

ANNUAL REPORT ON ACTIVITIES: JANUARY 1, 2011 TO DECEMBER 31, 2011

Oatka Creek Watershed Committee, Inc.

I. Meetings:

- a. Regularly scheduled OCWC meetings were held on: January 24, February 28, March 28, April 25, May 23, June 20, July 25, August 29, September 26 and November 21.
- b. Meetings were held as part of the watershed planning process being conducted by the Genesee /Finger Lakes Planning Council (G/FLRPC) for the development of watershed plans for Oatka Creek and Black Creek. Funding is provided through it an environmental protection fund grant. OCWC project advisory committee (PAC) meetings were held on: March 21, October 13 and November 3.

II. Outreach Activities:

- a. OCWC newsletter (Summer 2011) was issued in this period. It was distributed via mail to municipalities. The newsletter included articles entitled: *What Are Those Little Critters Living in Oatka Creek?*; *Black and Oatka Creek Watersheds Received Funding for Sediment Control Projects*; *The Watershed Plan for Oatka Creek Is Progressing*; *OCWC Participates at Eco-Fest 2011*; *Stream Cleanup at Oatka Creek Park, Monroe County*
- b. R. VenVertloh and P. Lent gave a presentation on water quality, biomonitoring and macro invertebrates to the Seth Green Chapter of Trout Unlimited on March 15, 2011. The presentation was approximately 45 minutes and was similar in nature to the presentation given at the watershed symposium held on October 28, 2010.
- c. Festivals: members of the committee participated in two festivals during the summer. The first festival was the *Oatka Creek Days* held in the Village of LeRoy on July 16 and July 17. The second festival was *Scottsville Days* held in the Village of Scottsville on August 20. For each festival, a booth was set up using our presentation board. The booth also included a live macroinvertebrate display of organisms collected in Oatka Creek. Graphics (8 1/2x 11 format) were available to help identify specific species. Watershed literature was also available for distribution. Photographs of the Creek were available for viewing.
- d. OCWC members participated (Informational Booth) at ECO-Fest 2011 (April 9th) held at Genesee Community College.
- e. Committee members M. Leupold and P.Lent are exploring opportunities to partner with the Genesee Country Village and Museum regarding educational programs currently being offered. Stream biomonitoring is an area of interest.

- f. R. VenVertloh met with the executive director (Lisa Clackner) of the Finger Lakes Institute to explore partnering opportunities regarding educational outreach. The meeting was held on March 28, 2011.
- g. P. Lent conducted student training at Genesee Community College regarding bio-monitoring and sampling.

III. Watershed Planning – G/FLRPC Project:

- a. OCWC members R. VenVertloh, E. Leadley, L. Compton, B. Gick, F. Oltramari, P. Lent, M. Leupold, A. Buckley and G. Squires participated on the Advisory Committee. Tasks conducted during the 2011 calendar include:
 - Reviewing and commenting on draft Watershed Characterization report being prepared by G/FLRPC and EcoLogic. The second draft of the characterization report was completed in October 2011 and transmitted to the New York State Department Of State on October 28, 2011 for review and approval. Public meetings concerning this document will be scheduled early in 2012 following NYS DOS concurrence.

IV. Corporate Activity:

- a) None to Report

V. General Activities:

- a. A Coastal Clean-up initiative was organized by Maureen Leupold . The cleanup was held in Oatka Park in Monroe County. The event was held on September17, 2011.
- b. Several website updates were completed by Lisa Compton.
- c. OCWC became members of *River Network*.
- d. R. Venvertloh applied for and received a NYSDEC license to collect or possess macro invertebrates . The liscense was obtained from the Division of Fish, Wildlife and Marine Resources – Special Licenses Unit.

Submitted By: _____

Richard T. VenVertloh, Chairman,
Oatka Creek Watershed Committee
January 23, 2012