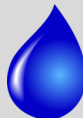# Annual Report of the Lake Erie Watershed Protection Alliance—2020

LEWPA

The Lake Erie Watershed Protection Alliance (LEWPA) formed in 2012 as an alliance of municipal officials and concerned stakeholders working together within the Niagara River/Lake Erie Watershed including Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, and Erie counties. The mission of LEWPA is to foster collaboration and partnerships within the watershed to address regional water quality and quantity concerns, and in doing so, protect and enhance our Lake Erie resource.

Over two years, LEWPA has partnered on over $1.6 million in environmental projects to protect and enhance water quality in the region!

24.5 acres of land-based invasive species management

85.5 acres of stormwater treated annually

6,414 tons of sediment prevented from reaching waterways

14 watershed signs installed

3,565 people educated

6 feasibility studies completed

6,422 pounds of phosphorus prevented from reaching waterways

501 boats inspected for aquatic invasive species

47.4 acres hydroseeded

12,836 pounds of nitrogen prevented from reaching waterways

5,121 feet of stream bank and road bank stabilized

2,300 feet of streamside vegetated buffers planted

Fish passage rehabilitation

Silage leachate treatment

Post-tornado restoration

The $500,000 New York State Environmental Protection Fund investment in LEWPA leveraged $1,164,000 additional funds or more than 2.3 times the investment over 2 years!

Year Three Environmental Protection Fund Projects Underway:

◊ **Sampling for bacteria at 19 sites across the watershed to establish a baseline.**

◊ **Feasibility study for stormwater management in Fredonia**

◊ **Hydroseeding to reduce erosion in all three counties**

◊ **Buffer plantings along stream banks**

◊ **10 stream bank stabilization projects across the three counties**

◊ **Watershed awareness signage in Chautauqua County**

◊ **Boat Stewards at Barcelona Harbor teaching about invasive species**

◊ **Storm drain stenciling in Dunkirk and East Aurora**

◊ **Rain barrel distribution and education in East Aurora**

◊ **Printing educational calendars for the public**