



EMC News

February 6, 2001

Volume 8, No. 1

Chair's Report



We had a good discussion of goals for 2001 at our January meeting, and the February meeting should prove to be just as interesting. We'll discuss what we do at our meetings and brainstorm about how to change the meetings so we all feel they are a great use of our time. If there's time, we'll also discuss

how to make each member feel valued and heard. If we run out of time, we'll finish up in March.

Submitted by Susan Brock

Education Committee Report

We have gathered most of the email addresses needed to facilitate revision of the Environmental Directory. The EMC web page will be up and running soon. It provides a form for organizations to enter information that will appear in the updated Environmental Directory. The Land Protection Options brochure, based on Karen Fox's masters thesis (former EMC intern), and the "FAQ's about UNA's" pamphlet are ready for publication. These will be distributed to each EMC member and each municipality, and will be available for the public. Our table at Earth Day 2001 on April 22 in Stewart Park, will feature the UNA inventory. We hope to also sponsor a nature walk in the six mile creek wildflower preserve. Next meeting scheduled is Wednesday, February 28.

Submitted by Steve Nicholson



Announcements

Share Your Love of Nature

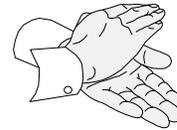
Be part of a unique outdoor program that introduces more than 800 Tompkins County 4th, 5th and 6th graders to the wonders of nature. Called 4-H Environmental Appreciation Days, the program provides kids with hands-on learning activities designed to expand their knowledge about and foster a sense of stewardship for their natural environment. 4-H Environmental Appreciation Days is offered May 4, 7 and 8.



The success of 4-H Environmental Appreciation Days depends on 70 people to volunteer each year to develop and present a 50-minute lesson on any environmental topic from orienteering to insects. Instructors can work singly or in pairs, volunteering for one or more days. The commitment is from 8:30 am until 1:30 pm. Transportation is provided when necessary.

Volunteers complete a simple application form and attend a training April 17. To request a volunteer application, contact Sephra Albert at 272-2292, saa2@cornell.edu, or visit our web site at <http://www.cce.cornell.edu/tompkins/> (scroll down, click programs, then scroll down and click Environmental Appreciation Days). Applications are due March 12.

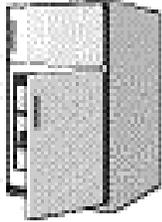
Heroes Among Us



The Jan/Feb 2001 issue of "Nature Conservancy" featured a piece on outstanding volunteers who have had a lasting impact on their chapter or country program. The EMC's own Bob Beck was recognized as an outstanding volunteer from the New York Central/Western Region. Here's what the article said:

"When a new gravel mine threatened the Malloryville wetlands complex, Bob Beck assembled a coalition to monitor the permit application. Over 10 years, three mining applications were filed and rejected, thanks to his close scrutiny. Ultimately, the Conservancy was able to buy the property, and Bob and his wife, Gwen, donated an additional 35 acres from their property at Malloryville." Congratulations Bob!

Energy Saving Tip of the Month



The refrigerator is the single biggest power consumer in most households. Refrigerators alone use the equivalent of the output of about 20 large nuclear power plants-- nearly 5% of the nation's total electricity consumption. A typical refrigerator made around 1990 uses

about over 900 kilowatt hours per year - that's the same amount of energy you would use by leaving a 1,250 watt hairdryer on for a month! And the older your refrigerator is, the more power it burns.

If your present refrigerator is more than 15 years old, you'll save money on your electric bills if you replace it with a new, more efficient unit. New models can be as much as 50 percent more energy efficient than older refrigerators. ENERGY STAR® refrigerators incorporate a number of advanced features to save energy while keeping your food fresh.

If every household in the United States had the most efficient refrigerators available, the electricity savings would eliminate the need for more than 20 large power plants. If every household in California had a new refrigerator, there would be no power emergency!

Submitted by Steve Nicholson



Meeting Schedule for 2001

February 14
March 14
April 11
May 9
June 13
July 11
No meeting in August
September 12
October 10
November 14
December 12

No Reports Submitted
Coordinator's Report
Environmental Review
Pesticide Neighbor Notification,
Public Safety Communications Project
Water Resources
Executive Committee

