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Lake & Watershed Management • Water Quality Monitoring  
Geographic Information Systems • Environmental Design Services

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Saranac Lake, NY • Cedar Eden Environmental Awarded Contract to Develop Statewide Agricultural Environmental Management GIS

Cedar Eden Environmental, LLC of Saranac Lake, NY has been awarded a contract through the Essex County Soil & Water Conservation District to develop and help implement a statewide geographic information system (GIS) for the Agricultural Environmental Management (AEM) Program of the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets' Soil and Water Conservation Committee. The primary goal of AEM is to protect and enhance the environment while maintaining the viability of agriculture in New York State. Cedar Eden Environmental will work with the State's Department of Agriculture & Markets and Department of Health to design a computer-based system to collect, manage and analyze AEM data collected by the county soil & water conservation districts from the approximately 35,000 farms statewide. A GIS is a computer system capable of holding and using both coordinate information (where something is) and attribute information (what something is). It is a powerful tool that allows for the analysis of the relationship between geographic objects and quick "what if" scenario building. Cedar Eden Environmental will use the AEM GIS to produce reports that summarize the data by watershed, region, county and statewide to assist in AEM planning, farmland protection, and drinking water source protection while protecting the anonymity of individual farms and farmers.

The total project cost of \$102,000 is being funded jointly by the NYS Departments of Health and Agriculture & Markets and includes funding for statewide implementation of Tier I (basic) AEM data and two Tier II (detailed) pilot projects. The Tier II pilot projects will be located in the New York portion of the Lake Champlain Basin and the Otsego Lake Watershed.

Cedar Eden Environmental, LLC specializes in the design, implementation and management of GIS projects for Environmental Resource and Natural Features Inventories, Municipal Wastewater and Comprehensive Management Plans, Agricultural Environmental Management, Watershed Management, Regional Water Quality Assessment, and Land Use Mapping. The company also excels in lake and watershed management (water quality monitoring, aquatic plant mapping & management, restoration & management plans, permitting) and environmental design (education materials, web sites, graphics).