

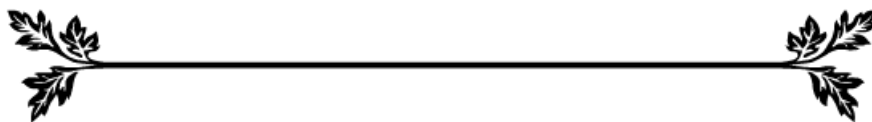
CDEA News



May 2021

Cover Photo

Eastern white pine (older tree and seedling). This month's cover photo was taken by Oswego County Soil and Water Conservation District's Technician Laura Romanowicz. Read her newcomer interview on page 6!



From the President's Desk

I suppose that I should introduce myself and give a little background for those of you that do not know me well. I am the man behind the beard that has harassed every one of you at least 5 times to buy raffle tickets for our annual gun raffle at the Symposium. I have worked for Rensselaer County Soil and Water and worked as the AEM coordinator in the Champlain Basin many years ago. Right now I am the District Manager for Saratoga County where I have been for the last 15 years (has it really been that long). For the last two years I have served as your CDEA Vice-President under the leadership of our ever-gracious Commander in Chief Chastity Miller. Chastity has since decided to take on the daunting task of filling the shoes of our former Treasurer, the wonderful and exceedingly patient (with me anyway) Kristin White.

Our 2021 Water Quality Symposium is in the books. We were able to pull off one of many firsts over the last 14 months, we had a fully virtual Symposium. I was extremely disappointed that I did not get a chance to meet with you all and enjoy the evening entertainment as well as the high-quality trainings and networking that are always a part of every Symposium. I will say that by default this was probably the most tame Symposium that I have seen in my 16 years as a District employee but for the few that joined in on the "virtual happy hour" we certainly managed to have a good time without being face to face. For those that missed the evening entertainment this year here is a little taste of what we were missing.



Watershed community participates in riparian restoration

Article by Lydia Brinkley, USC Buffer Coordinator. Photos by Michael Ludgate.



Bailey Park, Broome SWCD technician showing volunteers the planting process.

This year Soil and Water Conservation Districts throughout the headwaters to the Chesapeake Bay have worked to recruit volunteers for riparian area tree and shrubs plantings, spurring local involvement in water quality activities. The Upper Susquehanna Coalition (USC) and member districts held 6 volunteer planting events within 4 counties, attracting over 110 volunteers and planting 1,445 plants in 4 days. Volunteer help goes a long way to getting community engagement and projects complete in a short amount of time. For example, the Schnurbusch Park planting in Broome County had 33 volunteers and 330 plants needing planting. With that many volunteers, the plants were in the ground and the project was completed and cleaned up within two and a half hours.

Riparian forest restoration is a priority practice for the Upper Susquehanna

Coalition that is primarily driven by the Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load allocation. Also, the NYS DEC's Watershed Implementation Plan for the headwaters lists robust buffer implementation goals within the 18 counties in the watershed boundary in New York. Riparian forest buffers provide obvious benefits on farms, such as setting agricultural activities back from the stream bank and removing animals from surface waters. But reforestation of riparian areas is beneficial just about everywhere as trees and shrubs filter stormwater runoff, increase infiltration, and in a few years, they will begin to



Happy volunteer from Shumaker engineering

provide habitat for insects and cast shade upon the nearby streams, creeks, and rivers cooling water and providing in stream habitat with woody debris and leaf litter.



Volunteers from SUNY Broome.

As most SWCD folks know, getting riparian forest buffers implemented can be tricky and there are few programs existing that serve as easy-to-access funding sources. For several years now the USC has been working with DEC to coordinate the Trees for Tributaries Program throughout the Chesapeake Bay headwater's region. Each year the USC receives 5,000 plants with protective materials through the program for riparian restoration projects. This year we upped our game and coordinated with an organization called One Tree Planted as they provided funding for tools and even a photographer for the Schnurbush park planting event. Otherwise, funding from the Environmental Protection Agency and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's Chesapeake Bay Stewardship Fund helped to purchase t-shirts and snacks for volunteers.

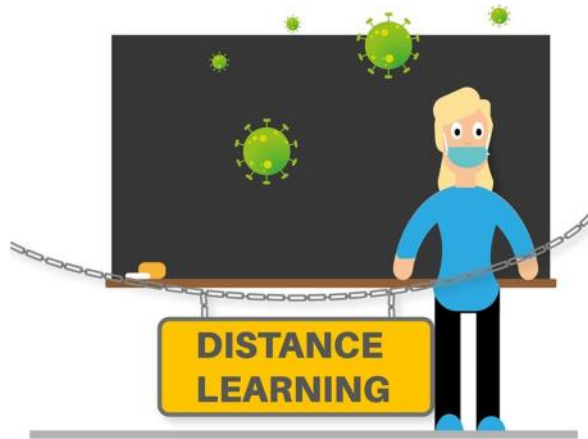
Volunteer project sites ranged from town owned parks to cropland to old agriculture fields. Volunteers came from the Boy Scouts of America Troop 1 out of Unadilla, SUNY Broome, Binghamton University, SUNY Oneonta, Shumaker Engineering, Ranch Riders 4-H Club, Newark Valley High School, and local residents looking to contribute to their community. Thank you to all of the volunteers and SWCDs that helped to coordinate all of these events! We are looking forward to another robust round of volunteer tree planting events in the fall.



Kids planting.

*** REMINDER ***

TO ALL DISTRICT EMPLOYEES
Frank Bratt Scholarship
Application Deadline – June 1, 2021



The Frank Bratt Scholarship deadline is June 1, 2021. Although in person events aren't being held, you can still take online classes or trainings that can be reimbursed to you or the district.

The scholarship can be used for:

- college courses (credit and non-credit)
- online training sessions
- educational workshops
- conservation related seminars



An application form can be obtained from the CDEA website at www.nyscdea.com. Please be advised completed application should be emailed or mailed to Scott Collins at Niagara County SWCD, 4487 Lake Avenue, Lockport, NY 14094. If you have any questions on this program, contact Scott Collins, Division I Representative at (716) 434-4949 ext. 6258, or e-mail: scott.collins@ny.nacdnet.net

Forestry BMP and Skidder Bridge Workshop

Friday June 18, 2021

8 am – 4 pm

Topics Include:

- Benefits of implementing BMP's
- Field tour of implemented forestry BMP's
- Permit requirements
- Construction of a portable skidder bridge

Each logger in attendance will be entered into a drawing to take the portable skidder bridge home with them for FREE!!!! All attendees will receive a FREE copy of the 2018 Forestry BMP Field Guide.



Learn how to improve water quality, forest and soil health and sensitive habitat areas. The workshop has a practical focus. No prior experience necessary.



This workshop is approved for:
7 Cat. 1 SAF Continuing Education Credits
and
Pending - NYLT Continuing Education

This workshop is free and open to the public. Lunch and refreshments will be provided. Loggers, forest landowners, town and zoning officials are all encouraged to attend. Pre-registration is required by June 14, 2021. For more information or to register, contact Kristin Ballou, Franklin County Soil & Water Conservation District (518) 651-2097 or kballou@fcswcd.org



This project has been funded wholly or in part by the United States Environmental Protection Agency under assistance agreement (LC-00A00695-0) to NEIWPCC in partnership with the Lake Champlain Basin Program.

Forestry BMP and Skidder Bridge Workshop

Friday June 18, 2021

8 am – 4 pm

8:00 AM Welcome, introductions and overview of agenda (Meet at field Site intersection of Cold Brook Road and NYS Route 30 Duane, NY)

8:15 AM Forestry BMP discussion (Nick Brunette, Kristin Ballou and Christian Wissler)

- Benefits of implementing BMP's
- Examples of BMP's
- Review Field Guide
- Permit requirements

9:00 AM Field tour showing implemented BMP's/laying out BMP's (Nick Brunette)

11:15 AM Travel to Town of Franklin Highway Department (8134 State Route 3 Vermontville, NY 12989)

12:00 PM LUNCH (provided)

12:30 PM Skidder Bridge Discussion and Assembly (Christian Wissler)

4:00 PM Wrap Up and depart



This project has been funded wholly or in part by the United States Environmental Protection Agency under assistance agreement (LC-00A00695-0) to NEIWPCC in partnership with the Lake Champlain Basin Program.

Meet the Newcomers!

Introducing the newest
Soil and Water Conservation District employees

Laura Romanowicz
District Secretary / Treasurer
Oswego County Soil and Water
Conservation District

1. How long have you been working for your Soil and Water Conservation District?

I have been here since May 18th, 2020. Almost 1 year, and what a year it has been with COVID!!

2. Who inspired you to pursue the career you have today?

I did. Though it has taken many steps / years to get here, I have finally figured out what I love to do, which is finance, and am

so pleased it happens to fall under the conservation category. 100% positive vibes everyday.

3. What are your hobbies?

Hiking, playing guitar, camping, taking care of my house plants and garden, being a #1 fan to my kids during their sports & activities, and an all-time play mom to my pup schnauzer Sage

4. What's on your bucket list?

RV'ing across the USA, going on an Alaskan cruise, visiting Ireland & Scotland... basically traveling and exploring.

5. Hawaiian pizza with ham and pineapple: super gross or supersize my pie?

That's a hard pass.

6. What is the best advice you give to other new District employees?

Reach out to other districts for help. Don't be afraid to ask questions! There are so many helpful resources in the pipeline!

7. How would you describe your job to a group of 5-year-olds?

I get to work with some amazing people that talk to moms and dads on how to keep the land healthy and clean. We get rid of bad plants and trees so that there is more room for good plants, and we also help farmers to have happy and healthy cows. Sometimes, I even get to play in the dirt, it's so cool!

8. What's the most epic thing you're working on right now at work?





Well, we just finished our 50th Annual Tree & Shrub sale with huge success, which I was able to coordinate! What an amazing experience! Now I'm working on our Summer Internship program. I just enjoy that we offer hands-on experience to a handful of college students that are graduating in a very similar field.

9. Coffee or tea?

COFFEE!!

10. Share a humorous or memorable moment you have experienced while working at your District.

Straight off the bat of me coming on board, staff members were fully aware about my fear of spiders. They now know that if they hear a blood-curdling scream to bring a swatter or tissue.

Wise Words from our District Family

*Interviewing experienced District employees
who share some words of wisdom*

**Judy Bennett , Secretary/Treasurer
Orleans County Soil and Water Conservation District
27 years**

Q. How long have you been working at your SWCD? If you have worked for more than one District, please let us know the counties, positions, and years worked.

I have worked for 27 years at the Orleans County SWCD. When I began my title was Acting Secretary/Treasurer then as we moved on to Civil Service my title changed to Secretary/Treasurer.

Q. What have you accomplished over the years with your District that you are most proud of?

There have been many changes over the years. Changing to QuickBooks for bookkeeping was

very nerve wracking at first back in 1999, but now I have become the person that people across the state call when they have questions regarding Quickbooks.

Q. Why have you continued to work at your Soil and Water Conservation District?

I have loved my job from the first day I started working here. I love what I do and the wonderful people that I work with, not only in my office, but across the state.

Q. How have you seen District programs, or their focuses, change over the years?

This is a big one. When I first started with the District there was only the District Manager/ Technician and myself working part time. At the time there was no such thing as AgNPS grants, Part B, Part C, and the list goes on. Now, with all of the grant sources available to us we have 4 full time employees including myself. I can't imagine doing my job part time now.

Q. What words of wisdom do you have for a newly hired District employee?

Don't be afraid to ask questions. If someone in your office doesn't have the answer to your questions, call a neighboring county and they will be happy to help you.

Q. When did you first learn or hear about Soil and Water Conservation Districts?

I had earned my Associates Degree in Accounting and was looking for a job. The County Job Development office told me about this opportunity and I thought it sounded good and applied.

Q. What made you decide to apply for a job with your District?

I really needed a job. I had 2 small children at home and no job. This came up so I applied.

Q. Did your education prepare you for your job as a District employee?

For the position that I am in, yes my education did prepare me for my job. Of course bookkeeping is different for each company, but at least I had the basics and knew how to keep the books. I started with the District in November and had those Annual Reports to do come January. There had

been 3 different people doing the books that year, and I couldn't figure out for the life of me where they came up with their figures. I called John Wildeman (some of you old timers know who I am talking about) and he came out and sat with me for 2 straight weeks and we went back 3 years in the books to get to the number that I needed. From there on out it has been smooth sailing for the most part.

Q. What is your most epic memory from a Water Quality Symposium?

Oh my, there are so many of those. I would have to say the most epic memory would be the night I was in the hospitality room quite late (imagine that one) with Susan Lewis, Caitlin Stewart, and Mike Jura and Mike said he wanted a haircut so I gave him one. Now, not one of us should have had any shears in our hands! When I saw it the next day, well later that day, it

looked pretty darned good.

Q. Do you have a hidden talent?

I do like to crochet pot holders and dish cloths.

Q. Tell us about what you will miss when you retire.

I will miss the interaction with all of the customers and the District family across the state.

Q. Any concluding remarks?

Working for the District has been great. I don't think I could have found a better place to work or better people to work with



Annual NYS CDEA Fish On Challenge

The NYSCDEA is sponsoring a fishing challenge to all anglers out there.



Official Rules and Regulations

Participation Fee is \$10.00 per person and each participant will receive a pocket tape measure with the NYSCDEA logo on it. Registration is available for NYSCDEA members only and is between March 1, 2021 – May 31, 2021.

Register for the Fish On Challenge at

<https://forms.gle/9Hhdj36oWyRTH8Yq5>

Yes...you need to be registered prior to submittal of any fish. All entries need to be submitted between March 1, 2021 – February 28, 2022. There are six categories and prizes in each!

Categories:	Smallmouth Bass	Largemouth Bass	Northern Pike
	Brook Trout	Rainbow Trout	Jokers Wild (Unique Fish)

General Rules

- You are not eligible to enter a fish if you caught it while fishing in a tournament.
- Entries are limited to those caught from NY waters only (including boundary waters).
- Entries will be scored based on length except for the *Jokers Wild* category, which will be judged by NYSCDEA on uniqueness of species, size and location of catch. Participant will have to specify why they think the fish is unique and why it should win.

Winners of all categories will be announced at the 2022 WQS Banquet.

For each entry, the participant is required to submit the following information to Fishcdea@gmail.com:

- 1.Name
- 2.Date caught
- 3.Location (waterbody) ...*don't give up your secret spot, so saying farm pond is OK!*
- 4.Species
- 5.Length
- 6.Picture of fish with the NYSCDEA tape measure or you in it.
- 7.If entering the *Jokers Wild* category you must include why the fish is unique and why it should win the category.

Register for the Fish On Challenge at <https://forms.gle/9Hhdj36oWyRTH8Yq5>

This is for fun only, so be honest and fair! If you have any questions, comments or if you are interested in registering, contact Maren Alexander at: Fishcdea@gmail.com. Tell us more about your fishing adventures and check out CDEA Fish On Challenge on Facebook!

CDEA News **needs *your* news!**

Please email your stories, photos, save the dates,
and fun moments to
caitlinstewart@frontier.com



Special Columns!

Cover Photo

Your stellar photo could be on the cover of CDEA News. Submit seasonal photos of landscapes or conservation practices through summer, fall, winter, or spring. Include a few sentences describing the photo.

CDEA Wine and Pint Glass Tour

We all love our CDEA wine and pint glasses. Email photos of your glass in action. Cheers!

Where in New York is Ronny Raindrop?

Email your photos of Ronny with a brief description of what he's doing and where he is.

*Back issues are available on the CDEA website:
www.nyscdea.com/newsletter/*

**Thank you for making CDEA News a continued success.
Please keep you news rolling in!**

Conservation Contests Reward Students' Knowledge

Caitlin Stewart, District Manager, Hamilton County Soil and Water Conservation District

The Hamilton County Soil and Water Conservation District held our 41st annual and first virtual Conservation Field Day event last fall where students learned about natural resource



Lake Pleasant Central School's Conservation Field Day winners. From left: Logan Billings, overall poster contest first place, and Zoe Martz overall essay contest first place.

conservation from the experts and entered the fifth-grade essay and sixth-grade poster contests. I scheduled virtual and in-person awards ceremonies this winter with all participating schools to reward students' knowledge and creativity.

Conservation Field Day was too important to cancel due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and I was excited to rethink the platform. I warmly thank our fifth and sixth grade teachers for facilitating the virtual event with their students.

THE PRESENTERS

Presenters pre-recorded talks on a variety of conservation themed topics. The line-up included Dan Kelting, Paul Smith's College Adirondack Watershed Institute, Protecting our

Clean Adirondack Waters; Christine Campeau and Taylor Ewald, Adirondack Experience, The Big Bad Wolf; Jamila Page, Cornell Cooperative Extension of Hamilton County, Beginner Composting 101; Natural Resources Conservation Service, Soil Health; Emily-Bell Dinan, Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program, Invasive Animals of the Adirondacks; and Jason Scott, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, Leave No Trace.

THE CONTESTS

Students jotted down notes on graphic organizers while they watched the videos. They later used this information to craft their posters and essays that focused on the topic that, in their opinion, best protected Hamilton County's natural resources. Every year, I recruit my mom Kathy to rank blind copies of the entries. She has 40 plus years of teaching experience at the Vernon-Verona-Sheryll school district.

My mom shared the following quote: "Somehow, in the middle of a pandemic, Hamilton County Soil and Water Conservation District found a way to continue the tradition of Conservation Field Day. Students, teachers, and presenters met their technology challenges head on to create and share videos. Although you are only seeing first, second, and third place for the school districts, these submissions are just the tip of the iceberg. The quality of this year's submission once again shows that our students value our living environment."



Wells Central School's Conservation Field Day fifth grade poster contest winners. From left: school-wide third place winner Anastasia Lyn Ralph, Principal Jeremy Siddon, and school-wide second place winner Ryder Wright.

THE WINNERS

The overall first place sixth-grade essay contest winner is Zoe Martz, and the overall first place fifth-grade poster contest winner is Logan Billings, both of Lake Pleasant Central School. Their names were engraved on plaques to be displayed at their schools.

The other overall sixth-grade essay contest winner is: second,

See Contests, page 10.

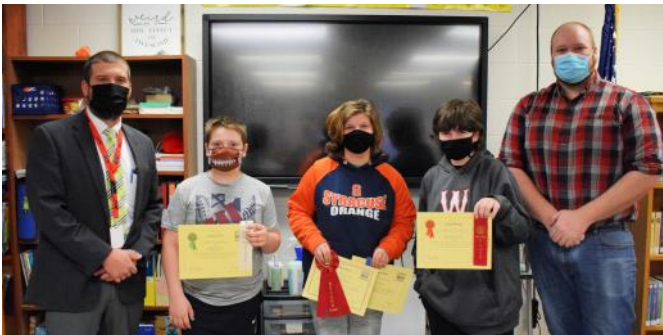
Contests (from page 9)

Darrian Hamm, Wells Central School.

The other overall fifth-grade poster contest winners are: second, Aliza Blanchard, Wells Central School; and third, Joleen Rivera, Wheelerville Union Free School. Joleen also received a special award for voluntarily participating in Conservation Field Day in a non-classroom setting.

Awards ceremonies were held where all participating students received a certificate of merit. Class wide and overall first, second, and third place winners received certificates and ribbons.

Anyone interested can visit our website and watch the videos. Our presenters did an epic job, and I know people of all ages will learn something new



Wells Central School's Conservation Field Day sixth grade essay contest winners. Principal Jeremy Siddon, school wide second place winner Cayden Daum, overall second place winner Darrian Hamm, school-wide second place winner Joleigh Mattice, and teacher Josh Darrow.

NYACD May Report

Blanche Hurlbutt, Executive Director New York State Association of Conservation Districts

NYACD has been tracking and attending meetings regarding the Stream C and Soil Health Bills. If any Districts have information they would like to share please reach out to Blanche Hurlbutt, NYACD Ex. Dir.

We are working on moving forward with an annual event. At the present time we are working on a google survey to send out to Directors & Districts to determine if we should host a face-to-face event this year or hold an annual Zoom meeting like we did in 2020. More information will be provided as we move forward.

We are considering hosting a August face-to-face meeting at a location to be determined.

Things are moving forward as expected for NYACD at this time of the year.

and exciting about natural resource conservation!

The District has been working to manage and promote the wise use of natural resources in Hamilton County since 1965. For more information go to www.hcswcd.com or call 518-548-3991.



Wheelerville Union Free School's Joleen Rivera placed overall third place for the Conservation Field Day fifth grade poster contest.

NYACD (from page 10)

At our April meeting William "Bill" Peoples long time NYACD Treasurer resigned his position on the NYACD Board due to health reasons. Bill has always been a great supporter of NYACD and has been involved both at the state and NACD level. Bill volunteered his time on the NYACD Board after he had left the Steuben Co. SWCD Board.

We are saddened deeply today, Tuesday, May 11, 2021 when we received word that Bill had past away.

Tom Ryan, Steuben SWCD Director has stepped up to fill out Bill Peoples term on the NYACD Board as Treasurer. Elections will be held at the October annual meeting and it is our hope a SWCD Director will fill the Treasurer position.

We are looking for Directors to step-up and fill the following Divisions positions on the NYACD Board: Division III, V, VI, VII, and VIII. John Santacrose has stepped down from the Albany SWCD Board due to moving into another county. John is now the NYACD Historian.

Please consider taking the time to join the NYACD Board to fill the open positions. We meet once a month at 7:00 p.m. by Zoom. Your duties and additional information can be viewed on the NYACD website under NYACD By-laws. Any other questions can be directed to Blanche Hurlbutt, NYACD Ex. Director at (607) 965-6316.



Photo Album



Melissa Rivelis' cats attended some Water Quality Symposium classes. Melissa is a District Technician at the Orleans County Soil & Water Conservation District.



Christine Watkins, Jefferson County SWCD Executive Director welcomes Teddy, her first grandbaby.

CDEA Wine and Pint Glass Tour

We all love our CDEA wine and pint glasses. Here they are in action across New York State. Cheers!



Susan Lewis couldn't make it on to the zoom Happy Hour for the Water Quality Symposium, but she was celebrating with some Mead in her CDEA wine glass.



Cheers from Chastity Miller.



Caitlin Stewart enjoyed an epic New York State cider before the CDEA Happy Hour officially kicked off during the Water Quality Symposium. Here's to brighter times ahead and a return to in person training. Sláinte!

Black River Watershed Wednesday Webinars



Black River Trail Extension, Regional Bicycle/Pedestrian Connectivity and The OUTSTEPS.org Research Network: A Community Platform for Stakeholders and Universities in the Lower Great Lakes



The Watertown-Jefferson County Area Transportation Council (WJCTC) is exploring various alternatives for extending the Black River Trail to Fort Drum as well as identifying gaps in the regional network for active transportation modes. This is an interactive presentation as the WJCTC is actively seeking public input as part of the planning process. Come see how this project and OUTSTEPS.org, a regional research network of eight founding universities, a diverse group of urban and rural stakeholder and indigenous rights-holder groups, can work together to support transformative and collaborative science to address regional sustainability and community resilience challenges in the Lower Great Lakes basins, including Lake Erie and Ontario.

May 12 at 3:00 pm

Register: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_qc4c3WSyTkaq2GyPdHnkZg

Weather Resilience: Tips for Improving Your Community's Ability to Respond to Severe Weather



Extreme weather events such as floods, heat waves, changing precipitation patterns and storms are increasing in frequency and severity. The ability of local communities to cope with the immediate impact and recover from the aftermath is critical to the continued well-being of the affected community. In this session, Mary Austerman, New York Sea Grant and Khristopher Dodson, Environmental Finance Center, will look at tools communities can use to be better adapted to these conditions, funding programs to support related planning processes and project implementation, and hear about other community experiences that can be replicated in the Black River Watershed and beyond.

June 2 at 3:00 pm

Register: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_2GmeMDqmQ4mA1-Ox9LQFeQ

Hemlock Woolly Adelgid in a Changing Climate: Changing Forests and Identification and Management of HWA



Dr. Lindsey Rustad, USDA Forest Service Center for Research on Ecosystem Change, will provide an overview of her 30 plus years of research in the White Mountains of New Hampshire about how climate is altering the composition of our northeastern forests from a global perspective to local impacts. Ms. Caroline Marschner, Cornell University, will discuss eastern hemlock, its role in New York ecosystems, hemlock woolly adelgid identification and management, and implications of climate change on this aggressive forest pest.

May 19 at 3:00 pm

Register: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_B46jdWc9TzW8PaAVEJPZGw

Ice and Snow Best Practices: Communication and Consensus



Ice and snow removal must balance cost, public safety and environmental considerations. Having a clear consensus on the expected level of service allows everyone a basis to communicate. Join Tim Hunt, Highway Superintendent at the Lewis County Highway Department, for this diverse and balanced approach to a shared north-country highway management and environmental issue.

May 26 at 3:00 pm

Register: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_G3lcl-rXQy6TzALf8GcN2A

Soil and Water Conservation District Municipal Assistance Programming - Presentation and Panel Discussion

Brian Steinmuller, Assistant Director of the NYS Soil and Water Conservation Committee will discuss County SWCD municipal assistance programs including stormwater pollution prevention, green infrastructure, North Atlantic Aquatic Connectivity Collaborative (NAAC), stream corridor and floodplain management, forestry management and more. Brian will also discuss how SWCDs and municipalities can cooperate and coordinate programs through Intermunicipal Agreements (IMAs).



June 9 at 3:00 pm

Register: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_NIFwehH-REq-meTS2IU2uw

Hamilton and Herkimer County Conservation Initiatives



Jaime Parslow, of the Hamilton County SWCD, will provide an overview of a green infrastructure project in Inlet's Arrowhead Park and an update on the county's lake monitoring efforts. Katherine Whitcomb and Robert Tilbe of the Herkimer County SWCD will present *Streambank Stabilization - Stake Your Bank*, an overview of a partnered project with the Herkimer County BOCES Conservation Class, Herkimer County Highway Department, and the Herkimer County SWCD. This project utilizes streamco willow stakes as part of a larger streambank stabilization project.

June 16 at 3:00 pm

Register: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_p4TvdT XuSQ2Zih5U94KuYw

Oneida County's Conservation Initiatives in the Black River Watershed



June 30 at 3:00 pm

Register: Coming Soon!

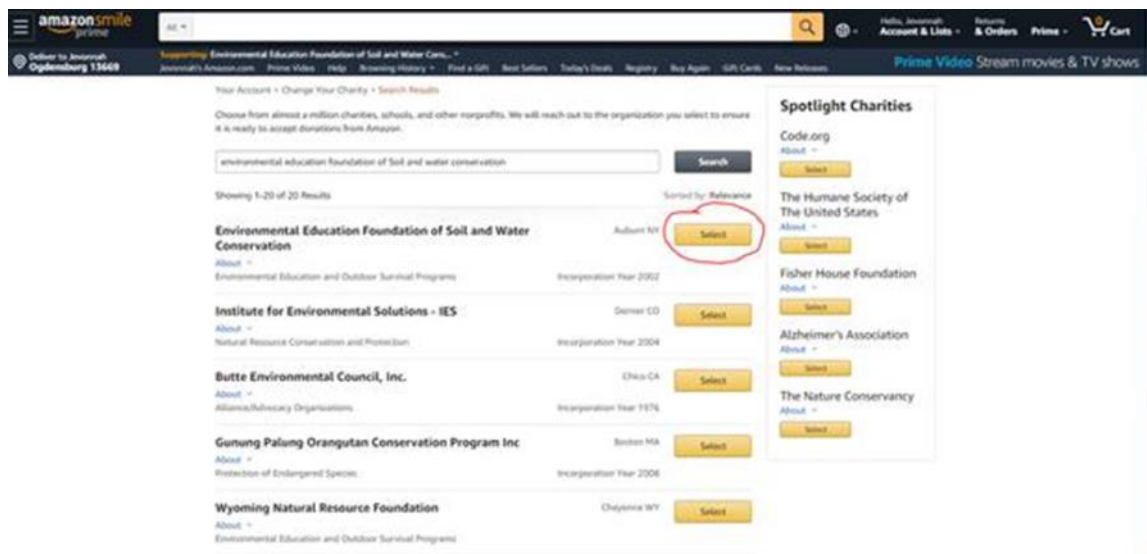
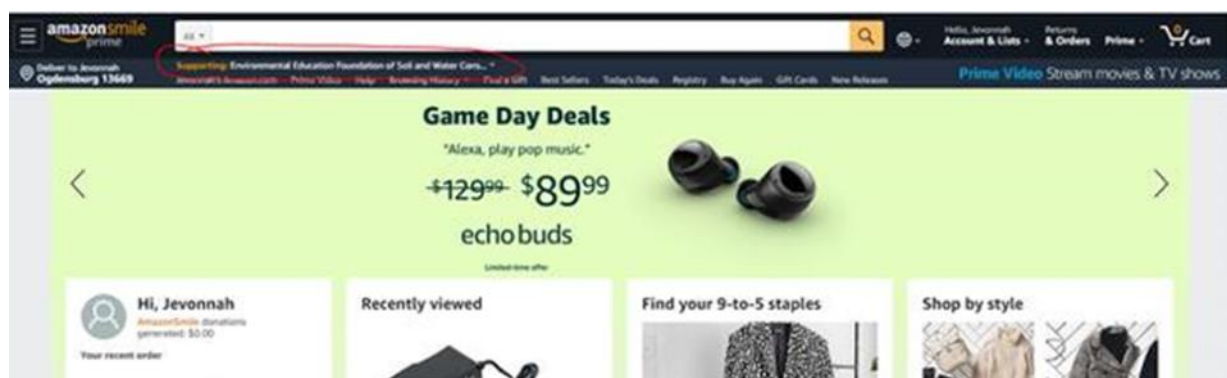
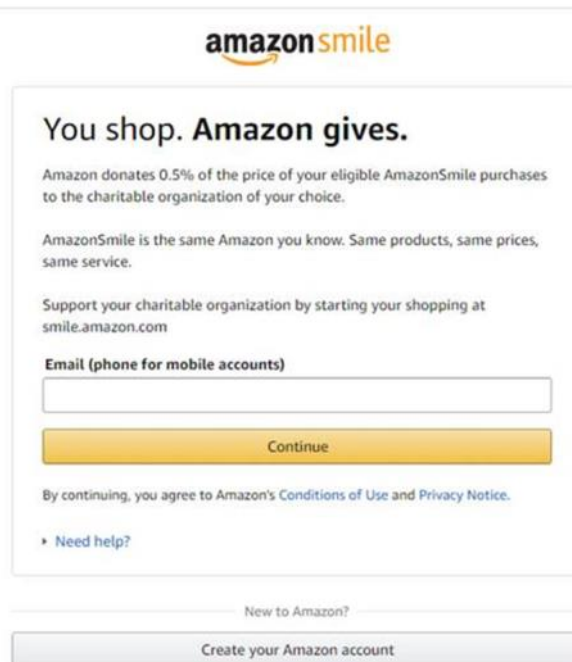
All Webinars Are Free to Attend on Zoom

Organized by the NYS Tug Hill Commission, the Lewis, Jefferson, Hamilton, Oneida and Herkimer County Soil and Water Conservation Districts and NYS Department of Environmental Conservation Region 6.

Support the NYS Envirothon with Amazon Smile

Chastity Miller, President, NYS Conservation District Employees' Association, Inc.

Did you know you can use AMAZON Smile to help the NYS Envirothon! Please use Amazon Smile to give back to the Environmental Education Foundation for the State Envirothon and the National Envirothon in 2023! Here is the link for amazon smile along with some screenshots of what it should look like. Once you have selected them, it works exactly the same as the regular amazon site. Just note that if you go to the regular amazon.com site or use the app the charity will not get any donations, you have to use the smile.amazon.com site. If you forget to go to the smile site and already have stuff in your cart (in app or on regular amazon site), you can still go to the smile site and login and the items in your cart will show up on that site too, I did it just to try! Go to: <https://smile.amazon.com> & Sign in with your amazon account. This account has already done it, so it shows that their supporting the EEF already, but if you haven't yet you should automatically be prompted to pick a charity. Then you just search for "Environmental Education Foundation of Soil and Water Conservation" and hit select. REMEMBER- note that if you go to the regular amazon.com site or use the app the charity will not get any donations; you have to use the smile.amazon.com site. Thank you so much! We need all the help we can get.



New York State Conservation District Employees' Association, Inc.



Executive Committee Members

Dustin Lewis, President

Caitlin Stewart, Vice President

Joann Burke , Secretary

Chastity Miller, Treasurer

Dean Moore, Member at Large

Division Representatives

Scott Collins, Division I

Aaron Buchta, Division II

Raeanne Dulanski, Division III

Shawn Murphy, Division IV

Kristin Ballou, Division V

Amber Luke, Division VI

Erin Sommerville, Division VII

Ann Marie Calabro, Division VIII