



NEWS

● ● ●
WINTER
1 9 9 3

INSIDE:

- *New treasurer for RELC*
- *Mohonk water study helps set limits to growth*
- *RELC plans a party*



Esopus Gorge Easement Site

Two New Easements Being Prepared

The conservancy is pleased to announce two new easements in the works--each with special features showing how the conservation easement concept is flexible and applicable to many kinds of property.

One of them is in the Esopus Gorge in Olive Bridge, a mile or so south of the Ashokan Reservoir, where Junius and Louise Eddy have been confronting escalating tax and maintenance burdens on a 57.5-acre property that has been in the family since the 1930's. It includes substantial frontage on the lower Esopus Creek along with many acres of pristine piney woods replete with grouse, deer and other wildlife.

The challenge was to craft an easement that would allow the Eddys' growing family to use the property and maybe to build some weekend cabins while preserving the natural integrity of the place. The solution: an easement on a buffer strip 150 feet wide along the creek. Thus any future structures would be out of sight of the creek and their septic systems would be safely distant also.

The Conservancy notes that other property owners in that area also have donated or are considering easements, and it could be possible to substantially protect an entire attractive portion of the Esopus Valley against unwanted development.

Our second easement, also in the town of Olive, is noteworthy for its size. It is a 1.2 acre parcel owned by John and Jane Bierhorst along the Bushkill Creek, a direct feeder into the Ashokan Reservoir.

(Cont. on p. 2)

