Memorandum of Agreement
Establishing the Lake George Watershed Conference

This agreement, dated August 21, 2001 is between local governments within the Lake George watershed, New York State agencies, and other cooperating parties with an interest in protection of the Lake George watershed, located in the counties of Warren, Essex, and Washington, New York.

WHEREAS, maintaining and enhancing the water quality of Lake George is essential for the economic well-being, environmental and public health, recreational opportunities, and quality of life for the local governments, residents, and visitors of the Lake George watershed;

WHEREAS, numerous cooperating parties, including the local governments around Lake George ("the lake"), various New York State agencies, and various not-for-profit organizations share the responsibilities, interests, and benefits of protecting the lake, which is a regional resource affected by the actions of these parties;

WHEREAS, the PARTIES to this agreement participated in the development of a long-term water quality protection plan for the lake, entitled "Lake George: Planning for the Future";

WHEREAS, one of the recommendations of "Lake George: Planning for the Future" is to focus on developing effective solutions on a watershed-wide basis through establishment of an appropriate institutional mechanism;

WHEREAS, the PARTIES hereto are desirous of continuing to work together on a cooperative basis in order to maintain communication among the PARTIES, establish a forum where Lake George watershed issues may be addressed, enhance intermunicipal and public-private efforts to manage water quality issues in the Lake George watershed, and begin to develop the ability to measure the success of, and provide oversight over, water quality management actions affecting Lake George.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

THAT the parties hereto agree to create and participate in the Lake George Watershed Conference ("the Conference");

THAT the Conference shall be comprised of one designated representative of each signatory party and chaired by the New York State Secretary of State, or his/her designee;

THAT each party may, at its pleasure, change its representative to the Conference from time to time;

THAT the Conference will:

a. Advance activities to implement the water quality protection plan for the lake, entitled "Lake George: Planning for the Future";

b. Periodically establish, review, and update priority actions for protecting the lake;

c. Identify funding priorities for consideration by members when applying for grants and other financial assistance;

d. Periodically review activities undertaken to protect the lake;
e. Facilitate coordination of member's efforts, sharing of information, and increased education of and among Conference members, to improve the quality of the Lake;
f. Approve an annual work plan and budget for the Conference;
g. Convene an annual forum for the purpose of reviewing past accomplishments and discussing actions needed to further protection of the lake;
h. Establish sub-committees, as needed;
i. Adopt bylaws and procedures for the conduct of its business, as necessary.

THE PARTIES signing this AGREEMENT represent that they have been duly authorized to enter into this AGREEMENT, pursuant to their respective lawful authorities.

New York State Secretary of State

Supervisor, Town of Fort Ann

Chairman, Adirondack Park Agency

Supervisor, Town of Hague

Chairman, Lake George Park Commission

Supervisor, Town of Lake George

Commissioner, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

Mayor, Village of Lake George

Commissioner, New York State Department of Transportation

Supervisor, Town of Putnam

Supervisor, Town of Queensbury

Supervisor, Town of Bolton

Supervisor, Town of Ticonderoga

Supervisor, Town of Dresden

Chairman, Essex County Board of Supervisors