



**Livingston County Environmental Management Council  
Annual Report 2018**

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**LIVINGSTON COUNTY  
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COUNCIL**

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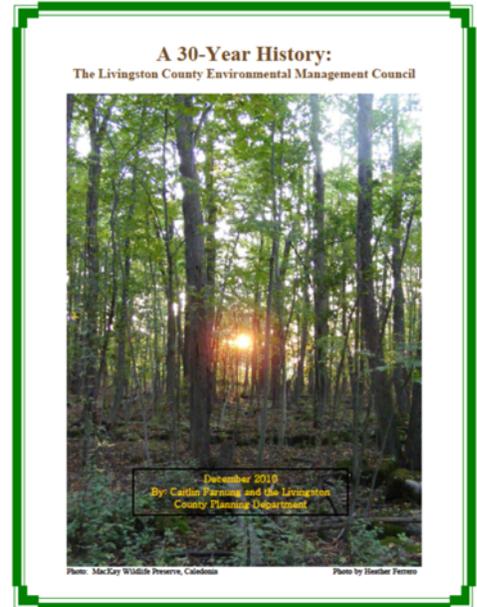
# History & Mission

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 13 members in 2018. 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 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.

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, 2018, through December 31, 2018, and provides a proposed program for 2019.



## 2018 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 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 alternative energy, invasive species education and membership recruitment, the EMC developed a well-rounded Work Plan for 2018. The Plan focused on providing educational programs, tours and materials on environmental topics of concern or interest. The EMC sponsored/co-sponsored 20 programs that engaged municipal officials, community members, and interested agencies, reaching over 850 participants in total.

EMC Tour: Letchworth State Park



# Watershed Education Center presentations, 2018

Co-sponsored by the Livingston County Environmental Management Council

ANOTHER FREE WATERSHED EDUCATION CENTER PRESENTATION AT VITALE PARK



**This high school's watershed studies are producing first-class results.**

Come hear Livonia High School's ESF Global Environment class present their research of a wetlands area in the Wilkins Creek subwatershed. This creek has been cited as a target site to create a "green" infrastructure to slow stormwater runoff and improve Conesus Lake's water quality. The students will also share what they've learned about the forest ecosystem surrounding these wetlands plus a fascinating corn study. SUNY Brockport's limnology class will also be back with several poster presentations. Call, text, or email us to reserve a seat.

**Thursday, Dec. 6th at 6:30 PM  
at the Watershed Education Center**



To reserve a seat, send an email to [info@conesuslake.org](mailto:info@conesuslake.org) or call (585) 721-6170.



The official opening of the Town of Livonia's Watershed Education Center (WEC) was celebrated in early 2018. Located at Vitale Park in the Town of Livonia, it is the first of its kind in Western New York. The Watershed Education Center 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.

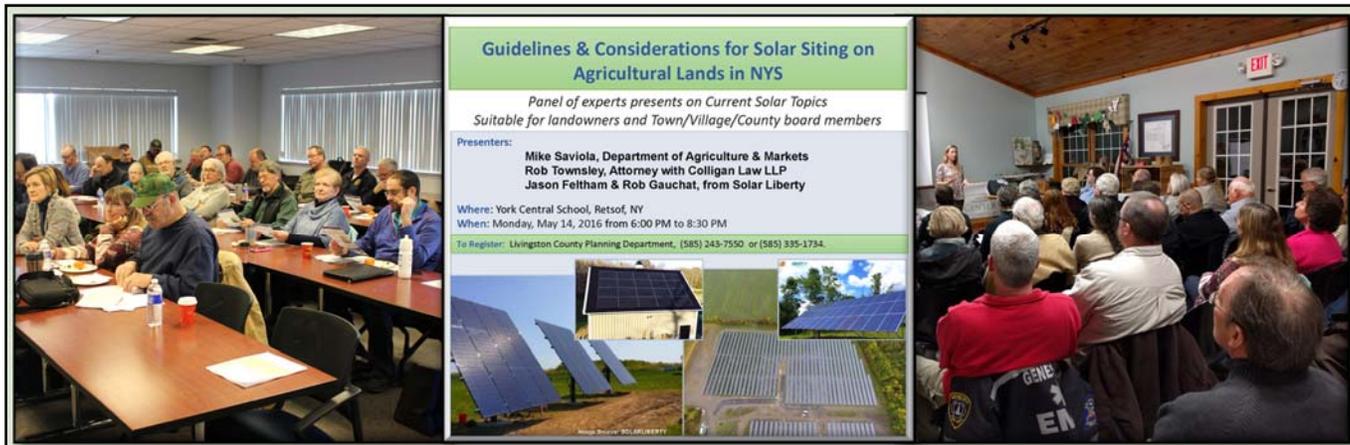
## Watershed Education Center Presentation Series

- ◆ What is a Watershed?
- ◆ Native & Non-Native Terrestrial Invaders
- ◆ Aquatic Invaders & iMap Training
- ◆ Understanding the Flood Insurance Program
- ◆ Sediment & Erosion Control
- ◆ History of Conesus Lake
- ◆ CSLAP Program Conesus Lake Results

- ◆ Conesus Lake HABs Action Plan
- ◆ Watershed Management Plan
- ◆ Art & Science of Waterfowl Management
- ◆ Student Water Quality Testing Results, SUNY Brockport
- ◆ Student Water Quality Testing Results, SUNY Brockport & Livonia High School



## Education (continued)



In addition to the Watershed Education Center programming, the EMC sponsored or co-sponsored the following educational & training workshops and tours in 2018:

- ◆ Stormwater Management Workshop: Erosion & Sediment Control in the Development Review Process, Groveland, NY
- ◆ NYSERDA Solar Technical Assistance & Resources for Municipalities, York, NY
- ◆ Guidelines & Considerations for Solar Siting on Ag Lands, York, NY
- ◆ Annual Letchworth State Park Tour, Parade Grounds, Castile, NY
- ◆ Town of Caledonia Solar Law Training, Caledonia, 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 (36 years), David W. Parish (36 years), Robert Donnan (32 years), Susan Walker (24 years) and William McCleary (20 years).

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

### Membership List 2018

	<u>Original Appointment</u>		<u>Original Appointment</u>
<b><u>AGRICULTURE</u></b>		<b><u>GENERAL CITIZENS</u></b>	
Robert Donnan (York)	3/86	Ray Case (Livonia)	2/10
David H. Swanson (Mount Morris)	2/82	Dan DeZarn (SUNY Geneseo)	5/15
Susan Walker (Springwater)	5/94	Barry Ganzhorn, Sr. (Caledonia)	9/08
2 Vacancies		Dana Henry (Ossian)	6/18
		William McCleary (Livonia), <i>Vice Chair</i>	8/98
<b><u>INDUSTRY-COMMERCE</u></b>		Darlene Necaster (SUNY Geneseo)	5/15
5 Vacancies		David W. Parish (Geneseo)	11/82
		Alex Pierce (Nunda), <i>Chair</i>	1/13
		Wendy Stevenson (Springwater)	4/08
		Carolyn Tinney, <i>Secretary</i>	7/15
<p>The EMC meets on the fourth Wednesday of every other month. All meetings are open to the public.</p>			

## Earth Day Award

In observance of Earth Day, the Environmental Management Council 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 the County's environment. The EMC selected Jack Baldwin as the 2018 EMC Earth Day Award recipient. The Livingston County EMC recognized Mr. Baldwin for more than 40 years of dedicated service to the community, from school educator to watershed steward to lake association leader.

Mr. Baldwin was and is a collaborative member in the creation and successful implementation of the Conesus Lake Watershed Management Plan, a plan that guides the implementation of water quality improvement projects throughout the Conesus Lake Watershed. He has over 35 years of active involvement in the Conesus Lake Association, serving on several committees and holding key positions. On behalf of the Town of Conesus, Mr. Baldwin also served on the Town's Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee, the Town's Zoning Update Committee, and on the Town Planning Board.

The EMC highlighted Mr. Baldwin's skill as a talented and approachable educator, willing to share his incredible knowledge. His dedication to the science and environmental education of others is commendable.



Current EMC Chairman Alex Pierce (right) congratulating Jack Baldwin, as the Livingston County EMC 2018 Earth Day Award recipient

Livingston County EMC 2018 Earth Day Award accepted by Jack Baldwin, Conesus Lake Association, from Livingston County Board of Supervisors Chairman David LeFeber



Livingston County EMC 2018 Earth Day Award recipient Jack Baldwin is joined by (from the left) current EMC members: Ray Case, Alex Pierce and Barry Ganzhorn



## 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 was first created in March 2001 ([www.livingstoncounty.us/emc](http://www.livingstoncounty.us/emc)). 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, the Earth Day Award Program and EMC sponsored events.

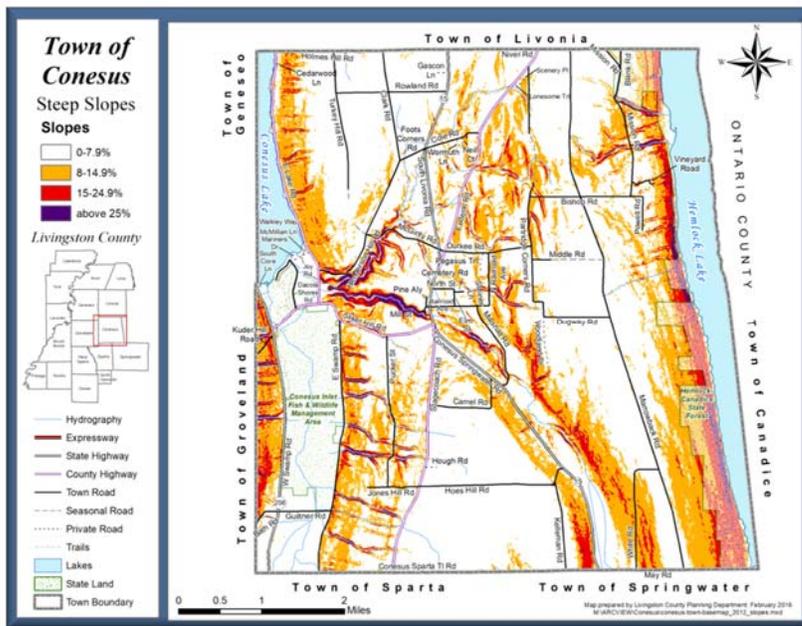
## Environmental Inventory

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 2018, the EMC identified the need for an update of the Natural Resources Inventory. As part of the update, Town and County Steep Slopes maps were created.

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 2018, the EMC reported regularly on NYS DEC Environmental Permits, State and Federal Proposed Regulations, and the NYS DEC Brownfield Clean-up Program, as information became available. EMC members attended the public meeting for the American Rock Salt Expansion Proposal.

## 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 2018 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 2018, EMC Chairman Alex Pierce 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 2018, the EMC actively participated in several regional projects providing representation on or contributions to committees, projects or programs:

- ◆ Served on the Livingston County Transportation Advisory Committee Environmental Work Group.
- ◆ Acted as a regional source for solar energy information, providing resources and materials to many Livingston County municipalities and landowners.
- ◆ In response to the County Administrator's interest in Livingston County facilities improvements and clean energy actions, the EMC investigated high impact actions and programs, such as the Clean Energy Communities Program.

## 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. In 2018, the EMC maintained ongoing communication with neighboring Monroe and Steuben County EMCs.

# First Annual Livingston County Community Clean-Up Event

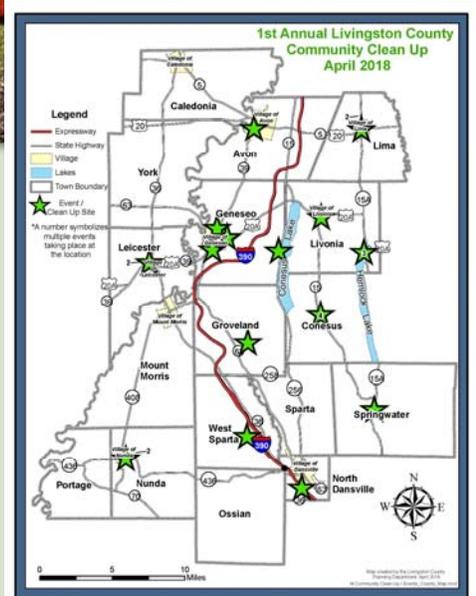
The EMC supported the first Annual Livingston County Community Clean-Up Event in 2018. As part of this countywide initiative, citizens, groups, organizations, and municipalities rallied together to clean up roadsides, parks and cemeteries in celebration of Earth Day. Local organizers worked with their communities to coordinate their events. The County provided online event registration and social media promotion that worked to promote the event and increase volunteer participation.



In total, 23 Clean Up events in 13 municipalities took place with the majority falling on the Earth Day weekend.

Over 175 bags of leaves, debris, and garbage were collected by over 150 community volunteers. Five parks, two cemeteries, and over three and a half miles of roadside were positively impacted.

For details on the Community Clean Up, go to:  
<http://www.livingstoncounty.us/cleanuplivco>



# 2019 Proposed Program & Activities

## Work Plan

The 2019 EMC Work Plan identifies the mission of the EMC and the proposed 2019 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 2019: training and education with a special focus on invasive species, Earth Day Award, membership recruitment, and the promotion of alternative/clean energy strategies and development.

## Education

The Livingston County community has embraced the Town of Livonia's Watershed Education Center (WEC) and is eagerly anticipating another full year of programming. The new Education Center hosts a monthly speaker series on watershed and environmental topics in a premiere setting in Vitale Park along the shores of Conesus Lake.

### Watershed Education Center Series

- ◆ History of Ice Harvesting on Conesus Lake
- ◆ Spotted Lanternfly / Giant Hogweed
- ◆ Weather Station Data
- ◆ Stormwater Toolkit & Erosion Control
- ◆ 4 Hour Erosion Control Workshop
- ◆ Fisheries - DEC electro-fishing results
- ◆ Rain Gardens & Green Infrastructure
- ◆ HABs Initiative - Conesus Lake and other lakes
- ◆ Native American History of Conesus Lake
- ◆ Hogweed / Wild Parsnip Workshop
- ◆ SUNY Brockport / Livonia / SUNY Geneseo
- ◆ Geneseo & Livonia High School

### Additional Program sponsored by the EMC

- ◆ Annual Letchworth State Park tour

For details on the Town of Livonia's Watershed Education Center Programs, go to:

[www.conesuslake.org](http://www.conesuslake.org)

Click on Lake Community  
Click on Watershed Education Center

## 2nd Annual Livingston County Community Clean Up Event



The EMC will be supporting the Second Annual Livingston County Community Clean Up Event, scheduled for Earth Day weekend, April 27- 28, 2019. All community groups, local organizations, and individuals are welcome to join as we work together to clean up our communities.

Opportunities to organize an event or join one of many pre-scheduled events are available. To register a clean up event or see where you can volunteer, visit:

[www.livingstoncounty.us/cleanuplivco](http://www.livingstoncounty.us/cleanuplivco)



## Membership

The EMC will continue ongoing membership recruitment from all three broad categories of agriculture, industry-commerce, and general citizenry. For 2019, the EMC has developed 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 or (585) 335-1734 for more details.

## 2019 Meeting Schedule

January 23, 2019

September 25, 2019

March 27, 2019

November 20, 2019

May 22, 2019

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

July 24, 2019  
(Letchworth State Park Tour)

## 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 school officials in the County, Town Supervisors and Village Mayors, Livingston County Chamber of Commerce, SUNY Geneseo, NYSDEC, in local advertisements and through EMC members. 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.

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 annual Earth Day Award is selected at the regularly scheduled March meeting of the EMC.**

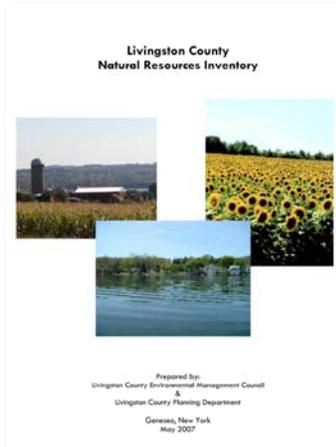


## Website Content

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 2019 to include membership information, links to the 2018 Annual Report, and the 2019 Earth Day Award Program and Nomination form. For EMC educational programs, postings of program flyers, location maps and presentation materials will be added to the EMC Events section of the website, when available.

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 2018 to continue the Livingston County Natural Resources Inventory (NRI) update.

The update will include the assessment of the existing NRI and the identification of new resources and those that need updating.

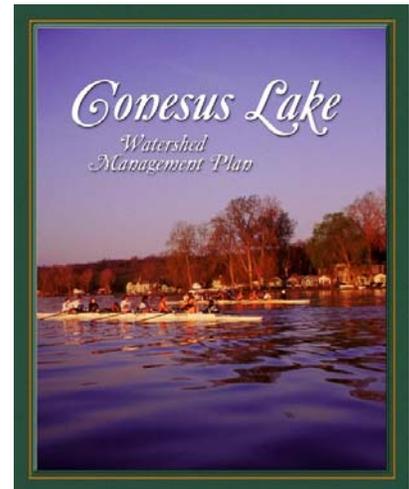
## Regulatory Environment

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.

## County Projects & Communication

### Conesus Lake Watershed Management Plan (CLWMP)

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 2018 Annual Report to the Public Services Committee in 2019. The EMC will also invite members of the Public Services Committee, or a representative from the Committee, to attend EMC meetings in 2019.

## 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.

**Livingston County Environmental Management Council  
2019 Work Plan**

<b>Mission Statement:</b>					
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.					
<b>2019 Activities:</b>					
#	Description	Work Tasks	Lead/responsibility	Anticipated Completion (Qtrs)	Accomplishments to Date
<b>Education</b>					
1	Provide educational programs or materials on environmental topics of concern or interest. Includes development and distribution of promotional materials, press releases, educational pieces, flyers and website information. Target audiences include municipalities, environmental or governmental agencies and community at large.	Sponsor or co-sponsor educational programs and workshops on environmental topics, including support of the Watershed Education Center (WEC) program & activities. Programs will be promoted to target audiences.	Planning Dept; all members	Q1 - Q4	
2		Provide <b>invasive species</b> educational materials and resources to municipalities and community members including Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) and Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (HWA).	Planning Dept; Alex Pierce; Ray Case	Q1 - Q4	
3		Provide <b>alternative energy &amp; green infrastructure</b> materials & resources to municipalities and community members.	Planning Dept	Q1 - Q4	
4		Provide educational materials & resources to municipalities & community members on <b>other environmental topics</b> , including grant opportunities.	Planning Dept; all members	Q1 - Q4	
5		Promote USACE Mt Morris Dam Discovery Series & Humphrey Nature Center at Letchworth State Park Lecture Series.	David W. Parish, Alex Pierce, all members	Q1 - Q4	
6		Annual Letchworth State Park tour, attend and promote.	Planning Dept	Q3 - July	
<b>Membership</b>					
7	Ongoing membership recruitment and promotion of current membership.	Work on activities that recruit new members.	Planning Dept; all members	Q1 - Q4	
8		Include current membership information on EMC webpage.	Ray Case; Planning Dept	Q1	

**Livingston County Environmental Management Council  
2019 Work Plan**

#	Description	Work Tasks	Lead/responsibility	Anticipated Completion (Qtrs)	Accomplishments to Date
	<b>Earth Day Award</b>				
9	Provide recognition to others for outstanding achievements in preserving or improving Livingston County's environment or educating others about Livingston County's environment.	Annual Earth Day Award - review materials, nominate & select recipient. Present award at Board of Supervisors meeting.	Planning Dept; All members	Q1 - Q2	
	<b>Website Content</b>				
10	Continue to enhance awareness of the EMC, and promote access to local and regional environmental resources.	Update information on EMC webpage as needed.	Planning Dept	Q1 - Q4	
	<b>Environmental Inventory</b>				
11	Prepare and disseminate Livingston County environmental information, data & maps. 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.	Identify resources needing updates. Distribute new resources, such as Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council Culturally Significant Areas and Livingston County Steep Slopes.	Planning Dept	Q1 - Q4	
	<b>Regulatory Environment</b>				
12	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	
13		Report on State and Federal Proposed Regulations.	Planning Dept	Q1 - Q4	
14		Report on U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Brownfield Clean-up program & Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation (OPRHP) National Register listing activities.	Planning Dept	Q1 - Q4	

**Livingston County Environmental Management Council  
2019 Work Plan**

#	Description	Work Tasks	Lead/responsibility	Anticipated Completion (Qtrs)	Accomplishments to Date
<b>County/Regional Projects &amp; Communication</b>					
15	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 communicates bi-monthly activities of the EMC to the Board of Supervisors & Public Services Committee. EMC Chair presents to the Public Services Committee in April.	Planning Dept; Alex Pierce	Q1 - Q4	
16		Livingston County Facilities improvements - provide input on County energy projects as needed. Investigate clean energy initiatives & provide support to the County & municipalities for clean energy actions.	Planning Dept; Dan Dezarn, SUNY	Q1 - Q4	
17		Support the 2nd Annual Livingston County Community Clean Up event.	Planning Department; all members	Q2	
18		Prepare & approve EMC Annual Report, 2018. Distribution includes Public Services Committee & Board of Supervisors.	Planning Dept; all members	Q1 - Q2	
19		Update on the Conesus Lake Watershed Management Plan (CLWMP) and water quality issues.	Planning Dept	Q1 - Q4	
20		Participate in Livingston County Transportation Advisory Committee Environmental Work Group.	Wendy Stevenson, Alex Pierce	Q1 - Q4	
21		Provide input/receive updates on the Livingston County Water Supply Update Project.	Planning Dept	Q1 - Q4	
<b>Participation in Other Activities</b>					
22	Participation in local & regional committees, 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 regional projects as needed.	All members	Q1 - Q4	
23		Participation in Monroe County EMC meetings and programs, as interested. Report back to the EMC on their findings/ participation.	All members	Q1 - Q4	