



# EMC News

October 4, 1999

Volume 6, No. 7

## **Chair's Report**

As I write this, I do not know the outcome of tonight's vote by the Board of Representatives on the EMC restructuring proposal. Regardless of how it turns out, the process has been a favorable one. Why? 1.) Communication between the two bodies has increased. 2.) We are in the midst of developing and implementing improved procedures for conveying information to the Board, the municipalities, the public and the press. 3.) We will have restructured Bylaws that are more precise, and more accurately reflect what the Board and EMC expect from one another.

The EMC continues to be a weighty advisory board whose hard work, thoroughness and dedication to the issues is well received by many in government and the interested public. Our commitment to work for sound environmental planning is appreciated, in the long run.

The Cornell Center for the Environment is beginning to organize for Earth Day 2000 and is interested in EMC participation. We should consider what we can do as a group and use this opportunity to link with other organizations to educate the public on environmental issues.

*Submitted by Ed Cope*



## **Coordinator's Report**

Last weekend, I attended the New York State Association of EMC's 1999 Conference on the Environment in Rochester. I was able to attend a number of seminars on wetland topics ranging from defining wetland function and value using hydrologic characteristics, to wetland mitigation banking. In addition to the educational seminars, there was also plenty of opportunity to participate in roundtable discussions. For me, learning how other EMCs function and contribute to local government across the state, was especially helpful. I would encourage all of you to attend the conference next year. Unfortunately, we did not win an award for the work by the Towers Committee. The award went to the Madison County EMC for a project completing a trail system that linked the several major trails inside the County.

I am pleased to announce that I have hired a very capable work study intern to assist me with EMC-related activities. Her name is Erin Wilson and you may hear from her from time to time. Please welcome her and for more information read her submission to this edition of the EMC News.

*Submitted by Mikel Shakarjian*

## **Executive Committee Report**

The Executive Committee will meet on October 12, 1999 to discuss a variety of issues and review the draft communication guidelines. At the General EMC meeting, we will discuss the guidelines.

*Submitted by Mikel Shakarjian*

## **Chair-Nominating Committee**

According to the Bylaws, the duties of the EMC Chair are as follows:

- ❖ Serve as the official representative and chief administrator of the Council;
- ❖ Preside at the General and Executive Committee meetings of the Council;
- ❖ Call the Council or Executive to a special meeting or cancel a scheduled meeting, if necessary;
- ❖ Appoint members of committees, subject to majority approval of the members of the Council; appoint members to represent the Council on other public bodies, subject to majority approval of the members of the Council; and
- ❖ Serve as the Council's primary liaison to the Tompkins County Board of Representatives.

A vote to recommend a chairperson to the Board of Representatives will be held at the last meeting of the calendar year.

*Submitted by Mikel Shakarjian*

## **Unique Natural Areas Committee Report**

The UNA Committee met September 29 to discuss the outline for the final UNA Report and to review which tasks have been completed, those that are in progress and those yet to be done. The maps are complete, with a possible minor adjustment to be made to one UNA boundary. The committee discussed what topics should go in various sections of the report, including the Acknowledgements, Introduction, What's New in this Update, Guide to the Data Forms, Methods and Procedures, and the Appendices. Several other components are in progress or are finished and waiting to be incorporated into the final report, such as the Site List, UNA Data Sheets, Glossary, Cross-referenced List of Old and New UNA Sites, and GIS Technical Details. This revised UNA report is gradually coming together after years of hard work with many hands and heads involved.

*Submitted by Lynn Leopold*

## Announcements

A gracious thank you to Bob Beck, for all his work over the years as an EMC member. Bob will stay active on the EMC as an associate member, so we can still take advantage of his good will!



*Please note the following schedule for municipal reports through the end of the year. After November, we will re-examine the process and set the schedule for 2000.*

### EMC Municipal Reports Schedule

October 1999

Joyce Gerbasi	Town of Dryden
Walter Groman	Village of Dryden
Barbara Ebert	City of Ithaca
Lynn Leopold	Village of Lansing

November 1999

Bruce Johnson	Village of Freeville
Larry Sharpsteen	Town of Lansing
Donna Jean Darling	Town of Newfield
Jean Foley	Town of Ulysses

## Reminder

If you are currently a municipal representative and wish to be re-appointed for the new term, please don't forget to seek a resolution from your municipality and submit it by December 1, 1999. For at-large members seeking re-appointment, please fill out a BOR resume/application and submit it as soon as possible. Thanks to those of you who have already submitted your applications. Looking forward to next year!



## EMC Intern

Hi! My name is Erin Wilson and I recently started working with Mikel as the EMC's intern. I am a junior at Cornell, majoring in Urban and Regional Studies, otherwise known as City and Regional Planning. I am especially interested in learning how to protect the environment while fostering economic development, in order to improve the general quality of life. When I'm not at Cornell, I live in Grants Pass, Oregon. My interest in the environment probably comes from my exposure to Oregon politics. Most Oregonians are very protective of the environment, but for most of the recent past, the state's economy relied on two environmentally damaging industries: logging and mining. I am very excited to have the opportunity to work with a group like the EMC and I look forward to the months ahead!

*Submitted by Erin Wilson*

*County Towers Committee Report*  
No Report Submitted

*Education Committee Report*  
No Report Submitted

*NESTS Committee Report*  
No Report Submitted

*Environmental Review Committee Report*  
No Report Submitted