



**Niagara Nature News**  
 An Environmental Publication by Niagara County  
 Soil & Water Conservation District  
 WINTER 2014 - ENEWS

Niagara County Soil & Water  
 Conservation District  
 4487 Lake Avenue  
 Lockport, New York 14094  
 Phone: (716) 434-4949  
 Fax: (716) 433-1070  
 www.niagaraswcd.com



**FORGET GODZILLA, FEAR HYDRILLA**

*Hydrilla verticillata* is an invasive species native to Korea and India, and is considered to be among the most problematic aquatic plants in North America. Its arrival has resulted in significant ecological, recreational and economic impacts in other regions of the country. It proliferates in lakes and rivers and can quickly dominate the aquatic ecosystem, smothering out native aquatic plants that fish and insects feed on, and clogging up waterways for recreation. *Hydrilla* is easily spread by boaters if boats, motors and gear are not effectively cleaned, and is costly to combat once it spreads. The best way to combat an invasive species such as *Hydrilla* is with awareness and prevention.

*Hydrilla* was first discovered in the state of New York in August, 2008 in Orange County and Long Island. A 2011 outbreak discovered in Cayuga Inlet is under control, thanks to rapid response and effective partnering. About a year later, several plants were discovered in Tonawanda Creek by US Fish & Wildlife Service biologists. Further surveys showed that the Erie Barge Canal was infested from Tonawanda as far up as Pendleton - approximately 14 miles of the waterway. This discovery creates a very high threat of infestation in New York and beyond the state's borders through the Niagara River and the Erie Canal system by natural water flow and by recreational boating. Since this discovery, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation has been working with federal and municipal partners including the US Army Corp of Engineers, US Fish and Wildlife Service, New York State Canal Corporation, New York State Parks and the Niagara County Soil and Water Conservation District to delineate the infestation, plan for treatment, and inform and educate the public.

Currently these response partners are finalizing when, where, and how treatment will commence. Potential environmental impacts and best treatment practices are being carefully analyzed. Public notices will be published in local papers, and signs will be posted along treatment areas. Other options for outreach are being explored. If you have any questions please visit the Hydrilla information website at [http://www.nyis.info/index.php?action=invasive\\_detail&id=16](http://www.nyis.info/index.php?action=invasive_detail&id=16)

**How you can help:**

- Do not introduce any aquatic plant into New York State waters.
- Remove and properly dispose of all plant fragments on motors and trailers, inside boats, in live wells, and in bait containers, especially after they have been used in waters that are infested with Hydrilla.

*Article continued on page2*

**District Directors**

- David C. Wilson  
*Chairman*
- James Bittner  
*Vice Chairman*
- Barry Butski  
*Treasurer*
- Mary Gumaer  
*Member*
- Richard Lang  
*Member*
- David Godfrey  
*Legislator*
- John Syracuse  
*Legislator*

**District Staff**

- Mark J. Seider, P.E.  
*District Engineer*  
mark.seider@ny.nacdnet.net
- Darcy Rae Tone  
*District Secretary/Assistant  
Treasurer to the Board*  
darcy.tone@ny.nacdnet.net
- Michael Clifford  
*Natural Resource Technician*  
michael.clifford@ny.usda.gov

**USDA NRCS**

- Charles Kesterson  
*Soil Conservationist*  
charles.kesterson@ny.usda.gov  
(716) 434-4949 Ext. 110

<b>Inside this issue:</b>	<b>Page</b>
American Flag Disposal	2
2014 Seedling Order Form	3
2013 AOC Report Card	5
Tree & Shrub Facts	9
Eighteenmile Creek Superfund	11



The design of the American flag has been modified 26 times officially, since 1777. The 48-star flag was in effect for 47 years until the 49-star version became official on July 4, 1959. The 50-star flag was ordered by President Eisenhower on August 21, 1959.

### PROPER DISPOSAL OF THE AMERICAN FLAG

The other day I noticed an American Flag sticking out of a garbage can along the roadside. There are several ways in which you may give your American flag the proper retirement without showing disgrace to this great country. If you would like to dispose of the flag yourself then the most fitting way is to hold your own, private ceremony. The U.S. Flag Code states, "The flag, when it is in such a condition that it is no longer a fitting emblem for display, should be destroyed in a dignified way, preferable by burning." After your flag has been burned, the ashes should be buried. If you cannot burn and bury the flag yourself, then there are several organizations that will retire your flag in a proper and respectful ceremony. Among them are:

1. Veteran of Foreign War Posts - [www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org)
2. American Legion Posts - [www.legion.org](http://www.legion.org)
3. Local Boy Scout Troops - [www.scouting.org](http://www.scouting.org)
4. Local Girl Scout Troops - [www.girlscouts.org](http://www.girlscouts.org)

Contact one of these organizations and they will be able to direct you to a local post, troop or location near you.

**Flag Disposal:** 1. The flag should be folded in its customary manner; 2. It is important that the fire be fairly large and of sufficient intensity to ensure complete burning of the flag; 3. Place the flag on the fire; 4. The individual(s) can come to attention, salute the flag, recite the Pledge of Allegiance and have a brief period of silent reflection; 5. After the flag is completely consumed, the fire should then be safely extinguished and the ashes buried; 6. Please make sure you are conforming to local/state fire codes or ordinances.

### HYDRILLA - CONT'D

- Thoroughly clean, drain and dry all boats, live wells, bilges and equipment and vehicles used in Hydrilla infested waters, including those used for maintenance and management operations when the water level is low and the lake or pond bottom is exposed. Proper boat and trailer cleaning instructions can be found at: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/48221.html> and [http://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/fish\\_marine\\_pdf/boatdisinfect.pdf](http://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/fish_marine_pdf/boatdisinfect.pdf)
- Learn how to identify Hydrilla. Guidance can be found at: [http://www.nyis.info/index.php?action=invasive\\_detail&id=16](http://www.nyis.info/index.php?action=invasive_detail&id=16)
- Watch for Hydrilla in lakes or streams you visit and report any new Hydrilla infestations that you find at National ANS Hotline: 1-877-STOP-ANS (1-877-786-7267).
- Alert others to the threat of Hydrilla.
- Business owners can post brochures and flyers for the public. Send an email to [glakes@gw.dec.state.ny.us](mailto:glakes@gw.dec.state.ny.us) for available outreach document information.

### CHANGING FACES OF THE DISTRICT

We are pleased to announce that Michael Clifford has joined the District Staff as our Natural Resource Technician. Mike retired from the USDA-NRCS as the District Conservationist in Walton, NY. He recently relocated to WNY, where he continued to work part time on conservation efforts. Mike brings years of knowledge and experience to the office, and we are more than happy to keep him busy using his talents on AEM, barnyard projects, wildlife habitat, ponds, soils, etc. Welcome, Mike!

After almost 10 years with the District, Victor DiGiacomo has accepted a new position of Associate Environmental Analyst with the NYS Department of Agriculture. He will still be working in the WNY area, traveling to different District offices to assist with operations oversight and technical assistance as needed for grant projects. Even though he will be missed on a daily basis, we are thrilled for him to have the opportunity to share his knowledge, leadership skills and congenial personality at the State level. Good Luck, Vic!

#### FYI...

The District has a **No-Till drill** available for your next conservation seeding project.

**\$50 delivery charge and \$15/acre rental fee**

We provide drill delivery and cleaning. Customer provides own seed.

**(716) 434-4949 Ext. 4**



The Niagara County Soil & Water Conservation District is a local government subdivision under New York State law. The District was established as a public benefit by the County of Niagara in 1954. Your support of our programs aid in the District's conservation efforts to protect natural resources and water quality for our residents. In these wavering economic times, we thank you for your continued assistance in fulfilling our goals.

# NIAGARA COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

## 2014 SEEDLING ORDER FORM

EVERGREENS Species & Age (years)	Avg Height in Bundle	25 For	50 For	100 For	Total # Ordered	Total Cost
Cedar, White (2)	8-15"	\$16.00	\$30.00	\$51.00		
Fir, Balsam (4)	8-12"	\$18.00	\$34.00	\$58.00		
Fir, Concolor (2)	12-18"	\$17.00	\$32.00	\$55.00		
Fir, Douglas(2)	10-18"	\$14.00	\$26.00	\$45.00		
Fir, Frasier (4)	10-14"	\$18.00	\$34.00	\$58.00		
Pine, Austrian (2)	7-10"	\$14.00	\$26.00	\$45.00		
Pine, Scotch (2)	10-16"	\$14.00	\$26.00	\$45.00		
Pine, White (3)	10-16"	\$17.00	\$32.00	\$55.00		
Spruce, Blue (2)	9-15"	\$14.00	\$26.00	\$45.00		
Spruce, Norway (2)	10-18"	\$15.00	\$28.00	\$48.00		
Spruce, White (2)	10-18"	\$14.00	\$26.00	\$45.00		

EVERGREEN TRANSPLANTS Species & Age (years)	Avg Height in Bundle	10 For	Total # Ordered	Total Cost
Fir, Fraser (3+2=5yrs)	—	\$18.00	These four items are transplants- order in tens only	
Pine, White (2+2=4 yrs)	12-18"	\$17.00		
Spruce, Blue (2+2=4 yrs)	14-20"	\$18.00		
Spruce, Norway (2+1=3 yrs)	14-18"	\$16.00		

DECIDUOUS TREES Species & Age (years)	Avg Height in Bundle	10 For	25 For	50 For	Total # Ordered	Total Cost
Birch, Native (1)	12-18"	\$10.00	\$21.00	\$39.00		
Cherry, Black (1)	12-18"	\$11.00	\$23.00	\$43.00		
Filbert, American (1)	12-18"	\$12.00	\$25.00	\$47.00		
Honeylocust, Thornless (1)	12-18"	\$13.00	\$27.00	\$51.00		
Maple, Red (1)	12-18"	\$11.00	\$23.00	\$43.00		
Maple, Sugar (1)	12-18"	\$12.00	\$25.00	\$47.00		
Oak, Red (1)	12-18"	\$11.00	\$23.00	\$43.00		
Oak, White (1)	12-18"	\$11.00	\$23.00	\$43.00		
Sycamore (1)	12-18"	\$10.00	\$21.00	\$39.00		
Walnut, Black (1)	12-18"	\$11.00	\$23.00	\$43.00		

Chestnut, American (1)	10"	5 seedlings for \$14.00		
------------------------	-----	-------------------------	--	--

\*\*\*Clip & Save\*\*\*

\*\*\*Clip & Save\*\*\*

\*\*\*Clip & Save\*\*\*

\*\*\*Clip & Save\*\*\*

**THIS WILL BE YOUR ONLY REMINDER UNLESS AN EMAIL IS PROVIDED W/ YOUR ORDER!!**

### PICK-UP INFORMATION

Tree Seedling Distribution : Friday, April 25, 2014 9:00am to 4:00pm

Saturday, April 26, 2014 9:00am to 12:00pm

Location: Merchant Building - Niagara County Fairgrounds - 4487 Lake Ave (Rt 78), Lockport

For Information Call #434-4949

Extra Trees: Unsold seedlings will be available on a cash basis on the above pickup dates.

DECIDUOUS SHRUBS Species & Age (years)	Avg Height in Bundle	10 For	25 For	50 For	Total # Ordered	Total Cost
Butterfly Bush (1)	12-18" RC	\$11.00	\$23.00	\$43.00		
Chokeberry, Black (1)	12-18"	\$11.00	\$23.00	\$43.00		
Cranberry, American (1)	14-20"	\$12.00	\$25.00	\$47.00		
Elderberry (1)	12-18" RC	\$11.00	\$23.00	\$43.00		
Lilac (1)	12-18"	\$11.00	\$23.00	\$43.00		
Rose of Sharon (1)	12-18"	\$12.00	\$25.00	\$47.00		
Serviceberry (1)	12-18"	\$10.00	\$21.00	\$39.00		

GROUNDCOVERS		Price**	Total # Ordered	Total Cost
Myrtle	50 Rooted Cuttings	\$24.00		
Pachysandra	50 Rooted Cuttings	\$24.00		

OTHER ITEMS	Price**	Total # Ordered	Total Cost
Countryside Wildflower Seed - Large 4oz bag (covers 2500 sq ft)	\$14.00		
- Small 3/4oz bag (covers 450 sq ft)	\$8.00		
Conservation Grasses - Deer Plot Mix Large 25lbs bag (covers 3/4 ac)	\$88.00		
- Deer Plot Mix Small 10lbs bag (covers 1/3 ac)	\$51.00		
- Tall Mix Large 25lbs bag (covers 1 ac)	\$51.00		
Fertilizer Tablets - 25 Count (20-10-5 pellets)	\$3.50		
Marking Flags - 100 Count (30" wire staff)	\$11.00		
Bat Roost - Bachelor	\$15.50		
Bat Roost - Maternity	\$27.00		
Bluebird House	\$15.50		
Wood Duck Box	\$35.00		

\*\*NYS Sales Tax of 8% already included\*\*

**Total Order \$**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Full payment must accompany your order - Payable to:  
Niagara County SWCD, 4487 Lake Ave, Lockport NY 14094  
For additional information call#434-4949.

<b>Order# (Office Use Only)</b>
---------------------------------

**\*\*\*LAST DAY TO ORDER IS FRIDAY, MARCH 14, 2014\*\*\***

**If ordering after March 1, please call for availability first as stock may be sold out.**

\*\*\*Clip & Save\*\*\*

\*\*\*Clip & Save\*\*\*

\*\*\*Clip & Save\*\*\*

\*\*\*Clip & Save\*\*\*

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!**

**NO OTHER NOTICE WILL BE SENT, UNLESS AN EMAIL IS PROVIDED W/ YOUR ORDER.**

**AN EMAIL REMINDER WILL BE SENT ONE WEEK PRIOR TO THE PICK UP DATES.**

*Seedling orders are filled on a first come, first served basis. As we have no control over the weather or your choice of planting sites, times or techniques, the SWCD WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE for your trees and shrubs after they leave our distribution center. We cannot offer refunds or replacements. All trees and shrubs sold are to be used for effective conservation practices and will not be planted for ornamental purposes. Trees and shrubs sold will not be removed with roots attached for resale. This is in compliance with NYS Sale and Use Tax Regulations, 20 NYCRR, Section 529.2(c).*

**\*\*EVERGREENS\*\***

**Cedar, White (*Thuja occidentalis*)**

Pyramidal. Lacy, feathery, light green needles on flat branches. Grows to 60' in loamy, moist soils. Slow grower used for windbreaks, hedges, and wildlife food and cover. This native is also known as American Arborvitae.

**Fir, Balsam (*Abies balsamea*)**

A favored Christmas tree due to its aromatic fragrance. Has soft, 1" flat, deep green needles. Native tree with medium growth rate to 75' in cool, moist locations. Also excellent for wildlife food and shelter.

**Fir, Concolor (*Abies concolor*)**

Also known as "White Fir". Has silver trunk and dense, silver-blue needles with bluish band. Likes rich, loamy soils. Grows to 100'. Easy to care for native that makes a great ornamental specimen.

**Fir, Douglas (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*)**

Very popular native fir used as Christmas trees, lumber, windbreaks and ornamentals. Grows to 100' in well-drained soils. Holds small, soft, green needles for a long time and shears well. Good resistance to disease.

**Fir, Fraser (*Abies fraseri*)**

Premier Christmas tree. Grows to 40'. Needs well-drained soils. Intolerant of hot, dry places. Horizontal branches of shiny 1" green needles and gray bark. Slow growing native with a wonderful fragrance.

**Pine, Austrian (*Pinus nigra*)**

Fastest growing pine. Grows to 60' in heavy clay to light sand soils. Has long, dark green 5" needles in bundles of two. Pollution and salt tolerant. Makes a good Christmas tree and a hardy windbreak.

**Pine, Scotch (*Pinus sylvestris*)**

Grows to 60' in wide range of soils, except poorly drained. Short blue-green needles grow in pairs. Bark becomes orange-brown with age. Well shaped, hardy pine with good needle retention. Great Christmas tree.

**Pine, White (*Pinus strobes*)**

Shade tolerant native, grows well in variety of soils, except wet, clay. Fast growth to 100'. Long, soft, green needles in bundles of five. Graceful, plume-like crown. Good for timber and x-mas trees. Sensitive to salt and windburn.

**Spruce, Colorado Blue (*Picea pungens*)**

Most popular of all spruces. Stiff, 1" needles range from dark green to silver-blue, depending on soil conditions and age. Grows best on moist, rich soils and will not tolerate drier conditions. Prefers full sun. Slow starter, reaching 100' at maturity.

**Spruce, Norway (*Picea abies*)**

Fastest growing spruce. Has extremely attractive, strong, sweeping branches. Shiny 1" flat needles. Prefers well-drained, moist soils. Grows to 100'. Recommended for windbreaks and screens.

**Spruce, White (*Picea gleuca*)**

Very hardy native, does well on variety of soils. Endures heat, drought, and crowding conditions. Grows to 60'. Dense, stiff, light green 1" needles. Good for windbreaks, pulpwood, and Christmas trees.

**\*\*DECIDUOUS TREES\*\***

**Birch, Native (*Betula papyrifera*)**

Does well in cool, moist locations and can reach 80'. Oval green leaves turn bright yellow in fall and are a food source for butterflies. This native tree is also known as *Paper Birch* because its stunning snow-white bark peels off in paper-thin layers and *Canoe Birch* since it was used by Native Americans to make canoes.

**Cherry, Black (*Prunus serotina*)**

Fast growth to 60' in various soil types. White flower clusters in May produce edible black fruits. Green leaves turn yellow-red in fall. Native tree used for furniture, firewood, jam, wine, wildlife food source. Easily identified by its thick burnt "cornflake" bark and when a young twig is scratched it has an almond-like scent.

**Filbert, American (*Corylus americana*)**

Also known as *Hazelnut* this large, multi-stemmed native prefers rich, well-drained soils and is pH adaptable. Growing to 8-15' tall, it is shade tolerant. Its long slender 8" catkins produce an acorn-like nut in late September that is enjoyed by humans, small mammals, deer, ruffed grouse and other large birds.

**Honeylocust, Thornless (*Gleditsia triacanthos v.inermis*)**

This native to eastern N. A. has fast growth rate to 60-100'. Adaptable to any soils but does best in moist, neutral pH. Its bright green leaves in late spring turn yellow in fall. Scented cream-colored flowers in clusters also appear late spring, with 7" flat legume pods maturing in autumn. Once matured to a maroon color and dried, the sweet pulp on the inside of the pods is edible and was used for food by Native Americans. The pods can also be fermented to make beer. Tolerates urban pollution, road salt, heat, drought, poor site conditions and is resistant to gypsy moth. It produces high quality wood used for posts and rails. Used in parks for its light shade quality.

**Maple, Red (*Acer rubrum*)**

Known for its bright red flowers in early spring. Green foliage turns a brilliant red-orange in fall. Grows fast to 100'. Tolerates wet and swampy to rocky soils. Native widely used for wetland plantings. Great for wildlife habitat.

**Maple, Sugar (*Acer saccharum*)**

The State Tree of New York, this outstanding native grows to heights of 100'. Does best on well-drained soils. Dark green leaves turn brilliant yellow to fiery orange-red in fall. Used for maple syrup, lumber, firewood, wildlife habitat, or as an ornamental.

**Oak, Red (*Quercus rubra*)**

Native that does well on sandy to rich, loamy soils. Grows fast to 90'. Lustrous canopy of green leaves turn reddish-brown in fall. Has small red flowers in Spring. Produces 1" acorns. Tolerates city conditions. Excellent for lumber and wildlife.

**Oak, White (*Quercus alba*)**

A popular native shade tree that grows to 60-80' tall and is about the same in width as it is tall. It has irregular branching and attractive flaky, light gray bark. Rounded, grayish-green 4-8" long leaves become purple-red in the fall. Prefers full sun and acidic soil. Its small 1" acorns are popular with wildlife.

**Sycamore (*Platanus occidentalis*)**

This native tree is fast growing to 75+ feet and has a massive trunk with coarse, mottled bark. It prefers moist soils and full sun. Deep red flowers in late March are followed by tan fuzzy-looking rounded fruit and yellow-brown autumn foliage. Good urban tree. Can be used on difficult sites.

**Walnut, Black (*Juglans nigra*)**

Grows well in deep, moist soils to 100'. Has a broad oval crown and compound leaves of 15-25 dark green leaflets. At 4 to 6 years old, it will produce flavorful, oil-rich sweet nuts in September to October. A native whose lumber is valued for furniture, cabinets, flooring and gun stocks.

**AGRICULTURAL ASSESSMENT REMINDER**

Are you a farmer, or a rural resident that rents to a farmer? Did you know that if you fit the criteria, it's possible to reduce your property taxes?

FIRST, speak with your Town Assessor about applying for an Agricultural Value Assessment. The Assessor can let you know if you are eligible and give you the necessary paperwork. Part of the required paperwork asks for a Soil Group Worksheet Form RA-100 for each parcel. Our office assists in the completion of this form. We charge \$25 per parcel.

For the District to complete this, please bring the following information from your Assessor: Copy of your most current tax map showing your property boundaries and total acreage; Your SBL/Tax ID # AND; Know if your parcel is already in an agricultural district or if you'll be listed as "individual commitment"

Remember that your Assessor needs this completed by March 1st, so please get your request to us at least one week in advance to be sure it is completed in time. Thank you for your help in making this process easier for all.



## American Chestnut

### Help us bring them back!

The American Chestnuts were one of the most plentiful, versatile and valuable forest trees in the eastern United States. A rapidly growing hardwood, it was an important component of forestland that covered millions of acres. The American Chestnut was a tall, straight tree growing to 100'. Its' beautiful wood was widely used for railroad ties, fence posts, construction lumber and furniture. It was also very important for wildlife, providing a prolific amount of nuts for white-tailed deer, wild turkey and black bears.

In 1904, an Asian bark fungus was noticed on Chestnut trees in the Bronx Zoo, and by 1950 it is estimated that over 3.5 billion trees were killed, virtually eliminating most natural stands. Virgin stands can still be found in Oregon, Michigan, Tennessee, and Georgia. There is something about these areas that has allowed the American Chestnut to endure the blight, possibly due to dry conditions along the rocky ridges. The fungus that causes the blight thrives in a moist environment. Several organizations are attempting to re-establish American Chestnuts in different parts of the eastern U.S. They are developing disease-resistant trees using seeds from the few groves still in existence.

American Chestnuts do best on porous soils of moderate depth and fertility, such as rocky hillsides and gravelly or sandy soils. Plant all seedlings less than 100 yards from each other where their roots will not be disturbed. Rapid growers, they produce nuts within 7-10 years.

### **\*\*DECIDUOUS SHRUBS\*\***

#### **Butterfly Bush (*Buddleia davidii*)**

Multistemmed with fragrant 4-10" flowers summer thru fall. Grows very quickly in all types of soil to 8'. Needs heavy pruning each spring to keep under control. Attracts hummingbirds and butterflies.

#### **Chokeberry, Black (*Aronia melanocarpa*)**

A 3-5' shrub, very adaptable to many conditions and wide range of dry to wet soils. It has a high tolerance to drought, salt, pollution and insects. Shiny dark green leaves turn orange to burgundy color in Autumn. Clusters of pinkish-white flowers in May and pendulous black pome fruits from September to December. Easily established in full sun for the best flowering and fall color. Fruits eaten by birds throughout the winter.

#### **Cranberry, American (*Viburnum trilobum*)**

Fast growing to 8-12' this native prefers well-drained to moist soils. White flower clusters in May. Yellow to red fall color. Edible red fruits that resemble cranberries, present summer thru winter, are sour, rich in vitamin C and can be enjoyed by both humans and wildlife.

#### **Elderberry (*Sambucus canadensis*)**

Vigorous grower to 12' in any type soil. Multi-stemmed, with clusters of purple-black fruits in late summer, used for jams and wine. A good native wetland plant. Great food source for wildlife.

#### **Lilac (*Syringa vulgaris*)**

Easy to grow, old-fashioned favorite. Masses of fragrant white to lavender flowers and bright green leaves in Spring. Will grow in well-drained soils to 15'. Makes beautiful natural screen spreading 6-10'.

#### **Rose of Sharon (*Hibiscus syriacus*)**

Also known as Althea. Grows in various soils to 12'. Small green leaves with rose-type flowers July to September. Ph adaptable. Upright growth allows for hedging along buildings or as stand-alone ornamental.

#### **Serviceberry (*Amelanchier alnifolia*)**

This native 6-20' suckering, multi-stemmed shrub thrives on moist, well-drained, acidic soils and tolerates a wide pH range. White flowers in spring produce dark purplish fruits in June, giving it the nickname "Juneberry". Prune regularly for best fruit production, enjoyed by many types of birds.

### **\*\*GROUNDCOVERS\*\***

#### **Myrtle (*Vinca minor*)**

Also known as Periwinkle. Has shiny green leaves and lilac-blue flowers in spring. This 3-6" high, ground hugging plant grows well in areas where grass won't. Likes well-drained soil. Does best in full to partial shade.

#### **Pachysandra (*Pachysandra terminalis*)**

A carpeting plant that has an interesting leaf pattern and inconspicuous white spike flowers. Grows 6-12" high in well-drained soil. Excellent for heavy shade.

### **\*\*OTHER ITEMS\*\***

#### **Countryside Wildflowers**

A 100% pure seed mix of balanced blends of annual and perennial native wildflowers. Good for renovating old pastures, commercial sites and unused portions of lawn. Can be planted on moderate slopes to stabilize soil. Will grow in all soil types, even poor. The better the site, the better the outcome.

#### **Deer Plot Mix**

Mix of annuals and perennials that will attract and maintain deer. Includes several ryes, clovers, wheat, alfalfa, timothy, proso millet, birdsfoot trefoil, sainfoin, lathco flatpea, cicer milkvetch, and much more. Also good for birds and rabbits. Annuals provide growth the first year and act as nurse crop for perennials. Plant generously in open fields, along trails, or the edge of woods.

#### **Tall Mix**

Contains 20 short and tall varieties of annuals, including sorghums, millets, beans, and sunflowers. Grows 4 to 8 feet tall. Excellent for planting along fence lines, edges of woods, and strips in fields. Attracts pheasant, dove, quail, and turkey.

#### **Fertilizer Tablets**

A slow-release pellet 20-10-5 (nitrogen-phosphorous-potash) made specifically for 1-2 year old seedlings. Safe, easy to handle, convenient. Planting instructions included.

## **PICKUP INFORMATION**

### **Mark your calendars now!!**

If you cannot pick up your order on the scheduled dates, please make arrangements with someone to pick it up for you. We do not have the space to keep the order past the pickup dates. Orders not picked up on time will be donated to a charity and are not refundable.

Pickup Days: Friday, April 25, 2014 9:00am to 4:00pm  
Saturday, April 26, 2014 9:00am to 12:00pm

Location: Merchant Building – Niagara County Fairgrounds  
4487 Lake Ave (RT 31), Lockport

#### **Extra Trees:**

Unsold seedlings will be available on a cash and carry basis on the above pickup dates. We will not know until our prepaid orders are packed what the selection will be, so please come and browse!

#### **Be advised:**

Prepaid orders get a discounted price than those sold during pickup days.  
Don't pay more for it later...order now!

For information: Call us Mon-Fri 8:30am-4:30pm at #434-4949 ext 4

**Happy  
Holidays!**

**The USDA Service Center would like to wish all  
of our customers a very Merry  
Christmas and Happy Holidays!!!**



## EPA FINALIZES PLAN FOR CLEANUP AT EIGHTEEN MILE CREEK SUPERFUND SITE IN LOCKPORT, NEW YORK

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has finalized its plan to clean up nine residential properties on Water Street in Lockport, New York, which are contaminated with polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and other contaminants, including lead and chromium. The properties and the former Flintkote Company plant are part of the Eighteen Mile Creek Superfund site, which was added to the federal Superfund list in 2012. Under the plan, the EPA will permanently relocate residents from five of the nine properties, demolish the five homes and excavate contaminated soil from all nine properties. In addition, an old industrial building at the former Flintkote Company plant property will also be demolished as part of the first phase of cleanup at the Eighteen Mile Creek Superfund site.

PCBs are probable human carcinogens. PCBs can also affect the immune, reproductive, nervous and endocrine systems and cause other health effects. Lead is a toxic metal that can cause damage to a child's ability to learn and can have serious, long-term health consequences for adults and children. Chromium may cause cancer and nervous system damage.

"The cleanup of the residential properties is the first phase of a multi-faceted plan to clean up contamination from over a hundred years of industrial activity at this site," said EPA Regional Administrator Judith A. Enck.

The EPA held a public meeting in Lockport on August 13, 2013 to explain its proposed plan. The EPA received public input for 30 days and considered public input before finalizing its decision. Under the plan, the EPA will purchase six of the nine residential properties, which are all privately owned, and excavate the contaminated soil from these properties and from three vacant properties that are owned by the city of Lockport. The demolition of the remaining building at the former Flintkote plant located at 300 Mill Street will allow the EPA to sample soil under the building to determine if it is contaminated. The EPA plans to address contaminated soil at the Flintkote property during the next phase of cleanup for the site.

The contaminated residential properties, along with the former Flintkote plant, encompass an area of approximately 2.25 acres along Water Street. These properties contain contaminated dirt from the plant that was used as fill and may be further contaminated by periodic flooding of the adjacent creek.

The EPA is in the process of searching for parties that may be responsible for the contamination at the Eighteen Mile Creek site. The agency requires responsible parties at Superfund sites to pay for or perform the cleanup work with EPA oversight. The majority of Superfund cleanups are performed or paid for by polluters. Taxpayer dollars are used to cover EPA cleanup costs when no responsible party can be identified. In this instance, the EPA anticipates it will spend about \$4 million in cleanup costs.

To view the EPA's Record of Decision for the Eighteen Mile Creek Superfund site, please visit <http://www.epa.gov/region02/superfund/npl/18milecreek/>.

For more information, please contact: Michael Basile, (716) 551-4410, [basile.michael@epa.gov](mailto:basile.michael@epa.gov)

### ALLEGHANY FARM SERVICES LLC

*Alleghanyfs.com*



Drew & Chad Klotzbach

7342 Alleghany Rd  
Basom New York 14013

Drew: 716-560-1979  
Chad: 716-560-0470  
Office: 585-762-4411

[drew@alleghanyfs.com](mailto:drew@alleghanyfs.com)  
[chad@alleghanyfs.com](mailto:chad@alleghanyfs.com)

Drainage Contractors  
Plow - Trencher  
GPS Controlled  
GPS Mapping - Tile & Topo  
Excavation- Hedgerow Removal  
Manure Storage Installers  
GPS Site Preparation



### AquaTech Environmental, Inc.

*Pond and Lake Management*

*WNY's Only Full Service Pond and Lake Management Firm*

**FREE ESTIMATES**

Services Include:

- Aquatic Plant and Algae Control - Fish Stocking and Management
- Water Quality Testing/Improvement - Aeration/Fountain Installation
- Bathymetric Mapping - Design Consultation

**1/4 Acre and Larger Ponds Only Please**

Phone: 716-824-6155 - Email: [dadrian@me.com](mailto:dadrian@me.com)

WEB - [www.pondandlakehelp.com](http://www.pondandlakehelp.com)

#### Non-Discrimination Statement

"The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity employer."



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
LOCKPORT, NY  
PERMIT No. 510

**Niagara County Soil & Water  
Conservation District**  
4487 Lake Avenue  
Lockport, New York 14094  
Phone: (716) 434-4949  
Fax: (716) 433-1070  
www.niagaraswcd.com


DRAIN TILE  
CULVERT PIPE

**MAWHINEY**  
TRENCHING AND TRUCKING INC.  
SPECIALIZING IN UNDERGROUND DRAINAGE  
LASER CONTROLLED MACHINE

5082 UPPER MOUNTAIN RD.  
LOCKPORT, NEW YORK 14094

BACKHOE SERVICE  
DUMP TRUCK SERVICE

DOUGLAS MAWHINEY  
PHONE (716) 434-7536

 **Bruce Muck**  
AUCTIONEER

"Let's talk your treasures into tender"

Farm  
Home  
Business Liquidations

3490 Rt. 425  
Wilson, NY 14172  
(716) 751-9835

**COUNTRY ESTATES MOBILE VILLAGE, INC.**  
Looking for a mobile home lot or to rent a mobile home?

**James B. Preston**  
Owner/Operator  
E-mail: cemvinc@toast.net

2297 Hartland Road  
Gasport, NY 14067-9439

Phone: (716) 795-9106  
Fax: (716) 795-9106

 **NIAGARA FRONTIER**  
EQUIPMENT SALES INC.

Call Karl: **716-622-7041**

4060 Lake Ave (Rte 78N) Lockport  
40+ Years of Professional Service  
NFESales.com - Sales@NFESales.com

Sales-Service  
Parts-Rentals

Office: 716-434-2000



**Get Your Share of Grant Dollars !**

NYS AG & Markets, USDA, etc  
\$1,000,000 + obtained so far  
Call Phil at (716) 778-5730

6136 First St.  
Newfane, NY 14108

Edward S. (Bubby) Pawlak II  
(716) 778-5499

**HyTech Concrete**

CONCRETE CONSTRUCTION  
BULLDOZING - EXCAVATION - DUMP TRUCK SERVICE  
STONE SLINGER SERVICE - EROSION CONTROL - WASTE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

Estimates • Insured • Licensed

**SANBORN HOME  
IMPROVEMENT**



ALL TYPES - Siding • Trim • Gutters • Roofs • Decks  
DOORS - Entrance • Storm • French • Sliding  
WINDOWS - Replacement • Bow • Bay • Garden  
GARAGE DOORS - Installed & Serviced



**John Kisloski**  
731-3138

Sanborn, NY

**Devereaux Antiques**

- ▼ Buying & Selling
- ▼ Appraisals
- ▼ Estate Sales

David Devereaux  
Proprietor

716.998.7445  
lastingglow2@aol.com



## WHAT IS THE EIGHTEENMILE CREEK AREA OF CONCERN (AOC) ?

Local, state and federal officials identified a section of Eighteenmile Creek as one of 42 "Areas of Concern" (AOC) in the Great Lakes Basin. Eighteenmile Creek received this designation because of poor water quality and contaminated sediments present throughout the watershed. Eighteenmile Creek's long history of use by major industries in the area, especially near the City of Lockport and Town of Newfane, has played a large role in the present condition of the creek.

## WHAT IS THE EIGHTEENMILE CREEK REMEDIAL ACTION PLAN (RAP) ?

A RAP is an integrated, whole ecosystem approach to remediating impaired water bodies. The RAP first identifies use impairments, their causes, and contaminant sources, using existing studies and data. Next, existing cleanup and regulatory programs which apply to the water body are identified. A coordinated cleanup strategy is then developed to eliminate the use impairments. The NYS Department of Environmental Conservation produced the Stage 1/2 RAP in 1997 in an effort to restore the integrity of the creek's ecosystem.

## WHAT IS THE EIGHTEENMILE CREEK REMEDIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (RAC) ?

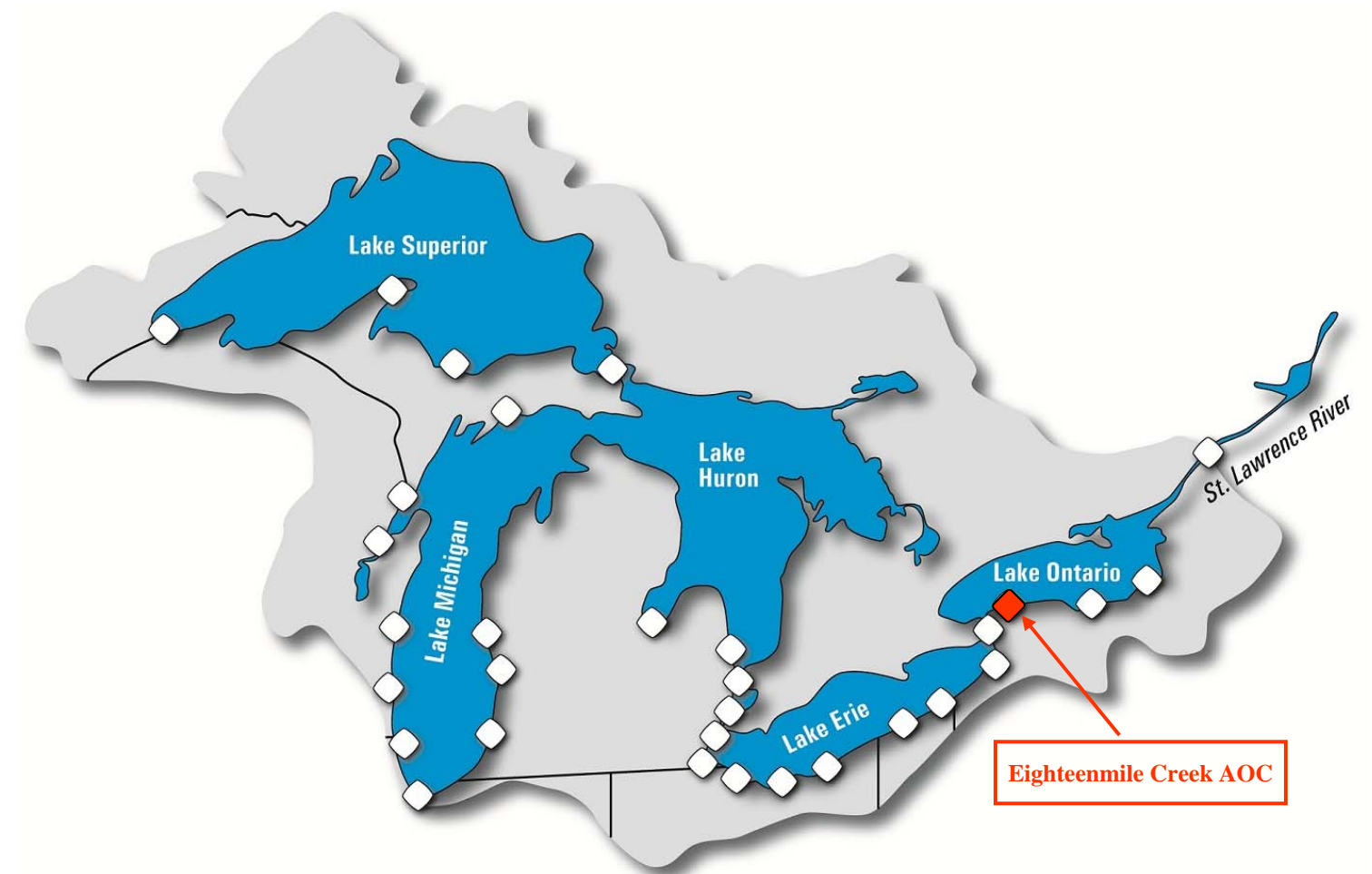
The Eighteenmile Creek RAC is comprised of a group of local, state and federal stakeholders, representing industries, organizations and local communities with a vested interest in the health of Eighteenmile Creek. The RAC is responsible for implementing the RAP, monitoring restoration efforts, and assessing ongoing needs and conditions. After a brief hiatus, the RAC reconvened in 2005 and is currently making progress in moving the RAP forward.



**FOR MORE INFORMATION**  
Contact:  
Niagara County Soil & Water Conservation District  
U.S.D.A. Service Center  
4487 Lake Avenue  
Lockport, NY 14094  
Phone: (716) 434-4949 Ext. 4  
Fax: (716) 433-1070  
Website: [www.eighteenmilerap.com](http://www.eighteenmilerap.com)



## EIGHTEENMILE CREEK AREA OF CONCERN



## 2013 REPORT CARD



## A COMPILATION OF SUCCESSES, IMPROVEMENTS & CURRENT CONDITIONS





# REPORT CARD

The Eighteenmile Creek Area of Concern Report Card was created by the Eighteenmile Creek Remedial Advisory Committee (RAC). **The purpose of this Report Card is to give a brief overview of the health, improvements and current conditions of Eighteenmile Creek during 2013.** The Eighteenmile Creek Watershed includes – the main branch of Eighteenmile Creek, Gulf Creek Tributary, East Branch of Eighteenmile Creek (Red Creek), and augmented flow from the NYS Erie Barge Canal.

Scientific data and research that was referenced during the development of this Report Card can be found at the Area of Concern website:

[WWW.EIGHTEENMILERAP.COM](http://WWW.EIGHTEENMILERAP.COM)

This Report Card offers six “indicators” related to the management of the creek’s overall health. They are: 1) Water Quality; 2) Contamination; 3) Fish & Wildlife; 4) Public Access & Recreation; 5) Remedial Action Plan; and 6) Environmental Education & Public Involvement.

Each indicator has been further divided into several “sub-categories” to assess how specific concerns are being addressed. Each sub-category has been assigned a **letter grade** based upon past successes, current health conditions, and trends over the past few years. The last column identifies action steps or immediate concerns to be addressed in order to meet restoration targets for the Area of Concern. This Report Card will be updated annually.

## BENEFICIAL USE IMPAIRMENTS

- 1) Fish & Wildlife Consumption - **Impaired** Delisting Targets → **Identified**
- 2) Degraded Benthic Populations - **Impaired** Delisting Targets → **Identified**
- 3) Dredging Restrictions - **Impaired** Delisting Targets → **Identified**
- 4) Animal Reproductive Issues - **Impaired** Delisting Targets → **Identified**
- 5) Fish & Wildlife Populations - **Impaired** Delisting targets → **Identified**

	CATEGORIES	GRADE	SUCCESES & IMPROVEMENTS	CURRENT CONDITIONS	TREND	STEPS NEEDED FOR PROBLEM RESOLUTION
WATER QUALITY	Overall Water Quality	C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Agricultural Environmental Management Program has been deployed to document and prioritize water quality impairments.</li> <li>The City of Lockport has begun repairs on a failing sewage interceptor line which has been spilling sewage into Gulf Creek for an undetermined amount of time.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The impact AOC is a Class B/C stream indicating that the primary use is contact recreation and fishing.</li> <li>NYSDEC monitors water quality through the Rotating Intensive Basin Study (RIBS) program and State Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (SPDES) program.</li> <li>Some pollutants (PCBs, heavy metals) are suspended in the water column and exceed water quality standards.</li> </ul>	↔	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A citizen water quality campaign should be deployed within the watershed.</li> <li>Contaminated sediments within the watershed must be remediated.</li> <li>Failures to waste water systems in Lockport and Newfane must be identified and addressed.</li> <li>Unknown sources of impairments must be identified.</li> </ul>
	Quality of Storm Water	C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A number of Combined Sewer Overflows that exist within the City of Lockport wastewater system are scheduled to be closed in the near future.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5 Combined Sewer Overflows still could discharge to the creek.</li> <li>During storm events, degraded water quality negatively impacts Olcott Beach along Lake Ontario, causing beach closures.</li> </ul>	↔	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Remaining Combined Sewer Overflows must be eliminated.</li> <li>Continue to work with various partners to determine the sources which negatively impact Olcott Beach and the Lake.</li> </ul>
CONTAMINATION	Spills, Discharges & Leaching of Contaminants	C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regulatory programs and monitoring by NYSDEC help reduce inputs to the creek.</li> <li>14 of 20 inactive hazardous waste sites have been sealed or remediated.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5 Inactive Hazardous Waste Sites in the watershed still have the potential to negatively impact the AOC.</li> </ul>	↔	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to assist farms in the watershed via the NYS Agricultural Environmental Management (AEM) program.</li> <li>Continue to remediate Inactive Hazardous Waste Sites and other sources of contamination.</li> </ul>
	Contaminated Sediment	D	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A study assessing the use of Powdered Activated Carbon on creek sediments showed favorable results that would indicate the use of PAC during remediation as a viable clean up option.</li> <li>EPA has finalized a plan to clean up residential properties in Lockport impacted by contaminated creek sediments.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sediments in the AOC exceed NYS standards for a variety of contaminants, including PCBs, lead, etc.</li> <li>Contaminated sediments within the watershed continue to influence the overall health of the AOC.</li> <li>A number of historic power generation structures present in the creek act as “sinks” for contaminated sediment.</li> </ul>	↑	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Utilize Federal and State Superfund programs to address the current sediment contamination.</li> <li>Remediate all upstream sources of contamination, including the Eighteenmile Creek Superfund Site and Old Upper Mountain Road Site.</li> <li>Continue to identify new funding sources.</li> </ul>
FISH & WILDLIFE	Contaminant Levels in Fish & Wildlife	D	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fish tissue results obtained through a study in 2012 are the first data set collected for a portion of Eighteenmile Creek upstream of Newfane Dam. However, the results indicate impacts to fish throughout the creek.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fish consumption advisories exist for the AOC, upper watershed and Lake Ontario.</li> <li>Beneficial uses affected by elevated levels of PCBs in fish continue to be impaired at Eighteenmile Creek.</li> </ul>	↔	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Remediate upstream sources and contaminated sediments.</li> <li>Continue to monitor contaminant levels in fish and wildlife in an attempt to establish trends and build upon baseline data.</li> <li>Conduct additional benthic population investigations in 2014 to support a possible removal of the “Benthics” BUI.</li> </ul>
	Fish & Wildlife Diversity & Populations	B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The results of a study assessing benthic populations indicate that macroinvertebrate communities in riffle and pool habitats are either not impaired or slightly impaired according to NYSDEC indices.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Large concentrations of Coho and Chinook salmon and brown trout migrate from Lake Ontario each fall. The area also supports the natural reproduction of bass, northern pike and black crappie.</li> </ul>	↑	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to support Olcott Pen Rearing Project.</li> <li>NYSDEC should continue is fish stocking program.</li> <li>Contaminated sediments affecting fish &amp; wildlife require special attention.</li> </ul>
PUBLIC ACCESS & RECREATION	Public Access to the Creek & Adjacent Areas	A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Access to Eighteenmile Creek via Fisherman’s Park continues to be maintained by the Town of Newfane.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The AOC is accessible for anglers and general recreation activities from Fisherman’s Park and Olcott Harbor.</li> <li>A majority of the creek is secluded by a steep ravine.</li> </ul>	↔	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate options for public access improvements to the creek in the City and Town of Lockport, NY.</li> </ul>
	Aesthetics of the Creek & Adjacent Riparian Areas	B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Town of Newfane continually polices Fishermen’s Park for trash and other debris.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Eighteenmile Creek Corridor is pristine to the naked eye, displaying no visual Beneficial Use Impairments.</li> <li>Some abandoned industrial sites are adjacent to the creek area.</li> </ul>	↔	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue with annual AOC “Clean-Sweep” events.</li> <li>Educate recreational users and encourage them to “Pitch-In” and promote a healthy creek ecosystem.</li> </ul>
REMEDIAL ACTION PLAN	RAP Management	B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In 2013, NCSWCD began the 2nd year of a new 5 year workplan which includes: continued coordination of all RAP initiatives development of new projects; education and outreach activities and; various projects to assess current impairments.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>EPA Region 2 has funded Niagara County SWCD to oversee the Eighteenmile RAP through the end of 2016.</li> <li>New York AOCs have begun to collaborate as a group to identify common challenges and goals to AOC recovery.</li> <li>Eighteenmile Creek is on a path to be delisted as an Area of Concern by 2020.</li> </ul>	↔	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regular Status Reports and updates should continue to be completed.</li> <li>Focus on monitoring needs and protocols to effectively assess progress post remediation.</li> <li>Grant fund acquisition should continue to be ongoing.</li> <li>Continue oversight of all AOC activities and projects.</li> </ul>
	RAC Management	B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The RAC continues to address various aspects of the Remedial Action Plan and has provided input on Federal and State Superfund designation for the creek.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The RAC is comprised of a diverse group of original members and representatives from newer interests.</li> <li>The RAC meets to discuss various aspects of the RAP and to explore new opportunities to de-list the AOC.</li> </ul>	↔	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Focus on monitoring needs and protocols to effectively assess progress post remediation.</li> <li>Continue to assess the status of active BUIs.</li> <li>Utilize the updated Stage 2 RAP as a plan for the future.</li> </ul>
ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION	Public Awareness	A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The recent Superfund designation has brought the creek to the forefront of public media.</li> <li>A number of student classes visit the AOC to learn about critical AOC issues.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Despite a fish consumption advisory, the AOC is visited by 13,000+ anglers annually.</li> <li>Every year the AOC is utilized as an “outside classroom” for elementary, secondary and college level classes.</li> </ul>	↔	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to engage the public utilizing educational tools like the annual report card, various education events, internet mapping database, AOC website, newsletters and press releases.</li> </ul>
	Watershed Stewardship	B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>18 Cub Scouts participated in a “Clean-Sweep” of the AOC which yielded the collection of 125 lbs of trash from creek banks/riparian areas.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There is an increasing but still limited amount of participation from the public related to the AOC.</li> <li>Superfund activity has increased public participation/awareness.</li> </ul>	↑	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Partner with sportsmen to promote AOC stewardship.</li> <li>Continue with annual AOC “Clean-Sweep” and education events to keep youth interested and active.</li> </ul>

## TRENDS

↑ Conditions Improving  
 ↔ Conditions Unchanged  
 ↓ Conditions Worsening

## GRADING

**A** Excellent  
**B** Good  
**C** Fair  
**D** Poor  
**F** Failure