

Papermill Falls



Civilian Conservation Corps Chimney



Livingston County Environmental Management Council
Annual Report 2014



Civilian Conservation Corps Bridge

Gibsonville, Letchworth State Park

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**LIVINGSTON COUNTY
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COUNCIL**

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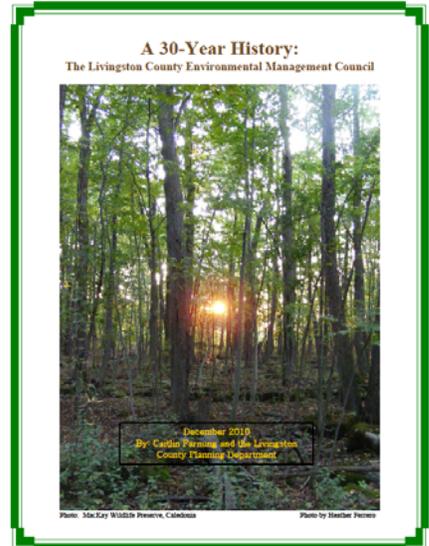
History & Mission

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 has an authorized membership of 20 members, and there were 11 members in 2014. The membership is comprised of representatives of agriculture, general citizenry, and industry-commerce. The EMC was established as a step to foster coordinated action on environmental problems 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.

Environmental Management Councils (EMCs) were established in New York State under Article 47 of the Environmental Conservation Law passed in 1970. These boards were optional and consisted of volunteers meant to advise the county governments and connect the community and the county. The Livingston County EMC is one of 25 EMCs active in New York State today.

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.

This Livingston County EMC Annual Report documents the activities of the EMC from January 1, 2014, through December 31, 2014, and provides a proposed program for 2015.



2014 Activities

Work Plan

The Livingston County EMC Work Plan reflects the mission of the EMC, identifies the activities that support the mission, and tracks the progress of those activities. The Work Plan, which has been incorporated into the Annual Report, recognizes and emphasizes the importance of education as a primary goal of the EMC and the importance of the EMC being a resource for municipal officials, environmental and governmental agencies, and the community.

Education



With a strong emphasis on water and land use education, the EMC developed a well-rounded Work Plan for 2014. The Plan focused on providing educational programs, tours and materials on environmental topics of concern or interest. The programs engaged municipal officials, community members, and interested agencies or parties from 3 counties and 16 municipalities, and reached over 63 participants in total.

Tour:
Vanished Village
of Gibsonville,
Letchworth State Park

Education (continued)



The EMC sponsored or co-sponsored the following educational workshops and tours in 2014:

- ◆ SEQR Form Training for the EMC, Geneseo, NY
- ◆ Conesus Lake Watershed Invasive Species Presentation, Geneseo, NY
- ◆ Annual Letchworth State Park Tour, Perry, NY
- ◆ Code Enforcement Officer Site Plan Review, Geneseo, NY
- ◆ Introduction to SEQR Workshop, Geneseo, NY

Membership & Meetings

The EMC has representation in three broad categories of agriculture, industry-commerce and general citizenry. The Council proudly recognizes the commitment of several long-term members, David H. Swanson (32 years), David W. Parish (32 years), Robert Donnan (28 years), Susan Walker (20 years) and William McCleary (16 years). In 2014, the EMC focused on membership recruitment, with an emphasis on the industry-commerce sector.

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

Membership List 2014

<u>All terms expire</u> December 31, 2015	<u>Original</u> <u>Appointment</u>	<u>GENERAL CITIZENS</u>	<u>Original</u> <u>Appointment</u>
<u>AGRICULTURE</u>		<u>GENERAL CITIZENS</u>	
Robert Donnan (York)	3/86	* Ray Case (Livonia), Chair	3/10
David H. Swanson (Mount Morris)	2/82	Barry Ganzhorn, Sr. (Caledonia)	9/08
Susan Walker (Springwater)	5/94	William McCleary (Livonia)	8/98
Ben Gajewski (GVC/Geneseo)	5/13	David W. Parish (Geneseo)	11/82
1 Vacancy		* Alex Pierce (Nunda), Secretary	1/13
<u>INDUSTRY-COMMERCE</u>		Wendy Stevenson (Springwater)	4/08
* John Hassett, ARKEMA, Vice Chair	2/12	4 Vacancies	
4 Vacancies			

The EMC meets on the fourth Wednesday of every other month. All meetings are open to the public.

Earth Day Award

In observance of Earth Day, the EMC began the Earth Day Award Program that provides recognition to an individual(s), organization, group, or business for outstanding achievements in preserving or improving Livingston County's environment or educating others about Livingston County's environment.

The Livingston County Environmental Management Council selected Davies Nagel as the 2014 EMC Earth Day Award recipient. The EMC recognized Mr. Nagel's more than 33 years of dedicated service to the education of youth, his passion for nature and his willingness to share his enthusiasm with the community.

The Environmental Management Council highlighted his broad and consistent efforts to protect and conserve Livingston County's natural resources, from his family farm history, to the establishment of a nature preserve on the York Central School campus, to his commitment to the Genesee Valley Greenway. The Council was impressed with his enthusiasm for environmental education and youth involvement that will have long-term benefits for Livingston County.



EMC Chairman Ray Case congratulating the 2014 Livingston County EMC Earth Day Award recipient Davies Nagel

Davies Nagel accepting the 2014 Livingston County EMC Earth Day Award from Livingston County Board of Supervisors Chairman Eric Gott



Website Content

The EMC works to enhance awareness of the EMC and promote access to local and regional environmental resources through website resources. The Livingston County EMC website (www.livingstoncounty.us) was created in March 2001 and updated in 2014. The site provides a description of the EMC, a list of current members, and information on meeting dates and times. The site also has a link to EMC Annual Reports, the EMC 30-Year History Report, the Livingston County Natural Resources Inventory, and the Earth Day Award Nomination form.

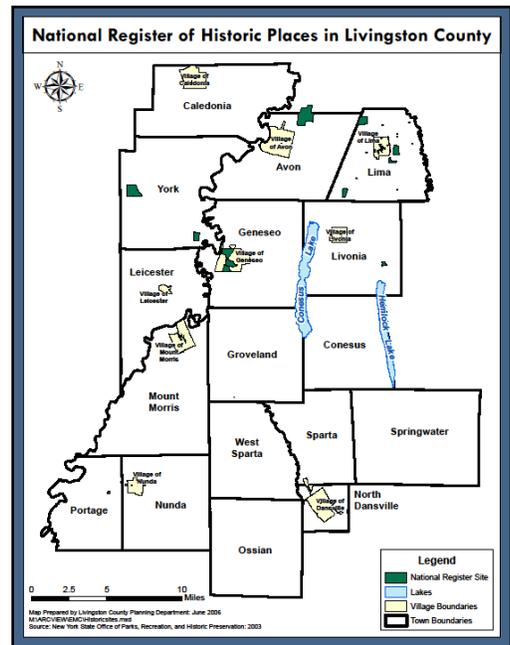
The 2014 Work Plan included the goal for promoting community awareness and education on Green Businesses located in or serving Livingston County. The EMC initiated investigation of Green Businesses and explored the opportunity for website content.

Environmental Inventory

As per the New York State Environmental Conservation Law, Section 47-0107(5-a), one of the primary goals 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 worked diligently to compile information on Livingston County's natural and historic resources, engage local governments in the identification process, and produce NRI Volume I in 2005 and Volume II in 2007. The full NRI was published and widely distributed to Towns, Villages, local libraries, and other interested parties in 2007.

The NRI is available on the Livingston County website, and it is utilized by the Livingston County Planning Board regularly. NRI comments are included in the Livingston County Planning Board staff reports, which are generated for County Planning Board zoning referrals. NRI comments provide information on the presence and location of natural and historic resources and advisory comments regarding impacts. The EMC continues to receive updates from the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation whenever a site is accepted to the State and National Registers of Historic Places. Another new resource is the Genesee-Finger Lakes Regional Inventory of Culturally Significant Areas. The EMC anticipates conducting periodic updates of the NRI.

In 2014, the EMC identified the need for an update of the Natural Resources Inventory and is in the process of creating a development schedule.



A map included in the Livingston County Natural Resources Inventory (NRI)

Regulatory Environment

The EMC assembles and reports information on the status of regulatory permitting and redevelopment programs that may have an impact on local communities. In 2014, the EMC reported regularly on NYS DEC Environmental Permits, State and Federal Proposed Regulations, and the NYS DEC Brownfield Clean-up Program.

County/Regional Projects & Communication

Conesus Lake Watershed Management Plan (CLWMP)

In 1998, the EMC recognized the need for a Conesus Lake Watershed Management Plan and expressed a willingness to participate in the planning process. Increasing development pressure, degradation of the water quality in the Lake, and more stringent Federal and State standards for public drinking water supplies made it crucial that a comprehensive watershed management approach to conserving and protecting Conesus Lake be developed. Two EMC members served on the CLWMP Policy Committee, which was the official decision-making body during the creation of the Plan. EMC participation on the CLWMP Policy Committee continued through 2003.

After the Plan was completed in 2003, the Conesus Lake Watershed Council (CLWC) was created in December 2003. The CLWC is responsible for Plan implementation and support of the Conesus Lake Watershed Inspection Program. The EMC receives updates on the implementation efforts and activities and water quality issues at each bi-monthly meeting.

Communication with the Board of Supervisors

A goal for 2014 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. In April 2014, EMC Chairman Ray Case and Vice Chairman John Hassett presented to the Livingston County Public Services Committee, providing an overview of the EMC.

County and Regional Projects

One of the primary goals of the EMC is to act as a resource for Livingston County. The EMC works to provide 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.

Throughout 2014, the EMC actively participated in several regional projects providing representation on or contributions to the following committees: Livingston County Transportation Advisory Committee Environmental Work Group, Genesee Transportation Council Regional Trails Initiative Project, and the Finger Lakes Regional Rights-of-Way Project.

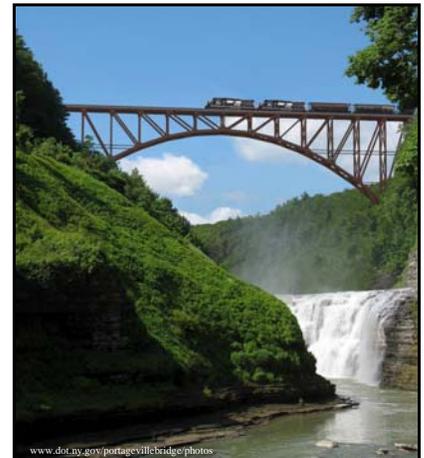
Participation in Other Activities

The EMC participates on committees and in meetings and events as needed. EMC members report back to the committee as a whole on their findings and/or their participation.

Livingston County EMC was represented at the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Portageville Bridge DEIS Public Hearing and public comments were submitted.

In 2014, EMC maintained ongoing communication with neighboring Monroe and Steuben County EMCs.

View of proposed
Portageville Bridge,
Letchworth State
Park, NY



2015 Proposed Program & Activities

Work Plan

The 2015 EMC Work Plan identifies the mission of the EMC and the proposed 2015 activities that support the mission, and will be used to track the progress of those activities. The completed Work Plan will be incorporated into the EMC Annual Report. The EMC has identified the following priorities for 2015: Sustainability, Green Businesses, Earth Day Award, Membership recruitment and the Natural Resources Inventory.

Education

The EMC has developed a plan for 2015 with an emphasis on sustainability and land use planning education. The anticipated programs will engage municipal officials, community members, and interested agencies or parties. Highlights from the Work Plan follow; see the attached Work Plan for full details:

- ◆ Co-sponsor a Sustainability presentation/tour
- ◆ Co-sponsor a SEQR Basics Workshop
- ◆ Attend the Annual Letchworth State Park tour
- ◆ Participate in the Genesee Transportation Council Regional Trails Initiative Project
- ◆ Participate in the Livingston County Transportation Connectivity Plan Implementation
- ◆ Participate in the EPA Brownfield Assessment Coalition Proposed Project

The EMC's promotional efforts will include communications to the Board of Supervisors and municipal officials; and press releases and submissions to newspapers, community calendars and web sites.

Membership

The EMC will continue ongoing membership recruitment from all three broad categories of agriculture, industry-commerce, and general citizenry. For 2015, the EMC has developed a plan for recruiting new members, especially from the industry-commerce sector and local colleges. Parties interested in joining the EMC can call the Planning Department at (585) 243-7550 for more details.

Earth Day Award

In support of the global observance of Earth Day and the concern for protecting and preserving the environment, the EMC will continue its award program where an individual(s), organization, group, or business is recognized for their positive contribution to the natural environment in Livingston County.

The EMC will publicize its award program through press releases, contact with Earth Science teachers and other school officials in the County, Town Supervisors and Village Mayors, Chamber of Commerce, SUNY Geneseo, NYSDEC; and in local advertisements. Nominations may be presented by both the public and private sector. Nominees are not required to reside in the County, but the actions and achievements on which the nomination is based must have occurred partially or wholly in Livingston County. Members of the Livingston County EMC are not be eligible to receive the award.

The nominations deadline is February 25, 2015. Nominations may be for outstanding technical contributions to the environment or for contributions of time and energy toward a positive environmental goal or objective. Such activities may have occurred during the previous year or may be recognition of efforts over many years' time. The accomplishment must be based on work above and beyond what would be considered as regular duties.

The 2015 recipient of the Earth Day Award will be selected at the regularly scheduled March meeting of the EMC.

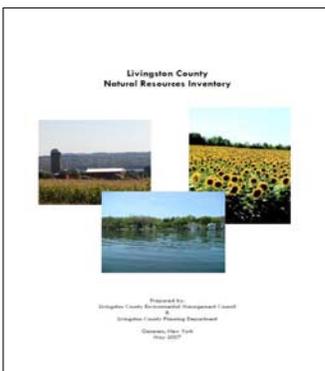


Website Content

The EMC will continue to utilize and enhance web resources to promote the awareness of the EMC and encourage access to local and regional environmental resources. The Livingston County EMC website will be updated in February to include 2015 membership information and links to the 2014 Annual Report and the 2015 Earth Day Award Nomination form. The EMC will participate in updates to the Livingston County website anticipated for 2015.

In addition, the EMC will review existing municipal and environmental websites to explore additional educational opportunities, links, and resources that may be used to enhance Livingston County web resources.

Environmental Inventory



The EMC will continue to act as a resource for Livingston County environmental information and data, with a goal in 2015 to develop a schedule for the Livingston County Natural Resources Inventory (NRI) update. This will include the assess-

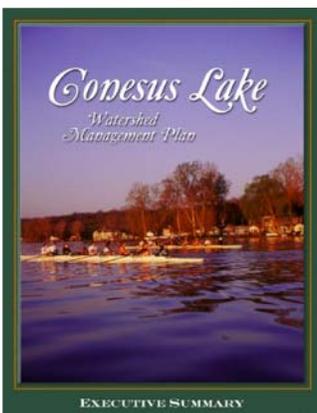
ment of the existing NRI and the identification of resources that need updating.

Regulatory Environment

The EMC will continue reporting information on the status of regulatory permitting and redevelopment programs with potential local impact, including the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation Environmental Permits and Brownfield Clean Up Programs. Pending funding, the Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council will be conducting a brownfield inventory, assessment, and implementation plan within the Genesee/Finger Lakes Region as part of the EPA Brownfield Assessment Coalition Project. The EMC will participate by reviewing Livingston County's compiled inventory of brownfields and providing comments on the assessment phase and implementation plan.

County Projects & Communication

Conesus Lake Watershed Management



Planning Department staff will continue to update the EMC on the progress of Conesus Lake Watershed Management Plan recommendation implementation.

Communication with the Board of Supervisors

The EMC will continue its normal activities and assist the Board of Supervisors. The Planning Department will communicate the activities of the EMC to the Board of Supervisors Public Services Committee. The EMC will present the 2014 Annual Report to the Public Services Committee in 2015. The EMC will also invite members of the Public Services Committee, or a representative from the Committee, to attend EMC meetings in 2015.

Participation in Other Activities

EMC members will continue to participate on committees and in meetings and events as needed, and provide reports to the EMC as a whole on their participation or findings.

Environmental Management Council Work Plan: 2015

Mission Statement:

The charge of the Livingston County Environmental Management Council 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.

2015 Activities:

#	Description	Work Tasks	Lead/responsibility	Anticipated Completion (Qtrs)
	Education			
A-1	Provide educational programs or materials on environmental topics of concern or interest. Target audiences include municipal officials, environmental or governmental agencies and community at large. Advertise by flyer, community calendars, Livingston County website, newspapers, Pioneer Library system, and other media outlets as identified.	Sustainability Talk & Tour. Potential partners: SUNY Geneseo, President's Commission on Environmental Sustainability; Greater Rochester Enterprise; GFL (Regional Sustainability Plan); DEC Climate Smart Communities & Livingston County Planning Department. Consider community members living sustainably as speakers.	Mary Underhill, PD	Q1
A-2		Provide educational materials and resources related to the Emerald Ash Borer to municipalities and community members. Include notifications related to infestations and redistribution of Livingston County Ash Tree Inventories and supporting documents.	Mary Underhill, PD	Q1
A-3		USACE Mt Morris Dam Discovery Series, disseminate information, casual promotion.	David W. Parish, others	Q1
A-4		Create green business directory. Identify green products or services offered, or green practices in place for the businesses. Promotion of directory/businesses.	Ray Case, Mary Underhill PD	Q1 - Q2
A-5		Develop promotional materials for workshops, presentations, etc. May include press releases, educational pieces, flyers, website information.	All members	Q1 - Q4
A-6		Distribute promotional materials for workshops and presentations to: (may include) Supervisors; Mayors; T/V Clerks; Monroe & Steuben County EMC; Monroe, Genesee, Ontario, Wyoming, Steuben, Allegany County Planning Departments; Pioneer Library System via Pat Galbraith at Bell Memorial; Media- Livingston County News, Genesee Sun, Genesee Country Express, Dansville online; County Planning Board, past training participants; County & municipal historians; Code Enforcement Officers; Highway Superintendent, Public Works.	All members	Q1 - Q4
A-7		Provide access to community-based educational materials, resources, training on the protection and stewardship of natural resources.	Mary Underhill, all members	Q1 - Q4
A-8		Investigate DEC Adopt-a-Watershed program and determine feasibility for local community involvement.	Mary Underhill, PD	Q2
A-9		Obtain & disseminate energy alternatives information from NYSEERDA/CEI.	Mary Underhill, PD	Q3
A-10		Annual Letchworth State Park tour, attend and promote.	Mary Underhill, PD	Q3 - July
	Membership			
B-1	Ongoing membership recruitment with representation in three broad categories of agriculture, industry and general citizenry.	Work on activities that recruit new members, especially business members.	All members	Q1 - Q4
B-2	Ongoing membership recruitment of students with representation from SUNY or other college/university.	Work on activities that recruit new members, including students.	All members	Q1 - Q4

#	Description	Work Tasks	Lead/responsibility	Anticipated Completion (Qtrs)
	Earth Day Award			
C-1	Provide recognition to others for outstanding achievements in preserving or improving Livingston County's environment or educating others about Livingston County's environment.	Assemble Earth Day Award nominating subcommittee, set date and meeting location, review nomination materials and select nominee.	All members	Q1 - Mar
	Website Content			
D-1	Continue to enhance awareness of the EMC, and promote access to local and regional environmental resources.	Update information on EMC webpage as needed.	open	Q1 - Q4
	Environmental Inventory			
E-1	Prepare and disseminate Livingston County environmental information and data. To be used as a local planning and project review tool, for county and regional project assessment, and to increase community awareness of natural resources.	Work on update to the Livingston County Natural Resources Inventory (NRI). Identify new resources & those needing updates, such as Genesee Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council Culturally Significant Areas, or other sensitive areas.	Heather Ferrero, Mary Underhill, PD	Q1 - Q2
	Regulatory Environment			
F-1	Assemble and report information on the status of regulatory permitting and redevelopment programs that may have an impact on local communities.	Report on NYSDEC Environmental Permits.	Barry Ganzhorn	Q1 - Q4
F-2		Report on State and Federal Proposed Regulations.	Mary Underhill, PD	Q1 - Q4
F-3		Report on U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Brownfield Clean-up program.	Heather Ferrero, Mary Underhill, PD	Q1 - Q4
	County/Regional Projects & Communication			
G-1		Prepare EMC Annual Report, 2014, review and approve. Disseminate to Supervisors; Mayors; Clerks; Monroe & Steuben Co EMC; Pioneer Library via Pat Galbraith at Bell Memorial Library; Letchworth State Park, Douglas Bassett; 2014 Earth Day Award Recipient.	All members	Q1 - Jan
G-2		Participate in Livingston County Transportation Advisory Committee Environmental Work Group.	Wendy Stevenson	Q1 - Q4
G-3		Participate in the Genesee Transportation Council Regional Trails Initiative Project.	Mary Underhill, PD	Q1 - Q4
G-4		Participate in the Finger Lakes Regional Rights-of-Way project.	Mary Underhill, PD	Q1 - Q4
G-5		Livingston County Facilities improvements - provide input on County energy projects as needed.	Angela Ellis, PD	Q1 - Q4
G-6		Update on the Conesus Lake Watershed Management Plan (CLWMP) and water quality issues.	Heather Ferrero, PD	Q1 - Q4
G-7		EMC will continue dialogue with 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 will communicate bi-monthly activities of the EMC to the Board of Supervisors & Public Services Committee.	Angela Ellis, PD	Q1 - Q4
	Participation in Other Activities			
H-1	Participation on committees, and in meetings and events, as needed. EMC members will report back to the EMC on their findings/participation.	Continue participation in public hearings and other meetings regarding the Portageville Bridge project.	David Parish	Q1 - Q4
H-2		Participation in Monroe County EMC meetings and programs, as interested. Report back to the EMC on their findings/ participation. Livingston County EMC members will receive Monroe County EMC agenda/meeting notices/materials.	All members	Q1 - Q4