



Black River—St. Lawrence RC&D

Spring 2009 News

Moving Ahead in 2009— Our Annual Plan Summary

2008 was a busy year for the Black River-St. Lawrence RC&D Council, and we look forward to continuing this trend through 2009! Here are some of our plans for 2009:

Agriculture:



- ◆ Recycling Ag Plastics Project— Assist with coordinating and publicizing demonstration and collection events in the spring and fall. We hope to assist with the purchasing of an ag plastics baler for this area.
- ◆ Local Foods— Organize a meeting of parties involved in local foods to assess opportunities for BR-SL RC&D to become involved.
- ◆ Grazing— Partner with ANCA to organize a meeting for all agency staff who provide grazing technical assistance to familiarize all staff with local resources and assess needs for additional training or assistance.
- ◆ Assess needs and opportunities for tire recycling programs in this area.
- ◆ Continue to work with local watershed planning and protection groups.
- ◆ Meet with partners to assess opportunities for increasing the capacity of regional livestock processing plants.
- ◆ Support local Farm Safety Day Camps and local Envirothons.
- ◆ Continue to support the efforts of the Venison Donation Coalition.

Forestry:



- ◆ Provide lumber grading training workshops in four locations this fall.
- ◆ Support New York Logger Training workshops as needed.
- ◆ Work with partners to provide two chainsaw safety workshops to BOCES students.
- ◆ Work with partners to provide chainsaw safety workshops for landowners.
- ◆ Update, print and distribute Forests of New York placemat.
- ◆ Participate in Boonville Woodsmen's Field Days and other trade shows. Update RC&D display with current information and pictures.

Recreation:



- ◆ Continue to work with partners on the Rails to Trails project. Provide support and assistance to Lewis County and the Town of Lowville in the negotiation process.
- ◆ Support local efforts to connect regional trail systems— both motorized and non-motorized.
- ◆ Develop a network of local recreation and tourism contacts to assess opportunities for BR-SL RC&D.

Renewable Energy:



- ◆ Develop a network of local contacts and assess opportunities for BR-SL RC&D to become involved.
- ◆ Hold a home energy conservation workshop for Council members to introduce concepts.

General Council Business:



- ◆ Revise Council By-Laws and Policies as needed.
- ◆ Develop Council Member handbook.
- ◆ Update Council website and provide regular updates
- ◆ Finalize and distribute Annual Report, Annual Plan and Area Plan.
- ◆ Enhance publicity by distributing a newsletter and submitting regular press releases.
- ◆ Revise, print and distribute Council brochure.

For more information about the Black River-St. Lawrence RC&D Council, or to suggest project ideas, contact our business office at 315-782-7289 x5.

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"Creating Opportunities- Enhancing Communities"



Council Members

Franklin County:

Chastity Miller

Herkimer County:

Theodore Teletnick
Bernard Peplinski
Carlton Spofford

Jefferson County:

Vern LaFave- Treasurer
Brian Wohnsiedler- Chairman
Scott Burto
Jason Bast

Lewis County:

Ashley Marolf
Kelley Dickinson
Robert Diehl
Nichelle Billhardt

Oneida County:

Ben Simmons
Kevin Lewis
Robert Keller

Oswego County:

Joe Chairvolotti
Neil Cheney

St. Lawrence County:

Doug Thompson
Judy Wendt
Dawn Howard- Secretary
Bill LaPoint

Thank you to our Partners in Conservation and Community Development:

The Council would like to express its appreciation to the following partners for their support of 2009 activities: USDA NRCS; The Soil and Water Conservation Districts, County Legislatures and Cornell Cooperative Extension Organizations from member counties; New York State; SUNY ESF Ranger School; Cornell University; NY State DEC; International Paper; Ronald McDonald House; Agway Foundation; Jefferson County Ag Development Corporation; Jefferson Rehabilitation Center; Venison Donation Coalition; Community Energy Services; Development Authority of the North Country; Adirondack North Country Association; Adirondack Harvest; Garden Share; Tug Hill Commission; Northern Forest Partnership; Newton Fine Paper; Paul Smith's College; Tupper Lake Wild Center; Zehr.net Web Design; New York Farm Viability Institute.

Our Mission:

The mission of the Black River-St. Lawrence RC&D Council is to work with partners to provide local leadership and coordination for projects devoted to environmental conservation, community improvement, economic development and the wise use of natural resources.

Our Vision:

The Black River-St. Lawrence RC&D Council will be recognized as an integral local leader in the wise utilization of natural resources to improve the local economy and enhance the quality of life throughout the seven county RC&D area.