

New York State Conservation District  
Employees' Association, Inc.



2016 Annual Meeting  
Wednesday, March 16 2016

“Providing Today,  
Protecting Tomorrow”

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## **ANNUAL MEETING**

March 16, 2016

Crowne Plaza

Syracuse, NY

### **AGENDA**

1. Call to Order – Welcome and Introductions
2. Roll Call of Districts
3. Reading and approval of 2015 Annual Meeting Minutes
4. Review Slate of Officers –Nichelle Billhardt – Past President
5. Review and approval of 2015 Treasurer's Report
6. Review and approval of 2016 Budget
7. Agency Reports
  - a. New York State Soil and Water Conservation Committee
  - b. USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
  - c. New York Association of Conservation Districts
8. Northeast and National Conservation District Employees Association Reports
9. New Employee Recognition
10. Service Recognition
11. Officer Reports
12. Division Reports; will also report on new Div. reps for the even divisions.
13. Committee Reports
14. Resolutions
15. Other Business from the Floor
16. Election of Officers – Nichelle Billhardt
17. Adjournment



**New York State Conservation District Employees' Association**  
**Executive Board Meeting**  
Crown Plaza, Syracuse, New York  
March 11, 2015

**Members Attending:**

Nichelle Billhardt, President  
Patrick Emerick, Vice President  
Kristin White, Treasurer  
Doug Kierst, Member @ Large

Ben Luskin, Division VI  
Kristen Brown, Division VII

**Agency Representatives:**

USDA, NRCS, Greg Krist  
NYSWCD, Michael Latham  
NYACD, Daniel Farrand

**Division Representatives:**

Judy Bennett, Division I  
Kelly Emerick, Division II  
Christine Watkins, Division III  
Jordan Clements, Division IV  
Lenny Croote, Division V

AnnMarie Calabro, Division VII

**Absent:**

Velynda Parker, Secretary

**1. Call to Order:** President Nichelle Billhardt called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Nichelle welcomed all those in attendance and introduced the NYSCDEA Executive Board and Division Representatives. Nichelle thanked soil & water district staff and guests for attending the business meeting.

Nichelle reported the results of the Division elections of Division Representatives for the odd Divisions as follows; Judy Bennett Division I, Steve Lorraine, Division III, Division V & VII there was no one stepping up to fill the replacement of Lenny Croote and Kristen Brown. The President will have fifteen days to appoint or reappoint the Division Representatives. Since Patrick Emerick filled in as Vice President upon Aaron Ristow stepping down, Division II had a need for a representative Kelly Emerick was appointed as Division II representative. With the election of Jordan Clements, Division IV Representative being elected Vice President and no one stepping up to fill this position the President will appoint someone to fill the opening.

**2. Roll Call of Districts:** Jordan Clements preformed the roll call and the following forty-five Districts were present:

Albany SWCD	Allegany SWCD	Cattaraugus SWCD
Cayuga SWCD	Chautauqua SWCD	Chemung SWCD
Clinton SWCD	Columbia SWCD	Cortland SWCD
Delaware SWCD	Dutchess SWCD	Erie SWCD
Essex SWCD	Franklin SWCD	Fulton SWCD
Genesee SWCD	Hamilton SWCD	Herkimer SWCD
Jefferson SWCD	Lewis SWCD	Madison SWCD
Monroe SWCD	Montgomery SWCD	Onondaga SWCD
Ontario SWCD	Orange SWCD	Orleans SWCD
Otsego SWCD	Rensselaer SWCD	Saratoga SWCD
Schenectady SWCD	Schoharie SWCD	Schuyler SWCD
Seneca SWCD	St. Lawrence SWCD	Steuben SWCD
Suffolk SWCD	Sullivan SWCD	Tioga SWCD
Tompkins SWCD	Warren SWCD	Washington SWCD
Wayne SWCD	Wyoming SWCD	Yates SWCD

### 3. Reading and Approval of 3/11/15 Annual Meeting Minutes:

- Motion was made by Gerry Smithson second by David Wilson to dispense the reading of the 2014 minutes. Carried.
- Motion was made by Gerry Smithson and second by Steve Lorraine to approve the 2014 Annual meeting minutes as written. Carried.

4. Review Slate of Officers: Jim Lieberum reviewed the slate of officers. There were no other nominations from the floor.

Secretary, Velynda Risley  
Treasurer, Kristin White  
Member @ Large, Doug Krist

Vice President, Jordan Clements  
President, Patrick Emerick

- Motion was made by Dave Wilson second by Kristen Brown to close the nominations. Carried.
- Motion was made Dave Wilson second by Dennis Kirby for the Secretary to cast one unanimous ballot for the slate of officers. Carried.

5. Treasurer's Report: Kristin White reviewed the 2014 treasurer's report as presented. Kristin stated she would take any questions related to the report.

- Motion was made by Judy Bennett and second by Gerry Smithson to approve the Treasurer's report as presented. Carried.

6. Review and Approval 2015 Budget: Kristin White presented the 2015 Annual Budget for review and approval. Kristin reported that the Division yearly funds were reduced from \$500 to \$300. This was due to the lack of outside source of funding the NYSCDEA' previously received, but no longer does. Blanche Hurlbutt requested that Kristin please explain why the NYS Envirothon scholarship award had been reduced, so that everyone would understand it was a necessary budget cut.

- Motion was made by Patrick Emerick second by Mark Burger to approve the 2015 Budget as written. Carried

### 7. Agency Reports:

NY Association Conservation Districts: Daniel Farrand, NYACD President reported on the changes of NYACD Officers and new hired Executive Director to the organization. Dan thanked the Districts for their understanding and assistances since October. Dan explained how Greg Krist, NRCS, Patrick Emerick & Nichelle Billhardt from NYSCDEA, helped in the selection of Danielle Cummins as Executive Director. Ms. Cummins will not be an employee of NYACD, but a contracted contractor, which will save NYACD money by not having to pay out Workers Compensation, Social Security, and Medicare.

Dan explained that it is with the Districts dues are what pay for the Executive Director position, website, and fund the NYACD to move forward on behalf of Districts. Dan encouraged Districts to pay their annual dues and support the NYACD Board, so that they can work on behalf of the Districts.

Dan spoke about the importance of NYACD and the District's partnership. Dan stated that he will work hard to continue this partnership.

Dan stated that he felt that Legislative Days went well overall and 2-3 bills that were put into the state budget will become law.

Dan reported that change is here and we need to work to meet the challenges. NYACD will work to do things in advance and being prepared for what is ahead.

Dan encouraged the Districts to read the NYACD E-reports and all NYACD reports and take back to their Boards. Dan stated the importance of District Boards becoming better informed and become involved with NYACD. Dan encouraged the District Employees to go back to their Board of Directors and have them step up and become a Director on the NYACD Board.

Dan presented Blanche Hurlbutt with two checks; one from NYACD in amount of \$2,000 and another from a local company in the amount of \$1,000 towards the NYS Envirothon. Dan explained that he was not afraid to ask for funds and that if things go as planned he should have another \$2000-\$3000 coming to the NYS Envirothon. Blanche thanked Dan on behalf of the Districts & NYS Envirothon Committee for the funds and his support to the NYS Envirothon.

**NY Soil Water Conservation District:** Michael Latham, State Committee Director congratulated the NYSCDEA Officers and thanked them for inviting him to the annual NYSCDEA meeting. Mike stated that it was an honor and a pleasure to be at the annual meeting.

Mike thanked the Districts for the successful year. He expressed his appreciation to the Districts in their leadership and collectively making decisions to move on. Mike thanked the Districts for their exceptional job, hard work, on a daily bases. Mike thanked his staff for all their work on hard on District's behalf. He expressed that his staff is the Districts highway to Albany and to use them.

Mike reported that the Part C letters were sent and vouchers were to be received by March 30<sup>th</sup> for funds to be reimbursed. The annual reimbursements should be out at the end of the week to Districts and there were no pro rations. Mike stated in fifteen days 11.2 million will be disbursed to Districts by his staff.

Mike reported on highlights of what has been going on or is ongoing in the office. There will be an AEM year 11 with \$85,000 going to Districts that have CNMP Planners on staff. Soil health mini-grants to 13 Districts in total funds \$300,000. Mike stated they are keeping a close eye on the EPA rules and how they will impact the Districts. Good news there is a bump to aid to Districts missions under the EPF line.

Mike reported his staff will communicate to Districts on training, monthly reports, SharePoint site, training goals and they are working to be proactive in their reporting working with state and federal partners. Mike understands the struggles with the grant gateway program, but he will field any questions folks may have. They are in phase 1 of 3 phase efforts, but things will improve.

Mike reported that with George Proios stepping down from the State Committee as a Non-Farmer/Urban there is a need for a new State Committee member.

Mike reported there will be a State Committee Horizon meeting on Thursday, March 12 at 1:00 p.m.

**USDA Nature Resources Conservation Services:** Gregory Kist, NRCS State Conservationist thanked NYSCDEA for inviting him to present at this meeting.

Greg introduced himself and provided some work background on when he started working for NRCS back thirty-one years ago in Ohio, traveled to Georgia, on to West Virginia, and now in New York. Greg expressed how thrilled he is to be working here in New York.

Greg spoke on how important the partnership is and the great opportunities that are out there for NRCS and the Districts. He thanked all the partners in the partnership and their hard work. Greg stated there is no way NRCS could do what they are doing in New York without the Districts.

Greg stated that the main goal of NRCS is to continue the partnership with the Districts and to strengthen the partnership.

Greg spoke of the new programs, the national proposals that couldn't have been completed with the hard work of the partnership, the priorities for conservational planning, tech training, contract management, soil health, conservation compliances.

Greg spoke about the KPMG audit firm of twenty-five at the state office that have been auditing their books the past six /seven years and still on going.

Greg stated presently Pete Wright is working on auditing the paperwork on granted funds.

Greg stated he values the partnership and what a great job New York is doing. Greg stated if anyone had any questions to please contact him.

**8. New Employee Recognition:**

Lenny Croote, Division V recognized and announced

the new District employees as follows:

<b><i>New Employees March 2014 - March 2015</i></b>				
<b>Division I</b>				
Ryan Paulsen	Allegany	District Technician	Feb	2015
Rob Halbohm	Chautauqua	Water Quality Technician	Jan	2015
Cassie Pinkoski	Chautauqua	Technician	June	2014
Molly Stetz	Genesee	District Technician (p/t)	Aug	2014
Jared Elliott	Genesee	District Technician	Sept	2014
Megan McAnn	Orleans	District Technician	Jan	2015
<b>Division III</b>				
Ryan Huggins	Herkimer	District Technician	Feb	2015
Jessica Pyrda	Oneida	Forestry Specialist	Nov	2014
<b>Division IV</b>				
Rebecca Bray	Broome	Natural Resource Asst.	Aug	2014
Odessa Lanfair	Chenango	Secretary/Treasurer	June	2014
David Androes	Delaware	Technician	May	2014
Chris Andreassen	Otsego	Conservation Technician	Jan	2015
Mike Coryat	Otsego	Conservation Technician	Sept	2014
Lis Beth Monell	Tioga	Administrative Assistant	Sept	2014
Rick Neuman	Tioga	Water Quality Specialist	July	2014
<b>Division V</b>				
Pete Hagar	Clinton	District Manager	Jan	2015
Lora Benedict	Essex	District Technician	May	2014
Kristin Ballou	Franklin	District Technician	December	2014
Karen Armstong	Franklin	District Secretary	October	2014
<b>Division VI</b>				
Julicia Godbout	Montgomery	AED Coordinator/Asst Resource Con	Feb	2015
Scott Davis	Montgomery	Technician	Jan	2015
<b>Division VII</b>				
Josh Sutton	Greene	Operations Technician	Oct	2014
Noah Meyer	Orange	District Technician	Feb	2015
<b>Division VIII</b>				
Corey Humphrey	Nassau	District Manager	July	2014
Coreyn Goddard	Nassau	Technician	Jan	2015
Dolores Gelish	Nassau	Bookkeeper	May	2014
Nicole Laible	Rockland	District Manager	Sept	2014



9. **Years of Service Recognition:** Lenny Croote recognized and announced the District employees for their years of service as follows:

<b><u>Years of Service Pin Recipients</u></b>					
<b>Division I</b>					<b>Years</b>
Sharon Boyd	Wyoming	Secretary/Treasurer	Jan	2005	10
Robert Shenk	Cattaraugus	District Technician	July	2000	15
Mark Seider	Niagara	District Engineer	June	2000	15
Brian Davis	Cattaraugus	District Manager	Jan	1990	25
Darcy Tone	Niagara	Secretary/Assistant Treasurer	May	1990	25
George Squires	Genesee	District Manager	April	1980	35
Greg McKurth	Wyoming	District Manager	Oct	1980	35
<b>Division II</b>					
Jason Cuddeback	Cayuga	Conservation Grazing Specialist	June	2005	10
Kelly Emerick	Monroe	Executive Director	May	2005	10
Ryan Cunningham	Onondaga	Watershed Resource Conservation Specialist	Apr	2005	10
Jeremiah Eaton	Onondaga	Resource Conservation Specialist	June	2005	10
Christopher Creelman	Seneca	District Technician	July	2005	10
Edith Davey	Ontario	Conservation District Educator	Aug	2000	15
Tim Lozier	Cayuga	Motor Equipment Operator	June	1995	20
Doug Fisher	Onondaga	District Team Leader	Jan	1976 - 14yr	25
George Barden	Ontario	Watershed Inspector	Dec	1990	25
Karen Ervay	Monroe	Secretary to the Board	May	1985	30
<b>Division III</b>					
Troy Bishopp	Madison	Grazing Specialist	Oct.	2005	10
Jo-Anne Humphries	Oneida	Water Quality Specialist	Aug	1995	20
Erica Schreiner	Oswego	District Educator	Jan	1995	20
<b>Division IV</b>					
Robert Weaver	Otsego	AEM Contractor	March	2005	10
Jon Negley	Tompkins	District Manager	May	2005	10
Blanche Hurlbutt	Otsego	District Secretary/Assistant Treasurer	June	2000	15
Jerry Verrigni	Schuyler	District Manager	March	2000	15
Wendy Walsh	Tioga	District Manager	Aug	2000	15
Brian Caruso	Delaware	Network Manager	Mar	1995	20
Sandra Whittaker	Delaware	Data and Account Specialist	Mar	1995	20
Mark Richer	Chemung	District Technician	July	1990	25
Richard Weidenbach	Delaware	Executive Director	July	1980	35
Jeff Barnes	Tioga	Field Technician	Jan	1975	40
<b>Division V</b>					
Rhonda Jarvis	Warren	Office Manager	April	2000	15
Elizabeth Mangle	Hamilton	District Manager	June	1990	25
<b>Division VI</b>					
Joe Slezak	Albany	Field Manager	Dec	2005	10
Andrea James	Saratoga	Office Manager	Oct	2005	10
<b>Division VII</b>					
Jeff Flack	Greene	Executive Director	Feb	2005	10

Steve Nack	Columbia	Natural Resource Specialist	Aug	2000	15
Lauren Prezorski	Dutchess	Ecosystem Base Mgmt. Tech.	July	2000	15
Christine DeGroot	Orange	Office Manager	Sept	1995	20
Kevin Sumner	Orange	District Manager	June	1980	35
<b>Division VIII</b>					
Sharon Frost	Suffolk	District Technician	Dec	2000	15
Paul TeNyenhuis	Suffolk	District Manager	May	1985	30

## 10. Officers Reports:

**NYSCDEA President Report:** Nichelle, NYSCDEA President thanked the Districts for allowing her the opportunity to serve them and her staff for supporting her and filling in for her while she was away from the office attended necessary meetings.

**NYSCDEA Vice President Report:** Patrick, Vice President thanked all of those who helped him this past few weeks as he served as Vice President for the NYSCDEA.

**NYSCDEA Member-at-Large Report:** Doug was unable to attend this evenings meeting, stated his report is in the packet.

## 1. Division Reports:

**Division I** Judy, reported on the role Division I does for the Districts. Judy reported on The Frank Bratt Scholarship the importance of employees submitting applications and how the selections of winners are selected. There are two rounds during the year one on January 1 and another on June 1, so don't forget to submit your application before the deadline.

**Division II** Patrick reported on the responsibility of Division II. It is his Division that is responsible for the website, records, photos, and the archives. Patrick also stated that he serves on the Administrative/Manager's Committee, Municipal Subcommittee, Conservation Tech Advancement Program, and Environmental Education Foundation (EEF).

Patrick encouraged District personnel to get out and get involved with the Division roles and responsibilities.

**Division III** Christine reported that her Division accomplishments and her duties as Division III representative. Division III shares with Division IV the bucket raffle/silent auction and she thanked everyone for their items they donated this year. This year's funds are to be shared with Frank Bratt Scholarship and Sunshine fund. Another responsibility of Division III is the annual golf tournament. Christine reported on the total funds raised the past three years are as follows; **2012** \$2992, **2013** \$2883, **2014** \$2425. Christine encouraged folks to step up and serve on the NYSCDEA Board.

**Division IV** Jordan reported on the role of Division IV. Jordan reported that Division IV with input and hard work from Kristin White work on the NYS Fair. Jordan expressed the importance to the Districts regarding the fair booth, how it is a great way to promote Districts and our mission. Jordan thanked Mrs. White for all her hard work and help with setting up the fair booth schedule.

**Division V** Lenny reported that Division V's duties is to maintain the years of service, present awards to Districts, and award winners during the annual meeting.

**Division VI** Ben reported on the role of Division VI. John Persch reported on the Farmers Market and thanked everyone for all their help.

**Division VII and Division VIII:** Kristen & AnnMarie reported together their role and responsibilities for Division VII & VIII. Their role is the awards program; special projects, Division awards, partner appreciation, District Director, heroic award, and the Willard F. Croney award. They both feel this is a great way to recognize District personnel. They stressed the importance of submitting candidates for these awards.

**Special Thanks:** Nichelle thanked Christine Watkins and Kristen Brown for serving on the NYSCDEA Board for their commitment and service on the Board. Nichelle on behalf of the full Board presented them with a small token of their appreciation.

Nichelle stated full reports are in the annual report packet which can be found on the NYSCDEA Board website.

**NE CDEA Reports:** Alan Masters, NE CDEA Alternate, reported on behalf of Jeff Parker, since Jeff was unable to attend this meeting. Alan reported on the history of the North East Association and how they host and yearly northeast meeting. Alan stated that the 2015 annual meeting will be held in West Virginia. He encouraged and invited Districts to attend and bring a Board member. Alan thanked the Board for allowing him to serve and stated Jeff's full report was in the packet.

## **2. Committee Reports:**

**NYS Envirothon:** Blanche Hurlbutt reported that the full report is in the packet. Blanche reported that the committee updated the NYS Envirothon logo. Blanche stated we need volunteers for this year's event and encouraged folks to register with MaryLynne Malone, Volunteer Coordinator as soon as possible. That the committee is working very hard to raise funds. Blanche reminded folks to pick up their oral presentation and registration packet at the NYSCDEA registration desk before leaving this training session.

**Environmental Education Foundation:** David Reckahn provided an updated report on the EEF and the importance of the EEF. David reported their main responsibility is to search for funds to support the NYS Envirothon and other possible groups. They hold monthly teleconferences and one face-to-face yearly meeting. The Board is made up of fifteen members. That they are in the need of a member @ large and encourage folks to step up and be on this committee.

David stated one way the Districts can support the EEF is to run their funds through the EEF. EEF takes a 5% administrative cost out of all funds past through them. This covers postage and office supplies that are necessary.

David thanked everyone for their support and help through the year.

**14. Resolutions:** Nichelle reported that no resolutions were not presented and ask if there were any from the floor. No resolutions were presented.

**15. Other Business from the Floor:** Nichelle inquired if there were any new or other business to be discussed from the floor.

John Santacrose, Albany SWCD Director, spoke regarding fund raising, external support, believing in yourself, supporting Water Quality Coordinating Committees, encouraged Districts to continue doing what they are doing and believe in themselves to move forward.

John spoke on ways to find/raise funds for EEF. John stated he'd be willing to sit with the EEF and show them how they can multiple their funds. Provide ideas and lead.

John challenged everyone to write a name of a possible citizen at large. We can't get it if we don't ask. John stated he would be around if anyone had any questions and he thanked NYCDEA for allowing him to speak.

Patrick spoke on a few housekeeping issues; bring banquet meal tickets, complete evaluation forms, buy raffle and silent auction tickets, and remember to pick up your fertilizer tablets and NYS Envirothon oral presentation/registration packets.

**16. Adjournment:**

- **A motion was made by Dave Wilson and Kristen Brown to adjourn the 2015 Annual NYSCDEA meeting. Carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the NYSCDEA Board,

Blanche L. Hurlbutt  
Otsego SWCD  
Secretary/Ass't Treas.

NYS CONSERVATION DISTRICT EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION, INC.  
2015 Budget Final

ACCOUNT	2015 Budget		2015 Actual	
	Income	Expense	Income	Expense
Fertilizer Tablets	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 6,510.00	\$ -
<b>Training Sessions:</b>				
Admin/Mgt Conf		\$ 500.00		
CSW	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 3,393.00	\$ 1,918.45
Level 1 Tech Training	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 400.00	\$ 736.78
WQS	\$ 84,000.00	\$ 64,000.00	\$ 96,215.70	\$ 64,161.12
WQS Resource Fair	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 7,114.18	\$ 2,462.22
Committee Expense		\$ 500.00		
Audit, Taxes & Legal Fees		\$ 1,000.00		\$ 775.00
<b>Donations:</b>				
Envirothon Scholarship		\$ 2,500.00		\$ 2,500.00
Donations-Other-EEF		\$ 1,500.00		\$ 1,500.00
Executive Board		\$ 7,000.00		\$ 10,954.64
Insurance		\$ 2,700.00		\$ 2,525.15
Promo/Website		\$ 350.00		\$ 310.00
NACD		\$ 2,400.00		\$ 3,450.64
NCDEA Dues		\$ 200.00		\$ 200.00
NACDE NE		\$ 900.00		\$ 900.00
Newsletter		\$ 3,500.00		\$ 3,500.00
<b>Fundraiser Activities</b>				
*Bucket/Silent Auction			\$ 2,918.00	
Sunshine Fund		\$ 200.00		\$ 7.94
Office Supplies		\$ 300.00		\$ 474.06
Division I		\$ 300.00		
Division II		\$ 300.00		\$ 243.71
Division III		\$ 300.00		\$ 387.82
Division IV		\$ 300.00		\$ 102.12
Division V		\$ 300.00		\$ 290.68
Division VI		\$ 300.00		\$ 342.63
Division VII		\$ 300.00		
Division VIII		\$ 300.00		
Carryover	\$ 950.00			
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$ 97,450.00</b>	<b>\$ 97,450.00</b>	<b>\$ 116,550.88</b>	<b>\$ 97,742.96</b>

<b>Self Sustaining Accounts</b>				
Frank Bratt	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 12.71	\$ 3,250.00
NYS Fair/EFD	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 4,800.00	\$ 3,505.08
NYS Envirothon	\$ 48,563.00	\$ 48,563.00	\$ 38,369.00	\$ 38,333.74
Envirothon Scholarships	\$ 4,375.00	\$ 12,375.00	\$ 4,380.90	\$ 5,750.00
Golf Tournament	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,696.25	\$ 2,769.21
<b>SSA Totals</b>	<b>\$ 62,438.00</b>	<b>\$ 70,438.00</b>	<b>\$ 50,258.86</b>	<b>\$ 53,608.03</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$ 159,888.00</b>	<b>\$ 167,888.00</b>	<b>\$ 166,809.74</b>	<b>\$ 151,350.99</b>

Proceeds from the Bucket Raffle, Silent Auction, and Golf Tournament went to Frank Bratt & The Sunshine Fund.

**Treasures 2015 Bank Report**

Dec 31, 15

Dec 31, 14

**ASSETS**

## Current Assets

## Checking/Savings

## NYSCDEA-REG CHECKING

Conservation Skills 13,559.74 12,235.19

General NYSCDEA Funds 25,665.51 12,194.10

Golf Tournament 816.00 888.96

NYS Envirothon Checking 10,241.68 11,206.42

NYS Fair Account 2,937.39 1,642.47

Sunshine Fund 788.67 796.61

Resource Training Checking 4,803.22 5,740.70

Total NYSCDEA-REG CHECKING 58,812.21 44,704.45

Envirothon Scholarship Savings 11,019.02 12,388.12

Frank Bratt Scholarship Savings 24,344.11 24,663.40

Resource Training Savings 20,130.53 14,737.87

Total Checking/Savings 114,305.87 96,493.84

## Accounts Receivable

## Accounts Receivable

Training Sessions 150.00 0.00

Envirothon Donations 1,000.00 0.00

Total Accounts Receivable 1,150.00 0.00

Total Accounts Receivable 1,150.00 0.00

Total Current Assets 115,455.87 96,493.84

**TOTAL ASSETS 115,455.87 96,493.84****LIABILITIES & EQUITY**

## Liabilities

## Current Liabilities

## Credit Cards

CDEA Credit Card-Treasurer	2,485.08		0.00
CDEA Credit Card-President	1,018.20		0.00
Total Credit Cards	3,503.28		0.00
Total Current Liabilities	3,503.28		0.00
Total Liabilities	3,503.28		0.00
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>3,503.28</b>		<b>0.00</b>

## 2016 PRPOSED NYS CDEA BUDGET

ACCOUNT	2015 Actual		2016 Proposed	
	Income	Expense	Income	Expense
Fertilizer Tablets	\$ 6,510.00		\$ 6,000.00	\$ 6,000.00
<b>Training Sessions:</b>				
Admin/Mgt Conf			\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
CSW	\$ 3,393.00	\$ 1,918.45	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 2,500.00
Level 1 Tech Training	\$ 400.00	\$ 736.78	\$ 400.00	\$ 1,300.00
WQS	\$ 96,215.70	\$ 64,161.12	\$ 90,000.00	\$ 64,000.00
Leadership Conference			\$ 15,000.00	\$ 18,000.00
WQS Resource Fair	\$ 7,114.18	\$ 2,462.22	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 2,500.00
Committee Expense			\$ -	\$ -
Audit, Taxes & Legal Fees		\$ 775.00	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00
<b>Donations:</b>				
Envirothon Scholarship		\$ 2,500.00	\$ -	\$ 2,500.00
Donations-Other-EEF		\$ 1,500.00	\$ -	\$ 1,500.00
Executive Board		\$ 10,954.64	\$ -	\$ 7,000.00
Insurance		\$ 2,525.15	\$ -	\$ 2,700.00
Promo/Website		\$ 310.00	\$ -	\$ 500.00
NACD		\$ 3,450.64	\$ -	\$ 2,400.00
NCDEA Dues		\$ 200.00	\$ -	\$ 200.00
NACDE NE		\$ 900.00	\$ -	\$ 900.00
Newsletter		\$ 3,500.00	\$ -	\$ 3,500.00
Ronny Raindrop			\$ -	\$ -
<b>Fundraiser Activities</b>				
*Bucket/Silent Auction	\$ 2,918.00			\$ -
Sunshine Fund		\$ 7.94	\$ -	\$ 200.00
Office Supplies		\$ 474.06	\$ -	\$ 300.00
Division I			\$ -	\$ 300.00
Division II		\$ 243.71	\$ -	\$ 300.00
Division III		\$ 387.82	\$ -	\$ 300.00
Division IV		\$ 102.12	\$ -	\$ 300.00
Division V		\$ 290.68	\$ -	\$ 300.00
Division VI		\$ 342.63	\$ -	\$ 300.00
Division VII			\$ -	\$ 300.00
Division VIII			\$ -	\$ 300.00
Carryover				
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$ 116,550.88</b>	<b>\$ 97,742.96</b>	<b>\$ 121,400.00</b>	<b>\$ 121,400.00</b>

## Northeast Association of Conservation District Employees

*"Together We Achieve the  
Extraordinary"*

Northeast Region Report  
Jeffrey Parker, President/CDEA  
Representation

A Northeast Regional meeting is held annually where officers from our region are elected to represent the entire northeast. The next annual meeting will be held on August 14-16 in Stockton Seaview Hotel & Gulf Club, Atlantic City, New Jersey and theme is *Cooking Up Conservation* at [www.njacd.org](http://www.njacd.org) for details. The northeast states consist of Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvanian, Rhode Island, Vermont and West Virginia.

The 2015 Regional Meeting was held at the Canaan Valley Resort State Park in Davis, West Virginia where officers were elected to represent Northeast Employees Association. The officers are Jeff Parker, President (NY), Alan Masters, Vice President (NY), Sandy Thompson, Secretary (PA) and Ines Zimmerman, Treasurer (NJ). Being the Northeast President, you also sit on the National Conservation District Employees Association (NCDEA) and one may ask why this is important. First and foremost we're asked to be representative on committees which shape the national conservation agenda. This is big – farm bill policies, implementation policies which affect every District employee statewide and nationally. We now as employees are asked to sit at the table with NACD. You may not think this is important to your District, but I'm telling you it is. I'm here to tell you that we have a voice thru your State Employees Association with both of us (myself and Alan) sitting on the Northeast Employees Association.

New York has the strongest employees association in the northeast region. We have had many individuals serve on the Northeast Association in the past from New York such as Ed Hoxsie, Phil Griswold, Ron Podolek, and Doug Kierst. I'm trying to follow in their foot-steps and make a small difference in the future. Your challenge is to challenge me to work nationally for you via our protégés Employees Association and the Northeast Association to move us forward with issues affecting all of us.

Lastly, don't forget about the Don Aaron Scholarship Award which is offered to conservation employee and their immediate family who is participating in a resource conservation curriculum while enrolled in an accredited college or university. The eligibility consists of employed for one year by Conservation District, demonstrated integrity, ability a competence of work through training & experience and providing information substantiating enrollment at an accredited college or university. The individual applying could receive up to \$1,000 and applications are due March 15.



Here is some statistical information:

- ✓ Periodic Newsletter entitled "the Nor'easter"
- ✓ 1,420 District Employees in Northeast Region
- ✓ 5 states with organized Employee Associations
- ✓ 5 States with organized Employee Committees

5 States with Employees Websites

- New Hampshire at <http://nh.ncdea.org>
- New Jersey at [www.njscdea.ncdea.org](http://www.njscdea.ncdea.org)
- New York at [www.nyscdea.com](http://www.nyscdea.com)
- Pennsylvania at [www.pacd.org](http://www.pacd.org)



**NYACD**  
*New York Association of  
Conservation Districts*

# **Water Quality Symposium 2016 Report**

Since the Annual Meeting of the New York Association of Conservation Districts in October two thousand fifteen, we are proud to report the following accomplishments:

- The Appointment of an Executive Board of Directors, as well as six of eight District Representative slots filled,
- The Hiring of a full-time Executive Director, myself, Amber Paice,
- Site Visitations to Soil and Water Conservation District during Board of Directors Meetings,
- Hosting the NYACD Legislative Days in Albany, with over 30% of Districts present and over 45 people in attendance representing NYACD, including District Managers, Board Members and Volunteers,
- Voicing the needs of NYACD to our local representatives headquartered in Washington, D.C. at the NACD Fly-In event, and
- Progressing as an Association by having monthly meetings with the NYACD Board of Directors, attended by members of the 4-way Partnership; who are the New York State Conservation District Employees Association (NYSCDEA), the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), and the New York State Soil and Water Conservation Committee (NYSSWCC).

Still to come in 2016 are the following Projected Outcomes and Events:

- The continued relationship development between the 4-Way Partnership (NYACD, NYSCDEA, NRCS, and NYSSWCC),
- Fostering NYACD's connection with Local Districts and their leaders,
- The oversight of the Legislative Process in Albany, our State Capitol, including the movement of Bill Memos impacting local Soil and Water Conservation Districts across the great State of New York,
- Working to promote environmental Education efforts by assisting with the New York State Envirothon,
- Facilitating the growth of area managers and employees by being involved in developing and offering the Leadership Institute,
- The review and revision of Organizational Operations, including the NYACD's Mission Statement, and
- Planning and hosting the NYACD Annual Meeting.

As a representative of the New York Association of Conservation Districts, I value the opportunity to work closely with the New York State Conservation District Employees Association to further our collective mark on environmental conservation efforts, especially in our local communities. I recognize the hard work of every Soil and Water Conservation District, every employee and Board Member, and will continue to advocate on your behalf. Thank you.

*Report Submitted by Amber Paice, Executive Director of the New York Association of Conservation Districts, Inc., at the Annual Meeting of the New York State Conservation District Employee Association on the sixteenth of March, two thousand sixteen.*

**New Employees March 2015 - March 2016**

<b>Division I</b>				
Greg Tessman	Genesee	District Manager	Nov	2015
Scott Collins	Niagara	RAP Coordinator	Jan	2016
<b>Division II</b>				
Steven Popp	Monroe	Soil & Water Resource Technician	May	2015
Megan Webster	Ontario	Sr. District Technician	May	2015
Rebecca Bray	Onondaga	Conservation District Technician	Jan	2016
Jeremy Paris	Monroe	Soil & Water Planning Technician	Feb	2016
<b>Division III</b>				
Cheyenne Youngs	St. Lawrence	Conservation District Technician	June	2015
Rachel Radicello	Herkimer	Soil & Water Resource Conservationist	Sept	2015
<b>Division IV</b>				
Calum Lewis	Steuben	District Technician	May	2015
Brian Hall	Cortland	Natural Resource Conservationist/ USC Ag Coordinator	June	2015
Kym Jackson	Tompkins	Senior Account Clerk	July	2015
<b>Division V</b>				
David Wilfore	Clinton	Conservation District Technician	July	2015
Susan Passino	Clinton	District Clerk	Sept	2015
<b>Division VI</b>				
Dan Palemire	Saratoga	Field Technician	March	2016
<b>Division VII</b>				
Michelle Vedder-Drew	Columbia	Education Program Coordinator	Sept	2015
Rachel Terrill	Greene	Administrative Aid	Jan	2016

**The NYS CDEA wishes to thank the following individuals for their years of service.**

***Years of Service Pin Recipients 2016***

<b>Division I</b>					<b>Years</b>
Melanie Saunders	Erie	Secretary/Treasurer	April	2006	10
James Sroka	Erie	Water Quality Technician	July	2001	15
<b>Division II</b>					
Eric Jensen	Onondaga	Watershed Resource Conservation Specialist	Sept	2006	10
Eric Renfer	Onondaga	Watershed Resource Conservation Specialist	Sept	2006	10
Kristin White	Seneca	Bookkeeper/ Secretary to the Board	March	2006	10
Patrick DeVoe	Cayuga	Motor Equipment Operator	Sept	2001	15
Alan Masters	Onondaga	Resource Conservation Specialist	Nov	2001	15
Doug Kierst	Cayuga	Executive Director	Dec	1996	20
Sandy Huey	Cayuga	Watershed Program Manager	Oct	1991	25
<b>Division III</b>					
Levi Rudd	Jefferson	Conservation District Technician	Feb	2006	10
Rhonda Redder	Jefferson	Administrative Assistance	March	2006	10
Mike Durant	Lewis	District Technician	Nov	2006	10
Carl Bartlett	Madison	District Technician	April	2006	10
Patty Casler	Madison	District Clerk/ Treasurer	Aug	2006	10
Tim Wimmer	Oneida	District Technician	Feb	2006	10
Joe Chairvolotti	Oswego	District Forester	Jan	2006	10
Cindy Williams	Oswego	Secretary/Treasurer	May	1986	30
<b>Division IV</b>					
Gideon Frisbee	Delaware	Technician	Oct	2006	10
Jody Applebee	Steuben	Consultant	May	2006	10
Jonathan Barter	Steuben	Grazing Specialist	Feb	2006	10
Gale Neale	Delaware	Stream Technician	Sept	2001	15
Joel Fisk	Delaware	Stream Technician	Feb	2001	15
Mike Jura	Tioga	Conservation District Technician	May	2001	15
Charles McElwee	Broome	Executive Director	Jan	1996	20
Stacy Russell	Cortland	Natural Resource Program Specialist	Jan	1996	20
Blanche Delaney	Tioga	Executive Secretary	Feb	1986	30
<b>Division V</b>					
<b>Division VI</b>					
Jason Cass	Schenectady	District Technician	Feb	2006	10
Dustin Lewis	Saratoga	District Manager	Feb	2006	10
Scott Monica	Saratoga	District Technician	Jan	2006	10
Benjamin Luskin	Washington	District Technician	May	2006	10
Susan Lewis	Albany	Administrative Mgr./ Tech. Assist	June	2001	15
Nick Halford	Rensselaer	District Agronomy Technician	Oct	2001	15
Lisa Kuehnle	Schoharie	Nutrient Management Specialist	Aug	2001	15
Dave Pidgeon	Schenectady	Working Crew Leader	Aug	1996	20
John Kehoe	Schenectady	Heavy Equip. Operator	Jan	1991	25
Stephen Hoerz	Schoharie	District Manager	Sept	1986	30

<b>Division VII</b>					
Michelle Yost	Greene	WAP Coordinator	June	2006	10
John Kline	Sullivan	Engineering Tech	Jan	2006	10
<b>Division VIII</b>					
Elizabeth Condon	Suffolk	Principal Account Clerk	April	1996	20



## President's Report: 2015 - 2016

In March of 2015 I was honored to be elected President of your New York State Conservation District Employees Association. It truly is an honor and a duty I take great pride in. Since taking office in March I have been very busy working with our conservation partners on several topics that effect Conservation in New York State. Some are ongoing matters while others are new opportunities.

I am so proud to of the NYS CDEA and its programs, events, and initiatives that I could write about it at great length. However, in an effort to keep my report brief, I will only touch briefly on some of the larger activities the CDEA has been involved in the last year.

Early in 2015 the CDEA partnered with the SWCC to form the Operation Manual Sub Committee. Representatives on this committee consist of professionals at every level from the Districts and the State Committee. This group started the monumental task of updating the existing Operations manual and creating a document that is consistent with the unique new programs and policies Districts are operating under currently. This is an enormous task and to date some of the first sections of the manual have been completed. We will work to complete this document in 2016 or 2017. If there are any Districts employees who would like to lend their professional expertise, please call me.

The CDEA also worked with the SWCC and SUNY Cobleskill to support the Level 1 Conservation Boot Camp. This event was specifically customized for newly hired District employees with less than 2 years of experience. Course participants received basic conservation program instruction as well as in-field training in agriculture and stream stabilization. I was fortunate to meet each of the course participants when I delivered the closing remarks and was very happy to hear how successful the session was. I hope that we can continue to work together to offer the Boot Camp training in 2016 and 2017.

Several years ago a leadership conference was completed in the Adirondack region. The event was such a success that several District Leaders and partners approached the CDEA and requested that it be offered again. The CDEA listened and supported the 2016 Leadership Conference which will be offered July 12-15 at the SUNY ESF Ranger School at Wanakeena. Conservation leaders interested in attending will be required to complete a 1 page application and pay a registration fee. The Leadership Conference will be open to each of our Conservation partners.

In an effort to strengthen our Conservation partnership, the NYS CDEA, SWCC, NRCS and the NYACD will be signing a New York Memorandum of Understanding to formally acknowledge our partnership. This MOU doesn't bind any of the partners or commit us to any specific deliverables. It only serves as a tool to acknowledge that a strong partnership is key to continuing conservation programs and ensuring efficient implementation of best management practices. The ceremonial signing of the MOU will take place on Thursday evening during the banquet.

Staying with the theme of formalizing partnerships, the CDEA is currently working with the NRCS to establish a formal training agreement. This agreement will allow NRCS to financially support several of the CDEA programs such as the Water Quality Symposium, Enviro-thon and the Conservation Skills Workshop. This agreement will make it much easier for the NRCS to contribute funding to support these programs. The agreement will be signed later this year.

On a larger geographic scale, I had the honor to represent the NYS CDEA at the National Association of Conservation Districts annual meeting in Reno, NV this year. This was my first exposure to the national efforts of Districts across our country. I was incredibly amazed to say the least. The policies, programs, practices and services the Districts across this County provide are impressive to say the least. After attending the many meetings and educational sessions, it's clear to me that NY Districts are strong and well organized. Our NYS CDEA is strong because of the dedication of our employees, our Board of Directors and our strong partnerships.

Conservation in New York State is driven and lead by the professionals reading this report. Please continue to lead by becoming involved with the NYS CDEA. Consider serving on a committee, staffing a booth, attending a meeting, or volunteering for at event. If you have any questions about how to get involved, please let me know.

In closing, I would like to thank everyone on the NYS CDEA Board for all of their hard work and dedication. Their commitment to conservation is unwavering and I truly appreciate their efforts. I would also like to thank each of our conservation partners and Board of Directors for attending our Symposium.

Thank you,

P.J. Emerick, CPESC, CPSWQ, CMS4S

President- NYS CDEA Inc.

## **2015 Division I Annual Report**

I would like to thank everyone in Division I for the opportunity to serve as your representative on the NYSCDEA Executive Board. I have found Division I responsibilities to be very rewarding and would encourage any employee within the division to participate if and when the opportunity presents itself. Participation could be on the board itself or on a variety of different committee's that require employee input. Please feel free to contact me at any time to discuss your participation.

As the Division I Representative it is my task to make sure that the Frank Bratt Scholarship Application announcement gets out to everyone and to oversee the applications.

A joint Division I & II meeting was held on December 17, 2015 at Mendon Ponds Park in Monroe County. Seven counties from the two divisions were represented. Employees were given updates from the NYSCDEA, NYSSWCC, and USDA NRCS. Division training opportunities were discussed.

As a summary of Division I county activity, 20 applications were submitted for funding through Round 21 of the Ag Non-Point Source grant program, 10 of which were approved for funding, securing close to 4 million dollars in state funding for agricultural water quality improvements in Western New York. Congratulations to a job well done Division I. In addition, the counties have lots of other quality programs and services they provide such as: AEM planning, watershed planning and lake initiatives, stormwater technical assistance, streambank restoration, environmental education, Tree and Shrub, etc.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome two new members to District employment in Division I. They include:

Scott Collins, RAP Coordinator, Niagara County  
Greg Tessman, District Manager, Genesee County

Respectfully submitted,  
Judy Bennett, Orleans County SWCD, Division I Representative





**Division II Report**  
**2015 Annual Report**

***Highlights from Cayuga, Livingston, Monroe, Onondaga, Ontario, Seneca, Wayne, Yates***

Cayuga: No Report Provided

Livingston: No Report Provided

Monroe:

- The District conducted 86 Qualified Construction Inspections on Monroe County owned SPDES permitted construction sites for the County to meet the requirements and compliance of their stormwater permits.
- The District initiated a new service contract in 2015 with the County to assist with the Monroe County Stormwater Masterplan efforts by holding a contractor to compile watershed data and to have SWCD staff assist with review of watershed data reports and provide field verification on information compiled within the reports.
- Through the contract with the Stormwater Coalition of Monroe County, the MCSWCD staff completed 139 requests for stormwater technical assistance including construction inspections, MS4 and Construction SPDES Permit Assistance, SWPPP Review, handling construction site complaints, handling drainage complaints, streambank erosion assistance, stormwater pond assistance, and MS4 Audit assistance.
- The District provided planning, design, and construction oversight to implement two (2) Green Infrastructure projects at the Monroe County Fleet Center. Retrofit projects included a bioretention, and at the District's own office, a raingarden and a stormwater planter. Funding was provided through the EPF Round 10 WQIP grant program through the Stormwater Coalition of Monroe County.
- The MCSWCD held a total of 19 stormwater related trainings and workshops in 2015, and trained 617 people. Workshops included the 4 Hour E&SC course, Living Next to Stormwater Ponds, In-field Construction Site Inspection Training, In-field Post-Construction Stormwater Management Practice Inspection Training, Stormwater Management and Erosion and Sediment Control for County DOT, Stormwater and Floodplain Management, Hydrology, Hydraulics and Wet Pond Design, Stormwater Project Design from Planning to NOI, A Deeper Shade of Green, Ensuring a Long Life for Stormwater Management Practices, and Living in a TMDL/303d Watershed.
- The District distributed 25 rain barrels to 19 Monroe County Residents to use as a stormwater management practice for reuse and recycle of rainwater.
- The District worked with 4 of our MS4 communities to distribute fourteen (14) spill kits (stationary and portable) along with three (3) catch basin inserts to assist in leak and spill prevention and municipal yard sediment control under Minimum Measure #6, Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping, from the MS4 Permit. Project was funded under Part B.
- The District partnered with Monroe County Farm Bureau and Cornell Cooperative Extension of Monroe County to host a "Farm to Table" Dinner on August 15<sup>th</sup> in the Town of Rush with 100 attendees made up of farmers, extension and District employees, and several legislators. The District recognized a Conservationist of the Year from 2014, Mark Gooding, NYS DEC Region 8 Forester for his outstanding support to the District's educational programs for over 14 years.

Monroe (continued):

- The District implemented one (1) Milk House Waste Containment System, one (1) Silage Leachate Runoff Containment, 1400 acres of Cover Cropping, one (1) Waterway with Underground Outlet, and one (1) Water & Sediment Control Basin to reduce soil & nutrient loss on 16 farms with cost-share funds in the amount of \$94,812 under the grant programs Round 17, 18 & 20 AgNPS, Great Lakes Commission and Ecosystem Based Management.
- The District assisted 2 farms in planning, surveying, designing, lay out, and implementation of 3,400 feet of subsurface drainage.
- The District implemented an Ag Plastics Recycling Program, collecting 990 pounds of plastic from 5 farms.
- We continue to partner with the County Environmental Services to host our Conservation Tree and Shrub program at the Monroe County ecopark facility where we distributed 28,050 trees, shrubs, and other plants to 374 customers.
- Distributed 3,720 fish fingerlings and 109 grass carp to 30 customers in the District's 2015 spring and summer Fish Program.
- Hosted a successful Conservation Field Days event with 1312 students participating and a local Envirothon event with 19 teams and 110 students competing.

Onondaga:

- Preemptively cut 1,064 ash trees on County property in preparation for EAB
- Injected 241 ash trees with pesticide in Onondaga Lake Park and T. Marcellus Park to protect them against EAB for next two years
- Deployed 47 purple prism traps to further delimit spread of EAB infestation in County
- Three staff members NYS DEC category 3a Certified Pesticide Applicators (for County EAB tree injection work)
- Accomplished AEM Base deliverables
- Completed many AEM plans with funding support from FL-LOWPA & OCWA
- Updated Otisco Lake Management Plan with County and stakeholders
- Cost-shared 2,400 acres of cover crops in Onondaga County and Skaneateles Lake Watershed
- Implemented 18 types of Ag BMP systems/assisted 53 landowners/invested \$428,696 on conservation funding on these BMPs
- Inspection of 500+ municipal separate storm sewer outfalls for County
- Reviewed 7 SWPPPs for County projects
- Inspected 6 County construction sites for compliance with the SWPPPs
- Instructed eight NYS DEC 4-hr ESC classes to 233 students
- Hydroseeded 50 miles of road ditches in County
- Floated 6.7 miles of streams in two towns and one village in the County. Assessed location, size, and access to remove woody debris jams that may be causing flooding and drainage issues in the communities.
- With information and knowledge shared in 3 Technical Large Animal Emergency Rescue trainings sponsored by County Emergency Management, a horse was rescued from a potential swimming pool drowning
- Sold 2,942 tree seedlings and 37 bat & blue bird houses at annual tree sale

Ontario:

- In 2015 the District conducted hundreds of certified site inspection on behalf of the County and several municipalities. All County owned project now require the OCSWCD to preform certified site inspections on behalf of the county to ensure environmental resources are protected.
- The OCSWCD also worked with the Ontario-Wayne MS4 Stormwater coalition to hire another seasonal intern and developed a stormwater coalition mini grant process to assist member municipalities with implementation of local stormwater improvement projects. The District serves as treasurer, secretary and education coordinator for the Coalition.
- The District also strengthened our involvement with watershed planning and implementation activities in the Honeoye, Canandaigua and Seneca Lake watersheds. In 2015 the OCSWCD was responsible for the development and creation of the Seneca Lake Intermunicipal Organization- a formal municipal watershed group that spans 5 counties in the Seneca Lake watershed. Furthermore in 2015 the District also successfully fought a challenge to have the Canandaigua Lake Watershed Inspection program removed from the District. The OCSWCD with overwhelming support from many of the Watershed municipalities successfully fought this challenge and prevailed. The Canandaigua Lake Watershed Inspection Program will remain at the OCSWCD.
- The OCSWCD Uniform Procedures Program (Septic Inspection Program) expanded again in 2015. The program has now been written into another Ontario County Town code, listing the OCSWCD as an inspection provider. This is an earned income program for the District.
- The District also successfully received 2 WQIP grants. 1. For a new District hydroseeder and erosion control program. 2. For implementation of sever storm water management and erosion control in the Honeoye lake watershed.
- The OCSWCD also played a role in the Ontario County All Hazards Mitigation Plan. The District will be included in the Counties final version of the document.
- The OCSWCD also conducted water quality sampling on behalf of the NYS DEC on Honeoye Lake. The sampling information is used to monitor for blue-green algae and other parameters.
- In 2015 the District also hired Megan Webster for the position of Sr. District Technician.

Seneca: No Report Provided

Wayne:

- For the last several years, Wayne County as a whole has been on the fore front of community development and resource protection and has been preparing in some key areas including invasive species management, storm water flow and management, shoreline protection planning, and agriculture non- point source protection.
- The District has been a part of the web of partnering County departments, Towns/Villages and community organizations that have helped prepare and develop plans for natural resource planning, implementation and long term awareness development and education. We all should feel very confident in the milestones of our individual communities as many of the local governments, non-profits groups and community service organizations have been focusing on giving back to the environment through reclamation, preservation and conservation projects around the county. These strong movements and partner opportunities have opened the doors to bring in over 1 million dollars in grant funding to various areas of natural resource protection in Wayne County over the next 2 years through the District. This is a 1:2 match which means roughly 3 million dollars of implementation of best management practices will be implemented for water quality and natural resource protect between 2015 and 2018.
- In 2015, all 25 of the programs that fall within the District's responsibility for natural resource protection were funded and operated smoothly. Three additional projects were implemented because of special funding in 2015. These included the Watershed Mini Grant Program, Access Development for Maxwell Creek, and Natural Shoreline & Infrastructure Protection Project.
- Thanks to Assemblyman Robert Oaks and through organization efforts completed by the Water Quality Coordinating Committee the District was able to provide Watershed Mini Grants to the residents and municipalities of Wayne County to assist in septic maintenance and replacement, sewer hookup and municipal storm water projects. Over \$12,000.00 was distributed to private citizens and municipal efforts that affected homeowners because of storm intensity and water quality issues. These small acts of preservation will have a long lasting effect on water quality for many years to come.
- The Finger Lakes Lake Ontario Watershed Protection Alliance and funding from the New York State Soil & Water Conservation Committee allowed the District, the Town of Sodus, and New York State Parks and Recreation to improve access for fisheries, paddlers and to invasive species eradication of the invasive Water Chestnut.
- New York Sea Grant in partnership with New York State Department of Environmental Conservation solicited for projects that involved protection of infrastructure utilizing the demonstration of techniques of a natural shoreline. The Village of Sodus Point, the District and the Town of Sodus worked together to begin implementation of the protection of a sewer main along the shoreline of Sodus Bay along Wickham Blvd just south of the inlet from Lake Ontario. Project began in the fall of 2015 with great success and is scheduled to be completed this spring with further implementation of a rain garden.

Yates: No Report Provided

Submitted by,

Kelly Emerick  
Executive Director  
Monroe County SWCD  
NYS CDEA Division II Representative

## 2015 Division III Highlights

### Herkimer County SWCD

Year 11 of the AEM Program is keeping us busy with planning, Tier 4 construction, and now 5A Evaluations this winter.



AEM Tier 4 Access Road and Culvert Crossing Project completed October 2015



Roofwater Control Project completed November 2015



Covered Barnyard completed January 2016



-With the mild winter weather we've been able to make field visits and take farmstead measurements for a waste transfer system, a proposed Tier 4 Implementation Project to be installed in 2016.

-The 2015 Tree Program was our largest program to date. 322 individuals purchased 16,000 trees and shrubs, 25 rain barrels, and 279 bags of compost. 52 bluebird nesting boxes and 161 bales of barley straw were also sold in 2015.

-Planning for both the 2016 Herkimer County Farm/Home Safety Day and Envirothon have started. A grant from National Grid was recently received for these valuable community education programs.

-We are continuing to work with DEC in processing Grass Carp Applications.

-The Herkimer County BOCES Natural Resources Class harvested 800 willow stakes in our ongoing effort to address stream bank erosion issues. We were involved in 4 stream projects in 2015 including survey, design and US Army Corps permit assistance.

-We remain active in both the Mohawk River Coalition and FLOWPA.

-New for 2016 – We will be starting an invasive species program using NYS Part B funds. We are targeting Japanese Knotweed sites in this initial stage of the program that ultimately could also be funded with FLOWPA dollars.

## **Jefferson County**

The hot topic in Jefferson County for 2015 was manure storage. Two proposed structures in the county, one with NRCS funding and one with Ag NPS funding ran into opposition from neighbors of the structures, the City of Watertown and the Development Authority of the North Country. Thankfully the structure with Ag NPS funding did get built. As we go into 2016 the issues continue with yet more opposition from neighbors of a proposed satellite structure.

We completed numerous projects with Ecosystem Based Management (EBM) funding through NYS. We used Rosgen natural stream design to stabilize 2200 feet of streambank in 5 locations. Over 5000 feet of riparian forest buffer was established in 8 locations. Over 4 miles of recreational trails were established on County Reforestation Property.

In addition to regular AEM work and continued nutrient management planning for 10 CAFO farms, the District installed 1 agrichemical mixing facility; 1 animal compost system; 1 access control system with 1 stream crossing, laneway, 2 watering facilities and 4000 feet of fencing; 2 waste storage structures; 1 silage leachate collection system; 350 acres of cover crop and a livestock heavy use area protection of 6500 sq.ft.

We continue our partnership with the Jefferson County Stormwater Coalition providing MS4 services. We were able to install one rain garden through a US Forest Service grant we received late in 2015. We continue to manage 5500 acres of County Reforestation Property and worked with NYS DEC and local snowmobile clubs to build 3 miles of trail on State and private land that, in conjunction with County trails, provides a critical link between Lewis and Oswego County trail systems. Our partnership with the Goose Bay Reclamation Corporation provided the group with funding to treat 39 acres of Goose Bay for Eurasian Watermilfoil.

## **Lewis County**

The Lewis County Soil and Water Conservation District had over 520 requests for assistance in 2015 resulting in over 4,027 acres being assessed for agricultural value, water samples, GIS mapping requests, water quality inquiries, invasive species management and identification and Agricultural Environmental Management. Best management practices installed in 2015 include over 190 acres of cover crops, a covered barnyard and a waste storage facility for silage leachate collection. The District assisted Lewis County Farm Bureau and Cornell Cooperative Extension in planning Family Farm Day at the Greg and Annie Millick Farm where over 750 participants attended. A "Soil Health Workshop" was held with over 40 attendees learning about cover crops, nutrient management and Food Security Act rules pertaining to wetlands. The Progressive Agriculture Farm Safety Day® was held at the Lewis County Fairgrounds with 65 volunteers assisting in the education of 318 5<sup>th</sup> grade students with 15 unique presentations on issues relating to farm and home safety. Lewis and Jefferson County held the annual FFA Land Judging competition at the Windy-Hollow Holsteins Farm in Denmark, NY with 165 high school students participating in the competition.

The District participated in Conservation Field Days at the NYS DEC park in Dadville, NY where over 200 6<sup>th</sup> grade students learned about soil erosion utilizing the EM2 River Model. The 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Black River Watershed Conference was held at the Hayloft at Moonshine Farms where over 65 participants including municipalities, state agencies, Cornell University and private citizens attended. Topics that were discussed included invasive species watercraft inspection, water quality coordinating committee project updates, community resiliency and green infrastructure, stormwater MS-4's and nutrient management. The morning sessions were followed up by an afternoon tour of the Black River Canal Museum, Port Leyden FEMA work and a waste storage facility implemented through the NYS AGNPSAC Program. The District also assisted the county in implementing an early flood detection system utilizing stream gauges on the Black River. Finally, the District reduced erosion in several municipalities by completing a record 28 hydroseeding projects and 1 streambank erosion project for the county.

## **Madison County**

Madison County is located in the geographic center of New York State. Our northern border is Oneida Lake and Oneida County, and we are neighbors to Onondaga County on the west, Cortland County to the South and Chenango and Otsego counties to the south and east. The county is split into three major watersheds; the Susquehanna, the Oneida Lake and the Mohawk. Multiple man-made reservoirs were built in the late eighteen



hundreds to supply the Erie Canal system with water. They no longer supply the canal but do make wonderful summer camping areas for county and non-county residents. The county is comprised of 423,040 acres.

Agriculture is the number one industry in the county and generates approximately 62 million dollars in sales per year. Our agricultural community is a diverse and dynamic group of individuals that are changing all the time. The dairy industry is still our largest sector at this time comprised of over 200 operating dairies. There are also beef, horse, Christmas tree farms, vegetable and crop farms that comprise the remainder of the 734 total farms in the county. The district is working hard to correct non-point source pollution in the county through the implementation of BMP's on many farms. Through the use of multiple funding sources such as the state EPF, federal programs and special watershed projects such as the Tioughnioga River Watershed project, we have been able to assist many farmers in the county to meet their non-point source pollution reduction goals. We continue to work with our partners at NRCS and FSA with programs like EQIP and CREP to meet landowner objectives.



Outside of the tremendous workload with our farming community, the district is actively involved with the Upper Susquehanna Coalition and NYS DEC in the implementation of the tributary strategy to try and meet the regulatory actions being implemented in the Susquehanna River watershed. We work with many landowners and municipalities with drainage problems as they arise. Currently we work with our fellow districts in the Mohawk River Watershed Coalition to implement the watershed management plan for this area of the county. We continue to implement the recommendations from Oneida Lake Watershed Management Plan in the county.

Stream Restoration through WQIP Grant



Manure Storage through EPF Grant

## Oneida County

The NanoCenter construction has brought a large workload to our District. We have been asked to construct the offsite wetlands mitigation project at the Oriskany Flats Wildlife Management Area. The project will create at least 25 acres of forested wetland habitat. Various practices being used on site include potholes, ditch plugs, low berms, vernal pools and several acres of native wetland plantings. Our office has also been asked to design

and construct the offsite stream mitigation projects on behalf of the Nanocenter. These projects will incorporate natural channel design methods to stabilize eroding streambanks and restore stable bankfull dimensions to project areas on the Sauquoit, the Oriskany and the Mohawk River. Additional natural channel design projects are being installed along Big Creek, the Oriskany Creek and the Sconondoa Creek. Design assistance is frequently provided by the USFWS. The District's Agricultural Environmental Management Program remains very active. Our office maintains plans for 8 CAFOs, 5 of which are large CAFOs. Our certified planner is currently updating plans, completing annual reports and readying spreading schedules. Construction work scheduled for this summer includes 2 milkhouse wastewater systems as well as silage leachate treatment. Nearly 50 ag assessments were completed by our technician this winter.

In June and July of 2013, storm events ravaged several communities in Oneida County. The County asked our District to partner on a post-flood mitigation project fund. So far, we have designed two local projects for this fund including Grange Hill Road in New Hartford and the St. Mary's Brook watershed project in Kirkland will mitigate future flood damages.

## **Oswego County**

### 2015 Highlights

Held the 25<sup>th</sup> annual Oswego County Envirothon, along with 3 additional county-wide education programs

Completed prescribed rotational grazing systems on 2 farms in addition to offering technical assistance to several farms for concerns such as erosion and drainage

Continued to work with the County's AEM participants and enrolled many new participants as a result of giving AEM presentations at meetings such as the Oswego County Beef Producers

Introduced cover crops to 3 producers through the Soil Health Mini-Grants for the Great Lakes Basin and Mohawk River Basin program

Conducted 2 timber sales and controlled 43 acres of interfering and invasive vegetation on Oswego County Reforestation Properties

Offered forestry assistance to approximately 50 landowners and municipalities

The District was awarded an Urban and Community Forestry Grant through the NYS DEC for conducting street tree inventories for Villages in the County

Controlled nearly 100 acres of water chestnut in the Oswego River. Even despite this acreage, previously treated sites were 70-80% less in coverage as compared to last year.

New sites of water chestnut have shown up that will require either a viscous hand pull effort and/or chemical treatment for control in 2016

District will be completing a two year research study of the Resiliency of North Pond Channel Natural Resource Area along the eastern shore of Great Lake Ontario.

Controlled over 65 different plots of Giant Hogweed, majority in Oswego County but with a few in neighboring Cayuga County.

Helped coordinated and distributed thousand's of mosquito larvicide kits throughout a CNY five county area including SWCDs, as well as supported the aerial spraying for the EEE virus in three counties (Oswego, Madison and Onondaga).

Actively engaged in assisting and providing grant management oversight to the dredging of Oswego County WQCC's number one water body - Lake Neatahwanta. Dredging is being conducted by the City of Fulton and the Lake Neatahwanta Reclamation Committee.

Still conducting an Annual Tree & Shrub Program for the general public.

## St. Lawrence County

2015 was a year of changes for the St. Lawrence County Soil & Water Conservation District (SLC SWCD). We said farewell to our District Manager of the last twenty years, Dawn Howard in November. Raeanne Dulanski, a District employee for the last 8 ½ years was selected by the Board of Directors for the promotion into the Manager position. With the shuffling of staff it allowed for the addition of a new Technician, Cheynne Youngs, bringing the District to its full staffing level of three and a half.

While the District had a successful year of traditional programs, tree and shrub sale and fish sales, we also had a successful year with our other programs. The No-Till Rental program saw 300 acres planted, the 4,270 acres of County Forestland continues to be managed by the Forester, and two Ag NPS grants were completed and closed out. The two Ag NPS grants were Round 18 and 20, which included the completion of three manure storage facilities for three different farms and state funds paid to the farm of just under \$1 million dollars.

SLC SWCD, working with Jefferson County SWCD and SLC Planning Department was able to secure funds to construct and place 18 weed disposal stations throughout the two Counties. This grant opportunity has led to the development of a relationship with a local Community Connections BOCES group. This group of students will be completing the construction of the weed stations, using the project as an opportunity to combine math skills, environmental education, science and life skills to turn out a final project that they can help install and utilize. The District and BOCES are both excited that this collaborative program has brought our two groups together and are looking forward to working on the project together and hopefully continuing this relationship in the future.

For the second year in a row, SLC SWCD and Cornell Cooperative Extension of St. Lawrence County (CCESLC) have joined forces and have secured funding through the Ecosystem Based Management Soil Health Mini-Grant to implement cover crops. This year we reached out to Franklin County to include them in the funding request, as our CCE Regional Agronomist also covers their County. We hope to be able to entice 300 acres of cover crops to be implemented in our Counties, where cover crops aren't a common practice.

The St. Lawrence County Soil & Water Conservation District is excited for 2016 as they continue to work with the new staff dynamic and try to pair the traditional SLC SWCD programs with new ideas and project.



## DIVISION IV 2011 REPORT

### BROOME COUNTY:

On September 7th 2011, the remnants of Tropical Storm "Lee" brought torrential rain to the New York/Pennsylvania border causing severe small stream flooding in the area. Heavy rain of over 8" fell in a short period of time on ground already saturated from the 3" of rain that was associated with Tropical

Storm Irene 10 days earlier. If the flash flooding wasn't enough the Susquehanna River, downstream from its confluence with the Chenango River, responded with rises to above the record levels recorded in the June

2006 event. Binghamton, Johnson City, Endicott and Vestal saw flood water overtop the walls and levees built to protect those communities impacting hundreds of homes and businesses

As a result of the Lee and Irene flood events New York State committed tens of millions of dollars that are going directly to residents, businesses and farmers in these communities. The state moved quickly to adapt and even create new programs to meet the unique needs of each area. The Agriculture and Community Recovery Fund (ACRF) awarded \$4.5 million in grants to more than 350 farms in the impacted communities.

The Broome SWCD submitted 11 requests for funding under the Agricultural and Community Recovery Fund that NYS developed to assist farms that were impacted by recent floods. 9 requests were funded totaling \$77,350 for fence replacement, repair to stream crossings, stream bank stabilization and debris removal.

Since the September 2011 flood the SWCD has logged over 600 hours of flood related work.

This time was spent working with municipalities, framers, private landowners and DEC on stream flooding, erosion and permit related issues. During the past month staff has worked with over 80 county residents including over

50 site visits in 10 municipalities, primarily in the western portion of the county.

### CHENANGO COUNTY:

Flooding was at the forefront for Chenango County as well who also utilized the ACRF grant to assist its many affected farms. The Chenango County SWCD was able to secure funding for 23 farms to repair damage on agricultural property due to flooding. This money was used to address streambank erosion, repair access roads, fencing, and remove debris from agricultural fields. In total, the County was awarded \$142,488.00. All in all the recipients of this money were very glad to have the opportunity to receive the help and let us not forget there is a difference between emergency work and remediation.

### CHEMUNG COUNTY:

The Chemung County SWCD is about to launch a new program called "Countywide Stream Rehabilitation Program". The program mimics that of my good friend and mentor Jeff Parker of Steuben County. For the past several years Jeff has accomplished Stream work in his County by actually owning, and with the help of the County DPW operating his own equipment. Jeff has been able to accomplish hundreds of jobs and is saving the County many thousands of dollars both on the front end of the projects but also during extreme storm events where his work has always fared out very well and has protected Municipal infrastructure.

Chemung County SWCD has done similar work but always looking to beg, borrow or steal someone's equipment. Armed with a letter from Jeff on how he administers his program we began to talk with our County and

Town's about the possibility for our own program. The talks initiated with the Town of Chemung who had some devastation as a result of tropical storm Lee. The end result has been a signing of a inter-municipal agreement for a 5 year pilot between the County, DPW, SWCD, and eleven Towns to develop such a program. The agreement calls for the County to provide the up-front cost of an excavator and Dozer for approximately \$400,000.00. The Towns have agreed to develop a fund administered by the District at a cost of \$1.00per person living within that Town each year for 5 years. For the eleven Towns it works out to a little over \$60,000.00 per year. This money will be used for insurance, maintenance, and replacement costs. The District will house and coordinate the operation of the equipment and all permits. The District is very

excited to start up the program and thank Jeff Parker for his out of the box thinking and great program ideas.

#### CORTLAND COUNTY:

During these tough economic times, the District fared well by advocating for a minimally impacted county appropriation while securing the funding of multiple grant proposals. With our only turnover being our year-long Americorps Conservation Intern position, the staffs continuity and positive attitudes assure the quality and delivery of our many services and programs. Luckily, Cortland County was not significantly impacted by the devastating flooding witnessed by many of our neighboring Districts. We are actively engaged in the Chesapeake Bay TMDL process as well as the hot button topic of our region, Natural Gas Exploration. There are a myriad of services our District provides year in and year out including storm water review, stream assessments and rehabilitation, education and outreach just to name a few. We continued our AEM planning efforts and, through our NRCS contribution agreement and secured grant funding, were able to get a number conservation projects installed throughout the county. We are looking forward to another challenging and successful year of service to our local communities.

#### DELAWARE COUNTY: No Report

#### SCHUYLER COUNTY:

This year was one of change for our district, after 22 years of dedication and expertise District Technician Lloyd Wetherbee retired this fall. Known statewide for his expertise in Geographical Information Systems (GIS), drain tile layout, erosion control, stream stabilization, critical area seeding, along with many other talents, Lloyd will be missed. He will continue to work 10 hours a week, for one year, to pass on his many talents to new hire, Rebecca Collins.

Rebecca spent nearly one year learning from the area's top natural resource professionals with the Chemung County Stormwater Team and the Chemung County Soil and Water Conservation District. She is learning very quickly and has already shown to be a great asset to our County. Handling the typical duties of the position while growing and advancing our District with new technology and excitement, such as, the creation of the Districts own facebook page. We are very excited to have her join our team.

#### STEUBEN COUNTY: No Report

#### TIOGA COUNTY:

The Tioga County SWCD staff has been busy in 2011 providing technical assistance in the form of planning, design and implementation activities on program such as AEM, Graze NY, Farm Bill programs (thru a contribution with NRCS), hydroseeding, wetland construction (with the assistance of USC staff), stream rehabilitation projects, stormwater including contractor erosion and sediment control trainings, and our tree and shrub sale. However, in September our focus shifted because of Tropical Storm Lee dropping 12 plus inches of rain over Tioga County. As a result the District quickly stepped up providing equipment and staff to assist our County Dept. of Public Works with flood recovery efforts. Staff also began surveying damages felt by farms and was successful in receiving funding for 23 farms impacted by the storm through the State's ACRF program. Much of this work focused on streambank stabilization and cropland and pasture management. The District continued its flood recovery efforts by being approved for FEMA 406 funds. To date we have over 6 streambank stabilization projects that will need to be completed in 2012 with FEMA funding. Other 2011 District Highlights include, the District named project manager for the County's Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan update which should take more than 6 months to complete. Without a doubt 2011 proved to be a very busy year for the District but I believe 2012 is shaping up to be even busier as we continue flood recovery efforts.

#### TOMPKINS COUNTY:

The Tompkins County SWCD would like to start off by thanking our two interns within the past year, Sarah Cox and Katie Wratten. We have also seen some past employees move on to other things, so we thank them as well; Nick Brown, Darrel Sturgess, and Jen Case. We welcome to the office Eugene Aarnio (Grazing Technician), Angel Hinickle (Resource Conservation Specialist) and Teresa Burch (Secretary/Treasurer).

Instead of writing about the same old programs which continue to do well, I thought I would briefly touch on a few new things that the Tompkins County SWCD has done this past year. How about a little thing called Hydrilla?? Hydrilla is a very aggressive invasive aquatic plant that was recently discovered in the Cayuga Inlet, which feeds into Cayuga Lake. Tompkins County SWCD was very involved with the task force that responded to this threat. We were responsible for applying for permits to apply the herbicide, coordinating the budget to hire a certified applicator, and post application monitoring of the chemical to document the spread (or lack thereof) of the chemical outside the treatment area. We continue to be involved in this process and will be for the next several years.

This past September the district had an "Appreciation and Recognition Luncheon" in which we recognized Conservation Farm of the Year, Conservation Leadership, Contractor Award, Conservation Citizen Award, Education Sponsorship Award, and Municipal Partner Award. The event was very successful, and attended by Senators, Congressmen, Tompkins County Legislature and Administration, and many others.

Also, this past September we were able to host a Tire Collection Day in the Town of Caroline. It had been a while since the district has held this event, and it turned out pretty good. We collected over 800 tires from Tompkins County Residents to be recycled.

The Tompkins County SWCD has spent a lot of time working with the highway departments in the county designing and installing stream stabilization projects around bridges and highways. These projects improved infrastructure, water quality and residential properties. Using various techniques, from large stone to grass vegetation, we were able to stabilize the stream banks and protect the house or bridge that was impacted. Funding for these projects in the Town of Lansing and the Town of Caroline came from the NYSDEC and the County Flood Hazard Mitigation Program.

Towards the start of this past summer, the district was presented with an opportunity to purchase a large amount of trees from RPM Ecosystems in Dryden, NY who had filed for bankruptcy. The district jumped at the chance, and the staff had its work cut out for them throughout the summer and into the fall. It was a fantastic way for our district to raise extra funds to help support our operating costs. We managed to sell quite a few trees to customers, other districts, towns, and even golf courses. We still have some left, so if any districts are interested, give us a call.

**Division V**  
**Clinton, Essex, Franklin, Hamilton, Warren**  
**March 16, 2016 NYCDEA Annual Meeting**

*Grants*

- RCPP (Regional Conservation Partnership Program) (4/1/2015-9/30/2019)
  - Participating Division Counties: All
  - Used to implement projects related several resource concerns, including soil health and forestry.
  - Funds have been applied for and received by Greater Adirondack RC& D (sponsor) and individual counties.
- Upper Hudson River Watershed Coalition
  - Participating Division Counties: Essex, Hamilton, Warren
  - Grants are being used to establish a Revitalization Plan, which included a roadside erosion inventory over the summer
  - DOS Grant (4/1/2015-4/1/2018)
    - Total fund allocations for Division V: \$65,790
    - Total match allocations for Division V: \$88,500
  - WQIP Grant (7/1/2014-12/31/2016)
    - Total fund allocations for Division V: \$137,363
    - Total match allocations for Division V: \$52,175
- CWICNY (Champlain Watershed Improvement Coalition of New York)
  - Participating Division Counties: Clinton, Essex, Franklin, Warren
  - Grants are being used to identify various types of projects within the watershed as well as project implementation.
  - DOS Grant
    - Total fund allocations for Division V: \$70,000
    - Total match allocations for Division V: \$127,600
  - WQIP Grant
    - Total fund allocations for Division V: \$212,284
    - Total match allocations for Division V: \$77,844
- Schroon Lake
  - Participating Division Counties: Essex and Warren
  - Funds received by DOS grant money and donations
  - Stormwater projects, rain barrel and lake friendly living workshops, septic pump outs, educational outreach

*Celebrated Milestones*

- Essex County SWCD 50 years
- Hamilton County SWCD 50 years

## **Division VI Annual Report**

### **2015 Highlights**

#### **Albany County SWCD**

- Held our 1<sup>st</sup> Conservation Field Day with 108 fifth grade students in attendance
- Installed a Rain Garden at the Guilderland Public Library
- Installed a 28' x 118' Pollinator Garden in the Knox Town Park with funding from the HMRC&D Council and the Hudson Valley Foundation for Youth Health
- Closed out one Round 14, one Round 15 and one Round 17 Ag Nonpoint Source Grant
- Participated in the Live Life Local event hosted by the Albany County Executive
- 2 Covered barnyard construction project underway for beef operations.
- Riparian buffer fencing project scheduled to begin
- Held a successful Tire Recycling event with 38 residents recycling 787 tires
- NYS Flood Mitigation project being installed with 2 rock vanes.
- Designed and installed a water system for a prescribed rotational grazing system. Spring development, reservoir and 5,524 feet of pipeline installed.
- Staff members continued to serve in an executive position on the Hudson Mohawk RC&D Council, the Mohawk River Watershed Coalition, Albany County WQCC and the CCE Agriculture, Horticulture, Natural Resources and Environment Committee

#### **Fulton County SWCD**

-----N. East Ave. Structural Plate Arch-----

*This project was partially funded by the Department of State under Title 11 of the Environmental Protection Fund.*



Structural Plate bridges and culverts can be cost effective alternatives to traditional bridge

Costs are drastically cut because local crews generally have the equipment and man power to complete the projects in-house without contracting out specialized equipment or labor.





The Soil and Water Conservation District submitted two Department of State grants, one for the N. East Ave. replacement and the other for four more sites within the City of Johnstown which include South Chase Street bridge (Comrie Creek), North Chase Street bridge (Hale Creek), East Main Street culvert (Comrie Creek), and Pleasant and Washington Street culvert (Hall Creek).

These proposals were submitted to help reduce flood water choke points along the tributaries that flow into the Cayadutta Creek within the City of Johnstown. These areas of concern have been identified by a flood prevention study and have showed to be undersized and in poor condition. The most economical solution is to replace these structures with properly sized aluminum arch structures which can be installed by the City DPW, greatly reducing the cost of each project. Going with this option we can replace FOUR structures for the same cost as replacing a single bridge.

## -----Ephratah Rod & Gun Club Recreation Pond and Dry Hydrant----

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### *Soil and Water Conservation District Special Project Funds*



After many years and hoops to jump through the Ephratah Rod & Gun Club Pond and Dry Hydrant is complete. Being that the site is in NYS wetlands the conservation district had to apply for a permit and submit a mitigation plan with NYS DEC. All the invasive wetland plants were removed from the site and piled at the local landfill. The pond is going to be stocked in the spring and should provide years of recreational enjoyment and fire protection.



Along with providing the Rod & Gun Club with on-site fishing opportunities there was a dry hydrant installed for local fire protection. Installation of dry hydrants into nearby and developed water supplies eliminates the inefficiency and complexity of long-distance water shuttle operations. This arrangement also allows access to water sources from a roadway instead of having to work on soft ground immediately adjacent to the pond or stream.



The Town of Ephratah installed the guard rail and driveway. The conservation district donated the dry hydrant materials. Overall, a long time in the making but a great project that could not have come together without the cooperation of local governmental agencies and the Rod & Gun Club.



The Conservation District issued the NYS DEC General Permit for maintenance dredging in a series of ponds in the Town of Johnstown. The contractor followed the Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan the district submitted, which provided predetermined spoil areas, sediment basins, dewatering strategies, silt fence locations, and seeding and mulching standards. The property owner was very pleased with the work completed.

#### Schenectady County SWCD

- The District continues to operate a composting and a recycling facility
- We supply several area Districts with bagged compost and wood mulch products for their annual Tree & Shrub sales
- In cooperation with the County, the District runs an Alternative to Incarceration program
- The District provides maintenance at 3 County preserves and along 9 miles of the Mohawk-Hudson Bike-Hike Trail
- We completed a major safety improvement project at one of the preserves
- The District also provides Erosion and Sediment Control and Good Housekeeping trainings to the public and municipalities
- Several stream bank protection projects were completed
- The District and the County entered into a Department of State grant as part of the Mohawk River Watershed Coalition

#### Schoharie County SWCD

Through an approximately \$76,000 grant the District in conjunction with the Co EMO office recently installed 3 stream gauges in the County, 2 on the Schoharie Creek and 1 on the Fox Creek, a major tributary to the Schoharie. These gauges will provide much needed data on stream flows and aid in early warnings during potential flood events. The District is acting as the Sub-recipient for NY Rising funds through the Governor's Office of Storm Recovery for 3 communities that were affected by Irene. The projects include a drainage improvement project in the Village of Schoharie, a 1.5 mile stream restoration project in the Town of Schoharie, and a culvert replacement and Stormwater improvement project in the Village of Middleburgh. These projects total over \$6 million. Through ag-nonpoint we completed the construction of a manure storage and a large covered barnyard project. We are also assisting the Town of Conesville with another ½ mile stream restoration project this fall funded by NYC DEP. Assisting the Mohawk River Watershed Coalition with the Schoharie Creek Flood Study which will come up with 15 potential projects to help reduce the impacts of flooding in the Schoharie Creek Watershed.

#### Washington County SWCD

2015 was a very busy year for agricultural-environmental planning and implementation. Both of our major watersheds, Lake Champlain and Upper Hudson River, saw considerable activity. AEM continues to be a focus and drives many of our grants and programs.

- Applied for 2 Ag NPS grants and were awarded funding for 1
- Completed Ag NPS BMPs including; waste transfer system with a 90,000 gallon reception pit, 3.4 million gallon earthen manure storage, 25,200 sq. ft. bedded pack manure storage, 6,200 sq. ft. covered barnyard, silage leachate low flow collection with VTA, 198 acres of cover crop
- Greater Adirondack RCPP, Soil Health; 10 initial signups and 7 farms that were eligible for ranking.
- Worked with the Upper Hudson River Watershed Coalition and the Champlain Watershed Improvement Coalition of New York on several DOS and DEC grants. Included was the erosion assessment of over 500 miles of roadside and identifying non-point phosphorus sources in high priority watersheds.
- Earned Income: we had a huge year for our no-till drills by nearly doubling our normal usage to 900 acres; 23 ponds were stocked, over 5,100 trees & shrubs distributed, and 112 agricultural assessments were completed.
- Installed two streambank stabilization projects on the Battenkill River
- 177 requests for assistance; 27 were for municipalities
- Education/Workshops: Cover Crop Walk of Aerial Rye Seedings, Blueberry Pruning, and Game of Logging

#### No Report

- Montgomery SWCD
- Rensselaer SWCD
- Saratoga SWCD



## New York State Conservation District Employees' Association

### Division VII Report

The past year's activities include:

- Several counties in the Division have been participating in watershed wide culvert inventories in partnership with NYSDEC Hudson River Estuary Program and Cornell Water Resources Institute. District staff were trained on the methods for collecting the culvert information in order to meet the requirements of the North Atlantic Aquatic Connectivity Collaborative (NAACC). Field data collection was completed including inventorying and mapping each culvert in the watershed, and collecting measurements on each culvert. Once field work was complete the data was transferred into the NAACC database online. Photos of each culvert were also taken depicting the inlet and outlet of each culvert, as well as upstream and downstream from each culvert. The completed information will be downloaded from the NAACC database by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and sent to Cornell University Water Resource Institute for modeling.
- Dutchess County was the recipient of a grant from the NYSDEC Hudson River Estuary Program to assist a landowner with a dam removal project.
- Sullivan County is starting a No-Till Seeding Program
- In Greene County, the 2015 construction season completed the stream restoration work that had tropical storm Irene funding (EWP, FEMA, ESD).
- Additional storm related work that the Greene District completed this past year was administering the FEMA buyout program for the county.
- Greene County beginning a new program that has received funding from NYCDEP to provide local flood analysis to communities to better position them for future events. To be able to work proactively with communities to prevent future damages is a paradigm shift that they are looking forward to.
- Districts in the Division participated in the Hudson Valley Regional Envirothon in April at Sharpe Reservation.
- The Districts in Division VII participated in the planning of, and attended, the Southeast New York Stormwater Conference held in Beacon New York in October.
- Districts in the Division held their Annual Tree Sales in 2015 and are preparing for 2016.
- Orange County Soil and Water has been working away at several big projects throughout the county. We completed two Trees for Tribs plantings last fall and have scheduled a third for this spring along the impaired Monhagen Brook. Additional attention is being given to the Monhagen through a WQIP grant that is supporting public education, stream clean-up and green infrastructure projects. One of three Greater Catskill Flood Remediation priority projects was completed this winter as well. This was a big project, despite being the smallest of the three. Work is beginning this month on the largest priority project, a "floodplain bench" design that will reconnect the Wallkill River with its floodplain while protecting hundreds of acres of prime Black Dirt from minor flooding. This past growing season, our No-Till equipment rental program saw over 1,200 acres planted with conservation tillage. AGNPS projects fill in the cracks between these larger projects and help us avoid any downtime in our office.

NYS CDEA - Division VIII

**NO REPORT PROVIDED**

# Environmental Education Foundation of Soil & Water Conservation In New York State

Supporting Environmental Awareness  
Through the Funding of Educational Programs



## 2015 Annual Report

**The Environmental Education Foundation** provided funds to programs designed to increase environmental awareness in today's youth. Funds are focused at the local level where there is the most impact. One such effort is the NYS Envirothon which is designed to test students' knowledge and understanding of natural resource issues within New York State and cultivate

their desire to learn more about our natural resources and environmental issues. The spirit of competition stimulates students' interests in environmental concerns and motivates them to further develop their skills and grow into environmentally-aware, action-oriented adults.



**Congratulations - Mount Academy, Ulster Co.**

### 2015 NYS Envirothon Winners

education programs. Grant proposals totaling over \$90,000 were written. The Foundation also received funds from various sources including individual donations. We appreciate the continuing support!

### Environmental Education Foundation Fund Raising Efforts

In 2015 the Foundation continued its efforts to raise funds by researching, writing and submitting grants to support environmental

In an effort to assist regional/local county Envirothon's, the Foundation accepted \$69,077 in grants and/or donations from companies/organizations that require that their funds go into a 501c3 organization. The funds are then passed on to those awarded. Contact a Foundation Board member for more information on how you might be able to benefit from this opportunity. To reach out and bring awareness to the Foundation, a banner and brochures have been displayed at numerous state and regional events throughout New York.

**Get involved with the Environmental Education Foundation  
and send your financial support today - it's tax deductible!**

**Help make a better future by supporting environmental awareness today!**

**[www.nyenviroed.org](http://www.nyenviroed.org)**

# New York State Fair Report 2015

## NYS Fair Committee Members

Kristin White, Seneca County SWCD  
Erica Schreiner, Oswego County SWCD

Tad Gerace, Ontario County SWCD  
Kelly Emerick, Monroe County SWCD

► The NYSCDEA State Fair Committee would like to say **THANK YOU** to everyone who once again helped volunteer their time to work shifts at the 2015 Great New York State Fair. We had 42 volunteers from 22 Counties. We appreciate your help! If you are interested in working a shift for the 2016 Great NYS Fair Booth please contact Kristin White at 315-568-4366 ext. 100 or [kristin.white@ny.nacdnet.net](mailto:kristin.white@ny.nacdnet.net).

► The theme this year was “Invasive Species”. We had handmade Giant Hogweed, Emerald Ash Borer, Purple Loosestrife, Water Chestnut, Campfire (to promote the “Don’t Move Firewood” campaign), Hydrilla, Japanese Knotweed, Blue Green Algae, Hemlock Woolly Adelgid, and Asian (bighead) Carp. We also had on display examples of water invasive species and Emerald Ash Borer. The State Fair Committee would like to send out a special Thank You to the following for their help with the displays: Cindy Williams-Oswego County, Megan Webster-Ontario County, Polly Weigand-Suffolk County, and Hilary Mosher with the Finger Lakes PRISM Group.

2016’s theme will be Invasive Species again. If you have any ideas, please feel free to contact one of the committee members.

► According to the NYS Fair website the total number of visitors to the 2015 Great NYS Fair was 908,147. This is a lot of potential people we provided outreach and educational information to.

► **Shift Schedule** – There are two shifts that you can choose from: 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM or 3:00 PM to 8:00 PM. To see an updated schedule please check out Seneca County SWCD’s website at [www.senecacountyswcd.org](http://www.senecacountyswcd.org). Contact Kristin White to sign up for a shift.

► **Handout Items:** ♦District Sales Programs Binder ♦Rain Garden Brochure ♦District Programs & Contact Information Sheet ♦NYS Soil and Water Conservation Districts Brochure ♦Careers in NYS Soil and Water Conservation Districts Brochure ♦Make Your Home the Solution to Stormwater Pollution Brochure ♦and many more!

► Winners of the \$50.00 Employee Incentive Award were: Megan Webster from Ontario County, Al Fagan from Wyoming County, Erica Schreiner from Oswego County, P.J. Emerick from Ontario County, and Judy Bennett from Orleans County.

► The winners of the coloring contest were: 0-5 years was Aiyana Peters from Wayne County, 6-8 years there were no entries for this age group, and 9-12 years was Carolyn Redmore from Onondaga County. Way to Go!!

► The guessing game for 2015 was a rain gauge filled with Starburst. The person that correctly guessed the number of Starburst won a laminated poster of Northeastern Fish and a bag of Starbursts. We had 545 entries for the Guessing Game. The winner with the correct guess of 122 Starburst was Sarah Kimak from Onondaga County. Congratulations!

► The dates for the 2016 Great New York State Fair are August 25<sup>th</sup> through September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016. We look forward to seeing you there.

Kristin White, Chair

## Empire Farm Days 2015

The Committee would like to say **THANK YOU** to all that volunteered at this year's Empire Farm Days held August 11<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup>, 2015. There were between 60,000-70,000 in attendance.

We have on display before and after pictures of Ag and Non-Ag projects throughout the Districts. If you have a project you would like to have on display at Empire Farms Days, please email your pictures to Kristin White.

We will remain in the Southwest Main Tent for 2016. Empire Farm Days will run August 9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup>, 2016 in Seneca Falls at the Rodman Lott & Son Farm.

Kristin White, Chair

## Conservation Skills Workshop 2015

The 2015 Conservation Skills Workshop (CSW) training program was held between Monday, September 21 and Friday, September 25 in Cortland NY at the Grange. A total of 13 classes were offered and 80 students attended the training. (61 students were from SWCD, 8 from NRCS, 2 watershed employees, and 9 were from agricultural consulting firms).

Some changes for 2015 included the “First Annual Conservation Skills Workshop BBQ” which was held on Tuesday September 22 at Yaman Park. Twenty six people attended. Secondly, the registration fee was increased from \$10 to \$25 per student. The committee agreed that the increase was needed in order to put on high quality training and cover operating expenses. The committee also felt that \$25 is still an incredibly low price to participate in a week-long training series.

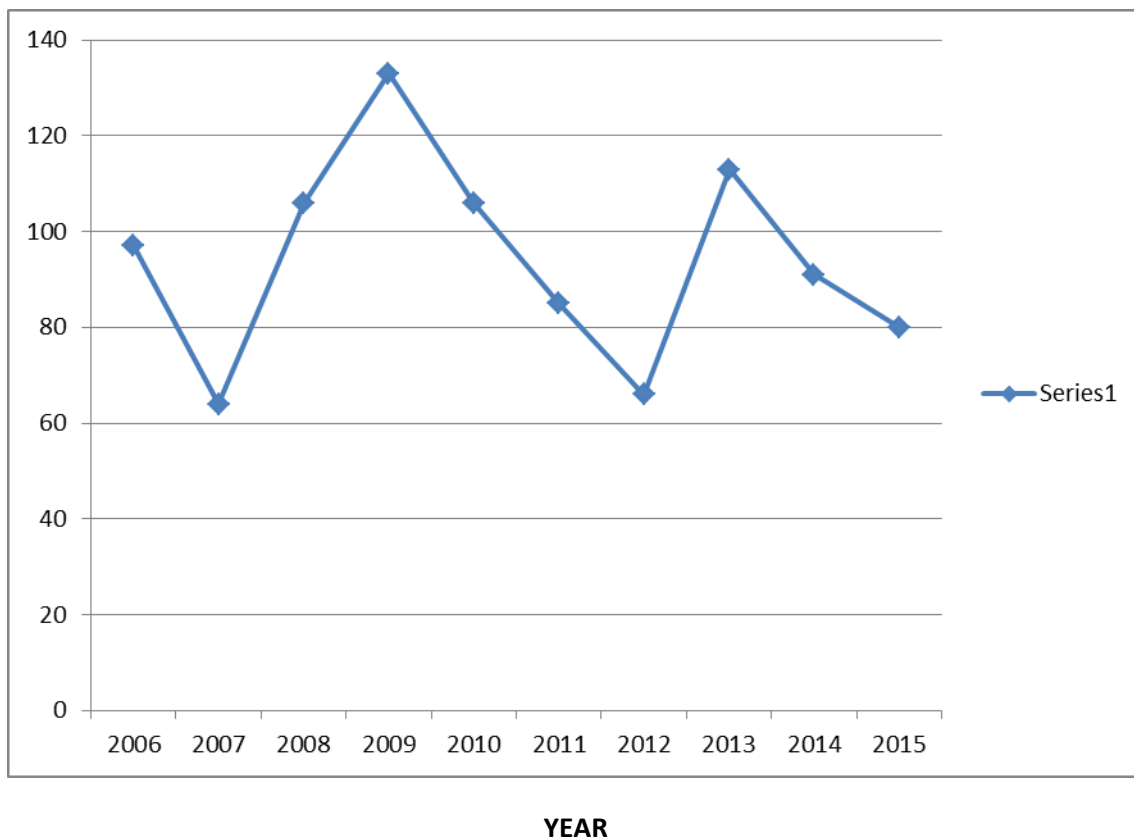
**It is important to note that each class had an average of 6 students. This is a pretty low number for CSW to be sustainable into the future. We would like to hear from each of you as to what we can do to increase these numbers so that folks are receiving the best training that they can for the time and money that is invested.**

Please know that new committee members and new ideas for topics and course instructors are always welcome. The committee has tentatively scheduled the 2016 Conservation Skills Workshop kickoff on meeting Wednesday, May 11 from 10 AM to 2 PM at the Onondaga County SWCD offices. A working lunch is provided and all are welcome!

A special “THANK YOU” goes out to Cortland County SWCD for hosting the 2015 event and coming up with the idea of the annual BBQ. A big “THANK YOU” goes out to the following committee members for making the 2015 training happen: Chris Watkins, Greg Albrecht, John Persch, Jordan Clements, Lauren Prezorski, Stacy Russell, Steve Lorraine, Tim Clark, Mike Fournier, and Tom Eskildsen.

Respectfully Submitted by Mark Burger, Stacy Russell, Tom Eskildsen, Chris Watkins, John Persch

**ATTENDANCE AT WATER QUALITY SYMPOSIUM**



# Administrative Conference Report

There was no Administrative Management Conference held in 2015. A survey was sent out statewide and the survey suggested skipping the event in 2015 to allow the committee to work with the employees across the state to determine needs for future events.

The Committee will continue to work together in 2016 to plan for an event.

I would like to thank each of the members who devote countless hours to serving the Administrative Management Committee.

Carla Luther, Chair- Lewis County

Cathy Comfort- Wayne County

Jodi Chamberlain- Genesee County

Karen Ervay- Monroe County

Wanda Jakub- Cayuga County

Brenda Weaver- Schoharie County

## Management Members

PJ Emerick- Ontario County

Brian Davis- Cattaraugus County

If anyone is interested in serving on the Committee or has any suggestions for future Administrative Management course, please let one of our Committee members know.

Thanks!

**Carla Luther**

**Chairperson**

## **Frank Bratt Scholarship Program 2015 Annual Report**

The Division I representative traditionally has been assigned the responsibility of administering the Frank Bratt Scholarship Program with oversight by the NYS Conservation District Employees' Association Board of Directors. The scholarship program was initiated in 1990 to assist District employees with furthering their professional development and education. Successful applicants are reimbursed for all or a portion of the cost of credit or non-credit college courses, workshops or other professional development programs. The following report summarizes the administration of two funding cycles for the scholarship program this past year.

There were eleven applicants requesting \$4,062.50 for the June 1, 2015 round of funding. The following individuals were recipients of scholarships totaling \$1,500:

- Molly Stetz, Genesee County - Fundamentals of Stream Channel Design and Watershed Management
- Angel Hinickle, Tompkins County - Fundamentals of Stream Design
- Coreyn Goddard, Nassau County SWCD - GIS II

There were seven applicants requesting \$2,724.00 for the January 1, 2016 round of funding. The following individuals were recipients of scholarships totaling \$1,500:

- Kristin Ballou, Franklin County - NY Logger Training
- Megan Webster, Ontario County - CPESC Review Course
- Coreyn Goddard, Nassau County - Hydrogeology
- Caitlin Stewart, Hamilton County - How to Communicate with Tact and Professionalism
- Melanie Saunders, Erie County - Business Courses

Congratulations to this year's recipients of the Frank Bratt Scholarship! I would also like to encourage all employees seeking to further develop their skills or broaden their knowledge to apply for the scholarship.

In addition to the Frank Bratt Scholarship Program in New York, the National Association of Conservation District Employees offers a scholarship program. The Don Aron Scholarship allows for financial support to a District employee or member of their immediate family who is participating in a resource conservation curriculum while enrolled in an accredited college or university. For more information about the Don Aron Scholarship please visit the NACDE website at [www.ncdea.org](http://www.ncdea.org).

Best of luck!

Judy Bennett  
Orleans County SWCD, Division I Representative



## 2016 NYSCDEA Annual Meeting

### Resolution

Sponsored by: Ontario County SWCD & the NYSCDEA

Whereas, Conservation District have been evolving and expanding programs and services over the last several decades and as such, have been adding specialized staff, and

Whereas, when these employees are hired, they are done so provisionally, until such time as an exam can be offered by Civil Service, and

Whereas, the exams that currently exist for many of the position titles at the Soil and Water Conservation Districts are considerably out dated and not consistent with modern soil and water conservation and water quality practices, programs and technology, and

Whereas, the New York State Conservation District Employees Association Inc. would like to reestablish the existing Civil Service Ad Hoc committee consisting of members from both the New York State Conservation District Employees Association Inc. and the New York State Soil and Water Conservation Committee to work together with Civil Service to ensure exam titles and content are consistent with current Soil and Water Conservation District programs, policies and technology, and

Therefore, be it resolved that the New York State Conservation District Employees Association Inc. and the New York State Soil & Water Conservation Committee work together to reestablish the Civil Service Ad Hoc Committee and begin working with Civil Service to update Conservation District exam titles and exam content to be consistent with current soil and water conservation and water quality improvement techniques, programs and policies.

## NYSCDEA By-Laws and Policy Handbook- Proposed changes for 2016

The following changes have been made:

**On page #8-** Association By-Laws-Article IX: Finances Section 3:-changed this to read that 3 individuals will be present for an audit and added the Member-At Large as being one of them. We need it to be 3 people because the Treasurer is only there to provide information to the ones doing the audit.

**On Page #22-** Envirothon Committee – Finance #3.-reworded this because the NYS CDEA Treasurer is the one providing the financial report/information to the Executive Board not the committee.

**On Page # 23-** Envirothon Committee – Changed North American Envirothon to National Conservation Foundation Envirothon (NCF-Envirothon)

**On Page #24-** Envirothon Committee – Scholarships-Instructions #3.-changed it to read how the Committee agreed to change it to.

## ARTICLE IX: Finances

- Sec. 1: The Association may be financed by an annual assessment on each member as recommended and approved by the majority vote of the members present at any annual meeting. The assessment would be payable annually by each member to the Association's Treasurer.
- Sec. 2: Only the Treasurer will accept contributions, donations, earned income gifts, and other legal revenues to carry on the work of the Association.
- Sec. 3: The President shall provide an annual audit conducted by at least ~~two~~ three individuals who are members of the NYSCDEA; one shall be a Division representative, ~~and one shall be the NYSCDEA Treasurer.~~ one shall be the Member At-Large and one shall be the NYSCDEA Treasurer.
- Sec. 4: All disbursements will be properly itemized and verified or certified by the Treasurer and Member-at-Large before payment.
- Sec. 5: Payment will be issued by press numbered check only. A press numbered receipt will be issued for all income revenue.
- Sec. 6: No power to borrow money or otherwise incur indebtedness to the Association is granted to any officer, representative or member.
- Sec. 7: A budget for the year following the annual meeting of the Association shall be presented for approval by the membership at each annual meeting. The budget shall be distributed at registration to each attending Association member. The budget must be approved by a two-thirds [2/3] majority of those members attending the annual meeting.
- Sec. 8: The budget may be adjusted up to twenty percent [20%] if needed during the year by the Executive Committee and the Board of Representatives.
- Sec. 9: Upon dissolution of the Association, any unencumbered funds shall be given to the New York Association of Conservation Districts, Inc.

## ARTICLE X: Compensation

- Sec. 1: The representatives, officials and committee members on official assignment by this Association shall serve without compensation.
- Sec. 2: The Treasurer and Member-at-Large of the Board of Representatives shall approve or disapprove in writing, the payment of specific expenses incurred by members in the lawful transactions of Association business.

## ARTICLE XI: Meetings

- Sec. 1: The annual meeting shall be held at a time and place prescribed by the Association's Executive Board.
- Sec. 2: A meeting may also be held during the session of the annual meeting of the New York Association of Conservation Districts, Inc.

4. The Secretary shall take minutes of all proceedings of the Committee and shall make them available to the members as soon as possible after the meeting.
5. Any member may be removed by a majority vote of the Committee members or by resolution of the Executive Board of the NYSCDEA.

## **CONDUCT OF BUSINESS**

1. The Committee shall meet once a month, a minimum of ten times a year, unless otherwise specified. Special meetings of the Committee shall be scheduled by the Chair. Business may be conducted through telephone hookup, mail or e-mail.
2. Committee members are expected to attend at least 80 percent of the meetings. The attendance policy will be enforced. Exceptions may be made at the discretion of the Chair. If a member knows ahead of time that he/she will not be able to attend a meeting, they will be expected to notify the Chair.
3. A quorum shall consist of a simple majority of voting members in attendance in order to conduct business.
4. Issues requiring Committee approval shall be decided by majority vote. Each of the voting Committee members shall have one vote.
5. The Committee shall elect members annually to the following standing subcommittees:
 

Site Coordinator (1)	Publicity/Information Liaison (I)
Tests Coordinator (2)	Registration/County Coordination (1)
Oral Presentation/Judge Coordination (2)	Volunteer Coordination (I)
Education/Recreational Activities (1)	T-shirts (1)
Awards (I)	Funding (2)
Refreshments and/or Door Prizes (I)	
6. The Chair may appoint special sub-committees as needed.
7. The Chair will provide a written report to, or attend the meetings of the Executive Board of the NYSCDEA.

## **FINANCE**

1. The Envirothon Committee's financial records shall be maintained and audited by the NYSCDEA. The Treasurer of the NYSCDEA will provide the Committee with accurate, up to date records at each monthly meeting.
2. Expenses and reimbursements must be authorized by the NYS Envirothon Committee. The Chair will certify that it is an approved expense and payment will be made by the Treasurer of the NYSCDEA.
6. ~~The Envirothon Committee~~ Treasurer will provide a ~~monthly~~ financial report to the ~~Executive Board of the NYSCDEA~~ Executive Board at their scheduled meeting.