

Letchworth State Park, Eastern Redcedar above the  
Highbanks Canyon, near Conlon Point

**Livingston County  
Environmental Management Council  
Annual Report 2013**

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**LIVINGSTON COUNTY  
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COUNCIL**

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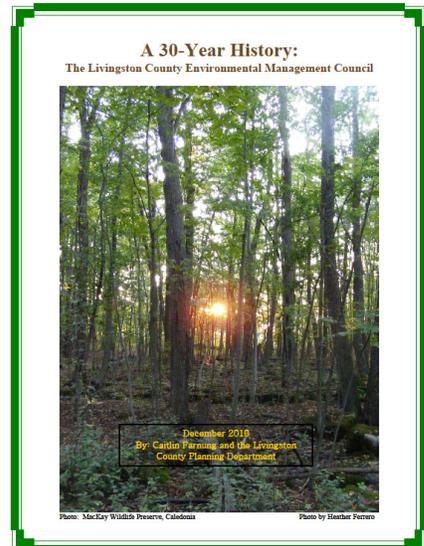
# History & Mission

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 2013. 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, 2013, through December 31, 2013, and provides a proposed program for 2014.



## 2013 Activities

### Year of Energy & Work Plan

The Livingston County EMC Year of Energy was introduced in 2013 - an initiative that included multiple activities that supported the mission of the EMC and a Work Plan that identified and tracked 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 green energy education, the EMC developed an ambitious Work Plan for 2013. 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 29 municipalities, and reached over 116 participants in total.

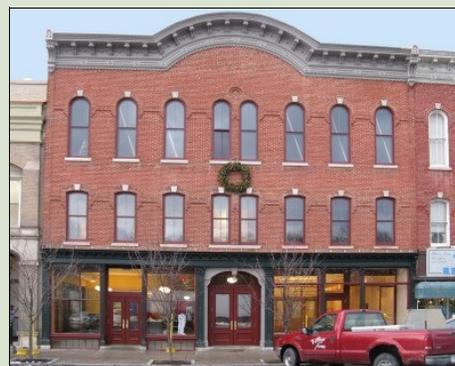
**Tour:**  
Mount Morris Gorge,  
Letchworth State Park

## Education (continued)

**Green Infrastructure, Green Grants  
Training Workshop, Long Point Park, NY**



**Rain Garden installed,  
Long Point Park, Geneseo**



**Energy Efficiency in Older Buildings,  
Avon Opera Block Building,**

As part of the Year of Energy, the EMC sponsored or co-sponsored the following educational workshops and tours in 2013:

- ◆ Green in Livingston County Presentation, Geneseo, NY
- ◆ Green Infrastructure, Green Grants Training Workshop, Long Point Park, Geneseo, NY
- ◆ Annual Letchworth State Park Tour, Leicester, NY
- ◆ Energy Efficiency in Older Buildings Training Workshop, Avon, NY
- ◆ Bicycle & Pedestrian Supportive Code Language Training Workshop, Geneseo, NY

## Membership & Meetings

The EMC has representation in three broad categories of agriculture, industry-commerce and general citizenry. Two members joined the EMC in 2013: Ben Gajewski from the Genesee Valley Conservancy, representing agriculture, and Alex Pierce from Nunda, representing general citizenry. The Council proudly recognizes the commitment of several long-term members, David H. Swanson (31 years), David W. Parish (31 years), Robert Donnan (27 years), Susan Walker (19 years) and William McCleary (15 years). Barbara Davis, after 34 years of dedicated service, retired from the EMC in 2013. Ms. Davis also has the distinction of being EMC's last founding member to serve on the Committee.

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

### Membership List 2013

All terms expire  
December 31, 2013

Original  
Appointment

Original  
Appointment

**AGRICULTURE**

Robert Donnan (York)	3/86
David H. Swanson (Mount Morris)	2/82
* Susan Walker (Springwater), Secretary	5/94
Ben Gajewski (GVC/Geneseo)	5/13
1 Vacancy	

**INDUSTRY-COMMERCE**

* John Hassett, ARKEMA, Vice Chair	2/12
4 Vacancies	

**GENERAL CITIZENS**

* Ray Case (Livonia), Chair	3/10
Barry Ganzhorn, Sr. (Caledonia)	9/08
William McCleary (Livonia)	8/98
David W. Parish (Geneseo)	11/82
Alex Pierce (Nunda)	1/13
Wendy Stevenson (Springwater)	4/08
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 Environmental Management Council selected SUNY Geneseo as the 2013 EMC Earth Day Award recipient. The EMC recognized that SUNY Geneseo, under the leadership of college president Dr. Christopher Dahl, has demonstrated a long-term commitment to environmental conservation and taken on a leadership role in sustainability in Livingston County and beyond.



**SUNY Geneseo President Dahl, the President's Commission on Sustainability, and SUNY Geneseo staff accepting the 2013 Livingston County EMC Earth Day Award**

**Pictured from left to right: James Milroy, Laura Canfield, Darlene Necaster, President Christopher Dahl, Nick Varrone, Liz Dierenfield, Eve Anderson, Katie Tierney, and George Stooks**

The EMC was impressed with the College's efforts that include the President's Commission on Sustainability, the Climate Action Plan, the Carbon Action Plan, and a host of supporting strategies to help reduce the College's environmental impact.

The Council highlighted the campus-wide focus that engages faculty, students, and staff; the College's momentum that has produced tangible and quantifiable results; and a model of sustainability and conservation that is worthy to present to



**SUNY Geneseo President Christopher Dahl accepting the Earth Day Award from EMC Chairman Ray Case**

**James Merrick, Chairman of the Livingston County Board of Supervisors, offering congratulations to President Dahl**

*Earth Day Award photos courtesy of SUNY Geneseo*

## 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](http://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 2014 Earth Day Award Nomination form.

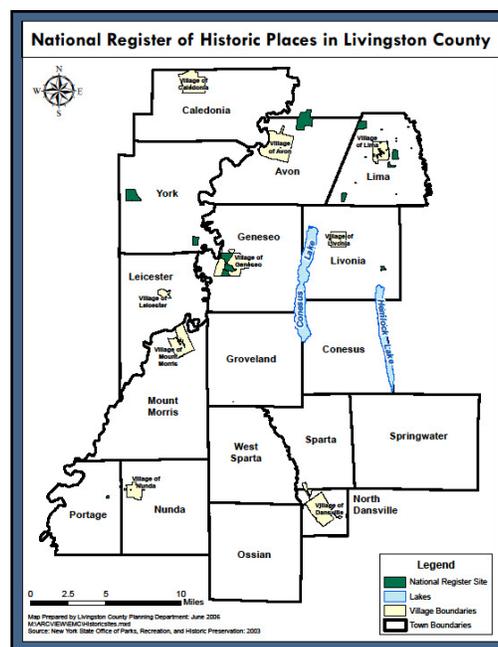


In 2012, the County rolled out another environmentally focused website, Renew Livingston County ([www.renewlivingstoncounty.org](http://www.renewlivingstoncounty.org)). Renew Livingston County is a one-stop web resource that helps local residents, businesses, and organizations find energy saving incentives and assistance programs. These programs offer funds to help with energy saving upgrades and rebates to encourage the purchase of energy efficient products. Renew Livingston County has interactive tools and reference materials on energy conservation topics, and it showcases green projects and businesses in Livingston County. This site has a link to the Livingston County EMC website.

## 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.



*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 2013, the EMC reported regularly on NYS DEC Environmental Permits 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 2013 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.

### Countywide Communication

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. In 2013, the EMC promoted two energy efficiency rebate programs to the local governments. EMC communication increased the countywide level of participation in those programs, and Livingston County municipalities benefited.

## 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 Project Scoping Information Meeting.

In 2013, EMC maintained ongoing communication with neighboring Monroe and Steuben County EMCs.

**View of existing  
Portageville Bridge,  
Letchworth State  
Park, NY**

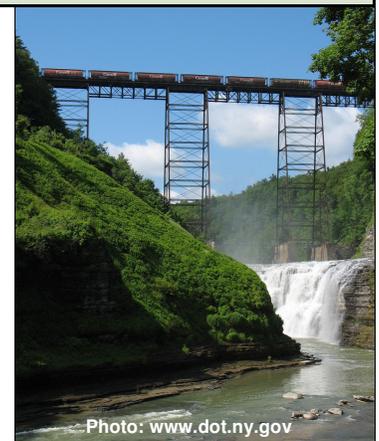


Photo: [www.dot.ny.gov](http://www.dot.ny.gov)

# 2014 Proposed Program & Activities

## Work Plan

The 2014 EMC Work Plan identifies the mission of the EMC and the proposed 2014 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.

## Education

The EMC has developed a plan for 2014 with an emphasis on water and land use 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:

- ◆ Participate in the Genesee Transportation Council Regional Trails Initiative Project
- ◆ Participate in the Livingston County Transportation Connectivity Plan Implementation
- ◆ Participate in the Genesee River Basin Project
- ◆ Participate in the EPA Brownfield Assessment Coalition Proposed Project
- ◆ Sponsor a presentation, "Conesus Lake Watershed Invasives Species Prevention & Response Plan" in January
- ◆ Co-sponsor a Stormwater Management & Erosion Control Workshop in April/May
- ◆ Co-sponsor a Sustainability presentation/tour in May
- ◆ Attend the Annual Letchworth State Park tour in July

## Membership

The EMC will continue ongoing membership recruitment from all three broad categories of agriculture, industry-commerce, and general citizenry. For 2014, the EMC will develop a plan for recruiting new members, especially from the industry-commerce sector. 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 26, 2014. 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 2014 recipient of the Earth Day Award will be selected at the regularly scheduled March meeting of the EMC.**

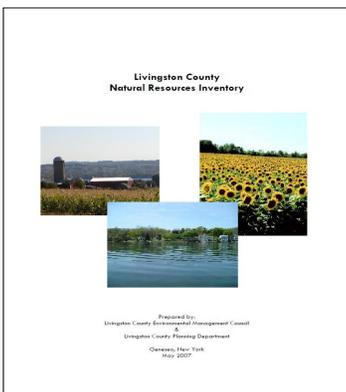


## Website Content

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 2014 membership information and links to the 2013 Annual Report and the 2014 Earth Day Award Nomination form. The EMC will participate in updates to the Livingston County website anticipated for 2014.

In addition, the EMC will review existing environmental websites, such as GreenMonroe, RenewOnandaga, RenewOswego, and RenewPenfield, 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 2014 to develop a schedule for the Livingston County Natural Resources Inventory (NRI) update. This will include the assessment

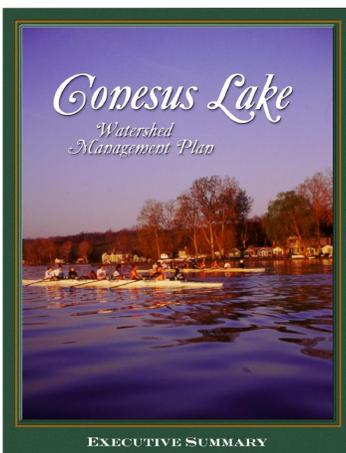
of the existing NRI and the identification of resources that need updating.

### 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 2013 Annual Report to the Public Services Committee in 2014. The EMC will also invite members of the Public Services Committee, or a representative from the Committee, to attend EMC meetings in 2014.

## 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: 2014

## 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.

## 2014 Activities:

#	Description	Work Tasks	Lead/ responsibility	Anticipated Completion (Qtrs)
<b>Education</b>				
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, Livingston County Tourism Trumba calendar, Chamber of Commerce community calendar; Genesee Health Partnership, Livingston County website, newspapers, Pioneer Library system, and other media outlets as identified.	Develop promotional materials for workshops, presentations, etc. May include press releases, educational pieces, flyers, website information.	All members	Q1 - Q4
A-2		Distribute promotional materials for workshops and presentations to: (may include) Supervisors; Mayors; T/V Clerks; Monroe, Steuben Co EMC; Monroe, Genesee, Ontario, Wyoming, Steuben, Allegany Co 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; regular mail to Portage Supervisor & Ossian, Portage & Sparta Town Clerks; County & municipal historians; Code Enforcement Officers; Highway Superintendent, Public Works.	All members	Q1 - Q4
A-3		Disseminate energy alternatives information from NYSERDA/(CEI-replacement). Contact Haley Rotter for new contact person and obtain materials.	Mary Underhill, PD	Q2 - Q4
A-4		USACE Mt Morris Dam Discovery Series, disseminate information, casual promotion.	David W. Parish, others	Q1 - Q4
A-5		"Conesus Lake Watershed Invasive Species Prevention & Response Plan" presentation, Gene Bolster, Vice President Conesus Lake Association & Miranda Reid, Conesus Lake Watershed Manager, January 22, 2014.	Mary Underhill, PD/ Ray Case	Q1- Jan
A-6		Stormwater Management & Erosion Control Workshop, Tentative April/May.	Heather Ferrero, Mary Underhill, PD	Q2, April/May
A-7		Sustainability Talk/Tour. Potential partners: SUNY Geneseo, President's Commission on Environmental Sustainability; Greater Rochester Enterprise & Livingston County Planning Department. Tentative September.	Mary Underhill, PD	Q3- Sept
A-8		Annual Letchworth State Park tour, attend and promote.	Mary Underhill, PD	Q3 - July
A-9		Identify businesses that sell green products, offer green services or have green practices in place.	Ray Case, Mary Underhill PD	Q3- Q4
<b>Membership</b>				
B-1	Ongoing membership recruitment with representation in three broad categories of agriculture, industry and general citizenry.	Develop a plan for recruiting new members, especially business members.	All members	Q1 - Q4
<b>EarthDay Award</b>				
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

#	Description	Work Tasks	Lead/ responsibility	Anticipated Completion (Qtrs)
	<b>Website Content</b>			
D-1	Continue to enhance awareness of the EMC, and promote access to local and regional environmental resources.	Review GreenMonroe.org and RenewLivingston.org. Discuss option to use RenewLivingston for EMC website information.	open	Q1
D-2		Participate in the County's website makeover. Specific actions to be determined.	open	Q1-Q2
	<b>Environmental Inventory</b>			
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.	Develop schedule for Livingston County Natural Resources Inventory (NRI) update. Develop schedule for update. 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	Q4
	<b>Regulatory Environment</b>			
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. GFLRPC application to EPA for community inventory on Brownfields (9 counties)	Heather Ferrero, Mary Underhill, PD	Q1 - Q4
F-4		SEQR Form Training Workshop, held at March EMC meeting	Heather Ferrero, PD	Q1 - Mar
	<b>County/Regional Projects &amp; Communication</b>			
G-1		Prepare EMC Annual Report, 2013, review and approve. Disseminate to Supervisors, Mayors, Monroe & Steuben Co EMC, Pioneer Library via Pat Galbraith at Bell Memorial Library.	All members	Q1 - Jan
		Participate in Livingston County Transportation Advisory Committee Environmental Work Group	Open	Q1 - Q4
G-2		Participate in the Genesee Transportation Council Regional Trails Initiative Project	Mary Underhill, PD	Q1 - Q4
G-3		Livingston County Facilities improvements, provide input on County projects as needed.	Angela Ellis, PD	Q1 - Q4
G-4		Update on the Conesus Lake Watershed Management Plan (CLWMP) and water quality issues.	Heather Ferrero, PD	Q1 - Q4
G-5		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
	<b>Participation in Other Activities</b>			
H-1	Participation on committees, and in meetings and events, as needed. EMC members will report back to the EMC on their findings/participation.	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/mtg notices/materials.	All members	Q1 - Q4