

In 2024, several events of stormwater runoff from a logging operation resulted in the transmission of soil into Piseco Lake. One of these events was photographed by a lake resident. These episodes add suspended solids to the lake, which contributes to increasing the lake-water turbidity. Hamilton County Soil & Water District (HCS&WD) responded to the photographed incident and directed corrective activities.

Fortunately, Piseco Lake area has not experienced excessive flooding, as observed in other area of the Adirondacks; however, we need to use responsible management practices for activities that have the potential to cause soil erosion.

The following information is also found on the HCS&WD web site. Residents who plan to conduct logging or other soil disturbance projects are encouraged to contact HCS&WD for erosion control recommendations.

The District aids landowners and municipalities with addressing stormwater, sediment, and erosion challenges. Assistance is also offered with shoreline and streambank stabilization. Some best management practices include:

- Bioengineering, natural channel design, and green infrastructure.
- Green armor – erosion control products include turf reinforcement mats, biotic soil amendments, and hydraulically-applied mulch that quickly stabilize the soil.
- Hard armor - a traditional erosion prevention method that protects surfaces against strong water velocity and wave action and provides bank stabilization and protection along rivers, streams, and roads. Examples include rock riprap, gabions, precast block retaining walls, and rock chutes.
- Diversions - stormwater runoff is redirected from an area prone to flooding and erosion to a more stable, safe location.
- Vegetation - the deep roots of vegetation effectively hold soil in place and prevent erosion.