



Calendar of Events:

Monthly Board Meetings -
2nd Wednesday of each month
2005 SWCS Conference July 29th -Aug. 3rd
State Fair—Aug. 25th—Sept. 5th



Erosion & Sediment Control Plan:

The Cayuga County Soil and Water Conservation District is cooperating with the County Planning office to design and enhance an existing storm water retention pond and outlet ditch at Emerson Park. Through an extensive study conducted by both agencies, it has been determined that this pond is a significant source of sediment and could be contributing bacteria responsible for past beach closures.

The solution that has been proposed will include opening up the dense under story of the forested area surrounding the project site. This will allow more sunlight and ultra violet light to penetrate the storm water resulting in a significant reduction of bacteria. Another aspect of the project will include filling some of the existing pond to create a more shallow basin to allow settling of the sediment.

District staff member P.J. Emerick—CPESC-IT developed the Erosion and Sediment Control plan that was required by law prior to any construction activity, and will be monitoring progress as the project moves forward.



Digester Update

We are gaining momentum for our community anaerobic methane digester project. We have been working with Eco Technology Solutions, a consulting firm out of Virginia, for the past several months to develop a business plan outlining all aspects of our project. Four agricultural producers have written letters of support and are committed to seeing this project succeed. Our facility has been sized to provide enough heat and electricity to supply three county office buildings with all of their energy needs, thus offsetting their operating costs.

Our next step is to secure the 3.1 million dollars needed to construct this facility which will be located behind the Natural Resource Center on approximately 3 acres of land. A portion of the 3.1 million has already been obtained through EPA. At this time we are submitting two grant proposals requesting a total of 1.5 million.

We have started working closely with the newly rejuvenated County Public Power Authority and see a great opportunity to work together to help implement several projects of similar magnitude throughout the county and surrounding areas.

Homeland Security Program -

Last year the Cayuga County Conservation Corps expanded their services into homeland security. Now in their second year, under project R.O.S.E.S., the team will be conducting various surveys throughout Cayuga County to evaluate crime preventions measures. The compiled information will also help first responders if their were ever and accident.

The new AmeriCorps Homeland Security team consists of Shaun Sharp, Josh Ouimette, Shireen Harter, and Supervisor, Ed Nash. Shaun and Josh recently graduated with Criminal Justice degrees. Shireen is currently a GIS major. The team has completed a 40-hour course in risk reduction management conducted by their supervisor.

They have also had an opportunity to observe and work with Mr. Nash, while he conducted two juvenile interventions dealing with fire safety issues. The team has scheduled training dates for remote sensing courses at Cayuga Community College They will also be undergoing various other certification programs throughout the year. Recently the team sponsored a presentation about security in water utilities and the attendees were: town and county water authorities, legislators, and security advisors. The sponsored speaker, Ken Derr, was with the Department of Defense for fifteen years. He is currently a consultant with AMRIC Associates located in East Syracuse, New York. In his presentation he covered the vulnerabilities of our water supplies, the costs to change and upgrade security for water supplies, and ideas to improve the future of watershed safety.

The team will also be involved with conservation projects. Ranging from assisting with mapping for individual landowners to obtaining permits from the DEC. They will be assisting the Soil and Water Conservation District to help stop stream bank erosions, control flood paths and control the geese population at the foot of Owasco

Come Visit Us at the State Fair

(NYS Soil & Water Conservation Districts)

If you have a knack for funnel cakes and fun, come visit us in the Horticulture Building August 25 through September 5. This year's theme centering on storm water. Several handouts relating to storm water will be available with special teachers packets offered to visiting teachers.

Below: AmeriCorps Homeland Security team (from right to left: Ed Nash, Supervisor, Josh Ouimette, Shireen Harter, and Shaun Sharp. ▼



▲ *Above:* Shaun Sharp at Emerson Park assisting the District with the control of the geese population.



Cayuga County Soil & Water's New Tubgrinder:

The District is providing wood waste recycling for various townships such as; the Town of Brutus, Owasco, Sennett, City of Auburn, Skaneateles and the Village and Town of Elbridge with their new tubgrinder. (See picture to the left.)