



## **News from Livingston County, NY**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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### **Conesus Lake Watershed Council Reviews 2018 Accomplishments, Approves 2019 Work Plan**

**Geneseo, NY**— Building off the positive momentum of project accomplishments, the Conesus Lake Watershed Council (CLWC) recently approved their 2019 Work Plan after undertaking a review of 2018 activities at their most recent meeting in November.

The CLWC is an inter-municipal organization created in 2003 to oversee the implementation of the Conesus Lake Watershed Management Plan. Council membership is comprised of County officials, as well as, officials from Towns and Villages with land in the Conesus Lake watershed and those who use Conesus Lake as a public water source.

At the beginning of the year, the Council identified 28 important projects, 26 of which have been successfully completed. Among the identified projects was the creation of the Conesus Lake Stormwater Toolkit. This inter-agency toolkit will help encourage proper stormwater management practices throughout the Conesus Lake watershed. The CLWC also found itself involved in a new major grant program for lakes in the state. The Governor's Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs) Initiative has invested \$65 million to develop Action Plans and implement solutions to reduce the risk of HABs, and fund water quality improvement projects for 12 priority lakes in NYS, including Conesus Lake. In response to the Initiative, the CLWC sought out grant funding through the Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) process to combat HABs in Conesus Lake. Applications for Vitale Park Natural Shoreline Restoration and Conesus Lake Old Outlet Reconfiguration were submitted in July and award notifications are expected to be announced this month.

The Council supported multiple partners, including the Town of Livonia, Conesus Lake Association, Livingston County Planning Department and Department of Health, and CCE Livingston, to bring a full year of premier education programs to the new Watershed Education Center in Vitale Park, Livonia. Topic highlights included the History of Conesus Lake, Aquatic

and Terrestrial Invaders, Citizen Statewide Lake Assessment Program (CSLAP), and Student Water Quality Testing Results with SUNY Brockport and Livonia High School.

The Council's 2019 Work Plan expands on this year's successes and identifies continued implementation of the Conesus Lake Watershed Management Plan and public education as priorities. Planning for 2019, the Council is preparing for the roll-out of the Stormwater Toolkit with a distribution of informational materials, the execution of the HABs grants if awarded, and continued engagement in public education.

"The members of the Conesus Lake Watershed Council work tirelessly every day to protect one of our County's most important natural resources" said Conesus Lake Watershed Council Chairman Bill Carman. "We look forward to continuing our work in 2019."

For more information on the Council and to see some of its accomplishments so far, please visit: <https://www.livingstoncounty.us/217/Conesus-Lake>

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