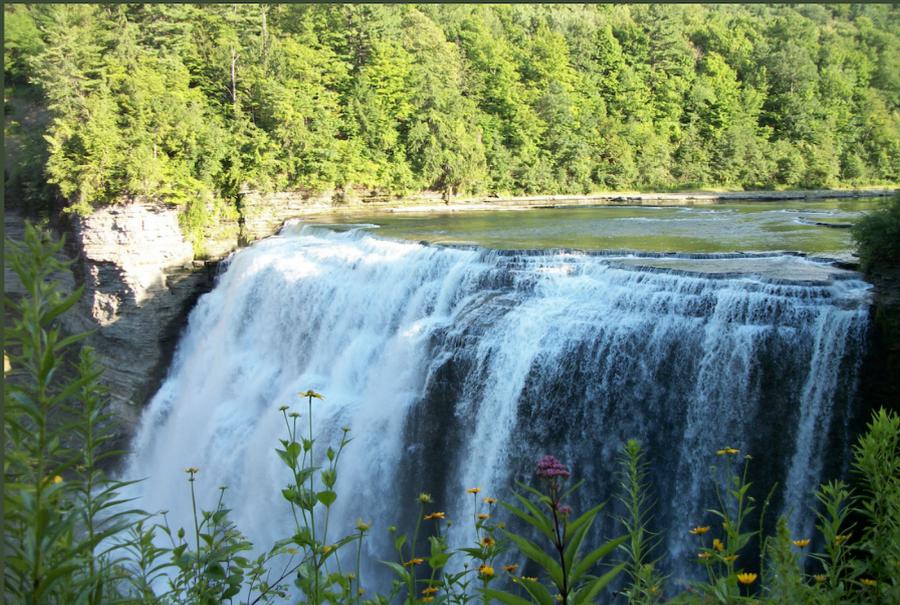


ANNUAL REPORT

LIVINGSTON COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COUNCIL



LETCWORTH STATE PARK TOURS SPONSORED BY THE EMC
LED BY DOUGLAS BASSETT, 2004 - 2023

WWW.LIVINGSTONCOUNTY.US/EMC

2023





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LIVINGSTON COUNTY
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

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BUTTERFLIES DEDICATED TO
BILL MCCLEARY, RETIRED
EMC MEMBER WITH
26 YEARS OF SERVICE



History

The Livingston County Environmental Management Council (EMC) is a formal citizens advisory group that was formed by the Livingston County Board of Supervisors in 1979. The EMC was established to foster coordinated action on environmental issues among local governments and public and private organizations within the County.

Mission

The EMC’s charge is to work cooperatively with the Board of Supervisors, local municipalities, and citizens of the County on the protection, preservation, development, and use of the County’s natural resources.

In order to meet the mission of the EMC and provide a focus for their activities, the Council:

Creates a Yearly Plan -

that reflects the mission of the EMC, identifies activities that support the mission and tracks progress on those activities. The Yearly Plan emphasizes the importance of education as a primary goal of the EMC and the importance of the EMC as a resource for municipal officials, environmental and government agencies, and the community.

Conducts a SWOT Analysis -

to assess the Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats, with a focus on the Livingston County environment. Go to Page 4 for more information.

Sets top priorities -

2023 EMC Yearly Plan Priorities

Resiliency to Climate Change

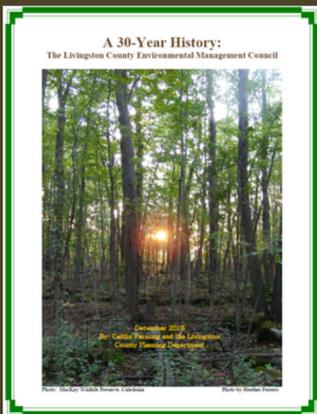
Membership Recruitment

Invasive Species Environmental Education & Activities

Impact of Energy Development on Natural Resources

Issues an Annual Report -

documenting the activities completed and supported by the EMC in 2023 and provides a proposed program for 2024.



The history of the Livingston County EMC was compiled in 2010 into a report, “30-Year History: The Livingston County Environmental Management Council,” which synthesizes 30 years of history and documents the important and diverse services that the Council has provided.

To review the Report:

www.livingstoncounty.us/ArchiveCenter/ViewFile/Item/155



SWOT ANALYSIS

From a Livingston County Viewpoint

The EMC conducts an annual SWOT Analysis to identify the internal strengths and weaknesses, as well as the external opportunities and threats, focusing on the Livingston County environment. The Analysis is used by the EMC in Yearly Plan development, ensuring coverage of important topics in its efforts to protect and enhance the County environment.

Strengths

- EMC
- Erosion control regs/laws
- Farmland and soil quality
- Fresh water lakes
- Good location relative to climate change
- Hardwood forests
- Livingston County Community Clean Up
- Municipal, County, State lands & parks
- Natural Resources Inventory
- School/College/SUNY resources
- Local/Regional/State partnerships
 - Conesus Lake Association, Dept of A&M
 - NYSDEC, Genesee Valley Conservancy
- Watershed Education Center

Opportunities

- Aesthetic improvements to natural areas
- Climate Action Plan
- Continue to work with Highway Depts:
 - ditching, hydroseeding
- Education
- Electric vehicle infrastructure
- Hydropower
- Keep agriculture strong
- Recycling, composting programs, Impact Earth
- New technologies
- Protection of soils, and farming operations
 - by organic & traditional methods
- Tree planting initiatives/seed library
- Use of Stormwater Toolkit

Weaknesses

- Aging infrastructure
- Competition for funding resources
- County economy
- Decline in volunteerism
- Lack of diversity of EMC membership,
 - need business and industry view

Threats

- Climate change
- Development pressure
- Economic pressure on farmers
- External interest in our resources
- Human footprint
- Invasive species
- Inactive municipal dumpsites, junkyards
- Landfills in the County
- Large-scale solar impacts
- Long term consequences of mining operations
- State/Federal policies & regulations

What is a SWOT Analysis?

SWOT stands for Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats; a SWOT analysis is a technique for assessing these four aspects of a business or organization. A SWOT Analysis is a tool that can help to analyze what a business or organization is successful at right now, and to devise successful strategies and a work plan for the future.



The EMC has an authorized membership of volunteers from three broad categories including agriculture, general citizenry, and industry-commerce. Members serve two year terms. The EMC meets every other month, and meetings are open to the public.

Please call the Planning Department at (585) 243-7550, or (585) 335-1734 if you are interested in joining the EMC.

MEMBERSHIP LIST 2023

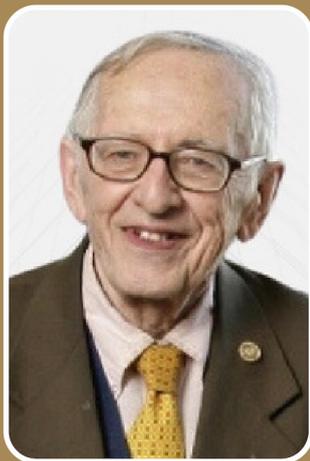
AGRICULTURE	MUNICIPALITY	SERVICE
Robert Donnan	York	37 years
Susan Walker	Springwater	29 years
INDUSTRY- COMMERCE		
Paula Smith	Leicester	4 years
GENERAL CITIZEN		
Ray Case	Livonia	13 years
Dan DeZarn	SUNY Geneseo	8 years
Katie Fish	Geneseo	1 year
Patti LaVigne	Geneseo	4 years
Darlene Necaster	SUNY Geneseo	7 years
David W. Parish	Geneseo	41 years
Alex Pierce	Nunda	9 years

New Member

In 2023, the Council welcomed new member, Katie Fish. Katie lives in Geneseo with her family. She volunteers for a local garden club and works for Impact Earth, an environmentally active business dedicated to creating low-waste communities. Katie joined the EMC because of her civic duty to be involved in her County and community, and her interest in the environment.



In memorium



In 2023, the EMC and our Livingston County community lost a valuable, long term member, David W. Parish. David was our longest serving member of the Council, with 41 years of dedicated service. David was known as an active citizen, knowledgeable historian, avid reader and passionate author. David believed that environmental stewardship was part of his civic duty and he demonstrated this by serving on the EMC.

David embraced the mission of the EMC to advise the Board of Supervisors on environmental matters. The EMC took on several noteworthy projects that David was passionate about. He was actively involved in the development of the Livingston County Natural Resources Inventory (NRI) and again with the NRI Update. David was instrumental in engaging the County's local historians in contributing to the NRI.

David also had a special interest in the EMC's Annual Earth Day Award, serving faithfully on the Earth Day Award Subcommittee and helping to select recipients for the past 24 years. He also followed current topics including the replacement of the Portageville High Bridge in Letchworth State Park and the return of spawning lake sturgeon to the Genesee River. And finally, he was an endless source of ideas for EMC sponsored tours and educational programs.

We appreciate all that David accomplished and feel fortunate to have served alongside him for these many years. David will be greatly missed.



CLIMATE ACTION COUNCIL SCOPING PLAN

The 2019 Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (Climate Act) is one of the most ambitious climate laws in the nation. In 2022, the Climate Action Council released the Final Scoping Plan for NYS which included recommendations to meet the Climate Act's goals and requirements.

The Scoping Plan identifies actions needed to achieve the State energy goals:

- 70% renewable electricity by 2030
- 100% zero-emission electricity by 2040
- 40% reduction in statewide GHG emissions from 1990 levels by 2030
- 85% reduction in statewide GHG emissions from 1990 levels by 2050
- Net zero emissions statewide by 2050

In 2023, the EMC reviewed the Final Scoping Plan, assessed potential impacts for the County and local municipalities, and provided recommendations and considerations to the County, as the County considers a plan of action.

The EMC has prioritized support of Livingston County's climate action planning and has initiated review of other NYS Climate Action Plans in readiness. The EMC will continue to support County and municipal involvement in NYS energy efficiency programs such as NYSERDA Clean Energy Communities and Climate Smart Communities. The EMC will also assist the County and municipalities with access to resources and grant information.

2023 EMC ACTIVITIES

EDUCATION



LIVONIA HIGH SCHOOL & FLPRISM PRESENTATION
GO TO PG 9

The EMC sponsors/co-sponsors educational programs, workshops and tours focused on environmental topics of interest or concern.

3 EMC sponsored activities

58 People served



LETCHWORTH STATE PARK TOUR



**INVASIVE SPECIES AWARENESS WALK AT
GVC INDIAN FORT NATURE PRESERVE**



In observance of global Earth Day, the EMC implements the Livingston County Earth Day Award Program. This annual program provides recognition to individuals, organizations, groups or businesses for outstanding achievements in preserving or improving Livingston County's environment or educating others about the environment. The EMC selected Lagom Landing as the 2023 Earth Day Award recipient.

The EMC recognized Lagom Landing for their dedication to the education and enrichment of our youth, fostering their connections to the community and their natural environment. The EMC was impressed with their immersive and holistic program that helps students to experience living in balance with their natural surroundings. The EMC commended Lagom Landing for their multicultural, intergenerational, and inclusive program that brings students and community together.

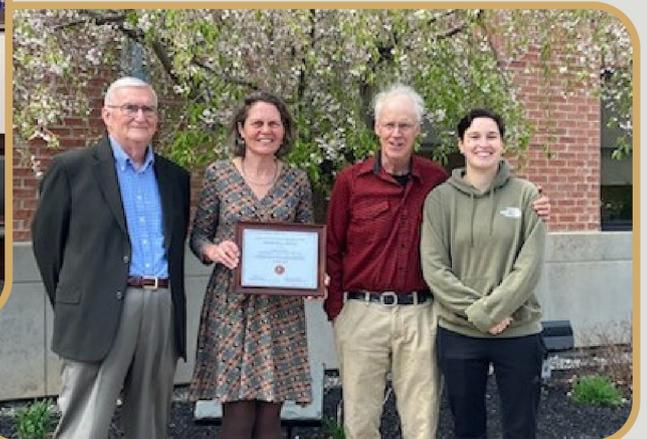
The EMC is looking forward to Lagom Landing's next phase as they develop a personalized respite program, "Respite and Restoration at Lagom Landing" in 2024 for adults of all ages that seek a "break from the over-saturation of today's lifestyle".

25 Earth Day Awards presented since 1999



Award presented by the Chairman of the Livingston County Board of Supervisors

EMC member, Ray Case, joins with Lagom Landing Directors Laurel Nelson & Rock Castor, and their student Natalie Maar



COMMUNICATION WITH BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

A goal for 2023 was to continue a dialogue with the Livingston County Board of Supervisors through the Public Services Committee to maintain communications, foster good relations, and gain a better understanding of how the EMC can best serve the County's environmental needs. The Planning Department continued to communicate bi-monthly activities of the EMC to the Board of Supervisors and the Public Services Committee. Annually, the EMC Chairman presents to the Livingston County Public Services Committee, providing an overview of the EMC.

COMMUNITY CLEAN UP

The EMC sponsored the Annual Livingston County Community CleanUp Event in 2023. As part of this countywide initiative, groups, organizations, municipalities and individuals cleaned up roadsides, parks, and cemeteries in celebration of Earth Day. Local organizers worked with their communities to coordinate their events. The County provided social media promotion of the events and a site for posting pictures.



GENESEO ROTARY CLUB

6 Towns & Villages hosted events

9 Agencies, organizations and schools participated

14 Sites cleaned or improved

132 Fantastic volunteers



LIVONIA HGIH SCHOOL



CONESUS LAKE ASSOCIATION

WWW.LIVINGSTONCOUNTY.US/CLEANUPLIVCO



WEBSITE

The EMC maintains a website to enhance awareness of the Council and promote access to local and regional environmental resources. The site provides EMC history, membership and meeting information. Resources include EMC Annual Reports, EMC 30-Year History Report, Livingston County Natural Resources Inventory, Earth Day Award Program and EMC sponsored events.

WWW.LIVINGSTONCOUNTY.US/EMC

REGULATORY ENVIRONMENT

The EMC reports on the status of regulatory permitting and redevelopment programs that may have an impact on local communities. In 2023, the EMC reported on NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) Environmental Permits and State and Federal Proposed Regulations. The EMC reviews NYSDEC Environmental Notice Bulletins (ENB) monthly for Livingston County and provides notifications to municipalities as needed.

12 NYSDEC Environmental Notice Bulletins reviewed
on behalf of **7** Towns & **3** Villages

1 Municipal notification provided



ALERTS & INFORMATION

Invasive species (IS) can cause harm to the environment, human, animal and plant health, and the economy. Human activity and climate change have dramatically increased the rate of spread of invasives. Prevention, early detection and rapid response can help stop or slow the spread of new and emerging IS. The EMC prioritizes IS education, disseminates alerts and information to municipalities, agencies and interested partners on invasives, and incorporates these topics in their education programs and tours.

In 2023, the EMC supported the CLA deployment and monitoring of SLF traps by hosting traps in the Conesus Lake watershed.

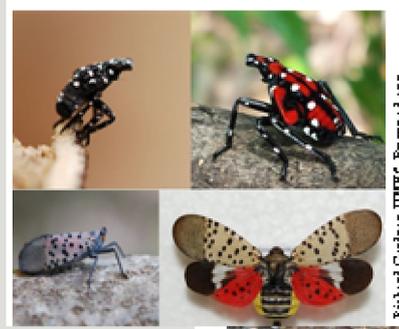
6 SLF traps deployed **0** Detections

BOOT BRUSH STATIONS - DO THEY WORK?

In 2023, the EMC sponsored a Livonia High School student presentation on Boot Brush Stations and Invasive Species Awareness. The program was held at the Watershed Education Center and supported by the CLA. Students Gi Gi Matasovsky, Eva Millen, and Nick Stetter gave a clear message that boot brush stations can be effective in reducing the spread of invasives, when done right. Their teacher Brian Sheldon committed to keeping this long term successful research going on the Livonia High School campus, and the crowd was pleased. Matt Gallo from FLPRISM ended with a detailed overview of high threat species and management



strategies. Participants left with their own PlayCleanGo hand held boot brushes, supplied by NAISMA, to help stop the spread! The EMC also facilitated a dialogue with Livonia High School teacher Brian Sheldon and SUNY Geneseo Sustainability students on Boot Brush Stations. Students learned about the effectiveness of the stations, and design and installation techniques for potential installation on SUNY's campus.



SLF LIFE CYCLE

WATCH FOR & REPORT!



SPOTTED LANTERNFLY (SLF) EGG MASSES

For more information: spottedlanternfly@dec.ny.gov

NATURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

Per NYS Environmental Conservation Law, a goal of the EMC is to develop and maintain an inventory of natural resources within Livingston County. A major undertaking of the EMC has been the development of the Livingston County Natural Resources Inventory (NRI). The EMC compiled information on the County's natural and historic resources, engaged local governments in the identification process, and produced NRI Volume I in 2005 and Volume II in 2007.

The NRI is available on the Livingston County website. The NRI is utilized by the Livingston County Planning Board regularly as part of their zoning referral review process. Advisory comments on the presence/location of natural and historic resources and potential impacts are forwarded to municipal boards for their consideration.

In preparation for the NRI Update in 2024, the EMC started their review of other NRIs, both in and out of NYS, in 2023.

WATERSHED EDUCATION CENTER

The EMC supports the Watershed Education Center (WEC) presentation series and events. The Town of Livonia’s Watershed Education Center functions as a center for citizen-science programming and invasive species education and hosts a monthly speaker series. The program is a collaborative effort involving the Town of Livonia, Conesus Lake Association, Livingston County Department of Health, Livingston County Planning Department/EMC, Cornell Cooperative Extension and the Chip Holt Nature Center.

Some EMC members also serve on the WEC Education Committee, the entity that designs and implements the Annual Education Series.



2023 CONESUS LAKE EDUCATION SERIES

You're invited to attend FREE monthly educational programs and lectures on a wide range of environmental and historical topics of interest and concern to residents and friends of the Conesus Lake watershed. All programs will be held online and/or at the Watershed Education Center at Vitale Park in Lakeville. Most programs start at 6:30 p.m. For updates on our 2023 schedule, scan the QR code below or visit our website: www.conesuslake.org/lake-community/wec

Call (585) 346-6864 to register.

We hope to see you at our next FREE program.




This ad was funded by the Finger Lakes-Lake Ontario Watershed Protection Alliance through an appropriation from the New York State Environmental Protection Fund.

Watershed Education Center 2023 Program Schedule	
Date	TOPICS
January 10	Livonia High School Student Projects
February 8	Farming in the Watershed, Farmer Panel Discussion
March 22	Lake Monitoring and Tools You Can Use
April 12	Letchworth State Park, a Fresh Perspective
April 17	Rain Barrel Make and Take
May 1	Watershed Management Plan Updates
June 14	Managing Nuisance Wildlife
July 20	Property Owner's Guide to Rain Gardens, Bioswales & Rainwater Harvesting
August 23	Property Owner's Guide to Increasing Resiliency to Flooding, Erosion & Ice Jams
September 12	In-Lake Phosphorus Control
September 16	Invasive Species Paddle
October 7	Bird Walk with Hans Kunz
November 15	Drones: Their Surprising Uses & Benefits
December 5	SUNY Brockport / Geneseo Student Projects / Antarctica project

[HTTPS://CONESUSLAKE.ORG/](https://conesuslake.org/)

COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS & COMMUNICATION

Conesus Lake Watershed Management Plan

The Conesus Lake Watershed Management Plan is a comprehensive plan that outlines measures designed to improve and protect the water quality of Conesus Lake. The Conesus Lake Watershed Council, with support from watershed partners and agencies, is responsible for plan implementation. The EMC receives updates on implementation efforts and activities and water quality issues.

Livingston County has been awarded a grant through the NYS Environmental Protection Fund Local Waterfront Revitalization Program to undertake an Update to the Conesus Lake Watershed Management Plan. The EMC was a participant in the development of the Watershed Management Plan in 2003; the EMC will participate in the Update process beginning in 2024.

County & Regional Projects

One of the primary goals of the EMC is to act as a resource for Livingston County. The EMC provides municipalities with educational and environmental resources. The EMC facilitates countywide communication to connect municipalities with resources that assist them in increasing energy efficiency, reducing energy costs, and accessing low or no-cost funding sources.

The EMC provided letters of support for several municipal grants in 2023, to combat Mile-a-Minute in the Town of Geneseo and Hemlock Woolly Adelgid in the Town of Ossian, and fund Tree Inventories and Forest Management in the Village of Caledonia.

EMC supported
4 grants for

- 3** Counties
- 2** Towns
- 1** City
- 1** Village
- 1** University



2024 EMC Work Plan Priorities

- Forestry & Woodlands Health
- Membership Recruitment
- Invasive Species Education & Activities
- Resiliency to Climate Change
- Local & Regional Partnerships
- Emerging Contaminants

EMC PROPOSED PROGRAM



Conesus Lake Watershed Management Plan

Participate in the Plan Update process



Earth Day Award

Select 2024 Award Recipient



Environmental Education

Invasive Species Work Day at SUNY Geneseo Roemer Arboretum
 Letchworth State Park Tour
 Network with state & local organizations on IS awareness



Membership Recruitment

Networking with other EMCs in NYS
 Update Livingston County EMC guidance documents & bylaws



Livingston County Community CleanUp

Promote and organize events for countywide initiative



Natural Resources Inventory (NRI)

Initiate NRI Update process
 Participate in Livingston County Ag & Farmland Protection Plan Update



Statewide Environmental Activities

Climate Action Council Scoping Plan Review
 Support NYSERDA Clean Energy & Climate Smart Communities Programs



Website

Participate in updates of County EMC & Alternative Energy websites

EMC SUPPORT ACTIVITIES



Support Watershed Education Center Presentations



Support Municipal, County & Regional projects and communication



ACRONYMS

CLA - Conesus Lake Association	SLF - Spotted Lanternfly
DEC - Department of Environmental Conservation	SWOT - Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats
DPW - Department of Public Works	WEC - Watershed Education Center
EMC - Environmental Management Council	WQC - Water Quality Committee
ENB - Environmental Notice Bulletin	
GVC - Genesee Valley Conservancy	
FLI - Finger Lakes Institute	
IS - Invasive Species	
ISAW - Invasive Species Awareness Week	
NRI - Natural Resources Inventory	
NYSERDA - New York State Energy Research & Development Authority	
FLPRISM - Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management	

RESOURCES

Conesus Lake Association (CLA):

<https://conesuslake.org/>

Conesus Lake Watershed Council (CLWC)

<https://www.livingstoncounty.us/217/Conesus-Lake>

CLWC Invasive Species Prevention & Response Plan:

<https://www.livingstoncounty.us/DocumentCenter/View/626/CLWC-Invasive-Species-Prevention-and-Response-Plan-Final?bidId=>

Conesus Lake Watershed Management Plan (CLWMP)

<https://www.livingstoncounty.us/DocumentCenter/View/1087/Final-CLWMP?bidId=>

Finger Lakes Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management (FL-PRISM)

<https://fingerlakesinvasives.org/>

Livingston County Agricultural Farmland Protection Plan

<https://www.livingstoncounty.us/213/Agricultural-Farmland-Protection-Plan>

Livingston County Environmental Management Council (EMC)

<https://www.livingstoncounty.us/107/Environmental-Management-Council>

EMC Annual Reports

<https://www.livingstoncounty.us/DocumentCenter/View/18621/2022-EMC-ANNUAL-REPORT-FINAL>

Natural Resources Inventory

<https://www.livingstoncounty.us/DocumentCenter/View/698/Livingston-County-Natural-Resources-Inventory?bidId=>

30-Year History: Livingston County EMC

<https://www.livingstoncounty.us/ArchiveCenter/ViewFile/Item/155>

NYS Climate Action Plan - Final Scoping Plan & Executive Summary

<https://climate.ny.gov/resources/scoping-plan/>

NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC)

<https://dec.ny.gov/>

