



2021 ANNUAL REPORT

LIVINGSTON COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COUNCIL



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LIVINGSTON COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

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HISTORY & MISSION

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. Its 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 to provide a focus for their yearly activities, the Council creates an Annual Work Plan, conducts a SWOT Analysis, sets top priorities and concludes the year with an Annual Report.

The Annual Work Plan reflects the mission of the EMC, identifies activities that support the mission and tracks progress on those activities. The Work 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.

The SWOT Analysis is conducted yearly by the EMC. Go to Page 4 for more information.

2021 EMC Work Plan Priorities

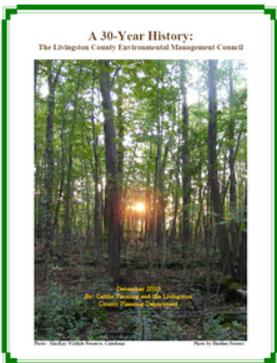
Best Practice Management of Prime Soils/Soils of Statewide Importance

Invasive Species Environmental Education

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle Initiatives to Reduce Waste Footprint

Promote Trees and Green Space

This Livingston County EMC Annual Report documents the activities completed and supported by the EMC in 2021, and provides a proposed program for 2022.



The history of the Livingston County EMC has been compiled 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.

Work Plan

SWOT

Priorities

Annual Report

2021 PROGRAM

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 Work 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
- Genesee Valley Conservancy
- Good location relative to climate change
- Hardwood forests
- Livingston County Community Clean Up
- Natural Resources Inventory
- State lands & parks
- SUNY Geneseo & science partners
- Watershed Education Center

Opportunities

- Aesthetic improvements to natural areas
- Continue to work with Highway Depts:
ditching, hydroseeding
- Education, impacts to soils
- Electric vehicle infrastructure
- Hydropower
- Keep agriculture strong
- New recycling possibilities
- New technologies
- Use of Stormwater Toolkit

Weaknesses

- Aging infrastructure
- County economy
- 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
- Fracking in NYS
- Human footprint
- Invasive species
- Inactive municipal dumpsites, junkyards
- Lack of clean water regs
- 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.

MEMBERSHIP & MEETINGS

The EMC has an authorized membership of 20 volunteer members, and representation in three broad categories of agriculture, general citizenry, and industry-commerce. Council members serve two year terms. The EMC meets on the fourth Wednesday of every other month. All meetings are open to the public.

There are openings in all three categories at this time. Please call the Planning Department at (585) 243-7550 or (585) 335-1734 if you are interested in joining the EMC.



MEMBERSHIP LIST 2021

AGRICULTURE MUNICIPALITY SERVICE

Robert Donnan	York	35 years
David H. Swanson	Mount Morris	39 years
Susan Walker	Springwater	27 years

INDUSTRY-COMMERCE MUNICIPALITY SERVICE

Paula Smith	Leicester	2 years
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GENERAL CITIZENS MUNICIPALITY SERVICE

Ray Case	Livonia	11 years
Dan DeZarn	SUNY Geneseo	6 years
Patti LaVigne	Geneseo	2 years
William McCleary	Livonia	23 years
Darlene Necaster	SUNY Geneseo	6 years
David W. Parish	Geneseo	39 years
Alex Pierce	Nunda	8 years

The Council proudly recognizes the commitment of several long-term members:

- David H. Swanson (39 years)
- David W. Parish (39 years)
- Robert Donnan (35 years)
- Susan Walker (27 years)
- William McCleary (23 years)



EMC PICNIC AND CELEBRATION OF LONG TERM MEMBERS

2021 EMC ACTIVITIES

Education

The EMC sponsors/co-sponsors educational programs, workshops and/or tours focused on community environmental topics of interest or concern. The 2021 Work Plan focused on environmental education prioritizing invasive species.

The EMC sponsored the following educational & training tours in 2021:



**LETCHWORTH STATE PARK
TROUT POND TOUR**



**AL LORENZ PARK & POLLINATOR
GARDEN TOUR**

Green Infrastructure

The EMC worked with multiple partners to design and install a pollinator garden at the Livingston County Al Lorenz Park, an 80-acre park in Mount Morris. The pollinator garden, the first of its kind on County grounds, will serve as a functional demonstration project that will be highly visible and accessible to foot traffic in a park that is open year-round. Native flowering plants were selected to provide blooms from early spring to late fall, providing habitat to a multitude of pollinator species, and some degree of deer resistance.



PARTNERS

- Amanda's Garden
- Donnan Farms
- Livingston County EMC
- Livingston County
Central Services
Department of Health
Planning Department
Workforce Development
- Livingston County Soil & Water
Conservation District
- Village of Mount Morris DPW

Earth Day Award

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 Gene Bolster and the Conesus Lake Association (CLA) Water Quality Committee as the 2021 Earth Day Award recipient.



AWARD RECIPIENTS: GENE BOLSTER & THE CLA WATER QUALITY COMMITTEE.
REPRESENTATIVE MEMBERS: SCOTT & PEG PROCTOR, GENE BOLSTER, RAY CASE. ABSENT: CHARLIE BRAUN



AWARD ACCEPTED BY GENE BOLSTER FROM LIVINGSTON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS CHAIRMAN DAVID LEFEBER.



EMC, PLANNING DEPARTMENT AND CLA WATER QUALITY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The EMC recognized both the Committee's 35 dedicated, highly active members and their long-term Chairman, Gene Bolster. The Water Quality Committee is known for their numerous successful programs, including educational outreach, invasive species prevention, and scientific and analytic activities. Livingston County benefits directly from the Committee's many high impact activities, from the mobilization of the community in the Conesus Stewardship Initiative, to the protection of our lake through the Watercraft Steward Program, to the public education and outreach at the Town of Livonia Watershed Education Center.

The EMC recognized the village, town, county, state, and educational/intercollegiate collaboration of the Water Quality Committee and noted that members often serve on multiple committees within the CLA. Livingston County and the EMC look forward to many more years of collaboration to come.

Communication with the Board of Supervisors

A goal for 2021 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.

Livingston County Community CleanUp

The EMC sponsored the Annual Livingston County Community CleanUp Event in 2021. As part of this countywide initiative, citizens, groups, organizations, and municipalities rallied together or worked on socially distanced activities to clean 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.



FOR DETAILS ON THE COMMUNITY CLEAN UP, GO TO:
[HTTP://WWW.LIVINGSTONCOUNTY.US/CLEANUPLIVCO](http://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](http://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 2021, the EMC reported on NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Environmental Permits and State and Federal Proposed Regulations. NYS DEC Environmental Notice Bulletins (ENB) were reviewed and municipal notification was provided:

- Forbes Solar project, Town of Mount Morris, Section 401 Water Quality Permit
- Avon Pit, Town of Avon, Mined Land Reclamation Permit modification (expansion)

Natural Resources Inventory

Per New York State Environmental Conservation Law, a primary 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). Over the course of many years, the EMC compiled information on Livingston 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 full NRI was widely distributed.

The NRI is available on the Livingston County website, and the EMC updates the NRI regularly as new resources are identified. The NRI is utilized by the Livingston County Planning Board regularly as part of their zoning referral review process. Advisory comments on the presence and location of natural and historic resources and potential impacts are forwarded to municipal boards for their consideration. In 2021, the County Planning Board utilized updated Soils maps, with data provided by the Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS). WWW.LIVINGSTONCOUNTY.US/EMC

Invasive Species Alerts & Information

Invasive species 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 invasive species, and public education is key. The EMC addresses the priority of invasive species education by disseminating invasive species alerts and information to municipalities, agencies and interested partners, and incorporating these topics in their public education programs and tours.



Per NYS DEC, Spangly moth is the new common name of *Lymantria dispar dispar*, formerly known as the Gypsy moth. The name was changed by The Entomological Society of America (ESA) as part of their Better Common Names Project

EMC SUPPORT ACTIVITIES

Watershed Education Center

In line with the priority of invasive species education, the EMC supports the Watershed Education Center (WEC) presentation series and events. The Town of Livonia's Watershed Education Center, located at Vitale Park, is the first of its kind in Western New York. The WEC functions as a center for citizen-science programming and invasive species monitoring and hosts a monthly speaker series on educational topics with a focus on the watershed. The educational programming 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.



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. For updates on our 2021 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.



Use the QR code to see the latest WEC schedule for any updates

Watershed Education Center
2021 Program Schedule

Date	TOPICS
January 13th	Soil Core Analysis of Livonia High School Wetlands
February 24th	Aquatic & Underwater Surveillance of Conesus Lake
March 17th	Amanda's Garden: Gardening with Native Plants
April 7th	Trains, Planes, and Boats 1874 to 1920's
April 24th	Youth Planting Workshop
May 9th	A Bird Walk of Our Conesus Lake Inlet
May 12th	Tick Talk
May 26th	Native American Storyteller
June 9th	Conesus Lake, How We Got Where We Are
June 23rd	Aquatic & Terrestrial Invasives
July 21st	Marine Patrol Activities Including Sonar
August 11th	Trains, Planes and Boats Part 2 1930's to 1970
August 25th	Tree Safety
September 22nd	The Health of Conesus Lake - CSLAP
October 27th	Cornell Cooperative Extension
November 17th	Macro Invertebrates
December 1st	SUNY Brockport Students - Project Updates

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

County Environmental Projects & Communication

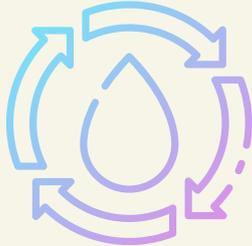
Conesus Lake Watershed Management Plan

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 cooperative watershed partners and agencies, is responsible for plan implementation. The EMC receives updates on the implementation efforts and activities and water quality issues.

County and 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 has identified that countywide communication is a way to meet this goal by connecting municipalities with resources that assist them in increasing energy efficiency, reducing energy costs, and accessing low or no-cost funding sources. In 2021, information on solar and battery energy storage (BESS) and NYSERDA Clean Energy Communities Program was distributed.

2022 PROPOSED PROGRAM EMC ACTIVITIES



2022 EMC Work Plan Priorities

Membership Recruitment

Invasive Species Environmental Education & Activities

Impacts of Energy Development on Natural Resources



Environmental Education

Invasive Species Walk at GVC Indian Fort Nature Preserve
Letchworth State Park Tours- Autism Nature Trail & Wolf Creek
Networking with state & local organizations on IS awareness



Green Infrastructure

Pollinator Garden Spring Opening



Earth Day Award

Select 2022 Award Recipient



Livingston County Community CleanUp

Promote and organize events for countywide initiative



Website

Participate in development of County Alternative Energy website



Natural Resources Inventory

Identify cultural, historical & natural resources for the NRI



Statewide Environmental Activities

Climate Action Plan Review

EMC SUPPORT ACTIVITIES



Support Watershed Education Center Presentations



Support County projects and communication

ACRONYMS

BESS - Battery Energy Storage

CLA - Conesus Lake Association

DEC - Department of Environmental Conservation

DPW - Department of Public Works

EMC - Environmental Management Council

ENB - Environmental Notice Bulletin

ESA - Entomological Society of America

GVC - Genesee Valley Conservancy

IS - Invasive Species

NRI - Natural Resources Inventory

NYSERDA - New York State Energy Research & Development Authority

SLF - Spotted Lanternfly

SWOT - Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats

WEC - Watershed Education Center

WQC - Water Quality Committee

WEBSITE RESOURCES

EMC Website

www.livingstoncounty.us/emc



EMC 30-Year History Report

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



Livingston County Community CleanUp

www.livingstoncounty.us/cleanuplivco



Watershed Education Center Programs

www.conesuslake.org/lake-community/wec



Spotted Lanternfly Invasive Species

www.fingerlakesinvasives.org/spotted_lanternfly

