



Meeting Minutes
May 17, 2023, 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Zoom Call/Suffolk County SWCD Riverhead, NY

Executive Committee Members

Caitlin Stewart, President
Jessica McLaughlin, Vice President
Joann Burke, Secretary
Katy Kemmeren, Treasurer
Alice Halloran, Member at Large

Division Representatives

Jason Cuddeback, Division II
Carla Yaw, Division III
Shawn Murphy, Division IV
Maren Stoddard, Division V
Corrina Aldrich, Division VI
Travis Ferry, Division VII
Ann Marie Calabro, Division VIII

Partners

Blanche Hurlbutt, NYACD
Bethany Bzduch, NYSSWCC
Blake Glover, NRCS

Absent

Rebecca Campbell, Division I

Guests

Kristin White, Monroe County SWCD
Kelly Emerick, Monroe County SWCD
Ben Luskin, NYSWCC
Marina Kobasiuk, Suffolk County SWCD
Corey Humphrey, Suffolk County SWCD
Rob Carpenter, Suffolk County SWCD Board
Member
Jennifer Kelly, Chenango County SWCD
Scott Collins, Niagara County SWCD



Minutes

- I. **Call to Order** – Stewart called the meeting to order at 9:00AM with introductions.
- II. **Reading and approval of January 25, 2023 meeting minutes, March 9, 2023 special meeting minutes for 4-Hour funds, and March 10, 2023 special meeting**

minutes for Frank Bratt - Minutes were emailed in advance of the meeting.

- **A motion was made by Cuddeback, seconded by Calabro to approve the January meeting minutes and the two March special meeting minutes for 4-Hour funds and Frank Bratt. Carried.**

III. Treasurer's Report – Kemmeren emailed the report in advance of the meeting, and the report is appended to the minutes. She reviewed the report stating she was working with Halloran to transfer money from 4-Hour fund savings account to the regular checking account to take care of the negative \$73,383.29 for Online 4-Hour Course.

- **A motion was made by Cuddeback, seconded by Stewart to approve the May Treasurer's Report. Carried**

IV. Partnership Reports

- a. NYS SWCC** – Bzduch shared her report, appended to the minutes. Bzduch added that Governor Hochul announced statewide Bond Act listening tours. The tour will provide an opportunity for the public and potential funding applicants to learn more about the Bond Act, and for the community to weigh in on the draft criteria developed to identify potential projects. First one will be held in Buffalo on May 30th at 1:00 PM at the University of Buffalo. For more information: <https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-hochul-launches-statewide-listening-tour-advance-clean-water-clean-air-and-green-jobs>. TAC meeting is scheduled for June 8th. SWCC hybrid meeting scheduled for June 20th.
- b. NYACD** – Hurlbutt shared her report, appended to the minutes. She asked Murphy if the Leadership Institute Committee has sent NYACD an invoice for their donation. Murphy replied he wasn't sure and would ask Chastity Miller.
- c. NRCS** – Glover shared his report, appended to the minutes. Murphy asked what the total dollar amount of EQIP applications were for the last round. Glover replied there were \$38 million in EQIP applications with only \$15 million available. Glover reported that local workgroups should be meeting soon in each county to gather local input on watershed focus and resource concerns. In 2023 there was \$15 million allocated for EQIP in New York through Farm Bill. With IRA, NYS will see an additional \$2 million in 2023; \$13 million in 2024; \$22 million in 2025; and \$26 million in 2026. To qualify for this IRA, producers need to choose one of the 40 approved practices and then can select any of the NRCS practices. Currently having internal trainings on how to fully roll out this program. Humphrey asked if there were training opportunities for new personnel. Grover replied that the 4-way partnership will continue holding training opportunities that SWCD, NRCS, and SWCC can attend. He also stated that there is technical assistance money tied to this program but not sure what it'll look like. Calabro asked if the approved practices are ready to go and will there be more added. Glover replied these practices are approved and can be awarded with the

additional \$2 million available. Humphrey asked if there's an opportunity to comment on the 40 practices identified by NRCS. Glover replied he believes there was a comment period before this set was approved. Next round he is not sure but will find out.

V. Schedule of upcoming 2023 Meetings – July 6, 2023 (Division III), September 7, 2023 (Division VIII), November 15, 2023 (Division II)

VI. Division Reports

- a. Division I** – Collins shared Campbell's report as she is out on maternity leave. The report is appended to the minutes. Collins mentioned that Niagara County SWCD, Katie Pfeifer, attended the QuickBooks class at Symposium and there was discussion about getting statewide support with QuickBooks. Can the CDEA get a QB Pro Adviser on contract, so that all counties have a person and the same person for support? Currently, most clerks are using QB Desktop Pro, and the help provided from QB isn't helpful, so if you want real help, they want you to pay for it. Stewart mentioned that SWCDs can complete and submit an application for use of 4-Hour funds to either deliver or attend a technical or educational program or workshop. This would be a great opportunity for the clerks. Calabro stated that seasoned clerks may be interested in putting their name on the talent pool list that can be found at www.nyscdea.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/CDEAProfessionalTalentPoolupdated212017.pdf
- b. Division II** – Cuddeback shared his report, appended to the minutes. Cuddeback stated that an article was published concerning Governor Hochul's Administration's new plan to have an 85% reduction of local sewage facilities waste product by sending it to farms to be utilized as agricultural fertilizers. This happened back in the 1990's. Carpenter stated the municipal waste that is spread on farm fields could contain PIFA's, another potential negative impact with this initiative. He stated you should reach out to your Ag and Markets to voice your concerns and request studies be done because if that soil is contaminated it will take those fields out of production. Murphy asked if there's anything CDEA should be doing. Cuddeback replied he's not sure. Back in the 1990's after they started testing the material and the analysis got out to the farmers the program started to fizzle out on its own. Stewart replied that maybe NYACD can help with legislators. Murphy stated maybe write up a paragraph about this issue with proposed actions so Division Representatives could share with their divisions. Here's a link to the article: <https://www.fingerlakes1.com/2023/04/27/hochul-admin-projecting-major-expansion-of-sewage-sludge-spreading-as-fertilizer-on-farmland/>
- c. Division III** – Yaw shared her report, appended to the minutes.
- d. Division IV** – Murphy shared his report, appended to the minutes. Murphy stated that next year he and Yaw will be chairing the bucket raffle and silent auction at Water Quality Symposium. This past WQS raised approximately \$6,000 from silent auction and bucket raffle. In his last Division report, Cortland County requested guidance on solar installation issues. At Water Quality Symposium a

municipal subcommittee meeting was held, NYS DEC gave a presentation on this. It is recommended that a municipal subcommittee meeting be scheduled and on a regular basis. It should be open forum and not just presentations. Ryan Cunningham and PJ Emerick usually set these up.

- e. **Division V** – Stoddard shared her report, appended to the minutes. Stoddard added that new district employees have voiced a need for an AEM field training on how to talk “AEM” with landowners, implementing projects, outreach, etc. Stewart stated that last year SWCC offered AEM trainings and workshops, and those trainings were very successful. Bzduch stated they were very successful and wondered about holding one at Conservation Skills Workshop. She will discuss this with Greg Albrecht as he is planning to attend the upcoming Conservation Skills Workshop meeting. Stewart added that’s a great idea and she will run it by Tom Eskildsen.
- f. **Division VI** – Aldrich shared her report. All have had successful in person Envirothon’s this year along with tree and fish sales. She adds, As I am sure most districts are now concentrating on grant applications and impending construction. We are busy with site visits regarding ponds and land use as well as permit requests for municipalities for culvert installations. We have been doing outreach at a variety of events to get info out to schools and landowners. We are participating in the Adirondack Homestead Festival at Washington County Fairgrounds this weekend with our USDA partners for outreach to beginning farmers, we hope. We are working on AEM 5b and 3A planning and gearing up for our Part B Water Quality project.
- g. **Division VII** - Ferry shared his report, appended to the minutes.
- h. **Division VIII** – Calabro shared her report, appended to the minutes.

VII. CDEA Standing Committees

- a. **New York State Fair Committee** – White reported there are 25 empty slots to fill the CDEA booth for this year and a couple slots where there’s only one person. Time slots needing to be filled are evenings and weekends. She stated every person on the CDEA Board should sign up for one shift. When she was on the board it was required that everyone volunteer for a shift. Stewart agrees that if everyone on the Board could sign up it would be great there is a lot of great interaction with the public and you get a free admission ticket, parking voucher, and t-shirt. White and the committee do a great job setting booth up and organizing it.
- b. **NYS DEC Endorsed 4-Hour Erosion & Sediment Control Online Training** – White reported there were 498 registrations from January through April bringing in \$99,512.50 and we will be receiving higher interest rate from now on as a Monroe County board member inquired and secured higher interest rates on their accounts with the bank. Still working with BlackBoard on revamping of 4-hour course platform. Emerick, Jacob and White are going through training with BlackBoard then will have to do 40-80 hours of training on their own. White has a very positive feeling about this new platform and its anticipated launch around June 20th. White has a very positive feeling with this new platform. Stewart

thanks White, Emerick and for all their hard work in getting this set up and committing their time towards the training.

- c. **NYS Erosion and Sediment Control Certificate Program** – Stewart shared Verrigni’s report, appended to the minutes.
- d. **Frank Bratt Scholarship** – Collins shared Campbell’s report, appended to the minutes.
- e. **Leadership Conference** – Murphy reported that registration went out last week and is due May 26, 2023. The event is from July 18, 2023 to July 21, 2023 at the Ranger School. Up to 20 rooms have been reserved and will take up to 30 registrations. Planning for double occupancy rooms. Funding from the 4-way partners at \$3,000 per organization brought the registration cost down to \$400 per participant. The Alumni House has been secured and if any Leadership Institute\alumni or 4-way partnership leadership want to come up and stay, they are more than welcome. This house also gives attendees a place to get together at night. This Leadership Conference is open to all employees and management of the 4-way partnership group.
- f. **Conservation Skills Workshop** – Stewart reported Tom Eskildsen shared the following: The 2023 Conservation Skills Workshop committee has been working towards migrating to the Auburn Holiday Inn. An initial conference call has occurred, and all parties agreed to move forward. Cayuga County SWCD is willing to coordinate site visits. The hotel will be submitting a cost for the usage of rooms and blocking of rooms. All meals for this year will remain on their own as prior years. After an initial year and seeing how many people stay over, a better plan could be sorted out for meals. The initial planning meeting for the workshop will be held on May 22 in the Syracuse area.
- g. **Water Quality Symposium** – Stewart reported that her and McLaughlin have met. We may have an opportunity to partner with the Northeast Association of Conservation Districts in holding WQS. With their funding it would help in getting a bigger hotel maybe in Niagara Falls. She stated it would be a great idea to open the symposium to the entire northeast but keeping the trainings New York focused. Murphy stated that past Water Quality Symposiums were open for them and anyone else to attend we’ve just never specifically targeted the group with an invite. Humphrey stated this is all exciting, but his only concern is travelling that far and asked would there be a rate for district employees and another rate for others. Stewart responded that last year CDEA offered a coupon for one person per district to attend for free. Murphy stated that if the NEACD contributes money towards Water Quality Symposium we shouldn’t charge them more. Stewart stated that a few college students attended this past year for free. McLaughlin suggested reaching out to colleges and giving them information on the classes that will be offered. Murphy suggested that with all the new employees coming on board we should offer New Employee Orientation at both Conservation Skills Workshop and Water Quality Symposium. Stewart replied to the New Employee Orientation needs an overhaul and be brought back. McLaughlin stated Miller has sent over request for proposals for venues and she has added some new ones to the list. She will send out requests for proposals the end of the month. The

committee will start discussing classes soon. Calabro asked if we partnered with NEACD would we be receiving all their registrations as well. Stewart replied yes and would receive their registration money too. Stewart stated that a survey was sent out after WQS and Miller has the results. Murphy stated that an anonymous person asked if the Resource Fair could be moved to an area to allow better flow and more interaction similar to past WQS events where the resource fair, meals and activities were all integrated. Stewart stated that this year's event was at capacity and the banquet was tight. Aldrich stated the Ag Society had their annual meeting at the OnCenter in Syracuse. She doesn't know what local hotel accommodations there though.

- h. Administrative Conference-** Stewart reported that past CDEA President Dustin Lewis voiced interest in organizing the conference. She called for volunteers to assist with organizing classes.
- i. New York State Envirothon Committee** – Kemmeren reported that the Envirothon will be held next week at Hobart & William Smith College. There are 36 teams registered with 2 more to register as their regional competition was just recently held. There's a need for Oral Presentation judges and trail guides. The 2024 NCF event will be held July 28-August 3, 2024 at Hobart & William Smith College. The current issue will be Renewable Energy for a Sustainable Future. Looking for more volunteers to serve on the board. The NYS Envirothon will not be held at Hobart & William Smith college for 2024. Hurlbutt reported that money must be raised for NCF, or it will have to come from CDEA. White reported in the May report there was approximately \$60,000 in the account with \$450,000 more needed. Hurlbutt mentioned that \$463,450 needed for an all-out event. \$362,200 for lean schedule, and \$281,700 for bare bones event. Hurlbutt stated that NCF will reimburse us a portion in July, a portion a couple months later and the balance in January/February of the following year. They changed the schedule last year, in years past they reimbursed it all upfront. The committee is working on getting sponsors and they are talking to a major one but don't want to share their name as they haven't signed anything and could still back out. Stewart asked how many Districts paid their full \$3,000. Hurlbutt replied 14. Hurlbutt continued that 62 laptops need to be purchased for the event as well. Aldrich asked what the 62 computers are used for. Hurlbutt replied for the Oral Presentation. All the laptops must be the same. Renting them costs just as much as purchasing them. Hurlbutt and Miller have contacted schools, but they can't donate and loan them due to security issues. Aldrich asked what happens to the computers that you must purchase. Hurlbutt stated to sell them. Aldrich stated Districts should have first dibs. Halloran asked if you can coshare with the state that will host the NCF the following year. Hurlbutt stated she's been in contact with Canada concerning this. Stoddard asked how much you could resell the laptops for. Hurlbutt stated they would be brand new as the students only need to use them for 2 days. Stewart inquired when the cutoff is to back out of the hosting the event. Hurlbutt stated we cannot back out now as Lewis and herself signed a contract. Stewart asked if before signing the contract did you know about the change in reimbursement. Hurlbutt replied yes. White stated you know you had a

lot of money you needed to fundraise. Hurlbutt replied she thought we had great support from Districts and the registration fees. Raising \$100,000 we didn't think was a lot to fundraise. The Envirothon committee gave the Environmental Education Foundation a list of potential funders to contact, and they hope they will come through for us. White stated that if CDEA must come up with over \$200,000 there's going to be a lot of unhappy Districts. Hurlbutt stated she understands that, but she and Lewis signed the contract in good faith that the funding and support would be there. There's no issue in downsizing. Stewart stated that it's written into the 4-Hour Online Funds policy those funds cannot be used for Envirothon; it's a big problem. Stewart asked how other states raised the money. Hurlbutt stated that Districts helped and NRCS and local businesses donated. Stoddard asked what happens if we must back out. Hurlbutt stated she doesn't think it's possible. If we get the major sponsor, we won't have to worry about it. Stewart stated she will send out a statewide email encouraging Districts to donate. Murphy suggests telling the Districts about the huge gap in funding and then requesting they reach out to local contacts to help with donations. Hurlbutt added that after this year's state event concludes, invoices will be sent out to Districts that haven't yet paid. Emerick stated CDEA should get a copy of the contract and consult a lawyer.

- j. Environmental Education Foundation Committee** – Calabro reported she was unable to attend the last meeting however, the EEF is working hard to secure funding for the Envirothon and has sent letters to several organizations, often with no response. There is a list of companies, agencies, and organizations that have been contacted. Amazon smile did not raise the funds we had hoped. Stewart asked if the committee fundraises for anything other than Envirothon. Calabro stated it is specifically for State Envirothon and NCF Envirothon. Stewart stated that WhitKovits works hard in their county to get donations, who reached out multiple times to businesses as they are very busy and understaffed. Calabro has letters seeking support that she can share with Division representatives for possible donors.
- k. New York State Invasive Species Advisory Committee** – Stewart reported she was unable to attend the May meeting but will attend the September meeting. Invasive Species Awareness Week is June 5 – 11 with the mission to promote knowledge and understanding of invasive species and the harm they can cause. Events are being scheduled state-wide. Consider hosting an event! The 2023 New York Invasive Species Expo will be held September 24 – 26 at Saratoga Spa State Park. It is a unique conference focusing on invasive species and will combine classic presentations and creative use of outdoor space to appeal to a wide range of attendees. The Expo will be an immersive, hands-on experience featuring unique presentations, interactive demonstrations, hands-on workshops, small-group discussions, and field trips, and outdoor activities.
- l. Municipal Assistance Sub Committee** – Stewart reported there was a meeting at Water Quality Symposium and great feedback. At the 2023 Annual Meeting in March, Mark Burger brought forward a resolution “For better partnership and representation of education, outreach, recruitment, retention and collaboration for

the enhancement of agriculture and environmental opportunities in NYS, the New York State Conservation District Employees' Association, Inc. recommends appointing these institutions to the Tactical Action Committee (TAC) and the Municipal Sub-Committee: Miner Institute, SUNY Alfred, SUNY Cobleskill, SUNY Delhi, SUNY Morrisville, and Finger Lakes Community College. Caitlin met with Bethany Bzduch and Brian Steinmuller, SWCC to discuss the resolution. Bethany submitted the article below that was published in the April CDEA News:

Get to know the NYS State Soil and Water Conservation Committee

Bethany Bzduch, Executive Director NYS Soil and Water Conservation Committee

The New York State Soil & Water Conservation Committee (SWCC) was established through Soil and Water Conservation District Law in 1940. The SWCC is led by five voting members who are appointed by the Governor to serve five-year terms. District law defines that one member of the committee shall represent the state grange, one shall represent state farm bureau federation, one shall represent the New York Association of Conservation Districts, one shall be an at large member who represents the farm interest, and one shall be an at large member who represents the urban, suburban, and rural non-farm interest. The current members of the NYS Soil and Water Conservation Committee are:

- Dale Stein - Committee Chair, Representative-at-Large for Farm Interests
- Darin Hickling – Committee Vice-Chair, represents the New York Farm Bureau
- David Brass - represents the New York State Grange
- Erica Goodman - Representative-at-Large for Urban, Suburban, and Rural Non-farm Interests ·
- Scott Ryan – represents the New York Association of Conservation Districts

Soil and Water Conservation District Law further states that representatives from nine agencies shall serve as advisory or consulting members of the NYS SWCC. These advisory agencies are: ·

NYS Department of Agricultural and Markets

- NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
- NYS Department of Health
- NYS Department of State
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
- Cornell Cooperative Extension
- College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Cornell University
- SUNY Environmental Science & Forestry
- NYS Conservation District Employee Association

Representatives from each advisory agency participate on the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) which is a sub-committee of the NYS SWCC. This sub-committee serves as a mechanism to engage advisory members and provides an opportunity to invite other subject matter experts to provide expert knowledge and insight into specific topics or discussions. This collaborative and cooperative approach is important to continue the advancement of common natural resources conservation goals and continue the support of Conservation Districts.

The mission of the SWCC is to advance comprehensive natural resources management through the support of local Soil and Water Conservation Districts. The SWCC works to establish policies to guide local programs, provide technical and administrative support for local programs, and administer various cost share programs. Ensuring that Districts continue to have ample resources to be local leaders in natural resource management is a top priority.

All Soil and Water Conservation Districts are encouraged to attend NYS SWCC meetings either in-person or through virtual call-in options. Meeting agendas, recordings, and minutes are posted and available on the Department of Agriculture and Markets website: [About the Soil & Water Conservation Committee | Agriculture and Markets \(ny.gov\)](#).

In the coming weeks, the NYS SWCC will be sending out a survey to seek input from Districts on the development of the 2024-2029 NYS SWCC Strategic Plan. We hope everyone will be able to take a few minutes to complete the survey and provide valuable feedback.

m. Technical Advisory Committee – Stewart reported she will attend the next meeting on June 8th. Murphy stated that Jennifer Kelly talked about the CRF workgroup regarding where it was headed and what things should be included in the proposal. She asked if this should continue but for all the grant programs that come up. What could it look like, how would it be formed, what District need vs don't need. Bzduch stated this is a great idea and can work towards this in the future. Kelly stated it was great that additional people could bring their thoughts to the table.

Kelly also stated that CRF appropriations have certain items carved out of it. Is it proposals to get a line item? What are the mechanisms or thoughts on how to get a line item. Bzduch stated each agency is asked to submit what they want to request for carve outs which are then added to the budget discussion. For CRF Round 7, there was \$16.75 million allocated with \$500,000 earmarked for the Cornell Soil Health Program, and money was carved out by SWCC for pilot projects. Murphy asked if the SWCC typically asks for proposals for these pilot projects. Bzduch stated she will ask, but legislative discussions are when carve outs are built into the budget. She will look into it. Stewart stated that Steuben County SWCD was surprised that they were listed as a line item in the EPF years ago. Murphy asked if it is possible for more than one District/CDEA District representative that has technical knowledge to attend TAC meetings. Possible tract chairs have that opportunity to sit on the committee. Calabro stated that CDEA passed a resolution stating that no District can be listed as an individual line item in EPF because it is as if we are competing with ourselves.

Kelly also brought up an issue regarding the large number of private industries and nonprofits that are cropping up that provide incentives for practices that we are already offering on farms. Cover crops, crop rotations, reduced tillage, upland tree, and shrub plantings are examples. Examples of these organizations include the Soil and Water Outcome Fund, Cornell Atkinson Center for Sustainability,

and the Nature Conservancy. The market is opening up to sell/buy/trade carbon credits on some of the practices we are implementing. Where do we fit into this equation? What is our greater role? Some of these credits could potentially be bought and sold several times over. Is someone keeping track of this and how do we know that we aren't using taxpayer dollars to help offset an investment company from making money on trading these credits? Our "business as usual" was prioritized based on natural resource concerns, distance to resources, number of animals. Now, how do we prioritize the atmosphere? How do we strategically plan? Bzduch stated these are good questions and she isn't sure if they are working ecosystem services payments into their programs. Any project with state funding needs to have high level of planning and management. Currently the state doesn't plan to support these private interest groups. Kelly stated that Nature Conservancy and Organic Valley have technical services required and Districts are really the only entities that can provide these services. Should we provide these services and use additional money even if they don't align with our goals? Nature Conservancy asked their District to develop a forestry plan for a landowner so they can sell climate credits to companies who don't align with their goals. Halloran stated this has happened at their District and they had to make sure they didn't pay the landowner over the 100% funding. Bzduch will look into this and provide better information/guidance on what Districts should do in these instances. Stewart stated that this was an interesting discussion and suggested compiling a list of scenarios with answers from SWCC sent out statewide. Stewart stated this is what CDEA is meant to do. It's a sounding board for our Division Representatives bring questions and comments to the table. We are here to help and support Districts and our partners.

- n. Recruitment and Retention** – Stewart reported that some District staff have attended job fairs at area schools, colleges, and universities to promote SWCDs. If anyone is interested, CDEA can cover the registration fee. We also have CDEA brochures for dissemination.
- o. Northeast Association of Conservation District Employees** – Stewart shared Jeff Parker's report, appended to the minutes.
- p. National Association of Conservation Districts** – Stewart shared Velynda Parker's report, appended to the minutes. Stewart stated Velynda was recognized for her 4 years as Secretary of the organization and congratulated Velynda.
- q. Operations Manual Committee** – Stewart reported that we visit this as needed. The last revision was in 2019. There is a need update the manual. Murphy stated that if the revision isn't going to happen in the next couple months it may be a good idea to wait and bring it up at the Administrative Conference.

Suspended at 11:53 AM for lunch.

Reconvened at 12:30 PM

VIII. CDEA Activities

a. CDEA New contract – Stewart stated that past President Lewis reminded her that her contract had not been renewed in quite some time. A few months ago, CDEA approved increasing the amount of the contract from \$3,500 to \$4,500. The newsletter is published every other month and has been improved to include new employee and seasoned employees’ highlights. The new contract will be signed by Stewart, McLaughlin, and Hamilton County SWCD chairperson.

- **A motion was made by Calabro, seconded by Halloran to accept the CDEA News contract. Stewart abstained. Carried.**

- b. Proposed draft amendments to District Law update** – Stewart reported in an email sent January 23, Megan Brosterman of the Watershed Health Coalition reported that, “Now that the new legislative session has begun, government relations teams from various organizations will be working with Albany to develop policies and legislative proposals based on what we learned in our discussions. We will not be holding any further biweekly sessions in 2023. Stewart emailed Brosterman in November to say hello and to ask if she had or is seeking an assembly or senate to sponsor the bill or has plans to try to get this passed through a legislator. She hasn’t heard back.
- c. By-Laws Update** - Stewart reported there’s a need for the By-Laws to be updated. Murphy and McLaughlin volunteered to assist Stewart to update them. The proposed updates would be approved or disapproved at the Annual Meeting. Murphy asked if the draft needs to be done and out by January. Stewart stated the draft should be done by the November meeting and out to Districts in January.
- d. Management Development Certification Program** – Calabro reported this program is underpublicized and underutilized. It needs to be updated. Stewart reported that Doug Kierst went through this program, and he said it really enhanced his position at the District. This program outlines managerial skills that will benefit new and seasoned District Managers. More information about the program is on the CDEA website. This program is managed by the Member at Large. Halloran will work with Stewart on updating the program while Stewart will reach out to Kierst for his comments on the program. Murphy suggested guiding new Managers to this program.
- e. 4-Way Partnership MOA** – Stewart reported that they had a meeting. She thanks Bzduch for the in-person location in Albany while Glover and Hurlbutt called in. The MOA was thoroughly gone through, and a few items needed to be added then sent out for signatures. MOA will be renewed every 5 years.
- f. 2-hour NYS DEC MS4 inspector training program for Districts** – No movement until new MS4 permit is issued.

- g. Ronnie Raindrop** – Stewart stated that she and Technician Katie Whitkovits made multiple trips to pick up the costumes. New costumes were distributed to Representatives of odd Divisions. Caitlin recommended waiting for feedback from District staff before ordering costumes for even Divisions. It is important to make sure that the new costumes are comfortable, vision is adequate, and assembly is easy. Costumes and care instructions are housed at each Division. Those attending the CDEA meeting in person tried on the costumes. One needs to be returned to the designer for modifications.
- h. Association Manager position** – Stewart reported that this position was approved at the annual meeting in March and money was earmarked for this position. Hiring won't occur until later this fall or early winter. McLaughlin stated that it will need to be decided what this person will do besides organize Conservation Skills Workshop and Water Quality Symposium. McLaughlin suggested that maybe contract out the Conservation Skills Workshop and Water Quality Symposium. Calabro replied that there is a list that Lewis developed and reviewed with Board. Stewart asked if the manager will be housed in her office, then move with the current President is. Murphy stated he sees this as a remote position. CDEA needs draw up and send out an RFP to Districts with the request to submit proposals for contract to house this person, write paychecks, etc. The position would be similar to the contract with Cortland County SWCD and SWCC to house 3 SWCC employees at Cortland County SWCD. Bzduch stated that money was set aside for her position and 2 others. Cortland County SWCD won the contract from NY SWCC. Stewart asked about vehicle use. Bzduch stated that they used rented vehicles. Stewart asked about laptops. Bzduch replied that funding was built into the contract for the purchase of laptops, printers, and cellphones. The District bought them and at the end of the contract the District took them for their own use. RFP Development Committee will consist of Stoddard, Murphy, and Stewart. Stewart will look for the list of duties that was developed and follow-up with Bzduch. Murphy will look for contracts between NYS SWCC and Cortland County. McLaughlin advised Stewart to ask Pete what he did with Winn for the Mohawk River Watershed Coalition.

Bzduch left meeting at 1:00 PM

- i. Whistleblower and Conflict of Interest Policy signatures** – Stewart stated that Chastity Miller developed this policy. Stewart asked everyone to review the policy and sign it. She distributed it among members that were present at the meeting and will email it to the others who were via zoom.
- j. Skeet Tournament** – Burke reported that last year there was interest in a CDEA Skeet Tournament. Tyler Kelly from Herkimer County SWCD and Russ Smith from Cortland County SWCD expressed interest in helping organize a tournament. An email was sent out by Division Reps to see if there was statewide interest in such a tournament and there were approximately 20 people interested. Burke met with Vernon National Shooting

Preserve on pricing of a skeet tournament and the cost was \$175. She spoke to Pompey Rod and Gun Club, and they offer tournaments but not as elaborate as Vernon and cheaper. Murphy requested to find a few places and bring it back to the next meeting. He also stated that the tournament with multiple stations would be more enjoyable than one where you stand in one spot and shoot.

- k. 4-Hour fund application review and approval** - Stewart reported she received 2 applications. Troy Bishopp from Madison County SWCD applied to host a 2023 Practical Pasture Management Training in the amount of \$1370. McLaughlin stated this is more than just a grazing training as a District Technician is going to go over water resource concerns. Hamilton County SWCD submitted an application for Stream Investigation, Stabilization, and Design Workshop for \$10,000. Stewart stated that Mark Burger requested Dave Derek come to Hamilton County for a 3-day training, and that this training is expensive. Murphy stated that there might only be 10 people in attendance since people have to provide their own lodging and food. There are no hotels available nearby. Halloran suggested charging a registration fee to offset your request. McLaughlin stated with CRF including stormwater there may be a need for trainings like this. Stoddard mentioned that she would attend the event but is already booked with summer programs, and many other District employees may be in the same situation. Timing and promotion are challenges with the hectic summer field season. She suggested to partner with a coalition to hold this training with shared funds. Stewart asked if you could write trainings into CRF grant proposals. No response from SWCC. Murphy requested that the budget report of the 4-Hour online training application be revised and ask for more detail information like what dollar amounts entail. Stewart asked Division Representatives to let their division members know this funding is available.

- **A motion was made by Murphy, seconded by Halloran to approve 4-Hour Fund application for the 2023 Practical Pasture Management Training in the amount of \$1,370. Carried.**
- **A motion was made by Murphy, seconded by Stoddard to disapprove the 4-Hour Fun application for the Stream Investigation, Stabilization, and Design Workshop application in the amount of \$10,000 at this time with the potential opportunity to host at Water Quality Symposium to allow for adequate planning and advertising. In addition, WQIP or a private organization match could be explored to host this training. Stewart abstained. Carried.**

I. Other Business –

1. Murphy stated Chenango County technicians learned during a Water Quality Symposium course that within the FAA regulations, a government entity can

request a certification of authorization to conduct their own training program for drone certifications. While CDEA isn't technically a government agency, perhaps CDEA could work to develop their own training program and drone usage policy. The training could consist of the required legal portions, and a portion on how to fly the drones as the FAA training doesn't address that. There is a group within Districts who are familiar with this who will contact CDEA with suggestions. Stewart reported that CDEA a full agenda, and this may be difficult to lead. Murphy stated this sounds like a good application for 4-Hour Funds program. He doesn't think CDEA should do this, but maybe a District would be interested in taking this on. There have been numerous Frank Bratt Scholarships to attend drone certification courses. Halloran stated training program for drone certifications would be a great class for Conservation Skills Workshop.

2. **WQS late instructor fee** – Stewart reported that she received a request on March 15th for the OTN class for \$1,120 for the two instructors of the class. She continued that she asked course facilitators to email her course instructor feeds for CDEA approval before the event. Murphy stated that track chairs need to be responsible for getting instructor fees to the Vice President in a timely manner. Calabro it was hard to preapprove because the instructor charged a “per person rate” but that option for class development did not appear on the class form and therefore the cost was unknown. Maybe the form needs to be updated to allow for a per person registration fee option. Stoddard commented that it was a good class.
- **A motion was made by Murphy, seconded by Stewart to approve \$1,120 instructor fee for the OTN class. Carried.**

3. **Fish On Challenge** – Stoddard reported there are 40 signups with a deadline of May 31st. She hasn't received any new signups in the past month. New employees can sign up anytime. Murphy suggested leaving sign up deadline open. The cost to enter is \$10 with a measuring tape. There's a processing fee for anyone using a credit card. Murphy recommended not worrying about the credit card processing fee as you will just reduce the amount of the gift cards to winners by whatever the fees and expenses incurred are. Stoddard stated Kristin Ballou started this event and she took it over. She asked someone in Division 5 to manage this. Unfortunately, Stoddard is having trouble communicating with this individual. She is happy to ask someone else in her division to manage this or if anyone knows of someone who would be interested in this. Stewart commented that it is important to recruit new people

to help, it's the same people who step up over and over. Stoddard and Ballou mentored this new individual, the transition didn't work, and Stoddard would hate to see the Fish On Challenge terminate. Stoddard suggested she send an email to Division representatives to see if they know of anyone interested in taking over this challenge.

IX. Executive Session to discuss Water Quality Symposium harassment incident.

- **A motion was made by McLaughlin seconded by Ferry to enter Executive Session at 1:58 p.m. Carried.**
- **A motion was made by Calabro, seconded by Cuddeback to exit Executive Session at 2:25 p.m. to discuss a Water Quality Symposium harassment incident. Carried.**

No actions will be taken at this time.

X. Correspondence – Stewart received and shared an email from Amber Twentyman.

XI. Next Meeting – July 6, 2023, in Division III.

XII. Adjournment

- **A motion was made by Stewart, seconded by Cuddeback to adjourn the meeting at 2:39 pm. Carried.**

Respectfully submitted,



Joann Burke

CDEA Secretary

NYS CDEA, INC.
BANK REPORT FOR ALL ACCOUNTS
As of May 15, 2023

	May 15, 23	Dec 31, 22
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Checking/Savings		
NYS Envirothon-Savings	2,000.15	900.06
4HR Online Sed & Erosion	532,441.88	484,727.32
2024 NCF Envirothon Checking	79,674.44	50,824.44
NYSCDEA-REG CHECKING		
General NYSCDEA Funds	81,742.23	104,762.61
Online 4-Hour Course	-73,383.29	-65,498.59
Admin Conference	1,861.25	1,861.25
Conservation Skills	20,317.00	20,317.00
Golf Tournament	4,545.94	4,545.94
Leadership Conference	5,863.13	2,863.13
NYSESCC Program	12,811.81	7,036.51
NYS Envirothon	65,483.52	55,590.14
NYS Fair	6,108.01	3,157.71
Resource Training Checking	4,200.28	4,200.28
Sunshine Fund	857.93	857.93
NYSCDEA-REG CHECKING - Ot...	0.00	-286.00
Total NYSCDEA-REG CHECKING	130,407.81	139,407.91
Envirothon Scholarship Savings	14,696.35	15,045.62
Frank Bratt Scholarship Savings	33,486.50	34,579.92
Resource Training Savings	27,070.39	27,069.93
Total Checking/Savings	819,777.52	752,555.20
Accounts Receivable		
Accounts Receivable		
Envirothon Receivables	475.00	0.00
Accounts Receivable - Other	25,665.00	665.00
Total Accounts Receivable	26,140.00	665.00
Total Accounts Receivable	26,140.00	665.00
Total Current Assets	845,917.52	753,220.20
TOTAL ASSETS	845,917.52	753,220.20
LIABILITIES & EQUITY		
Equity		
Retained Earnings	753,220.20	730,473.88
Net Income	92,697.32	22,746.32
Total Equity	845,917.52	753,220.20
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	845,917.52	753,220.20

NYS CDEA, INC.
INCOME & EXPENSE REPORT FOR ALL ACCOUNTS
January 1 through May 15, 2023

	Jan 1 - May 15, 23
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Fert. Tablets	6,720.00
Training Sessions Income	
Conservation Skills Workshop	1,000.00
Water Quality Symposium	
WQS Registration	100,679.00
Total Water Quality Symposium	100,679.00
4-Hour Online Class	124,734.21
NYSESCC Program	5,800.00
Leadership Conference	
Donations	3,000.00
Total Leadership Conference	3,000.00
WQS Resource Training	
Resource Training Interest	0.46
WQS Resource Training - Other	5,620.00
Total WQS Resource Training	5,620.46
Total Training Sessions Income	240,833.67
Fundraising	
Bucket Raffle	2,785.00
Silent Auction Items	2,116.00
Total Fundraising	4,901.00
Self Sustaining Programs	
2024 NCF Envirothon, New York	28,500.00
Fishing Challenge-Income	50.00
Frank Bratt Scholarship	
Interest-Frank Bratt	0.58
Frank Bratt Int & Donations	137.80
Total Frank Bratt Scholarship	138.38
NYS Envirothon-Income	
Interest	0.09
Registration	19,200.00
Guest Registration & Housing	675.00
Donation	4,325.00
Total NYS Envirothon-Income	24,200.09
Envirothon Scholarship Income	
Envirothon Scholarhsip-Interest	0.73

NYS CDEA, INC.
INCOME & EXPENSE REPORT FOR ALL ACCOUNTS
January 1 through May 15, 2023

	<u>Jan 1 - May 15, 23</u>
Total Envirothon Scholarship Income	0.73
State Fair	<u>3,900.00</u>
Total Self Sustaining Programs	<u>56,789.20</u>
Total Income	<u>309,243.87</u>
Gross Profit	309,243.87

NYS CDEA, INC.
INCOME & EXPENSE REPORT FOR ALL ACCOUNTS
January 1 through May 15, 2023

	Jan 1 - May 15, 23
Expense	
Fertilizer Tablets	6,716.06
Training Sessions Expenses	
4 HR Approved Trainings	0.00
Local Roads Ap	2,310.95
Credit Card Fees	138.05
Online 4 Hour Course	7,343.40
NYSESCC Program	24.70
Misc. Training Sessions	40.00
WQS	
Credit Card Service Fees	642.27
Awards	1,573.36
WQS Refund	750.00
All Expenses	158,160.42
WQS - Other	245.00
Total WQS	161,371.05
WQS DJ Music/Entertainment	5,451.97
Training Sessions Expenses - Other	1,824.64
Total Training Sessions Expenses	178,504.76
Taxes & Audit Review	1,750.00
Executive Board Expense	
Motel & Meals	4,159.43
Total Executive Board Expense	4,159.43
Insurance	
Directors & Officers Policy	1,410.00
Commercial Package	379.00
Total Insurance	1,789.00
Promotion	
Website	658.64
Total Promotion	658.64
NACD-Annual Meeting	2,177.53
Office Supplies/Postage	1,684.41
Division Expenses	
Division II	650.43
Division V	630.36
Division VI	207.61
Total Division Expenses	1,488.40
Self Sustaining Program Expense	

NYS CDEA, INC.
INCOME & EXPENSE REPORT FOR ALL ACCOUNTS
January 1 through May 15, 2023

	Jan 1 - May 15, 23
Fishing Challenge-Expense	202.36
Frank Bratt Scholarship Expense	849.00
Envirothon-NYS Expenses	
Rooms	
Dorm Rooms	3,798.04
Presentation Rooms & Auditorium	650.00
Total Rooms	4,448.04
Meals	3,296.38
Testing Site Expense	
Golf Cart	60.00
Snacks	296.31
Total Testing Site Expense	356.31
Oral Presentation	182.41
Awards	1,422.00
National Event	
Guest Registration	2,560.00
Team Registration	1,800.00
National Event - Other	400.00
Total National Event	4,760.00
Total Envirothon-NYS Expenses	14,465.14
Envirothon Scholarships	350.00
State Fair	
Seeds	949.70
Total State Fair	949.70
Self Sustaining Program Expense - Other	802.12
Total Self Sustaining Program Expense	17,618.32
Total Expense	216,546.55
Net Ordinary Income	92,697.32
Net Income	92,697.32

**NYS DISTRICT EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION
Bank Accounts Register
As of May 15, 2023**

Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Split	Debit	Credit	Balance
NYS Envirothon-Savings								900.06
Deposit	01/05/2023			Deposit	Undeposited Funds	1,000.00		1,900.06
Deposit	01/31/2023			Interest	Interest	0.09		1,900.15
Deposit	02/28/2023			Deposit	Undeposited Funds	100.00		2,000.15
Total NYS Envirothon-Savings						1,100.09		2,000.15
4HR Online Sed & Erosion								484,727.32
Deposit	01/18/2023			Deposit	Undeposited Funds	25,000.00		509,727.32
Deposit	01/31/2023			Interest	4-Hour Online Class	25.51		509,752.83
Deposit	02/14/2023			Deposit	Undeposited Funds	25,000.00		534,752.83
Deposit	03/20/2023			Deposit	Undeposited Funds	25,000.00		559,752.83
General Journal	03/27/2023			WQS 2023	General NYCDEA...		50,000.00	509,752.83
Transfer	03/31/2023			Funds Transfer	General NYCDEA...		2,310.95	507,441.88
Deposit	04/13/2023			Deposit	Undeposited Funds	25,000.00		532,441.88
Total 4HR Online Sed & Erosion						100,025.51	52,310.95	532,441.88
2024 NCF Envirothon Checking								50,824.44
Deposit	01/18/2023			Deposit	Undeposited Funds	500.00		51,324.44
Deposit	02/09/2023			Deposit	Undeposited Funds	250.00		51,574.44
Deposit	03/07/2023			Deposit	-SPLIT-	3,750.00		55,324.44
Deposit	03/20/2023			Deposit	Undeposited Funds	100.00		55,424.44
Deposit	03/24/2023			Deposit	Undeposited Funds	750.00		56,174.44
Deposit	03/27/2023			Deposit	Undeposited Funds	3,000.00		59,174.44
Deposit	03/27/2023			Deposit	Undeposited Funds	1,500.00		60,674.44
Deposit	04/25/2023			Deposit	Undeposited Funds	1,000.00		61,674.44
Deposit	04/25/2023			VOID: Deposit	-SPLIT-			61,674.44
Deposit	04/27/2023			Deposit	-SPLIT-	9,000.00		70,674.44
Transfer	04/27/2023			Funds Transfer	NYS Envirothon	1,500.00		72,174.44
Deposit	05/05/2023			Deposit	-SPLIT-	6,000.00		78,174.44
Deposit	05/15/2023			Deposit	Undeposited Funds	1,500.00		79,674.44
Total 2024 NCF Envirothon Checking						28,850.00		79,674.44
NYSCDEA-REG CHECKING								139,407.91
General NYCDEA Funds								104,762.61
Bill Pmt -Check	01/04/2023		First Bank Card	Chass	Accounts Payable		617.72	104,144.89
General Journal	01/05/2023			Sara Dertinger	NYSESCC Program		100.00	104,044.89
Deposit	01/06/2023			Deposit	-SPLIT-	601.42		104,646.31
Check	01/10/2023	4661	Bailey, Carr CPAs, P.C.	Invoice: P1081	Taxes & Audit Rev...		1,750.00	102,896.31
Check	01/10/2023	4662	Wayne Co. SWCD	Frank Bratt for Ian Priestly	WQS		245.00	102,651.31
General Journal	01/10/2023			Frank Bratt for Ian Priestly	Frank Bratt Schol...	245.00		102,896.31
Deposit	01/12/2023			Deposit	-SPLIT-	504.62		103,400.93
Deposit	01/12/2023			Deposit	-SPLIT-	295.24		103,696.17
Deposit	01/17/2023			Deposit	-SPLIT-	111.36		103,807.53

NYS DISTRICT EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION
Bank Accounts Register
As of May 15, 2023

Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Split	Debit	Credit	Balance
Deposit	01/20/2023			Deposit	-SPLIT-	2,430.00		106,237.53
Deposit	01/20/2023			Deposit	-SPLIT-	1,770.57		108,008.10
Deposit	01/20/2023			Deposit	-SPLIT-	1,862.80		109,870.90
Deposit	01/22/2023			Deposit	-SPLIT-	1,211.93		111,082.83
Deposit	01/24/2023			Deposit	-SPLIT-	4,610.00		115,692.83
Deposit	01/24/2023			Deposit	-SPLIT-	2,329.80		118,022.63
Deposit	01/24/2023			Deposit	-SPLIT-	577.14		118,599.77
Deposit	01/25/2023			Deposit	-SPLIT-	363.82		118,963.59
Deposit	01/29/2023			Deposit	-SPLIT-	1,197.98		120,161.57
Deposit	01/29/2023			Deposit	-SPLIT-	3,117.95		123,279.52
Check	01/31/2023		LakeView Deli	Division 5 Meeting	Division V		301.00	122,978.52
Deposit	02/01/2023			Deposit	-SPLIT-	13,680.00		136,658.52
Check	02/01/2023	4664	Washington County SWCD	Division Meeting	Division VI		207.61	136,450.91
Deposit	02/01/2023			Deposit	-SPLIT-	361.72		136,812.63
Check	02/06/2023	4667	DoubleTree By Hilton	CDEA Jan Meeting	Motel & Meals		1,642.73	135,169.90
Deposit	02/06/2023			Deposit	-SPLIT-	504.62		135,674.52
Deposit	02/09/2023			Deposit	-SPLIT-	14,110.00		149,784.52
Check	02/09/2023	4668	Orleans Co. SWCD	Frank Bratt Hannah Shervin	Frank Bratt Schol...		500.00	149,284.52
General Journal	02/09/2023			Orleans County	Frank Bratt Schol...	500.00		149,784.52
Deposit	02/09/2023			Deposit	-SPLIT-	289.35		150,073.87
Deposit	02/14/2023			Deposit	-SPLIT-	9,845.00		159,918.87
Bill Pmt -Check	02/14/2023		First Bank Card		Accounts Payable		4,659.17	155,259.70
Deposit	02/15/2023			Deposit	-SPLIT-	159.61		155,419.31
Deposit	02/16/2023			Deposit	-SPLIT-	184.19		155,603.50
Deposit	02/20/2023			Deposit	-SPLIT-	72.52		155,676.02
Deposit	02/22/2023			Deposit	-SPLIT-	14,465.00		170,141.02
Deposit	02/22/2023			Deposit	-SPLIT-	1,082.06		171,223.08
Deposit	02/23/2023			Deposit	-SPLIT-	368.68		171,591.76
Check	02/27/2023	4669	Franklin Co. SWCD	Drinks for CDEA Division 5 mee...	Division V		61.78	171,529.98
Deposit	02/28/2023			Deposit	-SPLIT-	9,090.00		180,619.98
Check	03/07/2023	4670	St. Lawrence Co. SWCD	Frank Bratt Jevonnah Foster	Frank Bratt Schol...		99.00	180,520.98
Deposit	03/07/2023			Deposit	-SPLIT-	1,220.00		181,740.98
Deposit	03/07/2023			Deposit	-SPLIT-	4,611.95		186,352.93
General Journal	03/07/2023			Foster- St Law	Frank Bratt Schol...	99.00		186,451.93
Check	03/09/2023	4671	Chasity Miller	Change for Symposium	Office Supplies/Po...		100.00	186,351.93
Deposit	03/09/2023			Deposit	-SPLIT-	9.41		186,361.34
Deposit	03/09/2023			Deposit	-SPLIT-	223.03		186,584.37
Bill Pmt -Check	03/09/2023		First Bank Card		Accounts Payable		4,581.34	182,003.03
Check	03/10/2023	4672	Franklin Co. SWCD	Bass Pro Shops GC	Fishing Challenge-...		200.00	181,803.03
Deposit	03/10/2023			Deposit	Undeposited Funds	10.00		181,813.03
Check	03/13/2023	4673	Monroe Co. SWCD	Refund symposium	WQS Refund		230.00	181,583.03
Deposit	03/13/2023			Deposit	-SPLIT-	19.38		181,602.41
Deposit	03/13/2023			Deposit	Undeposited Funds	13,104.00		194,706.41
Deposit	03/15/2023			Deposit	-SPLIT-	270.53		194,976.94
Bill Pmt -Check	03/15/2023		The Winery At ?		Accounts Payable		25.00	194,951.94
Deposit	03/15/2023			Deposit	-SPLIT-	81.12		195,033.06

NYS DISTRICT EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION
Bank Accounts Register
As of May 15, 2023

Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Split	Debit	Credit	Balance
Check	03/20/2023	4674	Nick Blow	Second Gun!	WQS DJ Music/E...		500.00	194,533.06
Deposit	03/20/2023			Deposit	-SPLIT-	1,995.01		196,528.07
Deposit	03/20/2023			Deposit	-SPLIT-	138.87		196,666.94
Deposit	03/20/2023			Deposit	-SPLIT-	18.82		196,685.76
General Journal	03/20/2023				NYS Envirothon	70.00		196,755.76
Deposit	03/21/2023			Deposit	-SPLIT-	4,960.00		201,715.76
Check	03/21/2023	4675	Authentic Communicatio...	Superior Communication Skills	All Expenses		2,727.00	198,988.76
Check	03/21/2023	4676	Ronald Kirsop	2 Classes WQS	All Expenses		500.00	198,488.76
Check	03/21/2023	4678	Lewis Co. SWCD	2023 WQS Hospitality Room Bol...	All Expenses		172.68	198,316.08
Check	03/21/2023	4679	Adirondack Website Desi...	2 Classes WQS 2023	All Expenses		4,310.00	194,006.08
Check	03/23/2023	4680	Green Fire Forestry & Wi...	WQS Milage	All Expenses		60.26	193,945.82
Check	03/23/2023	4681	Murphy Forest Managem...	WQS 2023 Forestry Class	All Expenses		238.75	193,707.07
Check	03/23/2023	4682	Device Magic, Inc.	4HR \$\$	Local Roads Ap		2,310.95	191,396.12
Deposit	03/23/2023			Deposit	-SPLIT-	9.41		191,405.53
Check	03/23/2023	4683	Griffin Greenhouse & Nu...	Invoice #05166210	Fertilizer Tablets		6,671.06	184,734.47
Deposit	03/24/2023			Deposit	-SPLIT-	151.00		184,885.47
Check	03/27/2023	4684	Richard Orth	wqs CLASSES 2023	All Expenses		1,600.21	183,285.26
Check	03/27/2023	4687	DoubleTree By Hilton	2023 WQS	All Expenses		146,913.48	36,371.78
Check	03/27/2023	4685	Wayne Co. SWCD	Refund for WQS Did not use cou...	WQS Refund		520.00	35,851.78
Check	03/27/2023	4688	Warren Co. SWCD	MEAT	All Expenses		299.40	35,552.38
Check	03/27/2023	4689	Lewis Co. SWCD	2023 WQS Hospitality Room Ch...	All Expenses		250.22	35,302.16
Check	03/27/2023	4690	Shamrock Figure SKatin...	oriental traiding order to wrong ...	All Expenses		133.09	35,169.07
Check	03/27/2023	4691	Dutchess Co. SWCD	2023 WQS Awards & Recognition	Awards		1,110.95	34,058.12
Check	03/27/2023	4692	Aaron Barrigar	Meals at WQS	All Expenses		25.06	34,033.06
Deposit	03/27/2023			Deposit	-SPLIT-	201.80		34,234.86
General Journal	03/27/2023			WQS 2023	4HR Online Sed &...	50,000.00		84,234.86
Check	03/30/2023	4694	Upstate Equipment	VOID: Resource Fair Refund mi...	All Expenses			84,234.86
Check	03/30/2023	4693	Upstate Equipment	VOID:miss print due to printer e...	All Expenses			84,234.86
Transfer	03/31/2023			Funds Transfer	4HR Online Sed &...	2,310.95		86,545.81
Bill Pmt -Check	04/10/2023	electr...	First Bank Card	Caitlin	Accounts Payable		2,344.46	84,201.35
Bill Pmt -Check	04/10/2023	electr...	First Bank Card	Chas	Accounts Payable		3,624.43	80,576.92
Deposit	04/17/2023			Deposit	-SPLIT-	223.03		80,799.95
Deposit	04/17/2023			Deposit	Undeposited Funds	6,000.00		86,799.95
Check	05/02/2023	4697	Upstate Equipment		Training Sessions		285.00	86,514.95
Check	05/02/2023	4699	Griffin Greenhouse & Nu...	Invoice #05166210	Fertilizer Tablets		45.00	86,469.95
General Journal	05/05/2023				NYS Fair		100.00	86,369.95
Check	05/09/2023	4707	Cayuga County SWCD	Tech Forum	Division II		650.43	85,719.52
Check	05/09/2023	4706	Maren Stoddard	Frank Bratt Scholarship	Frank Bratt Schol...		250.00	85,469.52
Check	05/09/2023	4705	Hamilton Co SWCD	Entertainment Rental	WQS DJ Music/E...		1,576.80	83,892.72
Check	05/09/2023	4704	Burger, Mark	Retirement Gift	Awards		128.83	83,763.89
Check	05/09/2023	4703	Hamilton Co SWCD	Entertainment Rental	Awards		196.66	83,567.23
General Journal	05/09/2023				NYSCDEA-REG C...		286.00	83,281.23
Check	05/09/2023	4702	Selective Insurance Com...	Account No. 151-907-696	Commercial Packa...		379.00	82,902.23
Check	05/09/2023	4701	Philadelphia Insurance ...	Acct.#80871610	Directors & Officer...		1,410.00	81,492.23
Transfer	05/10/2023			Funds Transfer	Frank Bratt Schol...	250.00		81,742.23

NYS DISTRICT EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION
Bank Accounts Register
As of May 15, 2023

Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Split	Debit	Credit	Balance
Total General NYSCDEA Funds						171,919.69	194,940.07	81,742.23
Online 4-Hour Course								(65,498.59)
Deposit	01/08/2023			Deposit	-SPLIT-	484.90		(65,013.69)
Deposit	01/10/2023			Deposit	-SPLIT-		500.00	(65,513.69)
Credit Card R...	01/10/2023	6	4hr square		Accounts Receivable		291.30	(65,804.99)
Check	03/27/2023	4686	Mary Joe Delconte	Refund for course	Training Sessions ...		250.00	(66,054.99)
Bill Pmt -Check	05/02/2023	4698	Monroe County SWCD	2023 First Quarterly Fee 4 Hr C...	Accounts Payable		7,328.30	(73,383.29)
Total Online 4-Hour Course						484.90	8,369.60	(73,383.29)
Admin Conference								1,861.25
Total Admin Conference								1,861.25
Conservation Skills								20,317.00
Total Conservation Skills								20,317.00
Golf Tournament								4,545.94
Total Golf Tournament								4,545.94
Leadership Conference								2,863.13
Deposit	05/15/2023			Deposit	Undeposited Funds	3,000.00		5,863.13
Total Leadership Conference						3,000.00		5,863.13
NYSESCC Program								7,036.51
Deposit	01/04/2023			Deposit	-SPLIT-	387.20		7,423.71
General Journal	01/05/2023			Sara Dertinger	General NYSCDEA...	100.00		7,523.71
Deposit	01/06/2023			Deposit	-SPLIT-	96.80		7,620.51
Deposit	01/09/2023			Deposit	-SPLIT-	191.30		7,811.81
Deposit	02/21/2023			Deposit	Undeposited Funds	5,000.00		12,811.81
Total NYSESCC Program						5,775.30		12,811.81
NYS Envirothon								55,590.14
Check	02/01/2023	4665	Columbia University	NYS Env. Scholarship For 2019 ...	Envirothon Schola...		250.00	55,340.14
Check	02/01/2023	4666	SuNY Oswego	NYS Envirothon Scholarship Bis...	Envirothon Schola...		100.00	55,240.14
General Journal	02/01/2023			2022 Rayamajhi	Envirothon Schola...	100.00		55,340.14
General Journal	02/01/2023			2019 & 2021 Columbian U	Envirothon Schola...	250.00		55,590.14
Deposit	03/07/2023			Deposit	-SPLIT-	3,000.00		58,590.14
Deposit	03/10/2023			Deposit	-SPLIT-	2,180.00		60,770.14
Deposit	03/20/2023			Deposit	-SPLIT-	3,670.00		64,440.14
General Journal	03/20/2023				General NYSCDEA...		70.00	64,370.14
Deposit	03/24/2023			Deposit	-SPLIT-	1,200.00		65,570.14
Deposit	03/27/2023			Deposit	-SPLIT-	3,400.00		68,970.14

NYS DISTRICT EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION

Bank Accounts Register

As of May 15, 2023

Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Splitt	Debit	Credit	Balance
Deposit	03/31/2023			Deposit	-SPLIT-	1,200.00		70,170.14
Deposit	04/11/2023			Deposit	Undeposited Funds	600.00		70,770.14
Deposit	04/13/2023			Deposit	Undeposited Funds	125.00		70,895.14
Deposit	04/13/2023			Deposit	Undeposited Funds	3,500.00		74,395.14
Deposit	04/27/2023			Deposit	-SPLIT-	2,400.00		76,795.14
Transfer	04/27/2023			Funds Transfer	2024 NCF Enviroth...		1,500.00	75,295.14
Check	05/02/2023	4696	Blanche Hurlbutt Enviro...	Coleman Ice Chest	Snacks		97.20	75,197.94
Bill Pmt -Check	05/02/2023	4695	Hobart & William Smith ...	20% Down Payment	Accounts Payable		7,804.42	67,393.52
Deposit	05/05/2023			Deposit	-SPLIT-	1,800.00		69,193.52
Bill Pmt -Check	05/09/2023	4708	NCF-Envirothon	2023 NCFE New Brunswick Regi...	Accounts Payable		4,760.00	64,433.52
Deposit	05/15/2023			Deposit	-SPLIT-	1,050.00		65,483.52
Total NYS Envirothon						24,475.00	14,581.62	65,483.52
NYS Fair								3,157.71
Deposit	04/06/2023			Deposit	-SPLIT-	300.00		3,457.71
Deposit	04/13/2023			Deposit	-SPLIT-	1,000.00		4,457.71
Deposit	04/14/2023			Deposit	-SPLIT-	300.00		4,757.71
Deposit	04/21/2023			Deposit	-SPLIT-	600.00		5,357.71
Deposit	04/25/2023			Deposit	-SPLIT-	600.00		5,957.71
Deposit	04/27/2023			Deposit	Undeposited Funds	100.00		6,057.71
Bill Pmt -Check	05/02/2023	4700	The Page Seed Company	Inv 1216347-IN	Accounts Payable		949.70	5,108.01
Deposit	05/02/2023			Deposit	Undeposited Funds	100.00		5,208.01
Deposit	05/05/2023			Deposit	-SPLIT-	600.00		5,808.01
General Journal	05/05/2023				General NYCDEA...	100.00		5,908.01
Deposit	05/15/2023			Deposit	-SPLIT-	200.00		6,108.01
Total NYS Fair						3,900.00	949.70	6,108.01
Resource Training Checking								4,200.28
Total Resource Training Checking								4,200.28
Sunshine Fund								857.93
Total Sunshine Fund								857.93
NYSCDEA-REG CHECKING - Other								(286.00)
General Journal	05/09/2023				General NYSCDEA...	286.00		-
Total NYSCDEA-REG CHECKING - Other						286.00		-
Total NYSCDEA-REG CHECKING						209,840.89	218,840.99	130,407.81
Envirothon Scholarship Savings								15,045.62
General Journal	02/01/2023			2022 Rayamajhi	-SPLIT-		100.00	14,945.62
General Journal	02/01/2023			2019 & 2021 Columbian U	Envirothon Schola...		250.00	14,695.62

NYS DISTRICT EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION
Bank Accounts Register
As of May 15, 2023

<i>Type</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Num</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Memo</i>	<i>Split</i>	<i>Debit</i>	<i>Credit</i>	<i>Balance</i>
Deposit	02/28/2023			Interest	Envirothon Schola...	0.48		14,696.10
Deposit	03/31/2023			Interest	Envirothon Schola...	0.25		14,696.35
Total Envirothon Scholarship Savings						0.73	350.00	14,696.35
Frank Bratt Scholarship Savings								34,579.92
General Journal	01/10/2023			Frank Bratt for Ian Priestly	General NYSCDEA...		245.00	34,334.92
Deposit	02/01/2023			Interest	Interest-Frank Bratt	0.58		34,335.50
General Journal	02/09/2023			Orleans COUNTY	General NYSCDEA...		500.00	33,835.50
General Journal	03/07/2023			Foster- St Law	General NYSCDEA...		99.00	33,736.50
Transfer	05/10/2023			Stoddard	General NYSCDEA...		250.00	33,486.50
Total Frank Bratt Scholarship Savings						0.58	1,094.00	33,486.50
Resource Training Savings								27,069.93
Deposit	03/31/2023			Interest	Resource Training...	0.46		27,070.39
Total Resource Training Savings						0.46		27,070.39
TOTAL						339818.26	272,595.94	819,777.52



Soil and Water Conservation Committee

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

RICHARD A. BALL
Commissioner

DALE STEIN
Committee Chair

Conservation Districts Employee Association Meeting May 17, 2023 NYS Soil and Water Conservation Committee Report

SFY 2023-2024 Environmental Protection Fund: The Enacted SFY 2023-2024 Budget is now available at www.budget.ny.gov. In total, this year's approved EPF budget is yet another very strong showing of support for conservation programs. Overall appropriations for the FY 2023-2024 EPF were approved at level funding of \$400 million. Proposals of interest to SWCC/SWCDs in this budget include the following:

- \$19.5 million for Agricultural Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Projects, including \$2 million for Cornell IPM, \$500,000 for the CCE of Suffolk County and \$250,000 for Cornell's Pesticide Management Program
- \$16 million for Soil and Water Conservation Districts (**\$1.5 million increase over last year's levels**)
- \$15.25 million for the Climate Resilient Farms Program, including \$500,000 to support Carbon Sequestration Projects and \$500,000 for the Cornell Soil Health Program
- \$22 million for Water Quality Improvement Program
- \$22.5 million for Oceans and Great Lakes (EBM Program funding)
- \$14.275 million for Waterfront Revitalization Program
- \$21 million for Farmland Protection

Agricultural Non-Point Source Program Round 29: \$13.5 million is available to support agricultural water quality conservation projects across the State. All questions related to the RFP shall be addressed to Bethany Bzduch bethany.bzduch@agriculture.ny.gov by **May 22nd, 2023**. Applications for funding must be submitted through the NYS SWCC SharePoint website by **4:30 PM June 26, 2023**.

Climate Resilient Farming Program Round 7: \$15 million is available to support projects. All questions related to the RFP shall be addressed to Jennifer Clifford jennifer.clifford@agriculture.ny.gov by **June 5th, 2023**. Applications for funding must be submitted through the NYS SWCC SharePoint website by **4:30 PM August 7, 2023**.

AEM Leopold Conservation Award 2023: NYSAGM is partnering once again with the Sand County Foundation to present the AEM Leopold Conservation Award to recognize landowners who inspire others with their dedication to ethical land, water, and wildlife habitat management on agricultural land. The deadline for applications is **May 27th, 2023**. More information can be found at <https://www.sandcountyfoundation.org/uploads/NY-CFN-23.pdf>

Regenerate NY: Administered by the NYS DEC, the Regenerate NY program is now open. Applications will be accepted through NYS Grants Gateway until October 6, 2023 or until funds are depleted. Pursuant to the Request for Applications, Soil & Water Conservation Districts (SWCD) are now eligible to apply to the program on behalf of private landowners. A webinar for interested applicants will be held on Wednesday, May 24th. Follow this link for webinar access information: [Regenerate New York Forestry Cost Share Grant Program - NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation](#).

Consolidated Funding Application: Round XIII of the Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) is open. Applications must be submitted by 4:00 PM on Friday, July 28, 2023. The CFA includes a wide range of programs available through ten state agencies.

Spring Managers Meetings –The following dates have been set for regional manager’s meetings this June. Please participate in whichever date and location is most convenient but please RSVP to the AEA for that meeting. As always Directors are invited to attend as this meeting can count towards Performance Measures.

- **June 12th** - Region 3, Scott Fickbohm (scott.fickbohm@agriculture.ny.gov), Eastern NY – Montgomery County Emergency Services, 200 Clark Dr, Fultonville, NY
- **June 14th** – Region 2, PJ Emerick (patrickj.emerick@agriculture.ny.gov), Central NY – Cortland SWCD office, 100 Grange Pl., #205, Cortland, NY
- **June 15th** – Region 5, Ben Luskin (ben.luskin@agriculture.ny.gov), Southeast NY – Dutchess SWCD office, 2715 Route 44, Suite 3, Millbrook, NY
- **June 16th** – Region 1, Victor DiGiacomo (victor.digiacomo@agriculture.ny.gov), Western NY – Genesee County Office Building #2, 3837 West Main Street Road, Batavia, NY 14020
- **June 21st** - Region 4, Ryan Cunningham (ryan.cunningham@agriculture.ny.gov), Northern NY – Adirondack Park Agency office, 1133 NYS Route 86, Ray Brook, NY

NYS SWCC Strategic Plan Survey – A digital survey was developed to gather feedback from Soil and Water Conservation Districts on the implementation of the 2019 – 2023 NYS SWCC Strategic Plan. This feedback will help guide the development of the next 5 year plan. Please complete the survey by Monday, May 22nd.



New York Association of Conservation Districts
c/o Steuben County SWCD
415 W. Morris Street
Bath, NY 14810
www.nyacd.org

CDEA May 17, 2023, Report Respectfully

Submitted by Blanche L. Hurlbutt, NYACD Ex. Dir.

2023 NYACD Annual Meeting: My focus has been working on scheduling training sessions for the annual meeting to be held October 24-26, 2023, at the Hampton Inn, Penn Yan, NY. Yates County SWCD has agreed to do a tour on Tuesday, October 24th. Presently I have six sessions determined but am working on another five sessions.

Stream C Follow-Up: As most of you know the Stream C bill was amended to exclude SWCD's from the permitting process if they have MOUs with DEC in place. It has passed in the Senate but is in Committee on the Assembly side. I've heard from four SWCD's against the amendment. Currently, we are waiting to see how or if this bill moves forward. The NYACD is not overall thrilled about the amendment, but we will do what is necessary and as the majority of districts request.

Other Meetings: I met with the 4-Way Partners by Zoom this month and we discussed, made changes as needed to the MOA. Caitlin is working on making the changes and this MOA with the 4-Way Partners will be signed.

Attended the NYS & 2024 Committee meeting last week. Katy will have more to share with you in her Envirothon report.

Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)

Signed August 18, 2022

Approximately \$20 billion (over 5yrs) of this investment supports USDA’s conservation programs within NRCS. These are programs that are well-known to farmers and ranchers and are also oversubscribed. These investments mean that more producers will have access to conservation assistance. This includes:

- \$8.45 billion for the **Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)**
- \$4.95 billion for the **Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)**
- \$3.25 billion for the **Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)**
- \$1.4 billion for the **Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP)**
- \$1 billion for the **Conservation Technical Assistance (CTA) Program**
- \$300 million to measure, evaluate, quantify carbon sequestration and e gas emission reductions from conservation investments.

New York IRA Allocation

	2023	2024	2025	2026	27	28	29	30	31
EQIP	\$2,063,989	\$13,100,989	\$22,694,454	\$26,148,101	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
CSP	\$2,397,660	\$3,785,613	\$7,621,334	\$11,457,055	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
ACEP	\$0	\$0	\$6,365,526	\$7,638,631	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
RCPP	\$0	\$1	\$2	\$3	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total	\$4,461,649	\$16,886,604	\$36,681,315	\$45,243,789	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Handouts:

- Climate-Smart Agriculture and Forestry (CSAF) Mitigation Activities List[1] FY2023
- NRCS Conservation Programs and the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)



NRCS Conservation Programs and the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)



Overview

The IRA provides USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) with \$19.5 billion in additional funds over five years for its existing conservation programs, including the [Environmental Quality Incentives Program \(EQIP\)](#), [Conservation Stewardship Program \(CSP\)](#), and the [Agricultural Conservation Easement Program \(ACEP\)](#).

The IRA directs NRCS to use these additional funds specifically for climate change mitigation, activities that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve carbon storage, like:

- ◆ Cover Crops
- ◆ Reduced-Till and No-Till
- ◆ Nutrient Management
- ◆ Prescribed Grazing
- ◆ Tree/Shrub Establishment
- ◆ Wetland Restoration

Through this funding, NRCS is seeking to both benefit the climate, by reducing greenhouse gas emissions; and the producer, by improving access to programs and providing financial and technical assistance to improve their farm, ranch, urban operation or forest land.

NRCS Climate-Smart Mitigation Activities

For a list of NRCS climate-smart mitigation activities, eligible for IRA funding in fiscal year 2023, see: nrcs.usda.gov/mitigation-activities.pdf.

How to Apply

EQIP and CSP

NRCS accepts producer applications for its conservation programs year-round, but if you're interested in EQIP or CSP, you should apply by your state's ranking dates to be considered for funding in the current cycle. Funding is provided through a competitive process: nrcs.usda.gov/ranking-dates.

ACEP

ACEP Agricultural Land Easements (ACEP-ALE) and Wetland Reserve Easements (ACEP-WRE) applications for the current IRA funding cycle must be submitted by **March 17, 2023**, for the first funding round.

Improving Access

Every producer has a part to play when it comes to reducing greenhouse gas emissions, regardless of the size or type of operation. Whether you are a new or an existing NRCS client, we encourage you to apply. We want to make sure you have access to our programs and get all the assistance for which you are eligible.

Contact NRCS at: farmers.gov/service-center-locator.

Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)



Climate-smart mitigation activities, e.g.

- Cover Crops
- Reduced-Till and No Till
- Nutrient Management
- Prescribed Grazing
- Tree/Shrub Establishment
- Wetland Restoration



Natural Resources Conservation Service

Climate-Smart Agriculture and Forestry (CSAF) Mitigation Activities List ^[1] FY2023



Climate Change Mitigation Practice Categories	Code	Conservation Practice Standard Name ^[2] (units)	CSP Enhancement Code	Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) Bundle and Enhancement Activity	
Soil Health			B000BFF1	Buffer Bundle#1*	
			B000CPL24	Cropland soil health management system*	
			B000CPL25	Climate smart advanced soil health*	
		327	Conservation Cover (acres)	E327A	Conservation cover for pollinators and beneficial insects
				E327B	Establish Monarch butterfly habitat
				E328A	Resource conserving crop rotation
				E328B	Improved resource conserving crop rotation
				E328E	Soil health crop rotation
		328	Conservation Crop Rotation (acres)	E328F	Modifications to improve soil health and increase soil organic matter
				E328G	Crop rotation on recently converted CRP grass/legume cover for soil organic matter improvement
				E328N	Intercropping to improve soil health
				E328O	Perennial grain crop conservation rotation
				E329A	No till to reduce soil erosion
				E329B	No till to reduce tillage induced particulate matter
		329	Residue and Tillage Management, No Till (acres)	E329C	No till to increase plant-available moisture
				E329D	No till system to increase soil health and soil organic matter content
				E329E	No till to reduce energy
		332	Contour Buffer Strips (acres)		None Available
				E340A	Cover crop to reduce soil erosion
				E340B	Intensive cover cropping to increase soil health and soil organic matter content
				E340C	Use of multi-species cover crops to improve soil health and increase soil organic matter
				E340D	Intensive orchard/vineyard floor cover cropping to increase soil health
		340	Cover Crop (acres)	E340F	Cover crop to minimize soil compaction
				E340G	Cover crop to reduce water quality degradation by utilizing excess soil nutrients
				E340H	Cover crop to suppress excessive weed pressures and break pest cycles
				E340I	Using cover crops for biological strip till
				E345A	Reduced tillage to reduce soil erosion
				E345B	Reduced tillage to reduce tillage induced particulate matter
		345	Residue and Tillage Management, Reduced Till (acres)	E345C	Reduced tillage to increase plant-available moisture
				E345D	Reduced tillage to increase soil health and soil organic matter content
				E345E	Reduced tillage to reduce energy use
				E386A	Enhanced field borders to reduce soil erosion along the edge(s) of a field
			E386B	Enhanced field borders to increase carbon storage along the edge(s) of the field	
	386	Field Border (acres)	E386C	Enhanced field borders to decrease particulate emissions along the edge(s) of the field	
			E386D	Enhanced field borders to increase food for pollinators along the edge(s) of a field	
			E386E	Enhanced field borders to increase wildlife food and habitat along the edge(s) of a field	
	393	Filter Strips (acres)	E393A	Extend existing filter strip to reduce water quality impacts	
	412	Grassed Waterways (acres)	E412A	Enhance a grassed waterway	
			E484A	Mulching to improve soil health	
	484	Mulching (acres)	E484B	Reduce particulate matter emissions by using orchard or vineyard generated woody materials as mulch	
			E484C	Reduce particulate matter emissions by using orchard or vineyard generated woody materials as mulch	
	585	Stripcropping (acres)		None Available	
	601	Vegetative Barriers (feet)			
	603	Herbaceous Wind Barriers (feet)			

Climate Change Mitigation Practice Categories	Code	Conservation Practice Standard Name ⁽²⁾ (units)	CSP Enhancement Code	Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) Bundle and Enhancement Activity
Nitrogen Management	590	Nutrient Management (acres)	E590A	Improving nutrient uptake efficiency and reducing risk of nutrient losses
			E590B	Reduce risks of nutrient loss to surface water by utilizing precision agriculture technologies
			E590C	Improving nutrient uptake efficiency and reducing risk of nutrient losses on pasture
			E590D	Reduce risks of nutrient losses to surface and groundwater by increasing setback awareness via precision technology
Livestock Partnership	366	Anaerobic Digester (number)	None Available	
	632	Waste Separation Facility (number)*		
Grazing and Pasture	512	Pasture and Hay Planting (acres)	E512A	Cropland conversion to grass-based agriculture to reduce soil erosion
			E512B	Forage plantings that help increase organic matter in depleted soils
			E512C	Cropland conversion to grass for soil organic matter improvement
			E512D	Forage plantings that help increase organic matter in depleted soils
			E512E	Forage and biomass planting that produces feedstock for biofuels or energy production
			E512I	Establish pollinator and/or beneficial insect and/or monarch habitat
			E512J	Establish wildlife corridors to provide habitat continuity or access to water
			E512L	Diversifying forage base with interseeding forbs and legumes to increase pasture quality
			E512M	Forage plantings that improve wildlife habitat cover and shelter or structure and composition
	528	Prescribed Grazing (acres)	E528A	Maintaining quantity and quality of forage for animal health and productivity
			E528D	Grazing management for improving quantity and quality of food or cover and shelter for wildlife
			E528E	Improved grazing management for enhanced plant structure and composition for wildlife
			E528F	Stockpiling cool season forage to improve structure and composition or plant productivity and health
			E528G	Improved grazing management on pasture for plant productivity and health with monitoring activities
			E528H	Prescribed grazing to improve/maintain riparian and watershed function-elevated water temperature
			E528I	Grazing management that protects sensitive areas -surface or ground water from nutrients
			E528J	Prescribed grazing on pastureland that improves riparian and watershed function
			E528L	Prescribed grazing that improves or maintains riparian and watershed function-erosion
			E528M	Grazing management that protects sensitive areas from gully erosion
			E528O	Clipping mature forages to set back vegetative growth for improved forage quality
			E528P	Implementing Bale or Swath Grazing to increase organic matter and reduce nutrients in surface water
			E528R	Management intensive rotational grazing
			E528S	Soil Health Improvements on Pasture
	E528T	Grazing to Reduce Wildfire Risks on Forests		
	550	Range Planting (acres)	E550A	Range planting for increasing/maintaining organic matter
			E550B	Range planting for improving forage, browse, or cover for wildlife

Climate Change Mitigation Practice Categories	Code	Conservation Practice Standard Name ^[2] (units)	CSP Enhancement Code	Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) Bundle and Enhancement Activity
Agroforestry, Forestry and Upland Wildlife Habitat	311	Alley Cropping (acres)	None Available	None Available
	342	Critical Area Planting (acres)		
	379	Forest Farming (acres)		
	380	Windbreaks/Shelterbelt Establishment and Renovation (feet)		
	381	Silvopasture (acres)	E381A	Silvopasture to improve wildlife habitat
	390	Riparian Herbaceous Cover (acres)	E390A	Increase riparian herbaceous cover width for sediment and nutrient reduction
			E390B	Increase riparian herbaceous cover width to enhance wildlife habitat
	391	Riparian Forest Buffer (acres)	E391A	Increase riparian forest buffer width for sediment and nutrient reduction
			E391B	Increase stream shading for stream temperature reduction
			E391C	Increase riparian forest buffer width to enhance wildlife habitat
	420	Wildlife Habitat Planting (acres)*	E420A	Establish pollinator habitat*
			E420B	Establish monarch butterfly habitat*
	422	Hedgerow Planting (feet)	None Available	
	612	Tree/Shrub Establishment (acres)	E612A	Cropland conversion to trees or shrubs for long term improvement of water quality
			E612B	Planting for high carbon sequestration rate
			E612C	Establishing tree/shrub species to restore native plant communities
			E612G	Tree/shrub planting for wildlife food
	645	Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (acres)	E645B	Manage existing shrub thickets to provide adequate shelter for wildlife
			E645C	Edge feathering for wildlife cover
	666	Forest Stand Improvement (acres)*	E666A	Maintaining and improving forest soil quality*
E666D			Forest management to enhance understory vegetation*	
E666E			Reduce height of the forest understory to limit wildfire risk*	
E666F			Reduce forest stand density to create open stand structure*	
E666H			Increase on-site carbon storage*	
E666I			Crop tree management for mast production*	
E666J			Facilitating oak forest regeneration*	
E666K			Creating structural diversity with patch openings*	
E666L			Forest Stand Improvement to rehabilitate degraded hardwood stands*	
E666P			Summer roosting habitat for native forest-dwelling bat species*	
E666R	Forest songbird habitat maintenance*			
E666S	Facilitating longleaf pine regeneration and establishment*			
Restoration of Disturbed Lands	453	Land Reclamation, Landslide Treatment (acres)	None Available	
	543	Land Reclamation, Abandoned Mined Land (acres) ^[3]		
Energy, Combustion, and Electricity Efficiency	372	Combustion System Improvement (number)	None Available	
	374	Energy Efficient Agricultural Operation (number)*		
			E533C	Install VFDs on pumps[4] *
			E533D	Complete pumping plant evaluation for energy savings[4] *
	672	Energy Efficient Building Envelope (number)*	None Available	
670	Energy Efficient Lighting System (number)*	None Available		
Wetlands	657	Wetland Restoration (acres)*	None Available	
Rice	449	Irrigation Water Management (acres) ^[4]	E449B	Alternated Wetting and Drying (AWD) of rice fields

NOTES:

In addition to the designated CSAF conservation activities listed, conservation practices which facilitate the management or the function of a CSAF activity but does not achieve the desired effects on its own (and may not have a quantifiable benefit), may be planned as applicable. Examples: Tree-Shrub Establishment (612) may need facilitating practices such as site prep (490) or access control (472). Conservation Crop Rotation (328) may need facilitating practices such as pest management conservation system (595), cover crops (340), or irrigation water management (449). Waste Separation Facility (632) may need facilitating practices such as waste transfer (634) or roofs and covers (367). Prescribed grazing (528) may need facilitating practices such as watering facility (614), stream crossing (578), fence (382), or livestock shelter structure (576).

Activities highlighted have been added to the list in FY23.

*Noted activities are added to the list as “provisional.” These practices, associated enhancements, and bundles are being added under the premise that they may provide benefits, and a quantification methodology will be evaluated during the fiscal year. Practices may be removed from the mitigation practice list in a subsequent fiscal year if quantification is not possible.

- [1] Unless otherwise noted, listed practices have quantifiable carbon sequestration and/or GHG reduction methodologies described in COMET-Planner (www.comet-planner.com). New practices will be added as science progresses and scientifically defensible quantification methodologies are identified to accompany existing and new NRCS conservation practice standards.
- [2] The included Conservation Practice Standard links provide national information. Please consult the NRCS office at your local USDA Service Center for any local and state level criteria. Visit farmers.gov/service-locator to find contact information for your local office.
- [3] Effective Oct 1, 2022, Land Reclamation, Currently Mined Land (544) was archived and has been removed from this mitigation list, the practice was combined into Land Reclamation, Abandoned Mined Land (543). See NHCP Notice 172 for more information.
- [4] Conservation Practice Standards Irrigation Water Management (449) and Pumping Plant (533) are not GHG mitigation practice standards. The only atmospheric-beneficial applications are with Enhancement Activities E533C, E533D, and E449B or when 449 is implemented as part of an alternated wetting and drying (AWD) system in rice fields.



Division I Report May 17, 2023

I sent an email out to all the Districts in my division to see if they had anything they would like me to report.

Wyoming County (As of 4/24/23)

- Wyoming/Alleghany/Steuben Trailside Envirothon scheduled for May 10th, 2023
- Working with Dr. Suann Yang and her SUNY Geneseo Foundations of Biostatistics Class to evaluate historic Wyoming County water quality data – students provide trend analysis based on macroinvertebrate richness, turbidity, heavy metal concentration, temperature, vegetative establishment on streambanks, and land base indicators
- Completed installations:
 - 280' of road ditch stabilization for a landowner with drainage and runoff issues, intended to hydroseed 0.5 acres of disturbed area
 - Final grading and backfill for a 2.8 MG concrete waste storage through AGNPS Round 26
 - Implemented a covered barnyard, heavy use area, and runoff management system for a dairy operation, in conjunction with a riparian herbaceous buffer through ANGPS Round 27
- Ramping up to begin the 2023 field season including:
 - Japanese Knotweed Management in the East Koy/Wiscoy Watershed across 25 sites totaling 5.5 acres. The program began in 2019, and this is the first year that 4 sites were able to be moved to the monitoring phase.
 - Planning and coordination with NYSDEC for a 0.25 acres riparian forest buffer planting and access road to a streambank stabilization project with public fishing access
- Projects in design for this year:
 - AEM Base Program: two silage leachate management systems
 - AGNPS: one concrete waste storage totaling 1.1 MG
 - CAFO: one earthen waste storage, one compost facility and transfer system
 - CRF: two open cover crop contracts to be completed in the fall of 2023, totaling approximately 500 acres

Orleans County (As of 4/27/2023)

- In progress:
 - A concrete Heavy Use Area and a Grassed Waterway
 - Surveying over 60,000' of drainage tile
 - Installing 3 Micro Irrigation projects
 - 2 Agrichemical Handling Facilities
 - A grassed waterway, heavy use area, and barn yard water management project
- Working with the County DPW installing a major water diversion project
- Getting ready to use the hydroseeder on upcoming ditch cleaning jobs with the highway departments
- After 20 years, we have decided to get back into water sampling on the Oak Orchard River, after working many hours formulating a QAPP it was finally approved by DEC, and we are starting sampling now.
- Continuing another year of our Invasive Species Swallowwart Biocontrol project at the Holley Falls park where we partner with CCE and the NYS Invasive Species Research Institute.
- Awarded four Grown and Certified grants for our fruit producers, including:
 - Two precision pesticide sprayers, an agrichemical handling facility, and a Micro Irrigation System
- Working on several grant applications for Ag Non-Point Round 29 and Climate Resilient Farming Round 7

Niagara County (As of 4/20/23)

- Tree/shrub seedling packing and handout- over 500 orders and over 40,000 seedlings sold.
- Looking to hire seasonal workers to help our Japanese Knotweed eradication project.
- Niagara/Orleans regional Envirothon is scheduled for May 4, 2023.
- Working with county parks and the cities of Lockport and Niagara Falls to plant 135 trees in 2023.
- Designing secondary containment for petroleum storage at a farm.

- Two construction projects starting soon:
 - waste storage facility
 - Ag mixing facility
- Water quality monitoring continues at 17 creeks across the county.
- One 4-hour contractor workshops scheduled for mid-2023.
- Eighteenmile Creek Area of Concern-
 - Coauthoring a benthic macroinvertebrate study with USGS and NYS DEC.
 - Working with NYS DEC to draft the Degradation of Fish and Wildlife Populations Beneficial Use Impairment Removal Report.

Question posed by Niagara County SWCD Clerk, Katie Pfeifer:

In the QuickBooks class at Symposium there was discussion about getting statewide support with QuickBooks. Can the CDEA get a QB Pro Adviser on contract, so that all counties have a person and the same person for support? Currently, most clerks are using QB Desktop Pro, and the help provided from QB isn't helpful, so if you want real help they want you to pay for it.

The woman that taught the class was wonderful and offers various course trainings for a living, it could be a local contractor/trainer if necessary (she's based out of Ohio). Her name is Debbie Fierst, email debbie@logicalimagination.com. When we asked Debbie if this was something a Pro Advisor could do, she said absolutely a contract would need to be in place though.

Dustin Lewis was in the class and when asked if this is something CDEA could do for all the counties and he said yes, it would be an effective use of the 4-Hour Course funds.

If you would like to speak with someone from the class please contact Katie Pfeifer, Niagara County SWCD District Clerk.

I did not hear back from any other county.

Respectfully submitted by: Rebecca Campbell, Division I Representative



New York State Conservation District Employees' Association, Inc.

2041 U.S. Route 20, Suite 2, Seneca Falls, NY 13148

www.nyscdea.com

Soil and Water Conservation Districts provide ongoing programs and services to conserve, enhance, and protect soil and water resources in communities.

Onondaga, Seneca, Yates, Ontario, Wayne, Monroe, Livingston, Cayuga

Cayuga SWCD:

- www.cayugaswcd.org/uploads/1/1/4/3/1149932/2022_annual_report_-_final.pdf
- 9e model
- Hydroseeding
- Sewage Sludge Spreading, Hochul project- 85% reduction from local sewer facilities
 - Ag. fertilizer
 - Mixed with lime
- Ag. NonPoint Rd. 29 & Rd. 7 CRF
- Soil Health Event, July 13th

Monroe SWCD:

- <https://www.monroecountyswcd.org/page-37.html>

Seneca SWCD:

- https://www.senecacountyswcd.org/_files/ugd/8cea40_bc17a44314d64b14a5565b4581b3be0b.pdf
- New Staff

Onondaga SWCD:

- <http://www.ocswcd.org/newsletters.html>

Wayne SWCD:

- <https://www.wayneswcd.org/home/newsletters>

Ontario SWCD:

- Looking to hire
- http://www.ontswcd.com/_files/ugd/e6fc30_e9f39f0bc8d146af92fef684e9df0b7e.pdf



New York State Conservation District Employees' Association, Inc.

Soil and Water Conservation Districts provide ongoing programs and services to conserve, enhance, and protect soil and water resources in communities.

NYS CDEA DIVISION III REPORT MAY 17, 2023

Submitted by: Carla Yaw, Division III Representative

Herkimer County SWCD

No Report

Jefferson County SWCD

Submitted by Rhonda Redder

- **Forestry:** Jefferson has been doing several tree plantings, riparian forest buffers
- **Water Quality:** Jefferson County SWCD continues to partner with Oswego SWCD on our 9E plan for the Sandy Creeks.
- **Staffing Updates:** Jefferson County SWCD may be hiring an intern or two to help with NAACC work this summer.
- **Grants:** Working on CRF grant applications.
- **Educational Programs:** Jefferson County SWCD just wrapped up a week of SW CARES (New program we implemented for 4th grade students, most in our MS4 region. Storm Water Carbon Awareness Reforestation Education for Students.)

Lewis County SWCD

Submitted by Carla Yaw

- **Educational Programs:** Staff have been busy planning for and administering educational events for student and adults. Conservation Field Day was held May 11th, Progressive Agriculture Safety Day[®] will be held May 24th, and the Black River Watershed Conference is scheduled for June 14th. A poster contest is also being organized for students, and the County Fair Display is in the works. For invasive species awareness week, a public demonstration of the District's Waterless CD3 Unit will be held at Lake Bonaparte on June 8th. This is a waterless, solar powered, Clean Drain Dry system that will be left at the public boat launch, and is free for boaters to use.
- **Field Projects:** Hydroseeding has begun for municipalities and the No-Till Drill has already been delivered/rented to over 6 farms. The District is providing technical assistance for Streambank Erosion Issues, Right Sizing of Culverts for municipalities as well as other assistance as requested. Stream Gauge data is being utilized for multiple projects.
- **AgNPS Grants:** Prior funded project implementation is underway for several projects. Staff are preparing 3 separate grant applications for Round 29. These applications will include Waste Storage & Transfer Systems, Cover Crops, Heavy Use Area Runoff Management System, and Silage Leachate Control and Treatment Systems.
- **Tree Sale:** 14,595 trees were sold to 272 customers.

- **Rebranding:** Staff have been working with a private company to design an updated logo for the District.
- **Location:** The District has been operating at a temporary location since August of 2022 while their new office space is under construction. The entire staff is sharing one room and is very crowded. The county estimates the SWCD will remain at 5960 Main Street Glenfield NY, Room 104, until December of 2023. Until a new mailing address is announced, please continue to use the old address for mail correspondence- 5274 Outer Stowe Street, Lowville NY 13367.

Madison County SWCD

No Report

Oneida County SWCD

No Report

Oswego County SWCD

No Report

St. Lawrence County SWCD

Via Phone by Raeanne Dulanski

- **Staffing Update:** Raeanne Dulanski has accepted a new position. Her last day with the District was May 12, 2023. St. Lawrence Co SWCD Directors are currently looking to fill her Manager role. They will also be looking to fill their Secretary/Treasurer position as McKenzie Church will not be returning after her maternity leave.



New York State Conservation District Employees' Association, Inc.

www.nyscdea.com

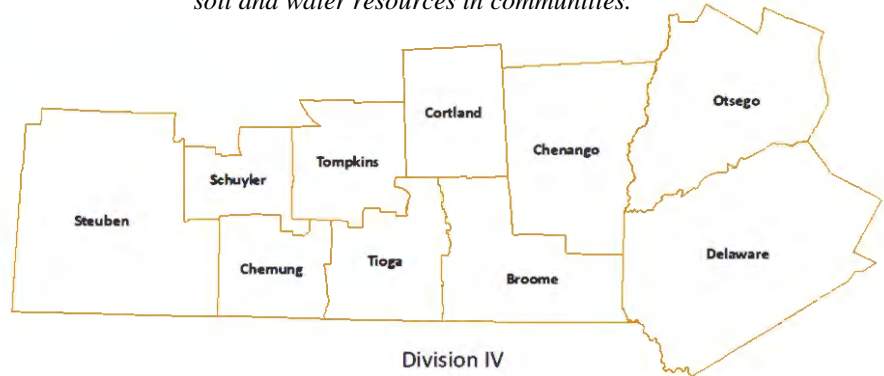
Soil and Water Conservation Districts provide ongoing programs and services to conserve, enhance, and protect soil and water resources in communities.

DIVISION IV REPORT – 5/15/23

Division Updates:

It's an extremely busy spring for Division IV – tree sales, Envirothon competitions, onboarding summer staff and breaking ground on this season's construction projects.

That said I do have a bunch of other information and thoughts to share from both myself and other folks around Division IV and the State.



The silent auction, bucket raffle, gun raffle and cornhole tournament at the Water Quality Symposium were a huge success! We came up with funds to nearly close the gap of having only an online auction the prior two years, see graphic below for an approximate breakdown:

Thank you for your support!

We would like to thank you all for your support of the Frank Bratt Fundraising activities at this year's Water Quality Symposium. With all of your support we were able to raise about \$5,990!

 <p>Henry Gun Raffle Proceeds: \$1,150</p>	 <p>Direct Donations Proceeds: \$86</p>	 <p>Cornhole Tournament Proceeds: \$51</p>	 <p>Bucket Raffle & Silent Auction Proceeds: \$4,706</p>
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Be sure to submit your Frank Bratt Scholarship applications! Applications are approved quarterly.

County Updates:

Cortland County: Jared Popoli has moved on from Cortland SWCD and taken a position with Cornell related to culvert modeling and NAACC. We have brought on three new employees at the District to serve in several capacities. Chad Hill, Jack Fox and a seasonal buffer and aquatic invasive species boat steward.

Solar Installation and Stormwater Management – thanks to NYSDEC for coming to give a presentation during the municipal subcommittee meeting at the water quality symposium. Cortland SWCD would appreciate more of an opportunity for back and forth dialogue to better share concerns and ask questions in future municipal subcommittee meetings. While presentations have their place, there should be ample opportunity provided to discuss any and all topics of interest from all attendees.

Other Water Quality Symposium Feedback

From an anonymous “Tabler” at the WQS Resource Fair – the long corridor didn’t feel overly engaging. They compared that to the winding room of past water quality symposium events; very open with dinner being served directly adjacent to and any other “entertainment” being intimately connected. They thought it felt very sectioned off with not enough traffic.

Golf Tournament Reminder



Keep your eye out for the sign-up sheet coming soon!

Thoughts/Questions – New Business from Jennifer Kelly, District Manager of Chenango County SWCD Red - Shawn

1. Regarding CRF - In Round 6, funds from the State FY 20-21 and 21-22 were combined to offer a total of \$8.8 million. Of that, it’s my understanding that the Cornell Soil Health Initiative received a total of \$400,000. The Committee approved a 5-year contract for \$800,000 to Cornell for greenhouse gas emission research. I think that the money that goes to the Cornell Soil Health Initiative is part of the program, legislatively, so my real question is, what is the process by which Cornell was approved for an \$800K contract (which turned into \$820K)? Did Cornell submit a proposal and if so, to whom? Can others submit pilot proposals?
2. Additionally, a while back, Corey Nellis proposed that the SWCC form a CRF workgroup with a diverse set of stakeholders to make program related recommendations to the SWCC. It was well attended and a great feedback mechanism. Maybe the CDEA could form a subcommittee that makes recommendations for the grant programs in general and not just CRF. I think then a representative from that subcommittee could chime in at the SWCC meetings to provide input/ask questions and really follow the further development of these grants. This committee could also go to Legislative Days and really tell the story to the legislators about the programs. Does TAC inform any of the grant programs? Obviously at the annual meeting (WQS) we had some concerns about TAC representation/invitees – Maybe it is all part of that bigger discussion. A Grant /AGM Program Development Committee could allow us to have a voice - these are separate issues from the technical aspects; but from what I’ve been hearing these last few years it seems like the TAC maybe does inform some program decisions beyond the technical side of things?

3. To add to this, there are so many growing private industries and nonprofits that are cropping up that provide incentives for practices that we are already doing on farms. Cover crops, crop rotations, reduced tillage, upland tree and shrub plantings. To name some, The Soil and Water Outcome Fund, Cornell Atkinson Center for Sustainability, the Nature Conservancy – and the market is opening up to sell/buy/trade carbon credits on some of the practices we are implementing. Where do we fit into this equation? What is our greater role? Some of these credits could potentially be bought and sold several times over - is someone keeping track of this and how do we know that we aren't using taxpayer dollars to help offset an investment company from making money on trading these credits? Our "business as usual" was prioritized based on natural resource concerns, distance to resources, number of animals – now, how do we prioritize the atmosphere? How do we strategically plan? **Tracking "payments for ecosystem services". How to avoid abuse.**

4. My technicians came back from the WQ Symposium and said that the instructor from the drone piloting course indicated to them that within the FAA regulations, a government entity can request a certification of authorization to conduct their own training program for drone certifications. While CDEA isn't technically a government agency, perhaps the CDEA could work with a district or something to develop their own training program and drone usage policy. The training could consist of the required legal portions and then also a portion on how to actually fly the drones as the FAA training doesn't really address that. I think there is a group within Districts who are familiar with this are also going to reach out to CDEA members. **Reading this it feels to me that the creation of a program like this, fits into the 4 hour course policy – developing a program to benefit conservation districts across the state. I think if a District wanted to take this on, a proposal could be submitted to CDEA.**

Respectfully submitted by Shawn Murphy, Division IV Representative

Division V Report

May 17, 2023

Clinton County

- Working to complete 3 AEM 17 Implementation projects
- North Adirondack Envirothon at Paul Smiths
- Working on 4 AgNPS projects, 1 CAFO Waste Storage, and one CRF Cover & Flare project
- Managing and implementing the Lake Champlain Cover Crop grant
- 2 tire recycling events planned for June
- Working on implementation of Lake Champlain Basin Program Small Farms agronomy grant
- Doing assessments for the RRAMP and Forest Roads grant
- Hired 2 Summer interns to do culvert assessments and hydroseeding
- Will continue to set up and monitor Emerald Ash Borer traps across the county

Essex County

- One technician left to work for NRCS so we're hiring
- Continued AEM planning and one Tier 4 project completed
- Annual events - Envirothon, Environmental Field Days, Legislative Day, etc.
- Moving forward with Source Water Buffer Program grant
- Working on CWICNY rural/forest road assessments & project planning
- Tree sale and several spring buffer plantings completed
- AgNPS and CRF ongoing grants and applications

Franklin County

- Field season has started...yup including the ticks!
- Devin has been moving around the no till.
- We are all working on applications for CRF and AGNPS.
- Successful tree sale thanks to Kristin!
- We hosted an Arbor Day Event in the Town of Franklin.
- Working on permit applications and summer project planning.
- Looking to hire a new District Technician, Mason left at the beginning of April.
- We also have an internship out.

Hamilton County

- Participating in Black River Adaptive Modeling committee, hosted field trip stop in Inlet to present our stormwater pollution prevention project using permeable pavers
- Warner Brook streambank stabilization presentation and tree planting for elementary school students
- Added bottom water samples to lakes with confirmed HABs to enhance our 2023 Lake Monitoring Program. We will sample 20 lakes once a month June - November

Items to discuss

- Hamilton County SWCD may we partner with SWCC to host AEM field day trainings for new employees? New Technicians could shadow seasoned staff when speaking with landowners about the program, implementing projects, outreach, and workshops.

Warren County

- Began out 2023 hydroseeding
- Hosting a woodlot ownership workshop 101 on June 3rd at SUNY ADK
- Had a successful Warren County Envirothon
- Completed our 2023 Tree & Shrub Seedling Sale
- Been working on doing site assessments for RRAMP and Forest Road Grants. Also organizing implementation projects to be completed this season.
- Continue AEM planning for tier 4 cost-share projects

Respectfully submitted by,

Maren Stoddard

Warren County Soil & Water Conservation District

NYS CDEA Division V Representative



Soil and Water Conservation District
5 Park Lane
Highland, New York 12528
(845) 883-7162

**NYSCDEA May 17, 2023
Division VII Report
Ulster, Orange, Sullivan, Greene, Dutchess, Columbia Counties**

Ulster County:

- New Esch 7' drill received and out on farms. This is our first year doing a no-till rental program.
- Ashokan Stream Management Program is preparing for their field season.
- Working on AEM planning for fall cover cropping program, Tier 4 implementation projects.
- Working on 2 proposals for CRF Round 7
- Tree and shrub sale was a success, taking orders for a limited spring fish sale, larger one in the fall.

No other counties gave reports.



**NYS CDEA May 17, 2023
Division VIII Report**

Suffolk, New York City, Westchester, Putnam, Rockland, Nassau Counties
Respectfully Submitted: Ann Marie Calabro, Division VIII Representative

Suffolk County: Ann Marie Calabro

- **Staffing Update:** Soil District Technician Kaitlin Mattei has separated from the district taking on new responsibilities with an environmental agency. The District is taking applications to backfill 2 positions with the Environmental Planner title.
- **Soil Health Sampling and Equipment Loan Program (Soil HELP):** The district has been working with Suffolk County growers providing CASH tests and loan out several pieces of district owned equipment. Sampled 15 farms / 45 samples collected. 25 various uses of equipment.
- **Ag NPS Grants:**
 - Ag Non-point Source Fuel Tank Round 24 & 26 Fuel Tank inspections and installations are underway.
 - Working on AEM Plans for Round 29, possible 16 participants at various planning stages from new plans to 5B updates.
- **DEC EBP Ag Handling Facilities:** Term extended to January 2026 for installation of Agrichemical Handling Facilities. Working with Tim Clark, NYS SWCC Engineer to certify pad designs. Recently completed another installation for a nursery operation, working on closeout.
- **2017 EPF:** Subcontract with CCE Suffolk. Cover Crop Cost Share: The goals of this program are to demonstrate and promote cover crop mixes and rotations to accomplish water quality and soil health objectives. Hope to launch this program this fall.
- **AEM:** Implementation projects include a prescribed rotational grazing system including a livestock pipeline for sheep, and a high efficiency irrigation water management system with microirrigation in a highly sensitive area. Interim payments received, installation complete on livestock pipeline, microirrigation installing now. 12 Tier 3 Plans are in progress.
- **RCPP:** 2 Implementation contracts and a possible 3rd in partnership with NRCS.
- **High Efficiency Irrigation:** Microirrigation project including the installation of mainline, submains, and dripline for 10 acres of field stock. This project is currently in the design phase and grower is sourcing materials.
- **Ag in the Classroom:** Applications ranked.
- **Outreach:** In partnership with Nassau, we hosted a regional Envirothon. 11 Suffolk County Teams / 15 Nassau County Teams.

New York City: Shino Tanikawa

- Our long time educators, Rebecca Schultz, moved on and Shino had to coordinate the Envirothon after a 3-year hiatus. With help from George, the NYC Envirothon 2023 was held on Friday April 28th. Eleven teams competed on a chilly grey day on Pier 84. Despite the weather, students seemed to be enjoying themselves. We had City Parks Foundation, Urban Park Rangers, NYC Law Department, NRCS, NYC DEP and Hudson River Park Trust as our event partners. A huge thank you to the Hudson River Park Trust, which hosted the event on Pier 84.

Nassau County: No Report Submitted

Westchester County: No Report Submitted

Rockland County: No Report Submitted

Putnam County: No Report Submitted

NYS Erosion and Sediment Control Certificate Program

May 11, 2023 Report to CDEA Board

- Currently there are 4 people approved to take the exam but are waiting for a review course to be offered.

- Currently there are:
 - 42 Active Certificate Holders
 - 4 Suspended Certificate (1-2022,6-2023)
 - 10 Terminated Certificates (suspension longer than 2 years and people not renewing)

- The NYSE&SCCP Committee has not had a meeting since 2022. I will work to schedule one in the near future so that we can discuss the plan for the Review Manual and setting up the Review Course for later this year.

- Attached is the financial report for the program.

NYSCDEA NYSE&SCCP Account	\$12,811.81
Schuyler SWCD Account	\$1225.00
Total	\$14,036.81

Please feel free to contact me if there are any questions regarding this program.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica Verrigni, CPESC, CPSWQ

Schuyler County Soil & Water Conservation District

5/10/2023 11:04 AM

Register: Stormwater CDEA Erosion & Sedim

From 01/01/2023 through 05/10/2023

Sorted by: Date, Type, Number/Ref

Date	Number	Payee	Account	Memo	Payment C	Deposit	Balance
03/13/2023			District Checking - 133...	Deposit		400.00	400.00
04/04/2023			-split-	Deposit		525.00	925.00
			Undeposited Funds	CDEA Erosion...		150.00	
			Undeposited Funds	CDEA Erosion...		175.00	
			Undeposited Funds	CDEA Erosion...		100.00	
			Undeposited Funds	CDEA Erosion...		100.00	
04/19/2023			-split-	Deposit		300.00	1,225.00
			Undeposited Funds	application fee		150.00	
			Undeposited Funds	application fee		150.00	

**NEW YORK STATE EROSION & SEDIMENT CONTROL
CERTIFICATE PROGRAM BANK REPORT
As of May 11, 2023**

	<u>May 11, 23</u>	<u>Dec 31, 22</u>
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Checking/Savings		
NYSCDEA-REG CHECKING		
NYSESCC Program	12,811.81	7,036.51
Total NYSCDEA-REG CHECKI...	<u>12,811.81</u>	<u>7,036.51</u>
Total Checking/Savings	<u>12,811.81</u>	<u>7,036.51</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>12,811.81</u>	<u>7,036.51</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u><u>12,811.81</u></u>	<u><u>7,036.51</u></u>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	0.00	0.00

**NEW YORK STATE EROSION & SEDIMENT CONTROL
CERTIFICATE PROGRAM P&L
January 1 through May 11, 2023**

	<u>Jan 1 - May 11, 23</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Training Sessions Income NYSESCC Program	<u>5,800.00</u>
Total Training Sessions Income	<u>5,800.00</u>
Total Income	<u>5,800.00</u>
Gross Profit	5,800.00
Expense	
Training Sessions Expenses NYSESCC Program	<u>24.70</u>
Total Training Sessions Expenses	<u>24.70</u>
Total Expense	<u>24.70</u>
Net Ordinary Income	<u>5,775.30</u>
Net Income	<u><u>5,775.30</u></u>

**NEW YORK STATE EROSION & SEDIMENT CONTROL
 CERTIFICATE PROGRAM
 ALL TRANSACTIONS REPORT**

<u>Type</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Num</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
NYS E&SCC Program				
Expense				
Deposit	01/04/2023			-12.80
Deposit	01/06/2023			-3.20
Deposit	01/09/2023			-8.70
Total Expense				-24.70
Income				
Sales Receipt	01/04/2023	5067	Entezarian, Omeed	100.00
Sales Receipt	01/04/2023	5068	Doug Kierst-Customer	100.00
Sales Receipt	01/04/2023	5069	Abbott, Christopher	100.00
Sales Receipt	01/04/2023	5075	Dugan, Sarah	100.00
Sales Receipt	01/05/2023	5074	Dertinger, Sara	100.00
Sales Receipt	01/06/2023	5072	Rath, Randy	100.00
Sales Receipt	01/09/2023	5070	Dean Moore	100.00
Sales Receipt	01/09/2023	5071	David Niemotko Architect PC	100.00
Invoice	01/10/2023	2311	Chemung Co. SWCD	5,000.00
Total Income				5,800.00
Total NYS E&SCC Program				5,775.30
TOTAL				5,775.30

Frank Bratt Report
May 3, 2023

- Active Frank Bratt Scholarships:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Award Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Nate Woodworth	October 2022	500.00
Lyndsy Hilder	March 2023	500.00
Alex Marks	March 2023	135.00

- Maren Stoddard of Warren County submitted a request for payment of \$250.00 relative to her award under the March 2023 round of funding. Approved by Rebecca Campbell and sent to Member at Large and Treasurer on May 3rd, 2023.
- Have not received any applications for the June 2023 round of funding, there is \$1,115 available for this round.

Each round of the Frank Bratt Scholarship is a minimum of \$1,000. Unspent funds of a previous round can be rolled over into the next round to reach the annual limit of \$4,000. Here is a summary of each round that was funded.

March 2023	June 2023	September 2023	December 2023
\$885.00			



Leadership Institute 2023

*July 18-21, 2023 at the
SUNY ESF Ranger School Campus*

257 Ranger School Road
Wanakena, NY 13695
www.esf.edu/rangerschool/default.asp

Who Should Attend?

- New managers or leaders
- Anyone with current or anticipated leadership responsibilities
- Technical staff with program management roles
- Conservation professionals seeking new roles and responsibilities
- Individuals who are expected to lead and influence others in the course of their work
- Any conservation professional interested in personal development and improving their leadership skills

Program Goals for Participants

- Develop personal definition of leadership
- Conduct a self-assessment to define current and desired leadership skills
- Set 3-, 6-, and 12-month action goals for skill development
- Practice communication (listening and speaking) skills
- Practice individual and group problem-solving skills
- Develop and practice delivering brief marketing, educational, and 'sales' presentations
- Practice peer coaching to develop skills
- List desired skills for future development
- Build collegial relationships

Cost

Cost will be \$400 per person (thanks to the generous contributions of the 4 way partnership)

Program is open to all board members, management, and staff of New York State Soil & Water Conservation Districts, NYS Soil & Water Conservation Committee (NYS SWCC), Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) and New York Association of Conservation Districts (NYACD).

Facilitators



Meet Sally Crosiar, author, educator, trainer/facilitator, and play-meister, an intentionally Healthy Person committed to helping YOU to lead your best, happiest, and healthiest life! Working with natural resources partners in previous Leadership Institutes has been a highlight of Sally's long career in formal and non-formal education. She's worked with Cornell Cooperative Extension, Empire State College, the NY Network for Youth Success, state and National Grange among others. She's well-versed in organizational development, team-building, and adult learning and has been a frequent presenter at Water Quality Symposium. She's excited to again be facilitating the Leadership Institute.

Sally lives in the Finger Lakes region of upstate New York where she loves playing in, on, and near the water, creating wearable art, savoring fine red wines from sunnier climates, and reading, reading, reading. Writing fiction is her current passion, and she's eagerly awaiting the publication of her third novel.



Meet Carla Stough Huffman! Carla is the Associate Director at Greater Rochester Afterschool & Summer Alliance (GRASA). Carla provides professional development with an emphasis on Social-Emotional Learning (SEL), STEM and Program Quality. In addition, she does consultant work, helping to design, develop, implement and evaluate educational programming, with special focus on social, diversity, communication and labor market skills development. Carla has been residing in Rochester, NY, for 32 years, where she's known as a community connector and creative problem-solver. Carla continues to be a lifelong learner, gaining knowledge every day through reading, conversation, webinars, random Internet searches, media channels like History, Discovery and the Food Network, Ted Talks and following links sent to her, including those from people outside her echo chamber.

When not engaging others in educational, entertaining workshops or feeding her own brain, Carla devotes her free time to writing, reading, and sharing her belief in the need for all healthy humans to CLaP (Create, Laugh and Play) every day.

2016 Leadership Institute Class



Application Process

To attend the Leadership Institute applicants must complete the online application at the following link: <https://forms.gle/7A9QHtQH6SksY6xR6>

In addition to their application, Soil and Water Conservation District, NYS Soil & Water Conservation Committee, Natural Resource Conservation Service and New York Association of Conservation Districts Employees, must have their Manager/Executive Director, or, for Managers, a member of their Board of Directors, submit a Recommendation Form to be considered. Directors are not required to have a Recommendation Form submitted on their behalf. A separate Recommendation Form **MUST BE PROVIDED** for all employees to be considered at the following link:

<https://forms.gle/YwQZF3Xe9FVZjDnM8>

All electronic applications are due no later than **4pm Friday May 26, 2023**. Please know that preference will be given to applications that arrive for consideration ahead of the May 26 deadline.

Typical Institute Schedule

Tues, July 18

Noon	Arrive
1-4	Group Sessions
4-6	Free time
6-7	Dinner
7-8:30	Group Session

Wed, July 19

7-9	Breakfast
9-12	Group Session
12-1:30	Lunch/Office/Free Time
1:30-4	Group Session
4-6	Free Time
6-7	Dinner
7-8:30	Group Session

Thurs, July 20

7-9	Breakfast
9-12	Group Session
12-1:30	Lunch/Office/Free Time
1:30-4	Group Session
4-6	Free Time
6-7	Dinner
7-8:30	Group Session

Fri, July 21

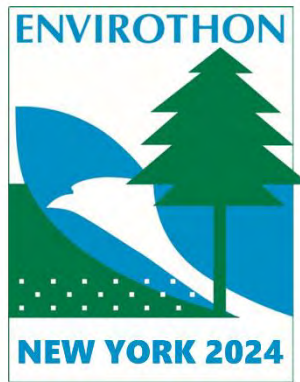
7-9	Breakfast
9-12	Group Session
Noon	Depart

Sponsoring Organizations



Committee Members (2016 Leadership Class)

Kristin Ballou – Franklin SWCD
Paula Bagley – USDA NRCS
Aaron Buchta – Onondaga SWCD
Ryan Cunningham – NYS Dept. Ag & Mkts
Ben Luskin – NYS Dept. Ag & Mkts
Chastity Miller – Franklin SWCD
Shawn Murphy – Cortland SWCD



New York State Envirothon Committee

May 17, 2023

2023 NEW YORK STATE ENVIROTHON

- Hobart and William Smith Colleges
- Held next week: May 24 & 25
- Team registrations were due last week Friday
- Still in need of volunteers
 - OP Judges (Wednesday)
 - Trail Guides (Thursday)

2024 NCF-NEW YORK ENVIROTHON

- Held at Hobart and William Smith Colleges
- Dates: July 28-August 3, 2024
- Current Environmental Issue Topic: Renewable Energy for a Sustainable Future
- Funding is still a concern

2024 NEW YORK STATE ENVIROTHON

- Will **not** be held at Hobart and William Smith Colleges

Northeast Association of Conservation District Employees
"Together We Achieve the Extraordinary"

NYSCDEA Meeting
May 17, 2023

NACD Northeast Region Conference

A save the date card has been sent out for the conference which will be held on September 17-20 at Portland Sheraton at Sable Oaks in Portland, Maine. The Maine NACD has developed a planning committee for the conference. The conference theme is: ***It's all connected: Resilience for a Changing Climate***. Rooms have been reserved for Saturday night at a reduce cost. Cumberland SWCD will be handling registration for the conference. There are two NACDE member who participate in the planning committee meetings. More information to follow once items are confirmed.

Northeast Regional Meetings

Northeast Employees Association has been working on the following:

- ✓ Conducting monthly teleconference.
- ✓ Developed a flow chart depicting the interaction with other partnering agencies (attached)
- ✓ There will be a in-person meeting on June 7 & 8 in Morristown NJ. The meeting will focus on updating the 5year strategic plan along with NE conference, NACDE tour, awards, and board nomination.
- ✓ The Northeast Association of Conservation District Employees (NACDE) has a travel stipend to attend the Northeast Association of Conservation Districts Annual Conference. The stipend will be offered to employee applicants that are active in the affairs of NACDE or who may enrich their district, state or regional program by their attendance.
- ✓ If you haven't checked out the website, you are encouraged to do – www.nacde.org.
- ✓ District can submit any news articles to Molly Allard at mallard.nricd@gmail.com for inclusion in the quarterly e-newsletter.

Respectively Submitted,
Jeffrey Parker
NACDE President/CDEA Representative

Northeast Association of Conservation District Employee

National Conservation District Employees Association



Regional Association of Conservation Districts

National Association of Conservation

Formed Committees/Associations of Employees

County Conservation District Employees

Partners (NRCS/FSA)

County Conservation Districts Board



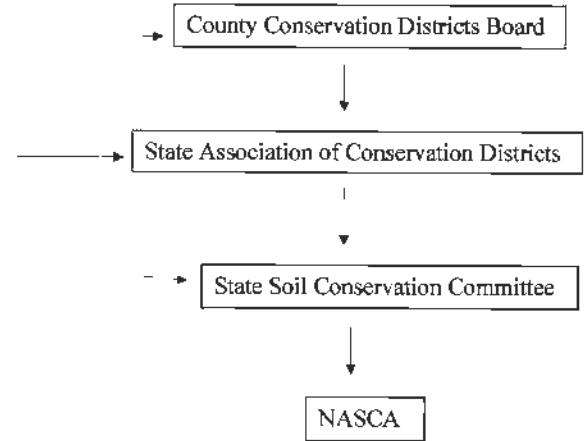
State Association of Conservation Districts



State Soil Conservation Committee



NASCA





NYSCDEA Meeting

Board Positions

In February, new NCDEA board was sworn in as follows:

Melissa Higbee, President
Sarah Tunge, Vice President
Gretchen Rank, Treasurer
Eric Scheilder, Secretary
Mandy Parks, Member at Large

Velynda Parker was recognized at the Employee Reception in New Orleans for serving 4 years as the secretary to NCDEA. Rhonda Kelsch was also recognized for 14 years of service on the Board in array of positions held.

Meetings

Meetings are being held on third Tuesday of every month.

The mid-year meeting will be held during September 10-16 in Detroit, Michigan.

Executive Director

Tim Riley, ED continues to meet with Chief Crosby & Regional Coordinator Advisory Team weekly/monthly which the 2023 Farm Bill is a major topic of discussion. Climate Smart projects are being to roll out so offices could see increased questions from producers. Mike Foster will fill the role of the NRCS-NACD liaison position.

Strategic Plan

NCDEA will be gin looking at updating the current strategic plan.

Professional Development

Encourage fellow conservation districts to participate in the Convene webinar seminar sponsored by NCDEA. District employees can register for this training using the National Conservation District Employees Association as their organization. This is a subscription service offered by NCDEA to district employees. When one becomes registered, they have the ability to listen to past training events too.

NCPP (National Conservation Planning Partnership)

NCPP's primary goal is to reinvigorate conservation planning at the local level. Whether you have a direct planning role or a support role, you may be in a position to make observations, recommendations, or suggestions that will contribute toward achieving this goal. Please visit www.ncpp.info to make a suggestion. This information will pass on to the appropriate person or group to respectfully consider and take the appropriate action.

NCPP will be working on writing an implementation plan in June.

The Communication Team is working information regarding Local Working Group and Ag Learn.

Lastly, just want to remind everyone to check out the NCDEA website ncdea.us. Feedback is welcome along with your news and job announcement. NCDEA would be delighted to share news about members and conservation districts.

Respectively Submitted,
Jeffrey Parker
NCDEA Northeast Regional Director