



2041 U.S. Route 20, Suite 2 Seneca Falls, NY 13148, 315-568-4366, www.senecacountyswcd.org

OCTOBER 2016

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We're Going Digital!

To cut down on costs and waste we are now offering our newsletters and seedling sale forms online! We will put these on our website at senecacountyswcd.org for you to view and/or print.

We will accommodate those who aren't able to print these or view them online. Please call our office if you need a hardcopy mailed to you at 315-568-4366.

2017 Seedling Order Form

We are working on putting together our 2017 Seedling Order Form. You can look for it on our website in January 2017. We are adding some new varieties to our selection: Gray Dogwood, Tulip Tree, Osage-orange, Sycamore, and Swamp White Oak.

If you are planning on ordering 100 or more of one species, please contact our office so we can accommodate for your quantity.

We would like to say Thank You to everyone that ordered this year.

Board of Directors

Mike Reynolds
County Legislator/Chair

Ron McGreevy
County Legislator

Elisabeth Freier
Farm Bureau/Treasurer

John Hunt
Grange/Vice Chair

Bob Ike
Member At-Large

Staff

Jim Malyj
District Manager

Kristin White
Bookkeeper & Secretary to the Board

Erin Peruzzini
District Technician

Christopher Creelman
District Technician

Ron Vanacore
USDA/NRCS
Resource Conservationist

All programs and services of the Seneca County SWCD and NRCS are offered on a non-discriminatory basis, without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation and marital or family status.



ROAD TRIP!!!

County Projects Tour

Our September Board meeting was followed by a tour of some projects the District and NRCS have done throughout Seneca County. We had the County's Manager, John Sheppard as our guest.



The tour started at Cayuga Lake State Park where we showed everyone one of our weed harvesters. We had an operator there to show the harvester in action. Jim explained the program to everyone.



Our next four stops were at Autumn Harvest Farm, George Farm, Standing Stone Vineyards, and Schrader Farm. The history of each place was explained by either Chris Creelman or Erin Peruzzini. They also talked about the projects that were completed on each farm/vineyard and what grant money was used for each project.



We then stopped at a project on Leader Road that Ron Vanacore from NRCS is working on. This project addresses erosion control for a cash grain operation.



Drainage Project - We stopped at one of our 16 drainage projects on Leader Road/Sucker Brook. Chris did an engineered design while Erin obtained the necessary permits. We are working with the Town of Fayette Highway Department to install the new culvert pipes.



Seneca County SWCD Maintenance Buildings - Our tour ended with a stop at our maintenance buildings in Waterloo. Here we store all the aquatic equipment, Hydroseeding equipment and materials, and miscellaneous office files.



Seneca County SWCD Weed Harvesting Program
By: Jim Malyj, District Manager

2016 WEED HARVESTING ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The Seneca County SWCD completed its 31st season of weed harvesting operations on September 15th.

The District operated its Aquamarine H9-800 Harvester in select areas between Pump House Road south to an area 1 mile south of the Red Jacket Yacht Club. A total of 675 tons of vegetation were removed from this area.

The District continues to focus on a small area of Water Chestnut that was discovered off shore of Canoga Marsh in 2015. On July 27th 250 pounds of this plant were removed from this area before they were able to produce viable seed.

The District operated its Aquamarine H7-300 Harvester in the Cayuga/Seneca Canal in an area between the Seneca Lake State Park Marina east to Oak Island in Waterloo. A total of 255 tons of vegetation were removed from this area.

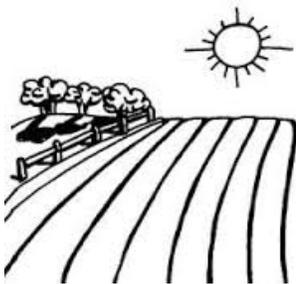
The District also harvested the Marina at Sampson State Park where a total of 15 tons of vegetation were removed.



All harvested aquatic vegetation is offered to local farmers and gardeners for composting.

The Seneca County SWCD Harvesting Program is funded by the Finger Lakes Lake Ontario Watershed Protection Alliance (FL-LOWPA Aquatic Plan) <http://www.flowpa.org/>

Agricultural Assessments / Soil Group Worksheets



Landowners filing for an agricultural assessment in 2017 must file applications with their local town assessor by March 1st. To complete an application for an agricultural assessment exemption, landowners must have a Soil Group Worksheet prepared by the Soil & Water Conservation District for each tax parcel they intend to enroll. Landowners who have previously had a soil group worksheet completed for a tax parcel do not need a new soil group worksheet

unless there are any changes to the parcel.

Agricultural land does not automatically receive an agricultural assessment exemption. **Landowners must apply each year with their assessor to remain eligible.** For more information contact your local town assessor or The County Real Property Tax office.

Contact Seneca County SWCD, [315-568-4366](tel:315-568-4366) to **make an appointment** to have your soil group worksheet completed. You will need a current copy of your tax bill for each parcel that is qualified for this program. The cost per parcel is \$20.

Remember, it's up to the landowner to give the application to their assessor, we do not provide this information to them.

Town Assessors:

Anne Morgan Phone: 607-869-9689

Lodi

Ovid

Romulus

Varick

Jay Franklin Phone: 607-274-5511

Covert

James Cleere Phone: 315-539-0206

Fayette

Waterloo

Philip Griswold Phone: 315-539-2711

Junius

Tyre

Seneca Falls-To Be Determined

Phone 315-568-9700

Seneca County Real Property Tax Office

315-539-1720

AG PROJECTS

By: Christopher Creelman, District Technician

Below are some of the projects completed with grant funding through the NYS Environmental Protection Fund.



Autumns Harvest Farm in Romulus completed an Access Control System which excluded the beef animals from a drainage way (left photo), and also relocated the pigs from an area that directly drained to a road ditch. A large buffer area below the new pasture (right photo) eliminates runoff from leaving the farm.



Maybury Rosenkrans Livestock in Lodi completed a Mortality Composting System. Animal mortality is placed on a base of woods chips and covered with dry, high carbon material (bedding with manure). This static pile is left for 4-6 months until the carcass is degraded. The composted material is then used as cover for another pile. A Vegetated Treatment Area was installed below the pad, and a dripline drain under the roof dripline excludes clean water from the site. Concrete blocks assist in the management and cleanup of the pad.



Rosenkrans Farm in Seneca Falls completed a covered barnyard. Previously, animals were fed outdoors and there was no way to collect and treat runoff. Animals are now fed under a roof to prevent runoff from leaving the area. Manure can now be collected and spread according to a nutrient management plan.



George Family Farm in the Town of Ovid completed a Silage Leachate Collection and Treatment System. A concrete basin was installed to separate low flow (which is drained to a septic tank and pumped to a manure spreader) and high flow events (which flows to a vegetated treatment area below the basin).



Last year, **Erwindale Farm** in the town of Fayette installed fence to exclude animals from the stream. This spring a cattle slat crossing was installed in the stream to allow animal access to pasture on both sides of the stream. The large watershed made culvert pipes or a bridge impractical.



Alexander Farm in the town of Lodi completed a barnyard project. Manure can be collected and applied to the pastures while runoff is treated in a vegetated treatment area below the barnyard.

The office also assisted two towns with culvert crossings. The town of **Romulus** needed to replace the culvert under Stout Rd. A 24” culvert was replaced by a 48” culvert that was embedded in the stream channel to provide continuity in the stream corridor.



Before



After





Before

We also assisted the town of **Fayette** with replacing a culvert on Leader Rd in the Sucker Brook drainage project. The single arch pipe was damaged and was replaced by two arch pipes that were embedded to provide continuity in the stream corridor.



After

U.S. Senator, Charles Schumer Visits Seneca County



Pictured Above From Left to Right: Rick Weakland, Skip Jensen, Marti Macinski, Senator Chuck Shumer, Ron Vanacore, Greg Kist, Tom Macinski, and Erin Peruzzini.

On Friday October 21st U.S. Sen. Charles Schumer visited Standing Stone Vineyard, Lodi to say he will argue for \$1.6 billion in federal funds to battle the growth of dangerous, toxic blue-green algae in Seneca Lake and other upstate bodies of water. Schumer is urging the Senate Appropriations Committee to include an additional \$1.6 billion in the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture / Natural Resources Conservation Service. The EQIP program provides direct financial assistance to farmers looking to pay for ground cover, drainage, erosion mitigation and other projects that prevent the erosion and runoff from their fields that cause algae blooms in upstate waterways.