PREPARED IN COOPERATION WITH THE
NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

LAND USE

Land outside the urban areas in or near the Mohawk River valley and its larger tributaries is predominantly farmland with some forests. Scattered throughout this undeveloped land are small hamlets, wetlands, and areas excavated for sand and gravel. The city of Rome is mainly residential but contains many industrial and commercial properties. The Mohawk River valley is a major transportation corridor; the New York State Thruway (I-90), the New York State Barge Canal (Erie Canal), and the main east-west rail line all pass through the valley. The Mohawk River at Rome has a mean annual discharge of approximately 377 cubic feet per second as estimated from drainage-area ratios and mean annual flows at a gaging station on the Mohawk River at Delta Dam.

Land use in Mohawk River valley can affect the quality of ground water in the area. The high permeability of the water-table aquifer and relatively shallow depth to water at most locations makes the ground water vulnerable to contamination from surface sources such as landfills, salt-storage stockpiles, fuel-storage areas, chemical plants, and other sites that have a potential for contaminant leakage.

The land-use classification shown here is based primarily on 1967-68 data published as Land Use and Natural Resources inventory (LUNR) maps by Cornell University (1968) but was updated through use of New York State Department of Transportation 1:24,000 topographic maps.

REFERENCE CITED

Cornell University, 1968, Land use and natural resources inventory (LUNR) map series, Ilion, Utica East, South Trenton, and Newport quadrangles, 1:24,000 scale: New York State Cooperative Extension, 4 sheets.

EXPLANATION

- 1 — INDUSTRIAL--Light and heavy manufacturing, petroleum and chemical-storage facilities
- 2 — EXTRACTIVE--Sand and gravel mining (both active and abandoned)
- 2a — EXTRACTIVE--Oil and gas
- 3 — COMMERCIAL AND SERVICES--Includes urban areas, shopping centers, commercial strip development, communications facilities, and facilities without extensive grounds, such as hospitals, municipal buildings, government centers, schools, and universities
- 3a — LANDFILLS--Includes both active and abandoned landfills, open dumps, and junkyards
- 3b — SEWAGE-TREATMENT FACILITIES--Land application of sewage; includes settling lagoons, both active and abandoned
- 4 — TRANSPORTATION (land and air)--Facilities including limited-access highways, airports, and truck and train terminals and yards
- 4a — TRANSPORTATION (waterways)--Includes barge canals, channels, locks, ports, docks, dams, and shipyards
- 5 — FARMLAND (crops and pasture)--Includes both active and inactive agricultural areas, and areas used for horticulture and domestic livestock
- 5a — FARMLAND--Orchards and vineyards
- 6 — FOREST--Includes forest stands 30 ft high or more and brush, tree, and shrub cover 30 ft high or less; forested public areas; forested recreation areas, such as public and private campgrounds, ski resorts, public parks, and also forested hospital grounds, school campuses, and correctional facilities
- 7 — RESIDENTIAL--Includes high-, medium-, and low-density residential areas, trailer parks, rural hamlets, estates of 5 acres or more, farm-labor camps, developed shoreline, and commercial strip development that is at least two-thirds residential
- 8 — OPEN LAND--Includes open recreation areas and open public areas such as golf courses, hospital grounds, school and college campuses, correctional facilities, and cemeteries military installations,
- 9 — WATER AND WETLANDS--Includes natural or manmade ponds, lakes, or reservoirs, streams and rivers averaging 100 ft wide or more, bogs and shrub wetlands, wooded wetlands, and marine wetlands
- BOUNDARY BETWEEN LAND-USE AREAS--Approximately located

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