



News from Livingston County, N.Y.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Julie Barry, Grants and Public Information Coordinator

Phone: 585.243.7051

Email: jbarry@co.livingston.ny.us

Livingston County Receives Over \$1 Million for Conesus Lake Watershed Projects

GENESEO, N.Y., January 6, 2021 — New York State has awarded more than \$1 million in funding to Livingston County through Round XI of the Regional Economic Development Council Initiative. The funding comes in the form of two grants, which the County will use for projects in the Conesus Lake watershed. The projects include:

- An update to the Conesus Lake Watershed Management Plan, funded for \$60,000 under the New York State Department of State Local Waterfront Revitalization Program
- Road ditch remediation in the towns of Conesus, Geneseo, and Sparta, funded for \$973,335 under the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Water Quality Improvement Program

The Conesus Lake Watershed Management Program builds on more than two decades of partnership protecting water quality in the lake and its watershed. The Conesus Lake Watershed Council, comprised of representatives from Livingston County, watershed municipalities, two public water purveyors, the County Planning Department, County Department of Health, Livingston County Water and Sewer Authority, and the Conesus Lake Association, is a unique and vibrant example of using intermunicipal cooperation to protect a valuable natural asset.

Conesus Lake is an important resource to Livingston County – it provides drinking water to residents, recreational opportunities to shoreline residents and visitors, commercial opportunities for water-oriented and tourism businesses, and habitat for a thriving freshwater fishery.

Eric Gott, Chairman of the Conesus Lake Watershed Council, stated, “The Conesus Lake Watershed Council is excited to begin the update of the Watershed Management Plan and to see implementation

of the three road ditch remediation projects in the watershed. We have a saying in the Conesus Lake watershed, 'partnerships protect water quality,' and this State grant funding allows us to continue that important work."

Don Wester, Town of Conesus Supervisor, added, "We sincerely appreciate the funding from New York State for the road ditch projects in the watershed, including Jones Hill Road in the Town of Conesus. The Town is pleased to be a partner in this project."

Mark Schuster, Town of Sparta Supervisor, added, "The Town of Sparta has experienced severe erosion issues in the ditches along a portion of Story Road. Sediment loss in the watershed can eventually affect water quality in Conesus Lake. We appreciate the opportunity for State funding assistance and look forward to completing this work."

For more information, please contact the Livingston County Planning Department at (585) 243-7550.

For more information on Conesus Lake watershed programs and activities, visit:

<https://www.livingstoncounty.us/conesus.htm>

About Livingston County:

Founded in 1821, Livingston County, N.Y., is comprised of more than 61,000 residents in 17 towns located across 631 square miles of the Finger Lakes region.

###