

Richard B. Jacobsen
Environmental Consultant
571 Adley Road
Fairfield, Connecticut 06432

Phone : (203) 372-2735
Fax: (203) 373-0844

Vegetation and Wildlife Analysis

**155 White Plains Road
Tarrytown, NY**

**Prepared for
Crescent Associates**

October 23, 2003

**Revised
June 30, 2004**

Existing Vegetation:

Site inspections were made in March and October 2003 and May and June 2004 to determine vegetative community types. The existing vegetative cover of the undeveloped portion of the site is approximately 80% mixed hardwood forest and 20% vine thicket. The vegetative communities reflect that much of the site was previously part of a landscaped environment. Remnants of a paved driveway and areas of ornamental ground cover persist in the central portion of the site. The understory vegetation is predominately the invasive species Norway Maple. There is very little shrub cover and little or no herbaceous cover in the forested area. There are several invasive plant species on the site including Norway Maple, Garlic Mustard, Winged Euonymus and Multiflora Rose. The greatest variety of species is within the forested area immediately adjacent to the trail over the Croton Aqueduct. Significant trees were located by the surveyor and inventoried. A list of plant species found on site is provided in this report.

Existing Wildlife Habitat:

The potential wildlife habitat was originally evaluated during the months of March and October site inspections. Additional site visits were made on May 27 and June 18, 2004. The June 18 inspection included an early morning survey during the time when birds are most active. The additional visits were made based on concerns expressed during the early stages of the SEQ process that evaluation of the bird population during the late spring would provide a more accurate inventory.

The large trees on the site provide canopy habitat for a variety of common songbirds. They also provide a food source for deer, small mammals and turkey. The site is surrounded by commercial and high-density residential development that impacts the use of the site by wildlife. The slopes at the east end of the property contain debris and material from dumping that occurs along the property boundary.

During the course of the spring bird survey an immature Red-tailed Hawk was observed at the top of a large tulip tree in the central portion of the site. The bird's calls were answered by another hawk to the east. There is a possibility that this species nests on or near the site, however, no adult birds were observed and no nest was located.

The potential use of the site by White-tailed deer and the Kentucky Warbler is discussed in detail in the May 19, 2003 report. A transient deer population uses the site as a food source. The Kentucky Warbler was addressed specifically because of a DEC record that this species was breeding within the town at some point but not specifically on this site. As previously reported, the site does not provide habitat for this species and site observations did not indicate its presence. There are no records of known occurrences of rare or state listed animals or plants or significant plant or animal habitats on the site or on adjacent properties.

Anticipated Impacts:

The removal of some large trees will have an impact on the canopy habitat for songbirds. These are species which are adaptable to human activities. A portion of the forested area and tree canopy will be maintained, particularly in the area of steep slopes in the easterly portion of the site and between the proposed stormwater basin and the aqueduct.

The current development plan preserves more existing trees and vegetation than the original proposal. The proposed landscaping will provide increased shrub variety for birds. The stormwater basin will provide wet meadow and upland meadow habitat which does not currently exist on the site. Deer, turkey and small mammals will continue to use the site as a food source.

The unavoidable impacts to the habitats on the site will not result in a significant loss of valuable wildlife. The introduction of new species and habitats will mitigate the minor losses that occur. Some displacement of species will occur, however, the common species, which currently use the site, will continue to find suitable habitat.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard B. Jacobson

Plant List
Crescent Associates Property
Tarrytown, New York

Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Acer negundo</i>	Box Elder
<i>Acer platanoides</i>	Norway Maple
<i>Acer rubrum</i>	Red Maple
<i>Acer saccharum</i>	Sugar Maple
<i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>	Horsechestnut
<i>Alliaria petiolata</i>	Garlic Mustard
<i>Ambrosia artemisifolia</i>	Annual Ragweed
<i>Asclepias syriaca</i>	Common Milkweed
<i>Berberis thunbergii</i>	Japanese Barberry
<i>Betula lenta</i>	Black Birch
<i>Carya ovata</i>	Shagbark Hickory
<i>Celastrus orbiculatus</i>	Asiatic Bittersweet
<i>Cornus florida</i>	Flowering Dogwood
<i>Euonymus alatus</i>	Winged Euonymus
<i>Euthamia graminifolia</i>	Grass-leaved Goldenrod
<i>Fraxinus americana</i>	White Ash
<i>Juniperus virginiana</i>	Eastern Red Cedar
<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	Sweet Gum
<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>	Tulip Tree
<i>Onoclea sensibilis</i>	Sensitive Fern
<i>Pachysandra sp.</i>	Pachysandra
<i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i>	Virginia creeper
<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	English Plantain
<i>Picea abies</i>	Norway Spruce
<i>Pinus strobus</i>	White Pine
<i>Populus tremuloides</i>	Trembling Aspen
<i>Polygonum spp.</i>	Smartweeds
<i>Polystichum acrostichoides</i>	Christmas Fern
<i>Prunus serotina</i>	Black Cherry
<i>Quercus alba</i>	White Oak
<i>Quercus bicolor</i>	White Oak
<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	Black Locust
<i>Rosa multiflora</i>	Multiflora Rose
<i>Rubus sp.</i>	Brambles
<i>Salix sp.</i>	Willow
<i>Smilax sp.</i>	Greenbriar
<i>Solidago rugosa</i>	Rough-stemmed Goldenrod

<i>Solidago canadensis</i>	Canada Goldenrod
<i>Toxicodendron radicans</i>	Poison Ivy
<i>Taraxacum officinale</i>	Common Dandelion
<i>Taxus sp.</i>	Yew
<i>Ulmus rubra</i>	Slippery Elm
<i>Urtica dioica</i>	Stinging Nettle
<i>Verbascum thapsus</i>	Common Mullein
<i>Viburnum cassinoides</i>	Withe-rod
<i>Viburnum prunifolium</i>	Black-haw Viburnum
<i>Viola papilionacea</i>	Common violet
<i>Vitis sp.</i>	Grape

Wildlife List

Mammals, Reptiles and Amphibians

Scientific Name	Common Name	Occurrence- use of site
<i>Blarina brevicauda</i>	Short Tailed Shrew	Probable
<i>Bufo americanus</i>	Eastern American Toad	Probable
<i>Didelphus virginiana</i>	Opossum	Probable
<i>Mephitis mephitis</i>	Striped Skunk	Probable
<i>Microtus pennsylvanicus</i>	Meadow vole	Probable
<i>Myotis lucifugus</i>	Little Brown Bat	Possible
<i>Myotis serptrionialis</i>	Keens Myotis	Possible
<i>Odocoileus virginianus</i>	White-tailed Deer	Confirmed
<i>Peromyscus maniculatus</i>	Deer Mouse	Probable
<i>Peromyscus leucopus</i>	White-footed Mouse	Probable
<i>Plethodon cinereus</i>	Redback Salamander	Probable
<i>Procyon lotor</i>	Raccoon	Probable
<i>Rattus norvegicus</i>	Norway Rat	Probable
<i>Sciurus carolinensis</i>	Gray Squirrel	Confirmed
<i>Tamias striatus</i>	Chipmunk	Confirmed
<i>Thamnophis s. sirtalis</i>	Garter Snake	Confirmed
Birds		
<i>Buteo jamaicensis</i>	Red-tailed Hawk	Confirmed
<i>Cathartes aura</i>	Turkey Vulture	Confirmed
<i>Cardinalis cardinalis</i>	Northern Cardinal	Confirmed *
<i>Carduelis tristis</i>	American Goldfinch	Probable
<i>Carpodacus mexicanus</i>	House Finch	Probable
<i>Colaptes auratus</i>	Northern Flicker	Confirmed *
<i>Corvus brachyrhynchos</i>	American Crow	Confirmed *
<i>Cyanocitta cristata</i>	Blue Jay	Confirmed *
<i>Dumetella carolinensis</i>	Gray Catbird	Confirmed *
<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	Barn Swallow	Confirmed *
<i>Melanerpes carolinus</i>	Red-bellied Woodpecker	Confirmed
<i>Meleagris gallopavo</i>	Wild Turkey	Probable
<i>Melospiza melodia</i>	Song Sparrow	Probable
<i>Mimus polyglottos</i>	Northern Mockingbird	Confirmed *
<i>Seiurus aurocapillus</i>	Ovenbird	Confirmed *
<i>Parus atricapillus</i>	Black-capped Chickadee	Confirmed *
<i>Passer domesticus</i>	House Sparrow	Confirmed *
<i>Parus bicolor</i>	Tufted titmouse	Confirmed *
<i>Pheucticus ludovicianus</i>	Rose-breasted Grosbeak	Confirmed *
<i>Picoides pubescens</i>	Downy Woodpecker	Confirmed *

<i>Picoides villosus</i>	Hairy Woodpecker	Probable
<i>Sitta corolinensis</i>	White-breasted Nuthatch	Confirmed *
<i>Quiscalus quiscula</i>	Common Grackle	Confirmed *
<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	Starling	Confirmed *
<i>Thryothorus ludovicianus</i>	Carolina Wren	Possible
<i>Troglodytes aedon</i>	House Wren	Confirmed *
<i>Turdus migratorius</i>	American Robin	Confirmed *
<i>Zenadia macroura</i>	Mourning Dove	Confirmed *

* Probable Breeder