

**Erie County
Soil & Water Conservation District**

Mark Gaston – District Field Manager
50 Commerce Way, East Aurora, NY 14052
(716) 652-8480 x 5

FINAL REPORT

Contract Number C306472

LEWPA YEAR 1 EPF FY 2016

June 2019



Lake Erie Watershed Hydroseeding Initiative

Projects were completed in the spring and fall of 2017

LEWPA funds allocated through the hydroseeding program provided road ditch and post construction soil stabilization at no cost to the County. This helped stabilize 6 acres of roadside ditches, outlets, banks, slopes and other sensitive areas within the watershed. All hydroseeding projects have been monitored to ensure vegetation established and to verify that erosion hadn't occurred.

All of the stabilization projects that were funded through LEWPA were hydroseeded upon completion of the project. Other areas that were hydroseeded included roadside ditches that had just been cleaned out by the local highway departments. Many of our local highway departments understand the importance of established vegetation in the roadside ditches. Grassed Waterways/Gully Stabilization typically has a lifespan of 4 years.

LEWPA Funds: \$5,250

Local Leveraged Funds: \$65,288



Annual Tons of Sediment Reduced	Annual Pounds of Phosphorous Reduced	Annual Pounds of Nitrogen Reduced	Lifespan Tons of Sediment Reduced	Lifespan Pounds of Phosphorous Reduced	Lifespan Pounds of Nitrogen Reduced
231	266	532	925	1064	2128

Delaware Creek Tributary Stabilization Project – Town of Brant

Completion Date: September 2017

LEWPA funded implementation of erosion and sediment control activities along a tributary to Delaware Creek in the Town of Brant. The waterway was experiencing stream bed degradation and bank erosion as a 3 ft head cut had formed 200 feet downstream of the cross-road culvert. LEWPA funding was utilized for contracting with a private contractor for bmp installation consisting of grading and shaping of the bed and banks and lining of the waterway with rock riprap along 141 ft to a stabilized rock outlet.

The Town of Brant partnered with the District for technical assistance and the District provided a plan to stabilize the erosion and reduce the sedimentation as described above. Downstream segments of Delaware Creek are classified as C(TS) supporting trout populations and are listed as having impacts to water quality from suspected nutrient pollutants in the 2010 NYSDEC PWL. Project goals achieved a reduction of sediments and phosphorus from entering the watershed and stabilization of the head cut and associated bank erosion. Ditch stabilization projects typically have a lifespan of 10 years.

LEWPA Funds: \$9,000

Local Leveraged Funds: \$0



Annual Tons of Sediment Reduced	Annual Pounds of Phosphorous Reduced	Annual Pounds of Nitrogen Reduced	Lifespan Tons of Sediment Reduced	Lifespan Pounds of Phosphorous Reduced	Lifespan Pounds of Nitrogen Reduced
12	12	24	120	120	240

Factory Street / Heritage Park Stormwater Project – Village of Springville

Project was completed in fall 2017

LEWPA funds supplemented a Village of Springville stormwater improvement project adjacent to Spring Brook, a C(TS) stream and one of the last native brook trout streams in the County. The goal of the project is to return a former industrial site adjacent to the stream, with a large amount of impervious area, to a multi-use recreational area. The main items to be cost shared include removal of impervious surface and compost/ top soiling and seeding along with construction of a rain garden to treat runoff from an adjacent parking area. LEWPA funds were matched by Village and County Community Development Block Grant dollars.

LEWPA Funds: \$28,066.66

Local Leveraged Funds: \$423,063.34



Number of Stormwater Control Measures	Number of Acres of Stormwater Treated	Number of Trees Planted
2	2.3	7

Invasive Species Control Project – Spring Brook Fen

Project Completion Dates: August 2018

LEWPA funding assisted the Western NY Land Conservancy to complete an invasive species eradication project on a protected 11-acre property adjacent to Spring Brook, a C(TS) stream and in a NYS regulated wetland (SP-7). The property is home to Spring Brook, a headwater stream in the Cattaraugus Creek watershed critical to native brook trout spawning, as well as a rare fen wetland. The property provides ecosystem services, including water quality improvements, for the Lake Erie watershed. Unfortunately, the habitats and ecosystem services were threatened by invasive species including glossy buckthorn and multiflora rose, among others. The goals achieved were improved water quality and restored rare ecological communities at Spring Brook Fen. Headwater ecosystems like this influence the character of downstream waters by mitigating flooding, maintaining water quality and quantity, recycling nutrients, and providing habitat.

LEWPA Funds: \$15,000

Local Leveraged Funds: \$20,000



Acres of Invasive Species Eradication
11

Hamburg Town Park Green Infrastructure FS – Town of Hamburg

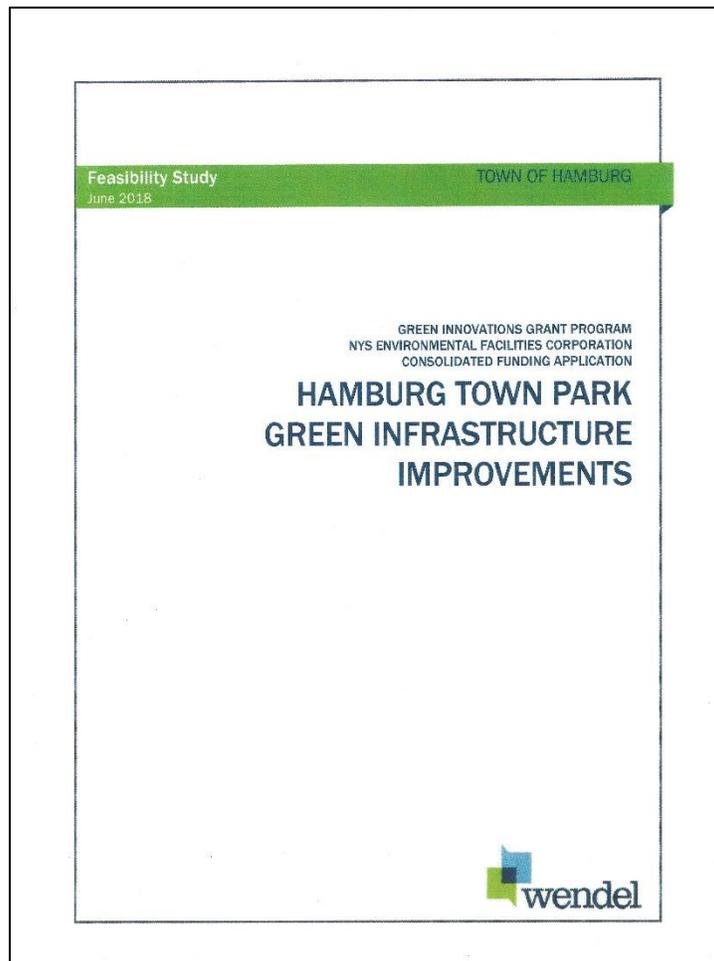
This Project was finalized September 2018

LEWPA funds were used to support a Town of Hamburg project to survey and design required to develop a green infrastructure feasibility study of the existing town beach park. An existing stormwater outfall along the beach collects runoff from surrounding roads and homes and discharges directly to Lake Erie. As the existing stormwater system was installed prior to modern NYSDEC regulations, no water quality treatment was provided. Funds enabled the town to evaluate techniques including but not limited to rain gardens, bioretention areas, and/or porous pavement to encourage infiltration and provide water quality treatment of the outfall in the town park and beach property. The feasibility study will be used to apply for GIGP and/or other available funding to construct the recommended green infrastructure improvement at the beach and park, which will help decrease the discharge of pollutants to Lake Erie.

Water quality impairments linked to stormwater runoff pollution, have caused many coastal beaches along Lake Erie to suffer periodic closures. According to the Natural Resources Defense Council's Annual Testing the Waters Beach Reports, Hamburg Beach experiences an average of 21 days closed or on advisory during their beach season each year. Implementation of green infrastructure to manage and treat storm water runoff has the potential to reduce closures and improve the health of coastal resources.

LEWPA Funds: \$15,000.00

Local Leveraged Funds: \$0



Water Quality Monitoring – QAPP Development

This Project was finalized on October 2, 2018

The NYS Department of Environmental Conservation contracted with the US Geological Survey (USGS) to conduct baseline water quality monitoring including sediment and nutrient sampling at 19 sites in the Niagara River/Lake Erie Watershed. LEWPA will conduct pathogen monitoring at those same 19 sites. A Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) was developed in this round of funding to parallel the USGS baseline water quality monitoring program utilizing the state-certified Erie County Health Laboratory to monitor for *E. coli*, total coliform, and fecal coliform bacteria. LEWPA worked with NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, Division of Water staff to finalize the QAPP for monitoring to begin in subsequent years. All parties signed-off on the document on October 2, 2018.

LEWPA Funds: \$10,000.00

Local Leveraged Funds: \$0.00

Niagara River/Lake Erie Watershed Bacteria Sampling QUALITY ASSURANCE PROJECT PLAN

Prepared for:
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

Revision 3
September 25, 2018

Lake Erie Watershed Protection Alliance
c/o Erie County Department of Environment and Planning
95 Franklin Street, Room 1080
Buffalo, New York 14202

Project Manager:
Joanna Panasiewicz
(716) 858-8077
Joanna.Panasiewicz@erie.gov

This document has been prepared according to the United States Environmental Protection Agency publication, *EPA Requirements for Quality Assurance Project Plans*, dated March 2001. This document was prepared with support from the State of New York Environmental Protection Fund and the opinions, results, findings and/or interpretations of data contained herein are the responsibility of the Contractor and do not necessarily represent the opinions, interpretations or policy of the State.

LEWPA Year 1 “Overview”

Projects	Totals
Lake Erie Watershed Hydroseeding Initiative	<i>(\$5,250)</i>
Delaware Creek Tributary Stabilization Project – Town of Brant	<i>(\$9,000)</i>
Factory Street/ Heritage Park Stormwater Project	<i>(\$28,066.66)</i>
Invasive Species Control – Springbrook Fen	<i>(\$15,000)</i>
Hamburg Town Park Green Infrastructure FS – Town of Hamburg	<i>(\$15,000)</i>
Monitoring Gap Analysis/Pathogen QAPP	<i>(\$10,000.00)</i>
Other – BMP Tracking	<i>(\$5,000)</i>
LEWPA Year 1 Grant Total	<i>\$87,316.66</i>
Leveraged Funds Total	<i>\$508,351.34</i>

Annual Tons of Sediment Reduced	Annual Pounds of Phosphorous Reduced	Annual Pounds of Nitrogen Reduced	Lifespan Tons of Sediment Reduced	Lifespan Pounds of Phosphorous Reduced	Lifespan Pounds of Nitrogen Reduced
243	278	556	1045	1184	2368

For all Year 1 LEWPA Projects