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We will be moving soon, so stay tuned for info.



Board Meetings

Monthly meetings are held the third Thursday of the month at 7:30 am.

Website

Visit us on our website at: www.essexcountyswcd.org
Also look for us on Facebook as Essex Swcd

Fall 2018



Best Wishes Dave

After ten plus years of dedicated service, Dave Reckahn has retired as District Manager of Essex County Soil and Water Conservation District. Dave will be missed by all he has worked with throughout the years.

Numerous grant opportunities have been received for farmers, local government, landowners, and school children with his leadership and guidance. Conservation planning, soils information, contractor and stream training, dry hydrant design and installation, are just a few areas of expertise he provided for the county.

The Willard F. Crony Lifetime Service Award, the highest award given to a Soil and Water District Employee from the New York State Conservation District Employees Association was presented to Dave in 2016 with the entire staff there to share in this honor.

He has served on numerous watershed boards and committees managing storm water runoff, agricultural best management practices, and stream bank stabilization. From all of us at the Essex County Soil and Water Conservation, we wish you a happy and healthy retirement.

District Directors

- Gerald Morrow
Board of Supervisors rep; Chairman
- David Holland
Member – at Large; Vice- Chairman
- Karl teRiele
Farm Bureau Rep
- Michael Tyler
Board of Supervisors
- David Blades
Grange rep

District Staff

- Alice Halloran
Manager
- Lois Sayward
Secretary
- Amy Calkins
Technician
- Olivia Dickenson
Technician

USDA NRCS Staff

- Sarah Trumball -District Conservationist
- Josef Wetzstein - Soil Conservationist
- Tricia LaValley - Soil Conservationist
- Matt Powers - Soil Conservationist
- Ethan Bentley - Civil Engineer
- Josie Tripp - Secretary

WACKY WATER

This summer we had Intern Owen running our Wacky Water educational program thanks to funding from the Lake Champlain Basin Program. Schools that were visited included Crown Point, Elizabethtown, Keene, Moriah, Ticonderoga, Westport, and Willsboro. The students played games that got them active physically and mentally. One of the games played was 'Oh Deer!' which teaches the kids about carrying capacity. Some players are deer and others are resources that the deer needs to survive. If the deer cannot get the proper resources it would die and become a resource.



Intern Owen graphing carrying capacity during a game of Oh Deer!

New District Manager



Alice Halloran took over as District Manager on October 1. She has a Master's degree in Environmental Biology and lives in Minerva.

After four years as a technician Laura has decided to move on from the district. Her work was not limited to but, included forestry and agricultural projects. We wish her the best in all her future endeavors.

Fond Farewell



Tire Collection

Once again, the tire collections held in 2018 were a big success. We were able to collect 2,200+ tires from Essex County by holding 3 tire collection events in 3 separate locations. This equals 29.8 tons of tires that are in recycling instead of breaking down in the landscape. We'd like to thank all those who brought

tires in. Good work residents of Essex County. A special thanks to our staff who tirelessly do the check-ins for our collections. They stand out in the wind and rain to gather numbers for these collections.



Secretary Lois at our tire collection in Westport



Tech Amy loading up tires with the help of North Elba transfer station staff.

Our Agricultural Environmental Management (AEM) program is strong. Through the 5-tiered planning process we continue to work with farms to assist in planning to help them reach their goals. We received three Climate Resilient Farming grants this year that will implement water management systems and cover crop practices on farms. A Lake Champlain Basin grant has helped many farms with rotational grazing and fencing, as well as cover crops this fall. We are currently closing out several Agricultural Nonpoint Source grants and have applied for two more this year. Please feel free to contact us if you would like to be involved in the AEM program, or if you have any questions. We are happy to help any and all producers solve problems and implement best management practices throughout Essex County.

Meet Our New Technician

Olivia started this summer as an intern doing roadside erosion assessments. Now she's here to stay as a conservation technician. With a background in Geology and Environmental Studies she's very excited to join the team.



Green Infrastructure

The demonstration rain garden was enlarged to better accommodate the water entering it (left). The class held during fair allowed the attendees to see both an established rain garden and a new one side by side.

A second rain garden was installed at the northeastern corner of the race track as part of an 850' tiling system placed along the northern turn and northeastern straightaway of the track. This system handles the surface runoff for the racetrack itself, the hillside at northern turn, and overflow of raingardens in the new nutrition building and a portion of their driveway.



Summer interns Kurt, Owen, and Olivia Working on our second rain garden.

Essex County Soil & Water
Conservation District
P.O. Box 407
Westport, NY 12993

Non- profit organization
U.S. postage paid
Permit number 1
Westport, NY 12993

If you would like to receive a copy of our newsletter by mail, please contact us by calling 518-962-8225 or e-mailing us at essexswcd@westelcom.com. Please let us know if you would like to be removed from our mailing list.



We are selling rain barrels for \$50.

Equipment Available

We have a wide variety of equipment available to farmers to help assist in conservation efforts. Contact us for more information!

- 10' No- till drill (Great Plains)
- Broadcast seeder
- Post hole pounder (tractor and trailer mounted)
- Bale mulcher
- 5' Dew drop drill

Check Us Out Online!

Tired of waiting for our newsletters to come in the spring and fall? Or see a story in our newsletter and interested in more about it? Check out our website for more! More detailed articles, **COLOR** newsletters, lots of pictures and more! Want to take a quick peek at what we are up to? Check out our Facebook page! Look for us as Essex SWCD. Our website is www.essexswcd.org.