INTERMUNICIPAL AGREEMENT
FOR THE
CLARKS CREEK WATERSHED

WHEREAS, Clarks Creek is an irreplaceable natural resource providing recreation, scenery, fisheries, habitat and other amenities to our communities; and

WHEREAS, the continued health and beauty of Clarks Creek are dependent upon cooperation among all of us in the proper management of the lands and waters that comprise its watershed; and

WHEREAS, the economic vitality and growth of our communities depend in part on retention of our attractive landscapes and streams for which the entire Hudson Valley region is world-renowned; and

WHEREAS, the economic vitality and growth of our communities depends on a clean and reliable water source; and

WHEREAS, a healthy and secure water supply depends on adequate groundwater recharge and natural stream flows; and

WHEREAS, certain portions of Clarks Creek remain impaired due to pollution from stormwater runoff from developed areas, and agricultural activities in rural areas; and

WHEREAS, forested buffers, which are an excellent means to protect the stream and absorb pollutants, have been removed over the centuries along portions of Clarks Creek and its upstream tributaries; and

WHEREAS, municipalities are empowered under the State Constitution to serve as the primary means for government to deal with many of these issues,

NOW THEREFORE, we, the duly appointed representatives of our respective municipalities hereby voluntarily enter into this **INTERMUNICIPAL AGREEMENT FOR THE CLARKS CREEK WATERSHED,** and are

committed to work cooperatively to achieve the following goals for the preservation, restoration and management of the Clarks Creek watershed:

WE WILL develop municipal water use plans to address the competing needs in our community for water resources, including human, industrial and agricultural uses as well as the requirements of the natural environment, with the goal of having such plans in place by 2010. Furthermore, we will coordinate our plans with those of other municipalities in the watershed.

WE WILL work with state authorities to assure that by 2010 all segments of the Clarks Creek meet applicable water quality standards.

WE WILL restore 5 miles of free-flowing rivers and streams where they are impacted by dams and other hydrologic modifications by 2010.

WE WILL seek to protect existing forest buffers, and we will develop cooperative programs with others to restore such buffers where they no longer exist along 15 miles of the Clarks Creek by 2005. We will allocate this mileage among those of us willing to assume a portion of the goal.

WE WILL each establish programs to reduce the impact of stormwater runoff and to improve the recharge of natural aquifers by better managing construction practices and the amount and design of impermeable surfaces. Further, we will work together to share the results of efforts in this regard, and actively seek to learn from each other through the demonstration of new technologies in each of our communities.

WE WILL inventory and digitally map all direct discharge drainage pipes by 2004. Watershed municipalities will be responsible for developing stormwater management programs.

WE WILL offer at least one watershed education session per year to intermunicipal council boards, conservation commissions, and planning boards. The education sessions will provide the latest information on watershed planning, stormwater technology, and innovative site planning techniques.

WE WILL review current town codes for inconsistencies or codes that promote increased runoff and impervious surfaces by 2004.

WE WILL Identify, protect and maintain rare, threatened, or declining species habitat to ensure their continued survival in the watershed.

FINALLY, WE WILL meet regularly to review with the public our progress toward these goals and to celebrate our successes.

ENTERED INTO ON THIS 1st DAY OF JANUARY, 2003:

FOR THE TOWN OF A: name_____
                                      title_____

FOR THE TOWN OF B FALLS: _____
                                      _____

FOR THE TOWN OF C FLATS: _____
                                      _____

FOR THE TOWN OF D: _____
                                      _____

FOR THE TOWN OF E: _____
                                      _____

FOR THE TOWN OF UPPER F: _____
                                      _____

FOR THE TOWN OF G: _____
                                      _____

FOR THE TOWN OF H: _____
                                      _____

FOR THE VILLAGE OF I: _____
                                      _____

FOR THE VILLAGE OF J: _____
                                      _____

FOR THE VILLAGE OF K: _____