. Describe the habitat/community (composition, function, and basis for designation): _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>ii. Source(s) of description or evaluation: _____</p> <p>iii. Extent of community/habitat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Currently: _____ acres</li> <li>• Following completion of project as proposed: _____ acres</li> <li>• Gain or loss (indicate + or -): _____ acres</li> </ul>	
<p>o. Does project site contain any species of plant or animal that is listed by the federal government or NYS as endangered or threatened, or does it contain any areas identified as habitat for an endangered or threatened species? <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</span></p>	
<p>p. Does the project site contain any species of plant or animal that is listed by NYS as rare, or as a species of special concern? <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</span></p>	
<p>q. Is the project site or adjoining area currently used for hunting, trapping, fishing or shell fishing? <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</span></p> <p>If yes, give a brief description of how the proposed action may affect that use: _____</p> <p>_____</p>	
<p><b>E.3. Designated Public Resources On or Near Project Site</b></p>	
<p>a. Is the project site, or any portion of it, located in a designated agricultural district certified pursuant to Agriculture and Markets Law, Article 25-AA, Section 303 and 304? <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</span></p> <p>If Yes, provide county plus district name/number: _____</p>	
<p>b. Are agricultural lands consisting of highly productive soils present? <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</span></p> <p>i. If Yes: acreage(s) on project site? _____</p> <p>ii. Source(s) of soil rating(s): _____</p>	
<p>c. Does the project site contain all or part of, or is it substantially contiguous to, a registered National Natural Landmark? <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</span></p> <p>If Yes:</p> <p>i. Nature of the natural landmark: <input type="checkbox"/> Biological Community <input type="checkbox"/> Geological Feature</p> <p>ii. Provide brief description of landmark, including values behind designation and approximate size/extent: _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	
<p>d. Is the project site located in or does it adjoin a state listed Critical Environmental Area? <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</span></p> <p>If Yes:</p> <p>i. CEA name: _____</p> <p>ii. Basis for designation: _____</p> <p>iii. Designating agency and date: _____</p>	



## FULL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FORM

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Brief Explanation: The Full Environmental Assessment Form (FEAF) at section C.1. (page 2 of 13) asks if administrative or legislative adoption, or amendment of a plan, local law, ordinance, rule or regulation is the only approval which must be granted to enable the proposed action to proceed. In this matter, entitled "A Local Law Adopting a New Town-Wide Zoning Law and Zoning Map" the answer to this question is Yes. That is, no other approvals must be granted to adopt the local law. In that circumstance the LEAF directs that only sections C, F and G of the LEAF must be completed. Because the adoption of a town-wide zoning law is not a specific project, it is not necessary to complete LEAF sections D and E. See NYSDEC Publication: LEAF Workbook discussing Question C1. To provide additional information, this supplement is provided in response to LEAF section F.

Name of Action: A Local Law Adopting a New Town-Wide Zoning Law and Zoning Map

SEQRA Status: Type I

Description of Action: The action is consideration and adoption of proposed Introductory Local Law No. 3 of 2015 entitled "A Local Law Adopting a New Town-Wide Zoning Law and Zoning Map." In 2005 the Town adopted a comprehensive land use law to regulate structures and land uses in the Town. The 2005 law was designed to further the policies of the Town as set forth in the Town & Village of Schoharie Comprehensive Plan that was adopted in 1997. However on February 19, 2014, the 2005 land use law was annulled and set aside as a result of a procedural error. As a result, the Town's 1975 Zoning Ordinance is now in effect. The 1975 Zoning Ordinance does not contemplate, address or regulate many new technologies and land uses that have become prevalent in the region. In general, the 1975 Zoning Ordinance is out of date, does not provide adequate safeguards to ensure orderly growth in the Town, and does not implement the goals and objectives of the 1997 Comprehensive Plan. The Town Board now desires to effectuate its Comprehensive Plan and address, in a careful manner, the undertaking, establishment, siting, placement, construction, and implementation of land uses and activities in the Town (outside of the Village) through the adoption of a new comprehensive land use law.

Background:

In 2005, after a lengthy period of drafting, review and deliberation, the Town adopted a comprehensive land use law (the "2005 Land Use Law") to regulate the location, design, construction, alteration, occupancy, and use of structures and the use of all land located within the municipal boundaries of the Town (outside of the Village of Schoharie). The 2005 Land Use Law repealed the 1975 Zoning Ordinance. The 2005 Land Use Law was designed to further the policies of the Town as set forth in the Town and Village of Schoharie Comprehensive Plan which was adopted in or about 1997. Its intent, among other things, was to regulate land uses in a manner that appropriately balanced the preservation

of the unique character and beauty of the Town while at the same time fostering economic opportunities.

By Decision and Order dated February 19, 2014, the Hon. Eugene P. Devine, J.S.C., County of Schoharie, annulled and set aside the 2005 Land Use Law, after finding the Town did not strictly adhere to the procedural requirements of the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) when the law was adopted. As a result, the 2005 Land Use Law, and the post-adoption amendments thereto, including Local Law No. 2 of 2009 relating to Wind Energy Facilities and Local Law No. 3 of 2012 relating to Land Application Facilities, Natural Gas and/or Petroleum Extraction Activities, Natural Gas and/or Petroleum Exploration, Extraction or Production Wastes Disposal/Storage Facility, Natural Gas and/or Petroleum Exploration, Extraction or Production Wastes Dump, Natural Gas Compression Facility, Natural Gas Processing Facility, Underground Injection, or Underground Natural Gas Storage, are null and void.

Through the annulment of the 2005 Land Use Law, the Town's Amended Zoning Ordinance of 1975 (the "1975 Zoning Ordinance") is now in effect. The 1975 Zoning Ordinance was adopted over thirty (35) years ago and does not contemplate, address or regulate many new technologies and land uses that have become prevalent in the region and the State. In the same respect, use regulations included in the 1975 Zoning Ordinance are out of date and do not provide adequate safeguards to ensure certain non-residential uses are located and undertaken in a manner that will not result in a material adverse impact on the Town's built and natural environment.

The Town Board desires to effectuate its Comprehensive Plan and address, in a careful manner, the undertaking, establishment, siting, placement, construction, enlargement and erection of the non-residential land uses and activities within the scope of this Local Law on a comprehensive Town-wide basis, rather than on an ad hoc basis, and to adopt a new land use law that includes provisions to specifically regulate the same.

#### Proposed Introductory Local Law No. 3 of 2015:

The proposed local law builds on the 2005 Land Use Law that had been in effect in the Town from 2005 through 2014. Through a series of workshop meetings the Town Board reviewed the 2005 Land Use Law and its subsequent amendments and developed proposed revisions and new regulations that have been incorporated into the proposed local law. The intent is to regulate land uses in a manner that appropriately balances the preservation of the unique character and beauty of the Town while at the same time fostering economic opportunities.

The proposed land use law divides the Town into three main districts where new uses, not contemplated or specifically addressed under the 1975 Zoning Ordinance, would be allowed subject to a varying level of regulation that would take into account the nature and intensity of a particular use. The new districts included a Commercial District, Hamlet District and Rural-Agricultural District (which largely combined the areas that had previously been zoned "Residential"<sup>1</sup> and "Agricultural" under the 1975 Zoning Ordinance). A description of the purpose of each district is included in the proposed local law. A proposed zoning map is appended to the local law and is referred to as Schedule C. The zoning districts

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<sup>1</sup> The 1975 Zoning Ordinance included three different "Residential" districts: "Seasonal Residential" (RS), "Single-Family Residential" (R-1), and "Multi-Family Residential" R-2.

in the proposed local law were first adopted as part of the 2005 Land Use Law and were in effect from 2005 through 2014.

The land use law creates a review process of varying levels of scrutiny depending on the proposed use, its size, intensity and proposed location. A special use permit review and approval is required for uses that may create issues of compatibility with the surrounding area so as to warrant case by case evaluation necessary in order to adequately protect the environment and nearby properties. In the same respect, certain uses or development will require a site plan review and approval in order to minimize impacts on nearby areas and properties.

In addition to the supplemental regulations that would be applied to specified uses, the proposed local law re-introduces the concept of "Overlay Districts" to provide extra protections in designated areas identified as containing environmentally sensitive conditions. For example, the Town Board re-established the "Barton Hill Overlay District" because of the sensitive nature of the karst areas<sup>2</sup> located in this area of the Town. More specifically, it was determined that ground water in these area was highly influenced by activities on the surface due to the nature of the underlying limestone rock. The proposed local law re-established an added layer of regulations and design standards in these designated area (appended to the proposed local law as Schedule B) so that water quality and quantity will not be adversely affected. The regulations incorporated in the proposed local law were first developed in partnership with the Schoharie County Planning Department and were in effect from 2005 through 2014.

In the same respect, a Floodplain overlay district was created to manage development in federally regulated floodplains and floodways. Additional review by the Town's Floodplain Administer is required, compliance with the Town's adopted Floodplain regulations, and compliance with additional design and performance standards established by the Town's Floodplain Administrator for all uses and structures proposed within these designated areas.

The proposed land use law also adopts a "floating zone" procedure for the review and approval of Planned Development Districts ("PDD") to properly accommodate a higher density of residential uses, mixed residential and commercial uses, specialty uses such as senior housing, large scale uses or light industrial uses. The creation of a PDD requires the adoption of a separate local law following a site-specific environmental review and establishment of a set of standards, guidelines and procedures that would be specifically applicable to that specific PDD. Site plan review is also required for the entire PDD, and individual uses proposed within the PDD. Each use that is proposed for the PDD subsequent to its establishment may be subject to additional review pursuant to the standards, guidelines and procedures established for such PDD.

General performance standards for non-residential uses applicable in all districts were developed regulating building design, lighting, landscaping, parking, utilities, signs, setbacks, and erosion and sediment control. Specific performance standards applicable to enumerated uses were also incorporated into the proposed land use law. These regulations further regulate where certain uses can be located. For example, the performance standards for telecommunications towers and antennas includes a "special geographic restriction on commercial towers and antennas" prohibiting towers at or above the 800 ft. contour line on Terrace Mountain (identified as a "significant scenic resource") and

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<sup>2</sup> Karst areas defined as that portion of the Town underlain with cavernous limestone rock.



within the area on the south side of the mountain bounded by Schoharie Hill Road and Wetzel Hollow Road.

The Town Board and its consultants endeavored to develop appropriate standards and criteria for special use permit and site plan approval, and supplemental regulations that would be applicable to development occurring in environmentally "sensitive areas" including the Barton Hill Overlay District and established Floodplain. The availability of procedural safeguards, performance standards and overlay districts incorporated in the proposed local law provide adequate safeguards to ensure future development will not result in significant adverse impacts for the environment.

#### Development Patterns

Aside from some development in the existing industrial park and one small office for a doctor, there has been no commercial or industrial development in the Town in the past ten years.

#### Additional Land Uses under the Proposed Land Use Law

The proposed local law regulates several land uses that were not permitted under the 1975 Zoning Ordinance, including indoor recreation, indoor other (theater, music hall, etc.), manufacturing, tech/R&D, airport, community center, telecommunications, apartments/ multi-family, bar-nightclub, hotel/motel, office building and restaurant. Although these uses are prohibited under the 1975 Zoning Ordinance, they were permitted in designated zoning districts from 2005 through 2014 (the years the 2005 Land Use Law was in effect), subject to specified procedural safeguards, performance and design standards. These safeguards and standards have been incorporated into the proposed land use to minimize impacts on nearby areas, neighboring properties and environmental resources. The definitions of these and other land uses regulated under the land use law have also been redefined to provide more clarity to the public and Town officials who must administer and enforce the law.

#### Environmental Assessment – Additional Information:

##### 1. Physical Features

#### Topography

The topography of Schoharie ranges from a low of 580 feet in the Schoharie Valley to over 2,000 feet at the top of Cotton Hill. Slopes in the southeastern portion of the Town are steep. The topography in the northeastern section is more gentle and regular than in the others, and here, most slopes are about 10% or less. The Terrace Mountain-Round Top area in the central portion of Town, has rough, irregular topography with most slopes greater than 20%. The highest elevations in this section are at Round Top, which reaches about 1,760 feet. The slopes along Cobleskill creek are irregular and hills range from 680 to 1,100 feet.

Route 30 follows the Schoharie Creek which bisects the Town. The Schoharie Creek drains north into the Mohawk River and is the major drainage system in Schoharie County. Two other major creeks, the Fox Creek and the Cobleskill Creek, have had a major influence on the drainage systems and topography in the Town.

Barton Hill is a plateau-like ridge and is significant to the Town and Village as both the location of important limestone features and as the watershed for the Village north and east of Barton Hill, rolling hills fall gently to the Mohawk River. Fox Creek cuts an almost vertical cliff along the southern edge of the plateau and the western edge slopes gently towards the Schoharie Creek.

### Geology

Schoharie County is part of the glaciated Allegheny Plateau. The central and northeastern portions of the Town are an extension of the Helderberg escarpment and have significant limestone geology. The Barton Hill and Terrace Mountain areas hold numerous caves, sink holes, sinking streams, cracked limestone pavement and other karst features.

Once formed, complex systems of caves and inter-connected cracks and crevices carry fast moving water (called insurgencies). Surface water in these locations enters the ground directly with little filtering by soil. In Schoharie, limestone features are of particular importance because of the high dependence of ground water for drinking supplies. Any land use that contaminates the surface water in and around insurgencies has the potential to quickly pollute groundwater supplies.

### Soils

The soil structure of Schoharie is complex with seven different soil associates found. These soils range from nearly level, deep, and well-drained, high lime soils to steep, moderately drained and strongly acid soils. Deposits of gravel, sand, and silt can be found along the banks and flats of the creeks.

According to the Schoharie County New York Soil Survey, the majority of soils found throughout the town show severe and severe-moderate limitations to development due to seasonal wetness, slow permeability, slopes, shallowness, or flooding.

The valley portions of Schoharie are dominated by agricultural and rural residential land uses. Valley soils are very fertile and well drained. Outside the valley, steep, forested slopes and plateaus are common.

### Water Resources

The Barton Hill Watershed is entirely within the limestone terrain of the Town and extends into the adjacent Town of Wright. It is the principal source of water for the Village of Schoharie. Water comes from several springs in the watershed, but water from the Fox Creek is used in times of drought.

The streams and creeks of the Town of Schoharie have been classified by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation according to their best and highest use. The main stem of the Schoharie Creek, as well as the Cobleskill Creek are classified as "C". This means that the highest and best use is for fishing and fish production. The Fox Creek is classified as "B" from the mouth of the creek to the bridge along Route 30 and as "A" upstream into the Town of Wright. Many of the small tributaries that feed into the Fox Creek are classified as "A" waters. The best usages of Class "B" waters are for recreation and fishing. These waters shall also be suitable for fish propagation and survival. "A" Class waters are as a source of drinking water as well as for recreation, fishing and fish propagation.

The other streams and tributaries in Schoharie are classified as C, Ct (trout streams) and D (best usage is for fishing). Class Ct, B, A, and AA streams are regulated by the Department of Environmental Conservation under Title 6, Chapter X. Any proposed work that could affect the quality of these streams needs permits before work can start. Although the Schoharie Creek has a classification of "C", it is considered a navigable river. This raises the classification standard to protected status, and thus would also require permits for activities that may impact this waterway.

The Town has several wetlands 12.4 acres or larger that are regulated by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. Smaller wetlands can also be found in the Town. All wetlands, regardless of their size are protected by the Federal Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and may require a permit for activities impacting these waterways.

## 2. Community Information

Data collected in recent years shows that the town population has not increased. When the Town completed its Comprehensive Plan in 1997, the estimated total Town population was 2,324 persons (exclusive of the Village of Schoharie). In comparison, the estimated 2010 population (most recent U.S. Census data) shows the Town population to be 2,283 persons. This represents a 2.4% decrease over roughly twenty years. The Comprehensive Plan envisioned a much steadier and predictable growth rate in both the Town and village in 1997. However that trend has not materialized, which is indicative of similar population trends in the County and region as a whole. As such, anticipated growth and accompanying development pressures caused by an increasing population in the Town have not been realized.

## 3. Traffic and Transportation

The primary means of transportation in Schoharie is by roadway. There are four categories of roadways in Schoharie. Route I-88 is a limited access roadway designed for through travel with interchanges only at major arterials. In Schoharie there is an interchange at Route 30A. Arterial roadways accommodate both through traffic and access to homes and commercial developments. The arterials in Schoharie are State Route 30A, State Route 30, State Route 7, and State Route 443. This arterial system serves as the main thoroughfare in the Town. Collector roadways funnel traffic from residential and agricultural areas to the arterials. Some of the principal collector roads in Schoharie are Prospect Street/Rickard Hill Road, Barton Hill Road, Sodom Road, and Schoharie Hill Road. Residential and Local Streets provide access to residences and farms and generally have no through traffic.

In 1997, the Comprehensive Plan looked at five key road segments within the Town and provided the general Average Annual Daily Traffic (AADT) counts for those segments based on the New York State Department of Transportation's (DOT) most recent data (1994). In comparison, the DOT's more recent data (based on 2012 count surveys) found a modest 7.6% average increase in AADT for all five of the same road segments. In other words, all five of the road segments originally studied in the Comprehensive Plan experienced a slight increase in AADT volumes which is consistent with expected volume increases over a twenty-year period. This modest increase in AADT's does not in and of itself represent a significant increase in road usage in the Town and is more reflective of expected background increases that would normally be found in most communities similar to Schoharie over such a long period of time.

#### 4. Public Services

Police services in areas of the Town outside the Village are handled by the State Police and Schoharie County Sheriff's Department. There are two volunteer fire departments in the Town of Schoharie: one is located in the Village (Schoharie Fire Department – Niagara Engine Company No. 6) and the other is in Central Bridge (Central Bridge Fire Department). The Scho-Wright Ambulance Service provides emergency services to the Town and the adjacent Town of Wright.

In general, Police, Fire, Ambulance Facilities, Public Park and Recreational Activities, Social and Educational Activities, Historical Attractions, Transportation and Special Districts figures relating to staffing and/or budgetary levels that have not changed substantially since the Comprehensive Plan was adopted in 1997. A review of recent emergency services (Fire & EMS) call data shows that call numbers in 2013 (91 calls) was almost the same as that reported in 2000 (97 calls).

Both the Village and Town are in the Schoharie Central School District. In 2014, there were 860 students enrolled in K-12 and 40 universal pre-kindergarten students attending classes through a campus with interconnected elementary school, junior/ senior high school and district office. UPK and K-6 students attend Schoharie Elementary School and students in grades 7-12 attend the Jr./Sr. High School. The school district has 6 administrators, 90 teachers, 34 professionals and 56 support staff.

#### 5. Land Use

At the time the Comprehensive Plan was adopted, the single dominant land use in the Town was agriculture (41%), followed by vacant (28%) and residential (29%) uses. Data provided by the Schoharie County Planning Department collected in more recent years shows agricultural land uses currently account for about 36.2% of the Town's land acreage, residential uses account for about 33.1%, vacant land accounts for 26.4%, and commercial, industrial, community and public service uses account for 3.2% of the total acreage. There are four designated Agricultural District in the Town of Schoharie: Agricultural District Nos. 1, 5, 6 and 9.

Comparatively speaking, the data reveals that there is almost no tangible change in the current land use profiles across the Town from 1997 when the Comprehensive Plan was adopted to present. Agricultural uses are still by far the most dominant forms of land use in Schoharie, followed closely by residential (single-family, multiple-family & mobile homes), and vacant lands. The only land use sector that experienced a minor (1.2+/-%) increase was commercial/retail/industrial/public institutions.

In addition, a review of past (2005-present) and current Use Variances, Area Variances, Site Plan Review applications and Special Use Permit applications was conducted to see if new or emerging trends in land use conflicts were occurring across the community. What the data revealed was 29 Area Variances, 3 Use Variances and 12 Special Use Permits being granted in the last 9+ years. There were also 39 Site Plan review applications approved during this same time period, with the vast majority of those applications for subdivisions. This relatively low number of variances and special permits as well as minimal site plan applications for commercial projects for a municipality the size of Schoharie is indicative of a community that is not experiencing major land-use conflicts, or significant growth or development pressures.

## 6. Public Utilities

Central Bridge has a water distribution system and a protected watershed. A special district was formed, known as the Central Bridge Water district to serve users in this general area. All water supplies for the remainder of the Town are from private wells or springs.

The Central Bridge water distribution system includes two reservoirs just east of the hamlet. The original reservoir has a water capacity estimated at 23 million gallons and the second reservoir, built in 1908, has an estimated volume of 12 million gallons. A distribution system moves water from the reservoirs, through a hypochlorinator to a system of pipes within the hamlet.

There were no public sewers in the Town of Schoharie when the Comprehensive Plan was developed 1997. However, more recently public sewers have been installed to serve the Hamlet of Central Bridge. A special sewer district was formed that included parts of Schoharie and the adjacent Town of Esperance with a service area that covers the area north of Cobleskill Creek. For the remainder of the Town, sewage is treated through private, on-site sanitary septic systems.

Sanitary sewer facilities in the Village were installed in 1958. Neither the Hamlet of Central Bridge, nor the remainder of Town has public sewers. Sewage at these non-village locations is treated through private, on-site sanitary septic systems. Several major utility lines, including electric and gas, cross through the Town and Village as well.

## 7. Recreational Areas

There are three public parks in the area: Fox Creek Park, LaSalle Park, and the Central Bridge Recreational Area. Other recreational facilities include little league fields near the Fox Creek park and at the Central Bridge Recreational area; tennis and basketball courts; and a new playground at the Schoharie Central School.

## 8. Visual Resources

Schoharie's scenic beauty is tied to both its natural features such as cliffs, forested hills and valleys, and to its agricultural landscape. The Comprehensive Plan identifies several important scenic locations were identified. These include Routes 30, 443 and I-88 looking at terrace Mountain, Route 30 outside the Village towards Middleburgh, and Schoharie Hill. Other scenic locations such as Depot Lane, the Old Stone Fort Complex and the Lutheran Parsonage have high historical value to residents.

## 9. Significant Natural Communities

According to the NYSDEC Environmental Resource Mapper, there are no designated significant natural communities in the Town of Schoharie

## 10. Endangered or Threatened Species

According to the Fish and Wildlife Service website (<http://www.fws.gov/northeast/nyfo/es/CoListCurrent.pdf>) the federally listed endangered and threatened species in Schoharie County include:

Bald eagle	Haliaeetus leucocephalus	Delisted
Indiana bat	Myotis sodalis	Endangered

According to F&WS, while Indiana bats were known to winter in Albany County, it is now believed they are likely extirpated or in such small numbers that it is unlikely that they would be present and impacted by any specific proposed projects in Albany, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady, and Schoharie Counties.

The endangered and threatened species listed in Schoharie County by New York State include:

#### Animals

Bald Eagle	Haliaeetus leucocephalus	Threatened
Bicknell's Thrush	Catharus bicknelli	Special Concern
Eastern Small-footed Myotis	Myotis leibii	Special Concern
Henslow's Sparrow	Ammodramus henslowii	Threatened
Northern Harrier	Circus cyaneus	Threatened
Peregrine Falcon	Falco peregrinus	Endangered
Timber Rattlesnake	Crotalus horridus	Threatened

#### Plants

Musk Root	Adoxa moschatellina	Endangered
Whorled Mountain-mint	Pycnanthemum verticillatum var. verticillatum	Threatened

#### 11. Opportunities for hunting, trapping, fishing or shell fishing

Due to the abundant agricultural and undeveloped land, areas within the Town of Schoharie exist for hunting and trapping consistent with other rural communities. However, most of the land available for hunting and trapping is in private ownership and subject to permission by the landowner. Fishing opportunities exist in the various streams

#### 12. Presence of Registered National Natural Landmarks

According to the National Park Service website (<http://www.nature.nps.gov/nnl/state.cfm?State=NY>), there are no registered National Natural Landmarks in Schoharie County.

#### 13. Presence of Critical Environmental Areas

According to the NYSDEC website, there are no designated Critical Environmental Areas in the Town of Schoharie. See <http://www.dec.ny.gov/permits/25148.html>.

#### 14. Presence of Designated River Corridors

According to the NYSDEC website, there are no designated river corridors under the Wild, Scenic and Recreational Rivers Program (6 NYCRR 666) in the Town of Schoharie. See <http://www.dec.ny.gov/permits/32739.html>.

#### 15. Presence of Locations on the State or National Register of Historic Places

The National Register of Historic Places contains the following locations in the Town of Schoharie (see <http://www.nationalregisterofhistoricplaces.com/ny/schoharie/state.html>):

Becker Stone House, Murphy Road  
Becker-Westfall House, NY Route 443  
The Colyer House, 5729 NY Route 30  
Christian Hess House and Shoemaker's Shop, 111 Stony Brook Road  
Gallupville Methodist Church, Factory Street Schoharie  
Sternbergh House, Oak Hill Road (150 Route 30A), Schoharie  
Westheimer Site, address restricted  
George Westinghouse, Jr., Birthplace and Boyhood Home, Westinghouse Road, Central Bridge

#### 16. Presence of Officially Designated Scenic or Aesthetic Resource

There are no officially designated scenic or aesthetic resources in the Town of Schoharie.

#### 17. Unique Geological Features

According to the NYSDEC Environmental Resource Mapper, the following are identified in the Town of Schoharie:

Terrace Mountain	Shows fine exposures of the gently dipping carbonate rocks. They look like typical Manlius & Coeymans, but are actually the Rondout & Cobleskill Formation.
Rickard Hill Road	Multiple Outcrops; Helderberg Group; Fossiliferous: bryozoan, brachiopod, crinoid, echinoderm, sponges, tabulate coral, pelecypod, rare stromatoporoid; cephalopod