



**Department of
Agriculture and Markets**



**Soil and Water
Conservation
Committee**

Black River Watershed Soil and Water Conservation District Municipal Assistance Programming

**Brian Steinmuller, Assistant Director
NYS Soil and Water Conservation Committee**

**Andrew M. Cuomo
Governor**

**Richard A. Ball
Commissioner**

**Dale Stein
Chair**

Outline

- **NYS Soil and Water Conservation Committee and Soil and Water Conservation District Services**
- **SWCC/SWCD Programs**
- **Municipal Assistance Programs**
- **Project Case Studies**
- **Intermunicipal Agreements (IMAs)**



**Soil and Water
Conservation
Committee**

NYS Soil and Water Conservation Committee and Soil and Water Conservation Districts



State Soil and Water Conservation Committee (SWCC)

- Established as an agency of the state in 1940, the State Committee is led by five voting members appointed by the Governor who serve five-year terms. Housed within the NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets.

Voting members

- At-Large representing farm interests
- The New York State Grange
- New York Farm Bureau
- New York Association of Conservation Districts
- At-Large member representing urban, suburban, and rural non-farm interests

Advisory members

- NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets
- NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
- NYS Department of Health
- NY Department of State
- USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service
- Cornell University
- Cornell Cooperative Extension
- SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry
- New York State Conservation District Employee's Association

SWCC Municipal Assistance Subcommittee

- Forum for exchanging information on municipal programs
- Discuss what makes a successful municipal program
- Assist Districts in working with their municipalities on programs/projects
- Set framework of what works when working with municipalities for other Districts to replicate

Soil and Water Conservation Districts

Soil and Water Conservation Districts are natural resource entities who implement conservation programs at the county level

- 58 Districts in New York State
- Authorized under State Law
- Non-regulatory
- Implementation-based
- Partnership-driven
- Watershed Focused



Agricultural Environmental Management (AEM) Framework



Agricultural Environmental Management (AEM) Framework

Core Concepts

- Voluntary, incentive-based
- Environmental management and farm viability
- Science-based
- Locally-led & delivered
 - Farmers
 - Soil and Water Conservation Districts
 - Natural Resources Conservation Service
 - Cornell Cooperative Extension
 - Farm Service Agency
 - Agri-Business
 - Watershed Groups
 - Environmental Organizations
- Prioritized on watershed and natural resource needs, local AEM Strategic Plans, and associated Action Plans
- Focused on farmers advancing through the AEM Tiers
- Customized farm by farm
- Confidential
- Promotes teamwork
- Coordinates assistance
- Adaptive to future priorities



Agricultural Non-Point Source Pollution Abatement and Control (AgNPS) Program



Ag Non-Point Source Program

Program Goal

- Water quality protection
- Reduce and/or prevent the non-point source contribution from agricultural activities in watersheds across the State
- Utilize AEM Framework and Soil and Water Conservation Districts to implement the program



Climate Resilient Farming (CRF) Program



Investing in New York Agriculture's Climate Solutions

- **Climate Change**

- Increased risk of soil erosion
- Reduced soil quality
- Lower agricultural productivity
- Increased risk of pollution events
- Risk to food security

- **Agricultural Sector**

- Reduce GHG emissions
- Capacity to be a net sink of carbon
- Co-benefits of improving water quality
- Continued viability of farming and rural economies



State Aid to Districts Program



State Aid to Districts Program

Direct reimbursement, project funding, and performance-based funds

- Part A – Reimbursement for technical expenses and services
- Part B – Project financial assistance – mini-grants up to \$6,000
- Part C – Funding for maintaining and enhancing District operational performance

Many Part B and C awards fund District Municipal Assistance Programs



**Soil and Water
Conservation
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County Soil and Water Conservation Districts'

Municipal Assistance Programs and Intermunicipal Agreements (IMAs)



Municipal Assistance Programs (MAP)

Streams/Flood Mitigation

- Riparian Buffers
- **Streambank Restoration/Stabilization**
- Post Flood Emergency Stream Intervention (ESI) Training
- **Road/Stream Crossing Assessment (NAACC) & Culvert Replacement**

Stormwater Programs

- 4 hr. Erosion & Sediment Control training, Site Plan Review, Inspections...
- **Green Infrastructure**
- MS4 Programs, Pollution Prevention for Municipal Operations

Critical Area Seeding/Roadside Stabilization Measures

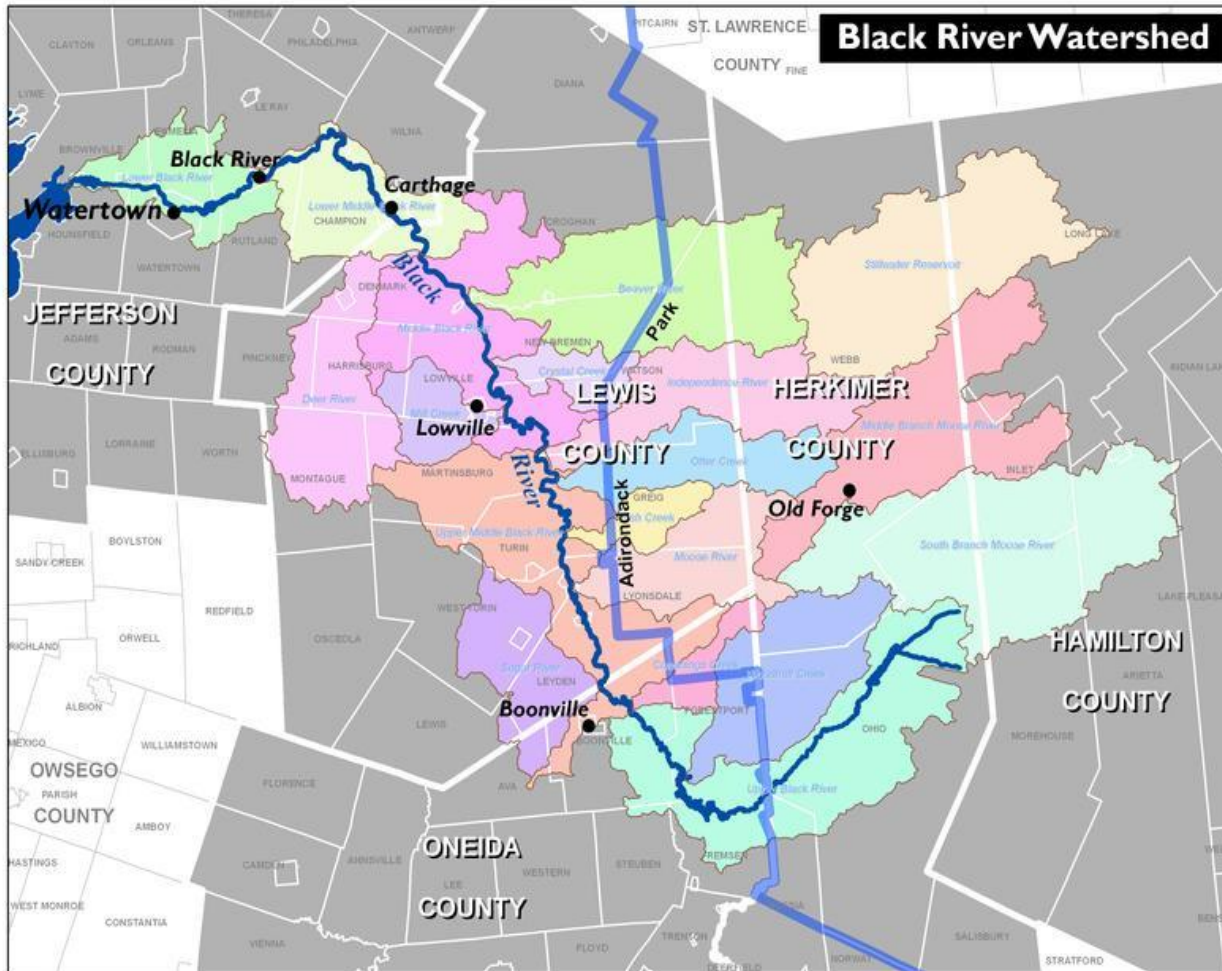
Invasive Species Management

Waste Management and Recycling

Open Space/Forestry/Trails

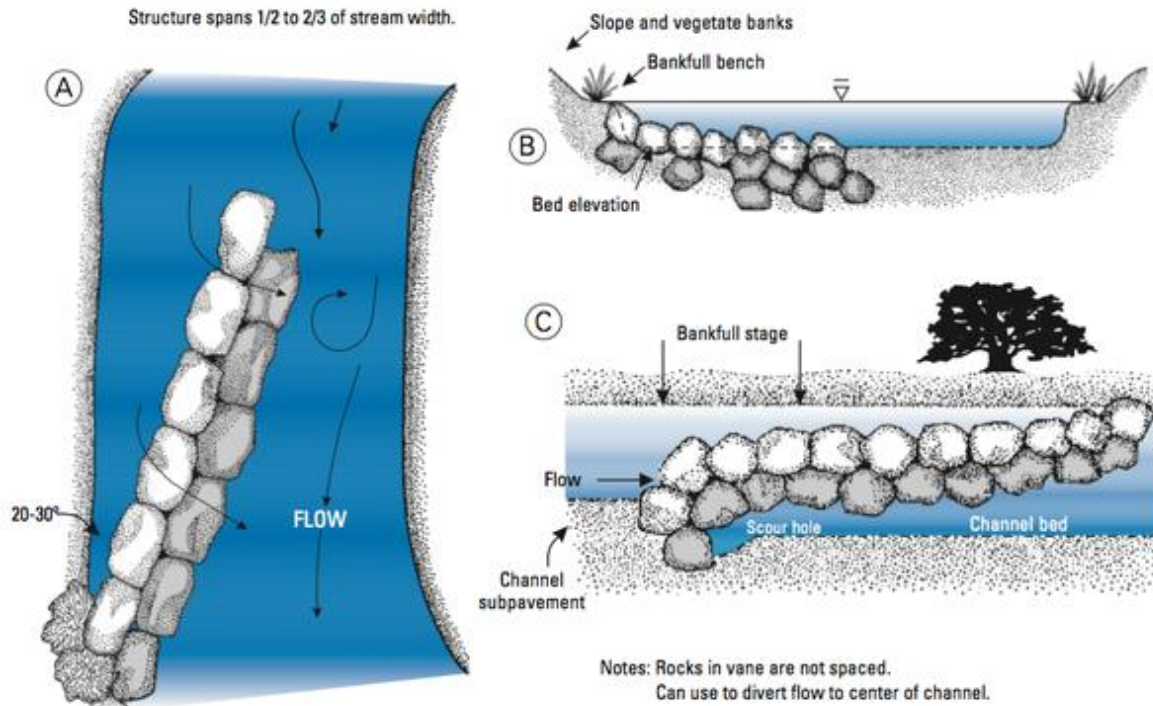


Black River Watershed Soil and Water Conservation Districts



- Hamilton County SWCD
- Herkimer County SWCD
- Oneida County SWCD
- Lewis County SWCD
- Jefferson County SWCD

Lewis County SWCD: Streambank and Flood Plain Management



Rock Vane Design Drawing

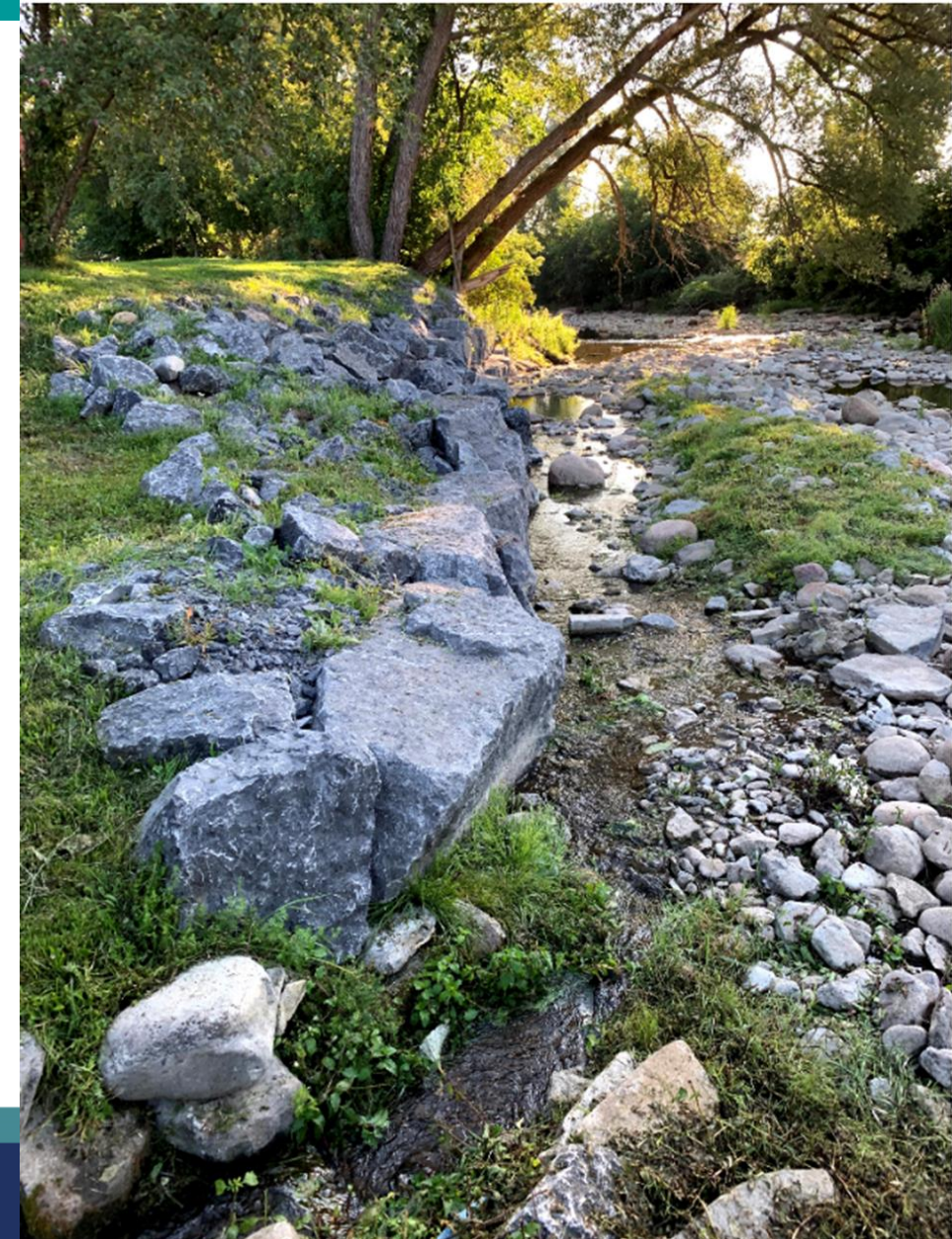


Addressing serious erosion along the banks of the Sugar Creek, a tributary of the Black River in the town of Constableville

Lewis County SWCD: Streambank and Flood Plain Management cont.



Protecting private and public infrastructure in Lowville along the Mill Creek



Hamilton County SWCD: Management and Treatment of Stormwater with Green Infrastructure



Oneida County SWCD: NAACC and Culvert Replacement



Boak Road Culvert Replacement in the Town of Floyd, Oneida County.

Herkimer County SWCD: Hydroseeding



Herkimer County SWCD: Hydroseeding cont.



Before and during application

After establishment



Lewis County SWCD: Invasive Species Management



Lewis SWCD in cooperation with DEC and the county built 14 aquatic invasive species disposal stations for boat launches throughout the county.



ATTENTION BOATERS

Stop the Spread of Invasive
Plants and Animals

Before launching your boat or leaving this site please
use this Invasive Species Disposal Station to:

Dispose of any plants or animals that are clinging to your boat,
vehicle, trailer, motor and other fishing or boating equipment

Dump your bait bucket

Please also remember to drain your boat before leaving



**STOP AQUATIC
HITCHHIKERS!**

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NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
www.dec.ny.gov



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Soil and Water
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Jefferson County SWCD: Forestry Services: Reforestation and Public Access



Jefferson and Lewis SWCD: Open Space and Trails



Covered bridge connecting recreations trails built by Jefferson SWCD.

Lewis SWCD conducted environmental assessments on the county rail system and evaluated each trail for necessary maintenance/rehabilitation.



Intermunicipal Agreements (IMAs)

A streamlined approach for municipalities, including County Governments to work with SWCDS

- Lessons Administrative Burdens associated with contracts
- Easily duplicated with standard language and templates
- IMAs can reduce the cost of individual municipalities having to possess employees with very specialized skill sets, such as those that the District may possess.



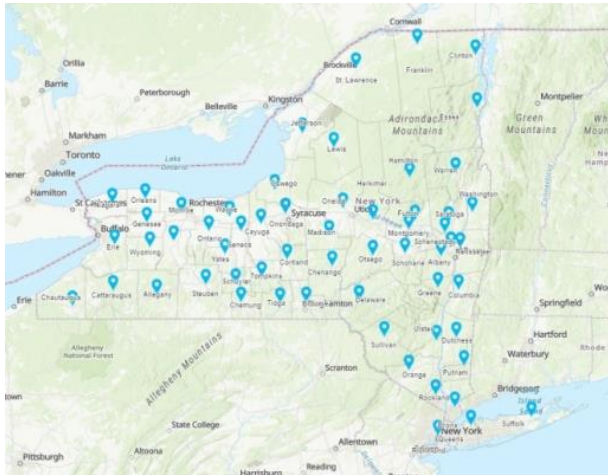
Thank you

Brian Steinmuller, Assistant Director
NYS Soil & Water Conservation
Committee

Brian.Steinmuller@agriculture.ny.gov

518-457-0562

<https://agriculture.ny.gov/soil-and-water/soil-water-conservation-committee>



View an interactive map of New York's Soil and Water Conservation Districts and learn about the vast diversity of what these organizations do in your community to preserve and protect New York State's valuable natural resources.