

Summer 2018

Cayuga County Soil and Water Conservation District

Volume 2.4—Issue 2



Conservation Highlights

Cayuga County SWCD
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Special Events:

- MONTHLY BOARD MEETINGS (2ND WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH AT 9:00 AM) - AUGUST MTG. CHANGED TO AUG. 15TH, 2018.
- EMPIRE FARM DAYS— AUGUST 7-9, 2018 IN SENECA FALLS.
- STATE FAIR BOOTH— AUGUST 22ND — SEPTEMBER 3RD, 2018 AT THE NEW YORK STATE FAIRGROUNDS IN SYRACUSE.
- LABOR DAY— SEPTEMBER 3RD, 2018—HOLIDAY AND OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED
- CONSERVATION FIELD DAYS— SEPTEMBER 18TH AND 19TH, 2018 AT EMERSON PARK

2018 Moon Beach Project

The Great Lakes Basin Restoration Initiative project on Moon Beach, in the Town of Sterling, Cayuga County was completed in early July by the Cayuga County Soil and Water Conservation District. Over 330' of steep shoreline was eroding into Lake Ontario, adding nutrients to the Great Lake through soil loss and threatening existing houses. Properties in this area were losing between 1-3 feet of their shoreline each year. The District obtained grant funds through FLOWPA from the Great Lakes Basin Restoration Initiative to slow this erosion. These funds were matched by cash contributions from the affected landowners and in-kind services by the District.

Due to the very steep banks and limited space to work on some of the properties, large stone blocks were placed at the toe of the slope and continuing upwards for several courses to armor the banks from the water, wind and ice. A significant amount of drainfill stone was placed behind those blocks in order to allow for drainage of groundwater coming out of the bank. At the end of the construction, disturbed areas at the top of the bank were graded and seeded.

Before Project Commenced



After Project Completed



◀Picture of completed project taken with the drone.

[Owasco Lake Septic System Inspection Grant – 2018](#)

The Cayuga County Soil and Water Conservation District has been awarded grant funds through New York State to conduct sanitary code inspections on properties bordering Owasco Lake during 2018. The District will inspect the septic systems of approximately 70 residences on properties bordering Owasco Lake free of charge. As a part of this program promoting water quality and properly functioning septic systems, we are recommending that property owners receiving a free sanitary code inspection use that savings to have their septic tank pumped out and inspected after the sanitary code inspection has taken place. A list of certified septic tank pumpers from the Cayuga County Health Department website will be provided at the time of the septic system sanitary code inspection.

Only sanitary code inspections will be cost-shared, not property transfer inspections.

The inspections will be provided free of charge on a first come, first serve basis.

Please contact Valerie Horning at the Cayuga County SWCD at 315-252-4171, ext 3, or e-mail at vhorning@cayugaswcd.org to schedule an appointment or if you have any questions.

[Hydroseeding for Municipalities](#)



The Cayuga County SWCD assisted the Town of Owasco with hydroseeding and mulching at the newly renovated park and newly installed splash pad in Owasco as seen to the left. The Cayuga County SWCD has also been busy with hydroseeding ditches for the towns of Genoa, Fleming, Niles, and Venice.



[Fessenden Dairy in King Ferry Hosts Tour](#)

On June 29, 2018 some of the Cayuga County SWCD staff attended a tour presented by Partners for Healthy Watersheds at Fessenden Dairy. The tour explained the manure cycle and modern Best Management Practices for nutrient control.

**▲ Fessenden Dairy Tour
Picture above**

[Cayuga County SWCD is Now Hiring](#)

The Cayuga County Soil and Water Conservation District is currently hiring a **Watershed Conservation Specialist**. For more information, please see the job listing on our website and send a resume and cover letter to Cayuga County SWCD, Attn: Doug Kierst, 7413 County House Road, Auburn, NY 13021 or via email at dkierst@cayugaswcd.org