

2019 ANNUAL REPORT



**ONONDAGA COUNTY
SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
&
SKANEATELES LAKE WATERSHED
AGRICULTURAL PROGRAM**



6680 Onondaga Lake Pkwy, Liverpool NY 13088

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www.ocswcd.org

A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

A Year of Celebrations!

2019 was the **75th anniversary** of the Onondaga County Soil and Water Conservation District (District) and the **25th anniversary** of the Skaneateles Lake Watershed Agricultural Program (SLWAP). What an honor it has been to celebrate the conservation accomplishments of past! It is important to note that none of this work to protect water quality and soil from erosion would have happened had it not been for the voluntary participation by the farmers, municipalities, and private landowners who provided their land as the canvas for these projects. We also appreciate all the hard work of the staff and Board of Directors, both past and present. We should all be proud of our farmers, municipalities, and residential landowners for being some of the first anywhere to use new technology, new Best Management Practices, and new ways of thinking to address problems on the land. This allows



25 YEARS PROTECTING WATER QUALITY



Engineering 1894
Photo courtesy of City of Syracuse



Skaneateles Lake Watershed Agricultural Program
1994 - 2019

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water quality to be protected and soil to be prevented from eroding. The combination of land owners and land uses make our area a great place to live, work, and recreate. Our land base is a working landscape where agricultural land allows for great views that stretch a country mile from one watershed to another. We are very fortunate for all of our leaders of the past and our leaders of the future who will continue to guide us on this path of conservation in the communities in which we live. Congratulations to Onondaga County Water Authority's Otisco Lake, and the City's Skaneateles Lake Watershed for accomplishing these milestones! Here's wishing you all the best in conservation over the next 100 years!

Celebrating 75 Years Of Conservation 1944 - 2019



Onondaga County Soil & Water Conservation District

- Protecting & Improving Water Quality
- Stream Stabilization
- Critical Area Re-Seeding
- Agricultural Land Conservation BMPs
- Erosion & Sediment Control
- Conservation Education
- Annual Tree & Shrub Sale Program



OUR CONTACT INFORMATION

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Mark E. Burger
Executive Director

"Promoting excellence in the wise use of our rural and urban natural resources."

2019 Summary of Project Activity in Onondaga County and the Skaneateles Lake Watershed

Legend

- MS4 Outfall Inspections
- Ash Trees Treated with Pesticides
- Non-Ash Trees Planted
- Ash Trees Removed
- Water Chestnut Pull
- DEC 4 Hour ESC Training
- Skaneateles Lake Watershed
- Onondaga County Boundary

SLWAP BMPs

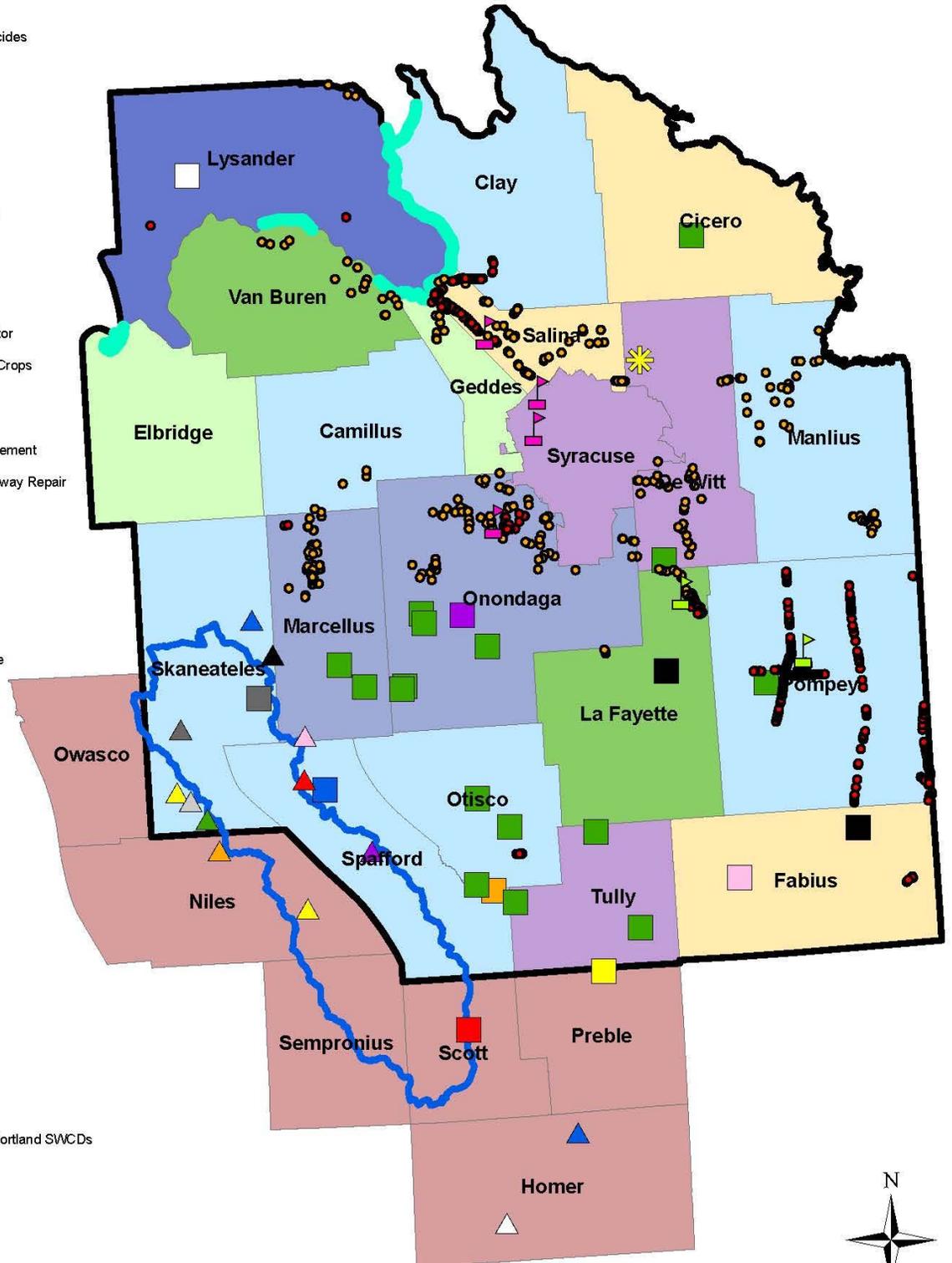
- Access Road
- WASCOB Repair
- Pond Berm Repair & Bioreactor
- Buffer Regrading/Reshaping
- Streambank Repair & Cover Crops
- CREP Trees
- Cover Crops
- Cover Crops, Nutrient Management
- Diversion & Rock-lined Waterway Repair
- Nutrient Management
- Nutrient Management Cover Crops
- Nutrient Management Cover Crops
- Stream Clean-out
- Nutrient Management, Cover Crops, Manure Storage
- Road Ditch Stabilization

District BMPs

- Buffer
- Exclusion Fence
- Cover Crops
- Diversion and Waterway
- Pasture Fence System
- Pasture Fence System Cover Crops
- Shelterbelt
- Spring Development
- Shoreline Stabilization
- Vegetated Treatment Area
- Wash Water Line
- Watering Facilities

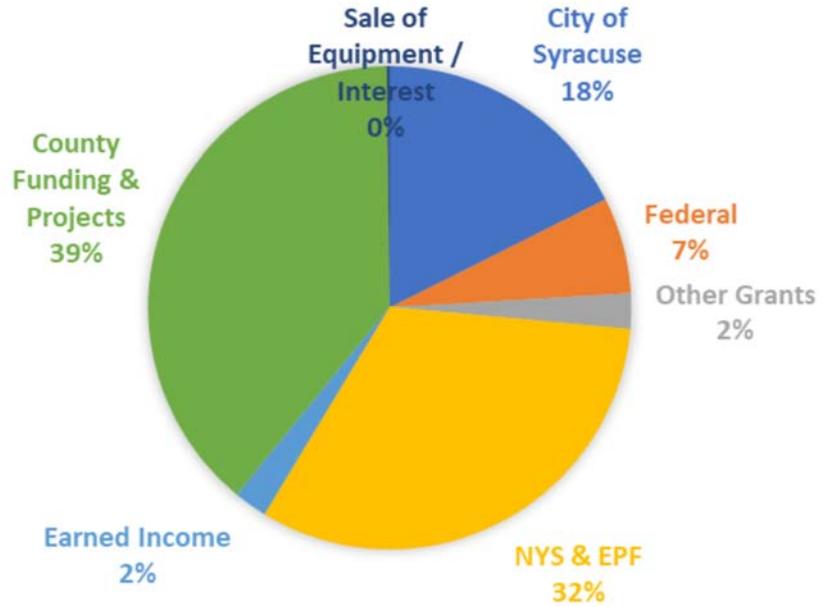
Hydroseeding (sqft)

- Acres done by Cayuga and Cortland SWCDs
- 0
- 1 - 25,000
- 25,001 - 50,000
- 50,001 - 100,000
- 100,001 - 200,000
- 200,001 - 300,000
- 300,001 - 350,000



2019 YEAR IN REVIEW

\$2,315,018 of conservation funding implemented in 2019

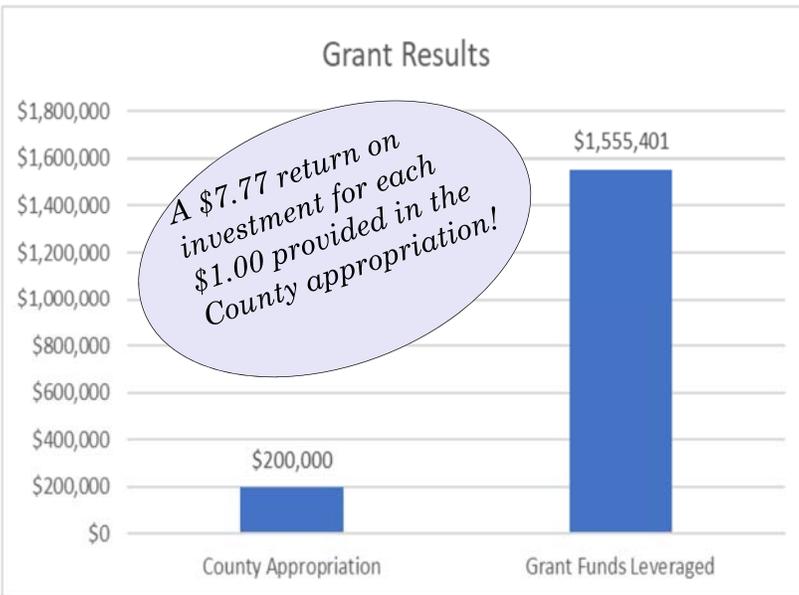



District staff authored 18 grant applications to the NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets, NYS Erosion & Sediment Control for the Finger Lakes, and NYS CAFO Nutrient Storage. Thirteen applications were funded for a total of \$1,555,400. This will allow the District to implement 17 Best Management Practices on 7 farms to help address non-point sources of pollution using the Agricultural Environmental Management Program.

AEM SUMMARY 2019

TIERED STRUCTURE - # COMPLETED	
Tier 1 - Sign-up/Enrollments	4
Tier 2 - Questionnaire/survey of water quality concerns on the farm	4
Tier 3A - Simple conservation plan	5
Tier 3B - Detailed conservation plan	1
Tier 4 - Implementation of plan	11
Tier 5A - Revision to tier 2	4
Tier 5B - Revision to tier 3A	0

TYPES/# OF FARMS ASSISTED	
Beef	4
Dairy	4
Cash Grains	7
Horses	1
Donkey	1
Vegetables	6
Sheep/goats	0
Maple	0
Alpacas	0
Christmas trees	1
Acres of grazing	270.3



District BMP Summary

Best Management Practice	Landowners Assisted	Goals/Objectives of Projects	Total Cost	Units Implemented
Cultural Survey	1	Checking for cultural/historical artifacts prior to excavation/construction	\$2,522	1 Survey
Denitrifying Bioreactor	1	Reduction of nitrate-nitrogen in subsurface agricultural drainage flow	\$10,351	1 Bioreactor
Erosion Sediment Control—Structural	2	Diversion repair & revegetation	\$7,948	3,000 LF
Livestock Heavy Use Area Runoff Management	1	Interception, collection & safe treatment of runoff water from a barnyard	\$2,700	1 Barnyard
Nutrient Management—Cultural	2	Managing the amount, source, placement & timing of plant nutrient & soil amendment applications	\$723	402 Acres
Prescribed Rotational Grazing System	8	Allows livestock to feed & water themselves while spreading their own organic manure nutrients – reduces agriculture’s carbon footprint	\$105,667	4,758 LF Pipe 20,943 LF Fence 1,050 LF Waterline 7 Water Troughs 1 Hydrant
Process wash water Management	1	Collection, storage, treatment & disposal of effluents from processes on farms (veg & fruit washing)	\$5,450	500 LF Pipe
Soil Conservation System – Cultural	30	Fall cover crops on corn silage ground to keep the nutrients in the soil and the soil on the land	\$124,235	3,536 acres
Stream Corridor & Shoreline Management	9	Protect shoreline from erosion	\$55,895	925 LF 10 Acres 4,638 Trees
Tire Recycling	11	Agricultural waste tires are collected and recycled to be used as shredded aggregate for landfill leachate system	\$30,938	147.9 Tons 10,244 Tires
TOTAL	66		\$346,429	

CELEBRATING 75 YEARS

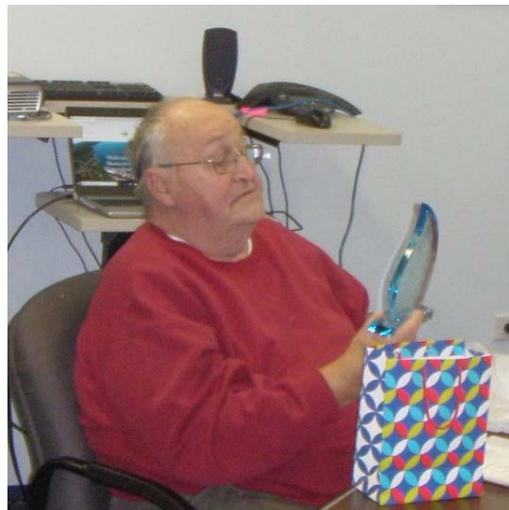
If you've seen the posters hanging in your town office or library, that's us - the Onondaga County Soil & Water Conservation District. The District celebrated 75 years of public service, providing landowners with conservation expertise and consultation for the best use of their natural resources.

The Dust Bowl of the 1930s was the crisis that gave rise to the soil conservation districts across the country. In 1931 a severe drought began in the Great Plains, in the panhandles of Texas and Oklahoma, spreading to parts of New Mexico, Colorado and Kansas; it caused crops to fail and left plowed fields exposed to erosion by the strong winds typical to the region.

To this day the District continues to answer the call for conservation work. Together with partners, farm cooperators and the general public, we thank you and look forward to serving another 75 years.

The ambitions of those days that brought farmers high yield crops, prosperity year in and year out, couldn't have foretold the danger of soil erosion that loomed ahead in that fateful 1931 growing season. Ten or so years later, through thoughtful legislation, soil conservation districts were formed, ready to help fight soil loss across the country! Districts began helping landowners with issues of the day – field drainage and ponds for livestock.

Today, the Onondaga County Soil & Water Conservation District delivers State Agricultural Environmental Management grant funds to help farmers meet environmental requirements by implementing Best Management Practices on their farms. The District approach is practical, with the District and landowner working together to achieve the best conservation results. Through the years the District has expanded its scope to help with hydroseeding on roadways or at farm construction sites; stream bed and bank stabilization; erosion and sediment control; educational and goodwill events to name a few.



Wayne Norris, District Board Treasurer, received a Special Service Award to recognize his 30 years of service. Wayne joined the Board of Directors June, 1988, and became Treasurer in 1994. His affiliation on the Board is “Grange Representative” as member of the Pomona Grange of Onondaga County. He is past Master of both the Otisco and Excelsior Grangers.

Wayne has traveled across New York State and the Country to represent Districts and New York State agriculture at local, State, and national Soil & Water Conservation meetings. These efforts were intended to significantly help all Districts more efficiently and effectively carry out their objectives and programs. His involvement in the community has provided Wayne with an incredible knowledge of the area, its land features and locations, and extensive familiarity of the farms in our region. It is because of the selfless dedication that Wayne has provided to his family and community that we are proud to recognize him with this award!

“It is our vision to live in a society in which future generations will have natural resources necessary to sustain and enrich their quality of life.”

2019 YEAR IN REVIEW

CONSERVATION FARM OF THE YEAR



Joel Riehlman and Dale VanErden hold up the award sign. Standing with them are Aaron Buchta, District Planner; Board members John Lemondes and Ken Bush.

Family enterprise of Eastview, Venture, Greenwood, and Hillside Farms are named the 2019 Farm of the Year. Principle owners and operators Dale VanErden, Dave VanErden, Mark VanErden, Joel Riehlman, and Jean Reed oversee the dairy operation. They grow 6,036 acres of crops to support their 2,700 milk cows and 1,295 heifers. The partnership was established in 1976 when Dale VanErden rented the Eastview Farm. They accomplished significant conservation work over the years, a testament to the high degree of management and dedication to protect soil and water resources, provide excellent care for their animals, and produce high-quality milk and crops.

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

A busy year for Onondaga SWCD involvement in the Stormwater programs in the County. Staff members were involved in weekly and post event inspections at the St. Joseph's Amphitheater for the 2019 concert season. We also made routine inspections at Oak Orchard Waste Water Treatment Plant for the ongoing Lagoon Cleanout and Disinfection Area Projects at Meadowbrook Limestone Waste Water Treatment Plant, and Metro Waste Water Facility.

Staff reviewed Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plans (SWPPP) for the Rosemond Gifford Zoo, Metro WWTP, Salina Street Green Infrastructure, and OCRRA Rock Cut Road Facility.

Certified staff provided training of the DEC 4 hour Erosion and Sediment class 8 times to contractors, Landscape Architects, Professional Engineers, and municipal officials in a public setting at the Syracuse Builders Exchange as well as 8 Private trainings at contractor companies and 1 time at SUNY Morrisville. There was a total of 17 trainings to 325 "students".

Finally, staff performed approximately 375 outfall inspections throughout Onondaga County for County and Municipal partners.

COUNTYWIDE COVER CROPS A SUCCESS



Categorized as "cover crops," a farm plants late-season seeds in order to put roots in the ground that will hold soil in place through the winter after the harvest. Cover crops increase biomass on and under the surface of soil and substantially reduce the chances of erosion and sediment runoff when snow melts after the frigid upstate New York winter season. Over 500 acres of cover crops were planted in the Otisco Lake Watershed this year, home of the primary drinking water source for Onondaga County. Over 3,536 acres of cover crops were planted countywide.

2019 YEAR IN REVIEW

ASH TREE MANAGEMENT UPDATE

In response to the presence of Emerald Ash Borer (EAB), an invasive insect that is killing ash trees, Onondaga County has partnered with the District since 2012 to implement the Onondaga County Ash Tree Management Strategy. In 2019, the District cut and removed 2,852 ash trees from County property. These cut locations include the Towns of Van Buren and Pompey, John Glenn Blvd, Onondaga County Community College, Onondaga Lake Park, Jamesville Beach Park, Pratt's Falls Park, and at the County's 911 towers. Over the lifetime of the project, a total of 15,797 ash trees that could injure or kill people when they succumb to EAB have been removed from various County properties including highway right-of-ways and parks. The District treats high-function and high-value ash trees with systemic insecticides for Onondaga County, the Town of DeWitt, and the Town of Marcellus. Most trees are on a 2 year treatment cycle and each group is treated every other year. With the support of state and federal grants, the District has planted a total of 2,117 non-ash, non-host trees in County parks to replace the high-functions and values lost with the ash trees.



This year trees were planted at Jamesville Beach and Pratt's Falls County Parks with grant funds from the USFS' Great Lakes Restoration Initiative. Two community tree planting events were held; one at Jamesville Beach in the spring and one at Pratt's Falls in the Fall. Onondaga Earth Corps planted the remaining trees and helped to put on the community tree planting events. The District also held a tree planting learning event with ELMS (Expeditionary Learning Middle School) at Long Branch Park.

	2019	2014-2019
Ash Trees Cut	2,852	15,797
Ash Trees Treated with Pesticides	213	655
Non-Ash, Non-Host Trees Planted	297	2,117

WATER CHESTNUT PROJECT



The fourth annual Water Chestnut Hand Pulling Project has ended and with it, a near record breaking 28,000 pounds of water chestnut has been pulled. This is the second highest amount ever pulled, and a terrific feat. This was also the first year we began pulling water chestnut from Cross Lake. This project has been going on since 2017.

2019 YEAR IN REVIEW

NEW YORK STATE ENVIROTHON

Skaneateles High School team “Gang-Green” represented Onondaga County at the State Envirothon on May 22nd and 23rd at Hobart & William Smith Colleges. They were awarded 2nd place! Forty-six other high schools around the state participated. This year’s current environmental issue was centered around the balance of high production agriculture and natural resource management to feed the world. School advisor Rick Garrett shared a few words about his team and their Envirothon experience: “Once again, thank you so much for the \$100 check to support the kids at the State Envirothon. When I told them about the check, they were excited and I think it made them feel pretty special. There was lots of nervous talk about the competition and the oral presentation... they were visibly nervous standing in front of a large group on Wednesday night. Overall we came in 2nd place behind that incredible Ulster County team, so I was very proud of them. Thank you again for all of the support and please feel free to share this message with all those who supported this donation and these great kids.”



AGRICULTURAL SPILL RESPONSE

ANNUAL TREE AND SHRUB SALE



ANNUAL TREE & SHRUB PROGRAM
Every year, since 1976, the District promotes its public outreach program to “Green Up the County”. In 2019, a total of 4,900 trees and shrubs were sold to residents across the county. 21 bat and bluebird houses. Since 2011, the District has partnered with Tully High School’s Industrial Arts Department for the hand-made houses. The program has become a great instrument for the public to “get to know us”.



In 2019, the District was involved in the response to 5 agricultural/environmental spill events. A training refresher and inventory update of the spill trailer is done each spring and fall so that we are ready to help when the next call comes in.

2019 YEAR IN REVIEW

WASTE TIRE RECYCLING



The Skaneateles Lake Watershed Ag Program and the Onondaga County SWCD have worked in all six major watersheds to collect waste tires from 15 interested farms around the county. Mosquitoes breed in the stagnant water that collects inside tires piled outside. These conditions and mosquitos pose a concern since they can carry West Nile Virus, EEE, and other diseases. By removing the tires, the risk of disease is reduced. In addition, large tire piles are a risk if they catch fire and release thick black smoke and other pollutants into the environment. Re-

ycling allows waste tires to be transformed into tire 'chip/shred' aggregate to be used in the leachate collection system of the Seneca Meadows Landfill in Waterloo, NY. The tire collection effort was focused on 'clean' whole waste tires of the auto and light truck sizes. Large truck and tractor tires will be collected later. The waste tire collection program utilized 40-yard roll-off dumpsters placed at each participating farm location which were loaded by farm personnel. A permitted hauler delivered the dumpsters and transported the full loads to the processing facility. Thirty-two loads were processed in 2019 totaling over 180 tons, which is equivalent to over 12,500 waste tires.

TO THE CAPITOL



Members of the District Board of Directors, the Skaneateles Watershed Program Review Committee, and staff traveled to Albany to meet with local and state representatives. Every year, Soil & Water Conservation Districts across the state commit a full day to thank officials for their support to Districts and to discuss current issues surrounding conservation efforts in each of their counties.

EARTH DAY - DOING OUR PART



District and SLWAP staff spent an hour collecting trash and debris around the office property on Onondaga Lake Parkway as part of Earth Day. Since the time we moved to this location in 2012, our efforts at making a difference are paying off, less trash and a cleaner landscape. This helps our Parks Department keep the property beautiful!

2019 YEAR IN REVIEW

SNOW & ICE CONTROL WORKSHOP



The Snow and Ice Control Workshop & Train the Trainer Event was held on October 29th at the Center of Progress Building at the NYS Fairgrounds. The goal of the workshop was to increase the driving public's level of service while decreasing the amount of material put onto the road. In the morning, trucks were calibrated by the NYS Department of Transportation. The highway departments can use the knowledge they gained on proper calibration to calibrate their whole fleet. After calibrations, Tim Weir and Ron Pollock from the NYS DOT presented on Safety Considerations and Record Keeping, Snow and Ice Materials and Their Impacts on the Environment, and Costs and Benefits of Proper Equipment Calibration. This training showed those who attended how to use the optimal amount of salt to both keep drivers safe and be good stewards of the environment.

Seventy-seven highway department personnel attended from 5 counties and 21 municipalities. There



were also 3 school districts, 2 private companies, 1 lake association and 1 other conservation district in attendance. The work that our highway department employees do is important work. Snow plow drivers take on a lot of responsibility when in the truck. Thank you to all the employees that came to learn more and thank you for keeping the roads safe for your family and ours!

This workshop was brought to you through a cooperative partnership between CNY Regional Planning and Development Board, Onondaga County Soil & Water Conservation District, Skaneateles Watershed Agricultural Program, OCWA; CNY Stormwater Coalition, Cornell Cooperative Extension of Onondaga County; the NYS Department of Transportation Region 3 and the NYS Fair.

HYDROSEEDING IN THE WATERSHEDS



In 2019, a total of 46 miles of bare earth in road ditches were revegetated through our hydroseeding program. Pictured here is a project completed by the District's hydroseeding crew along an intermittent tributary of Nine Mile Creek between the Skaneateles and Otisco Lake watersheds, before the intersection of NY-174 and Highway 20. Seeding this 30,000 Square Foot area will prevent a significant amount of sediment from being deposited into Nine Mile Creek. Other sites seeded included roadside ditches, parks, and farms where best management practices had been installed.

2019 YEAR IN REVIEW

MUNICIPAL PARTNER OF THE YEAR



Each year the District takes the opportunity to recognize a Municipality that has undertaken innovative conservation projects. This year's winner, chosen by the District Board of Directors, was the Town of Lysander. The Lysander Highway Department completed several conservation projects, including the course correction of the creek near Dinglehole Rd and several culvert pipe replacements. Lysander has received the Municipal of the Year Award once previously under Highway Superintendent Gene Densmore.

Pictured is Lysander Highway Department Superintendent Gerald Hole .

NYACD COMMENDATION AWARD



L-R: Mark Burger, Craig Dennis, Doug Fisher, Ken Bush, and Spencer Givens.

Douglas Fisher, District Program Manager, was recognized for superior professional achievement. Doug was nominated by the full local District board for his wealth of knowledge in protecting and improving the environment. He has engaged with public and private stakeholders to best utilize and protect the natural resources of Onondaga County.

Doug began working for the District over thirty years ago as a Field Technician. He worked with landowners to plan and implement conservation practices. He started the District's conservation tree and shrub program which is still its largest community outreach program today. According to District records he's had a hand in the sale and distribution of some 11,782,320 seedlings that have been planted on 18,437 acres of land in Onondaga County.

AMERICAN PUBLIC WORKS ASSOCIATION PROFESSIONAL MANAGER OF THE YEAR AWARD



Mark Burger was presented the New York State award from the American Public Works Association at their annual banquet on March 21st in Utica. Mark also won the Central New York Chapter APWA award in November 2018.

The Professional Manager of the Year Award in Water Resources recognizes outstanding achievements in the area of water resources and the recipient's ability to inspire excellence, leadership, and dedication to the public good. Mark far exceeded the criteria for this award in his application of leadership, innovation, customer service and community service. The nomination was submitted by the Onondaga County Water Authority.

SKANEATELES LAKE WATERSHED



CELEBRATING 25 YEARS



On December 11th, the Skaneateles Lake Watershed Ag Program held its annual meeting at the Methodist Church in Skaneateles. Over 80 guests, many of them farmers, past and present employees, and collaborative agencies gathered to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the SLWAP. The program was established in October 1994, with a staff of specialists working together with farmers who voluntarily participated in the development, promotion, and implementation of the tiered approach to Whole Farm Planning. The result was the implementation of management practices on farms to address non-point sources of pollution.

The 2019 'Environmental Steward of the Year' award was presented to the City of Syracuse. Ben Walsh, the Mayor of the City of Syracuse, had the pleasure of receiving the award as well as issuing a proclamation recognizing the Skaneateles Lake Watershed Agriculture Program and all of the people who participate in and support the program. The award recognizes 25 years of protecting the water quality of Skaneateles Lake and the innovative work that has been accomplished with this program. Maggie Connelly, Administrative Assistant, was also recognized for her 20 years of dedicated service.

Our guest speaker was Dr. Kimberly Schulz of SUNY ESF who presented a summary of her research on Aquatic Invasive species, in particular, quagga and zebra mussels and their possible impact on Harmful Algal Blooms. Dr. Schulz' study was in Owasco Lake and it demonstrates the increasing number of invasive quagga and zebra mussels- over 25,000 mussels were recorded in 1 square meter. The abundance of these mussels leads to a host of questions about their contributing factors on HAB's and lake health. A few of the questions include:

- 1) The possibility of these mussels contributing new Phosphorus, from legacy sediment from decades of erosion and sedimentation that has settled on the bottom of the lakes.
- 2) The impact of their filtration allowing more sun-



Mike McMahon, Chair of the Watershed Agricultural Program Review Committee, presents the award to City of Syracuse Mayor Ben Walsh.

light to increase temperatures of the surface waters. Dr. Schulz emphasized the importance of boat washing and inspection to prevent the spread of these invasives, as they can be spread by microscopic larvae.

At this time there is no good solution to the invasives problem and more studies and documentation are required.



Staff, then and now with partners, working together for the health of Skaneateles Lake.

2019 YEAR IN REVIEW

Skaneateles Lake Watershed Agricultural Program

SLWAP BMP Summary

Best Management Practice	Landowners Assisted	Goals/Objectives of Projects	Total Cost	Units Implemented
Nutrient Management System – Cultural	5	Collection & analysis of soil samples to determine if additional nutrients are required to grow crops	\$5,728	527 samples
Nutrient Management System – Cultural	1	Reimbursement for nutrient management recommendations on cropland	\$2,000	488 acres
Soil Conservation System – Cultural	7	Fall cover crops on corn silage ground; keep nutrients in the soil and soil on the land	\$50,184	972 acres
Stream Corridor & Shoreline Mgmt.	4	Protect shoreline from erosion	\$16,658	725 LF 6 trees
Riparian Buffer System	1	Strategic types and maintenance of vegetation next to sensitive water bodies to protect water quality	\$8,500	992 acres
Waste Storage Facility	1	A system designed for the collection, transfer, and/or storage of agriculture livestock nutrients	\$739,105	4.2 million gallons
Access Control System	1	Stabilization of basin berm	\$3,250	40 LF
Erosion Control Systems— Structural	2	WASCOB, diversion, rock lined water way	\$12,745	1 WASCOB 840 LF diversion 200 LF water way
Road Ditch Stabilization	1	Rock-lining of ditch	\$1,185	60 ton– medium stone fill
Tire Recycling	4	Agricultural waste tires are collected and recycled to be used as shredded aggregate for landfill leachate system	\$7,344	34.5 Tons 2,380 Tires
TOTAL	27		\$857,594	

2019 YEAR IN REVIEW

Skaneateles Lake Watershed Agricultural Program

MANURE STORAGE CONSTRUCTION

We have completed a 4.2 million gallon concrete manure storage at Maple Lane Farms in Marietta. General Contractor Lake Country & Contour LLC and concrete contractor Zimmerman Construction completed this project in 2 ½ months under Fall weather conditions. This project was a collaboration between NRCS, Skaneateles Lake Watershed Ag Program and the landowners.

Funding was provided in part by an EQIP grant and the NYS Dept. of Ag & Markets Ag Non-point Source Pollution Abatement EPF 23 grant. This project provides 6 months worth of manure storage enabling the farmers to optimize the nutrient recycling when best applied for their crops and also helps to protect Skaneateles Lake and keep the water clean. A job well done by all!



AG EQUIPMENT RENTAL



The ag equipment rental program continued to make no-till technology available to farms in the watershed and around Onondaga County. In 2019, 11 farms participated and a total of 569 acres of crops were planted due to this program. The 12-foot ESCH no-till drill is available to rent at \$11/acre on a first come first served basis to qualified farmers with a 100 hp tractor with 2 pairs of hydraulic hose connections. A certificate of liability insurance is also required. The swing drawbar opens the drill to a full 12 feet working width in the field and then swings 90 degrees to allow easy transport on the roadways.

FARM TOUR WITH SKANEATELES LAKE ASSOCIATION

On September 21st District staff, crop farmer Jim Greenfield and dairy farmer Dirk Young invited members of the Skaneateles Lake Association on a tour of their farms. A tractor drawn wagon took attendees around both farms, looking out over the lake from some of the highest hilltops to showcase the many Best Management Practices they've implemented to protect water quality and ultimately Skaneateles Lake.



Board of Directors

Craig Dennis	Chair - At-Large Practical Farming
David Coburn	Vice Chair - At-Large Non-ag
Wayne Norris	Treasurer - Grange Representative
F. Spencer Givens	At-Large Business Representative
John Lemondes	Farm Bureau Representative
Julie Abbott-Kenan	County Legislator
Kenneth Bush, Jr.	County Legislator
David H. Knapp	Ex-officio; Chair County Legislator

District Staff

Mark Burger	Executive Director
Doug Fisher	Program Manager
Gwyn Olenych	Accountant I
Maggie Connelly	Administrative Assistant
Aaron Buchta	Resource Conservation Specialist
Eric Renfer	Resource Conservation Specialist
Eva Brown	Resource Conservation Specialist
Alex Fisher	District Conservation Technician
Ron May	District Conservation Technician
Gradon Ryan	District Conservation Technician
Teresa Link	District Conservation Technician
Amber Paice	District Conservation Technician

Skaneateles Lake Watershed Agricultural Program Watershed Agricultural Program Review Committee

Mike McMahon	Chair - Cortland County
Steve Nemeč	Vice Chair - Cayuga County
Gaelen Head	Cayuga County
Eric Brayman	Onondaga County
Craig Richards	Onondaga County
Tim Leubner	Onondaga County
David Perry	Cortland County
Rich Abbott	City of Syracuse
Dale Kehoe	Advisory Member
Jim Greenfield	Advisory Member

SLWAP Staff

Mark Burger	Program Manager
Maggie Connelly	Administrative Assistant
Eric Jensen	Resource Conservation Specialist
Kim Clark	District Conservation Technician

The Onondaga County Soil & Water Conservation District was chartered on March 6, 1944 as one of 58 special purpose Districts in New York State, one in each county including the five boroughs of New York City. Each District is governed by a Board of Directors who set program policy to be implemented by the District staff.

All programs and services are offered on a nondiscriminatory basis without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or familial status.