

Summer 2017

Volume 23—Issue 2



Cayuga County Soil and Water Conservation District

Conservation Highlights

Cayuga County SWCD
7413 County House Rd.
Auburn, NY 13021

(315)252-4171

cayugaswcd@cayugaswcd.org

www.cayugaswcd.org

Special Events:

- MONTHLY BOARD MEETINGS (2ND WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH AT 10:00 AM)
- EMPIRE FARM DAYS— AUGUST 8-10, 2017 IN SENECA FALLS.
- STATE FAIR BOOTH— AUGUST 23RD — SEPTEMBER 4TH, 2017 AT THE NEW YORK STATE FAIR- GROUND IN SYRACUSE.
- LABOR DAY— SEPTEMBER 4TH, 2017—HOLIDAY AND OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED
- CONSERVATION FIELD DAYS— SEPTEMBER 19TH AND 20TH, 2017 AT EMERSON PARK

Flooding in Southern Cayuga County

So far 2017 has been a very rainy year, especially compared to last year. Three major storms have hit the Towns of Moravia, Niles and Sempronius causing severe erosion along steep slopes and depositing large amounts of materials, plugging culverts and flooding roads. The abnormally wet spring and early summer are a result of saturated soils that could not absorb the rainfall quick enough, resulting in heavy runoff and flash flooding. The combination of sheet flow and road ditch drainage patterns, resulted in many small streams receiving excessive amounts of water very quickly, and the road culverts in some locations could not handle the flows, causing severe flooding along Main Street in the Village of Moravia (See pictures). The Cayuga County SWCD and OLWIP is assisting with the calls coming in. Repairs to many of the roads are currently underway, along with a study and investigation of the sub-watersheds that were impacted the most, to understand how flooding can be reduced and where best management practices can be implemented to prevent further erosion.



▲ Main Street in the Village of Moravia. ►

Fish Stocking Program at the District

The Cayuga County Soil and Water Conservation District held successful fish programs this spring and summer with another to be held in September. We would like to thank everyone who purchased fish and also thank Phil Faber and Don Shaw for providing the fish for our programs. If anyone is interested in purchasing fish in September, please contact us. Order forms and on-line ordering can be found on our website at www.cayugaswcd.org or feel free to stop in and pick one up.

Cayuga County Soil and Water Conservation District

Miller Street Project—City of Auburn

Cayuga SWCD Staff completed a bank stabilization project at the request of the City of Auburn along the penstock area associated with the dam located on Miller Street. Approximately 230 feet of bank was re-shaped and stabilized utilizing a combination of gabion sized stone and medium/large stone fill, placed on geotextile fabric.



Tire Recycling Event

Cayuga SWCD Staff worked in conjunction with Bruce Natale, County Environmental Engineer/Director of the Solid Waste Management Program and Judy Wright and Emma Foster from Cornell Cooperative Extension to coordinate the County's Annual Tire Round-up that was held at the SWCD offices on June 24th. Special thanks to the Cayuga County Highway Dept. for assisting with the transport of the tires and to NUCOR Steel for making availability to receive them for further recycling. Approximately 2,400 tires were collected and recycled during the event. This is one of the lowest amounts of tires that we ever collected. It is more than likely because we have done such an awesome job of collecting them over the life of the event leading to fewer out there, but it may be because the weather was just too nice and people were enjoying the dry, sunny weather.

Soil Health Seminar

August 23rd, 2017

10 am to 3 pm at

Musgrave Research Farm

1256 Poplar Ridge Road

Aurora, NY 13026

RSVP by August 15, 2017

Aquatic Vegetation Control

Cayuga SWCD Staff has completed our weed harvesting efforts on Cayuga Lake, Otter Lake and Lake Como. The Cayuga Lake water level was higher than normal. A diverse number of species of plants had been harvested. Since the highly invasive species hydrilla has been identified in portions of the lake, each load of vegetation was inspected for hydrilla. There was no evidence of any hydrilla in any of the loads that were harvested and removed from Cayuga Lake. Otter Lake had significant weed growth, but we were able to open channels for recreational boaters to be able to get away from their docks and enjoy the lake. Lake Como also had slightly higher water levels which keeps our operators on their toes, looking for submerged debris that is usually visible during normal conditions. The Cayuga County SWCD staff will be moving on to Fair Haven and Owasco Lake next.



Stormwater Inspections



Cayuga SWCD Staff has been conducting construction stormwater inspections on three (3) agricultural operations that required a NYS DEC SPDES Permit for Construction Activities.