



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Dam Concerned Citizens present options for rehabilitation of the Gilboa Dam at conference at Union

SCHENECTADY, N.Y. – The Mohawk Watershed Group at Union College will host the first conference on the physical aspects of the Mohawk River Watershed on Friday, March 27, in the College's Olin Center.

Representatives from Dam Concerned Citizens, Inc. (DCC, Inc.), a citizen advocacy group primarily focused on the safety of the Gilboa Dam and the Schoharie Reservoir it impounds, will outline concerns and proposals for the Rehabilitation of the Gilboa Dam.

A presentation entitled: "The Gilboa Dam and Schoharie Reservoir" will be presented by Howard R. Bartholomew, with co-author Michael Quinn, P.E., CHA Companies, Inc.

In 1926, the New York City Board of Water Supply began moving water from the Schoharie Reservoir, via the 18-mile-long Shandaken Tunnel to the Esopus Creek and the Ashokan Reservoir. This landmark feat of civil engineering diverted much of the flow from what is now becoming the most productive tributary of the Mohawk River, the Schoharie Creek.

DCC, Inc. recognizes a widespread dam safety problem and seeks to accomplish these goals: use of the highest design, construction, operation, maintenance and inspection standards on dams; an independent inspector accountable to the public at no cost to local government or residents; dam owner's indemnification of downstream residents and local governments (Schoharie, Montgomery and Schenectady Counties) for financial costs/losses; and increased media awareness and reporting on dam and flood issues.

Issues being addressed by Bartholomew will include; a continuous, sub-surface conservation release into the Schoharie Creek, in times of non-spillage, below the Gilboa Dam; the addition of a 4' high "Crest Wall" to the existing spillway which would mitigate deleterious effects of future floods by the temporal attenuation of spillage; a brief examination of the negative effects of the current condition of reduced stream flow in the Schoharie Creek below the Gilboa Dam.

Dam Concerned Citizens, Inc. includes residents from all three counties living downstream of the Gilboa Dam/Schoharie Reservoir.

Further information is found on DCC, Inc.'s website: www.dccinc.org or call (518)827-9558.

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