



EMC News

July 5, 2000

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Coordinator's Report

At the June meeting, I distributed copies of the EMC's 1999 Annual Report to members. The Annual Report is being distributed to municipal officials with this month's mailing. Please watch for it and feel free to request more copies. Thanks to all the members that helped put the 1999 report together. Much appreciated!

At a recent Planning Federation meeting, a request was made to distribute copies of the Planning Department's abandoned landfills map to municipalities. I am currently coordinating with John Andersson to distribute copies of the abandoned landfill maps to each municipality. We will be drafting a letter explaining what the map is and how to use the data. We will also request municipalities contact us with any additional information on these sites, or new ones. This will ensure each municipality is aware of the landfills in their jurisdiction, as well as provide them with an opportunity to tell us about sites we may not be aware of, or were unable to locate.

Submitted by Mikel Shakarjian

Education Committee

We had a very successful letter stuffing party on June 20, and sent out 600 Town of Dryden UNA landowner notification letters. Included with each individually customized packet is a hotline number for questions and comments. Members of the Education Committee are taking turns fielding the calls from landowners.



The next letter stuffing party is scheduled for Tuesday, July 18, 2000 from 6:00 to 9:00 PM, to be held at Tompkins County Cooperative Extension, 615 Willow Avenue. UNA landowner notification for the rest of Tompkins County will be about 1400 letters. Therefore, all members of the EMC, and any available family and friends are encouraged to join in this effort. Statistics from the first mailing indicate we will need at least 15 volunteers. Included with a wonderful feeling of accomplishment will be pizza and refreshments.

Submitted by Steve Nicholson

Salmon Creek Watershed Update

In late May, four members of the Tompkins County EMC (myself, Jean Foley, Kenny Christianson, Peter Newell), along with Dr. Barbara Bellows (from Cornell's Agriculture and Environmental Management program) met with two members of the Cayuga County EMC (Walt Aiken and Bill Hecht) to discuss how we might work together on a stream

management issue in southern Cayuga County. The Eldred Farm in Genoa is the largest dairy farm in Cayuga County.

In an effort to provide a more reliable drinking water source for their cows, last fall the owners of this farm rerouted a tributary of Salmon Creek. Although project construction is currently halted, the altered stream is designed to fill a farm pond before it continues on to Salmon Creek. A neighbor downstream of the Eldred Farm has complained of manure runoff and well contamination that resulted from earth-moving and tree-cutting to create the stream diversion and later impoundment. Approximately twelve acres of riparian forest were cut in this project, which apparently took place without environmental permits or review.

The two EMC ad-hoc committees met to brainstorm about how we can most effectively follow the investigation now underway by the DEC and other agencies, and potentially advocate for remedial action. We also viewed video footage of the project. In addition, we hope to learn more the processes of environmental regulation on confined animal feeding operations (CAFOs) so we have more background the next time a similar issue arises. Barb Bellows noted that there was a similar case a few years ago in Wyoming Co., NY, in which the downstream neighbors were compensated for their losses (the majority of which were court costs). Although many farms currently have CAFO plans, full implementation is not required for several years. Such is the case with the Eldred Farm.

Submitted by Karen Edelstein

UNA Municipal Presentations

July 11	Village of Freeville
July 11	Planning Federation
July 13	Town of Newfield
August 8	Town of Ulysses

Announcements

Lake Source Cooling Website

Cornell University has established a website for their Lake Source Cooling Project that contains the data collected on the lake. The address for the LSC website is <http://www.utilities.cornell.edu/LSC/facts.htm>.

Summer Break!



No Meeting in August

No Reports Submitted

Chair's Report

Environmental Review Committee Report

Executive Committee Report

County Towers Committee

Water Resources Committee Report

Unique Natural Areas Committee Report