



OWLA and Cayuga County Soil and Water Conservation Management District Work Together to Reduce Roadside Ditch Runoff

Owasco Watershed Lake Association
Presentation to Tompkins County Water Resources Council
Monday, 2/26/24



Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs)

Fed by phosphorus, manure, fertilizers, septic leakage, decaying vegetation, and road salt.



OWLA Ditch Remediation Program

- Hydroseeding and riprap installation
- Scientists estimate **20% of the sediment** entering Owasco Lake is from erosion along ditches



Roadside Ditch “Armored” with Stone



Ditch Remediation Partners

OWLA works with CCSWCD, OLWMC, and local towns





**Ditch Remediation
on Hicks Road with
CCSWCD, Owasco
Lake Watershed
Management
Council and the
Town of Scipio**

Concrete Sediment Trap

**Water Quality
Improvement Practice**

IMPLEMENTED BY:




Fire Lane Ditch Remediation





Fire Lane Ditch Remediation





OWLA's Work with the Conservation District begins with a signed Memorandum of Understanding

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Roadside Ditches Remediation

This Memorandum entered into this ____ day of _____, 2023 by and between the Cayuga County Soil and Water Conservation District (the "CCSWCD"), having its principal office at 7413 County House Road, Auburn, NY 13021 and the Owasco Watershed Lake Association (the "OWLA"), having its principal offices at P.O. Box #1, Auburn, NY 13021.

WHEREAS, the CCSWCD and OWLA believe that the protection of the water quality of Owasco Lake is important due to its significance as a critical resource which is used as a drinking water supply and is also important for recreation and tourism and;

WHEREAS, the CCSWCD and OWLA would like to work cooperatively, in order to accomplish the water quality enhancing soil and water conservation related project of Critical Area Stabilization.

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises and agreements, and subject to the terms, conditions, and provisions set forth herein, the Parties agree as follows:

1. The above recitals are true and correct and specifically incorporated herein.
2. **Authorization:** Each Party acknowledges that they are authorized to execute this Memorandum.
3. **Term:** This Memorandum shall be effective as of the date of its execution and end on December 31, 2025 or sooner if the allocated funding resources are exhausted.
4. **The CCSWCD shall:**
 - [a] Provide a hydroseeder and qualified staff for the purpose of applying seed, fertilizer and mulch to exposed areas requiring vegetative establishment.
 - [b] Provide transportation of said hydroseeder to and from the project site and to include obtaining any and all permits that may be required from federal, state or local agencies.
 - [c] Provide and apply materials including, but not limited to seed, fertilizer and mulch at the recommended amounts necessary to establish vegetation.
 - [d] Provide additional equipment and staff necessary to complete the installation of best management practices (BMP) that may be needed to armor and protect steep ditches where vegetation alone will not suffice. Examples of potential additional BMPs include, but are not limited to, check dams, riprap slope protection, lined waterway and outlet protection.
5. **OWLA shall:**
 - [a] Provide reimbursement expenses to the CCSWCD in the amount of \$200.⁰⁰ per load of hydroseed/mulch that is applied.
 - [b] Provide reimbursement expenses for equipment rates to the CCSWCD in the amounts consistent with the current CCSWCD Equipment Rates as adopted by the CCSWCD Board of Directors. This provision only applies to projects that involve the installation of BMPs other than hydroseeding. This document is attached as Appendix A.



Questions? Discussion

Thanks to Toy Vano, OWLA
Tim Schneider, CCSWCD
Doug Kierst, CCSWCD

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