



# Natural Resource Protection News

*From the Town of Canandaigua Environmental Conservation Board*

## Protecting and Enhancing the Natural Capital of Canandaigua Lake

**By Kevin Olvany**

*Watershed Manager,*

*Canandaigua Lake Watershed Council*

**W**ith extreme storms becoming more frequent, the ability of the land around Canandaigua Lake to be able to slow and filter runoff from heavy rains is critical to the long-term health of the lake and reducing the impacts of flooding.

High-quality land areas such as stream buffers, wetlands, floodplains and forests can provide an amazing amount of benefits to the Town and its residents by protecting water quality and reducing downstream flooding. We call these critical land areas the community's Natural Capital because of the wide array of benefits these areas provide. The Town of Canandaigua, in partnership with the Watershed Council and others, has made protecting and enhancing our Natural Capital a high priority in order to adapt to these more intense weather events.

### Extreme Storm Events

Numerous researchers at the federal, state and academic levels have documented that more extreme rain events are occurring on a more frequent basis.

A study led by Dartmouth College found a 53 percent increase in precipitation events of two inches or greater and The Third National Climate Assessment report has estimated a 71 percent increase in the amount of precipitation that falls in the heaviest one percent of daily precipitation events. Our local experiences over the last decade correlate very well with these scientific assessments.

### Our Natural Capital

Land areas such as wetlands, forested areas, stream buffers and floodplains are considered to have a high Natural Capital value because they help temporarily store and treat stormwater runoff throughout our Town during storm



events. These high Natural Capital areas provide a diversity of benefits to our entire community, such as:

- > Protect Canandaigua Lake as a high-quality drinking water supply for 70,000 people and as a major regional recreation and tourism destination
- > Reduce flooding and related damages to both Town roads and private residences
- > High lake quality helps to maintain high real estate values that reduce the overall tax rates

Several studies have estimated that our region has lost over 50 percent of our original wetland acreage to land development and agriculture. Land development and agriculture are vital to the overall health of our community and need to be promoted. However, with the increasing frequency of extreme storm events, we also need to find ways to restore the Natural Capital that we have

lost over the years in order to protect Canandaigua Lake and build our resiliency to extreme storm events.

Recognizing the importance of Natural Capital to the Town's future, the Town is partnering with the Watershed Council, landowners and the City of Canandaigua to restore wetland systems in multiple locations along Sucker Brook to help reduce the impacts of flooding and pollutant loading.

The Town has also completed projects with landowners near Deuel Road to improve water quality and protect the road from washing out. The Town played a critical role in building a two-acre stormwater wetland above the Primary/Elementary School to stop the flooding of 17 classrooms during major storm events.

The Town has several work groups which continue to identify high priority areas that will further build our Natural Capital in order to adapt to this new normal of extreme weather.

### Survey Seeks Comments on Canandaigua's Open Spaces

Share your thoughts by completing a brief survey which will help the Town's Open Space and Conservation Master Plan Team in the development of strategies to protect natural resources, scenic views and critical open space as part of the Town's *Open Space, Conservation and Scenic Views Master Plan*. Town residents who complete the survey will be entered into a drawing for a **\$50 Wegmans gift card**. The survey is available online at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CanandaiguaOpenSpacePublicSurvey>



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## Snowy Owls: Coming to an Airport Near You

With the recent sightings of Snowy Owls in the vicinity of the Canandaigua Airport on Brickyard Road, the Environmental Conservation Board is pleased to share this article on this remarkable and highly visible species.

**From *The Land Steward: Newsletter of the Finger Lakes Land Trust*, Winter 2015–2016, Vol. 28, No. 1**  
*Reprinted with permission*

In the winter of 2013–2014, there was a massive southward irruption of Snowy Owls (*Bubo scandiaca*); it was, by some estimates, the largest in a century. Snowies (as the species is affectionately called) breed in the Arctic and normally winter in Canada.

However, two years ago, the giant raptors showed up in unprecedented numbers from the Midwest to the Carolinas; a few stragglers even made it as far south as Mississippi and Florida and as far out to sea as Bermuda.

The story of this extraordinary event began months earlier and thousands of miles away, with a population explosion of lemmings. Lemmings, which are rodents of approximately the same size and general appearance as hamsters, are a foundational species of the Arctic: they eat the plants of the tundra and everything else eats them. Although Snowy Owls will hunt birds and mammals as small as voles or as large as snow geese, they rely primarily on lemmings to feed themselves and their chicks during the breeding season. Snowy clutch sizes are dependent on food supply: during flush years, mated pairs may lay up to 14 eggs; during times of lemming scarcity, there may be no chicks at all. In the summer of 2013, a superabundance of bite-size rodents seems to have ensured that the clutches were very large and that no chicks starved to death. As the bumper crop of young owls left the nest and struck out on their own, they



were forced to move farther and farther south in order to find winter territories to occupy.

The deluge of Snowy Owls was all the more noticeable because they are a highly visible species. Unlike most owls, they are active during the day as well as at night, an adaptation to the high latitudes in which they live; there is, after all, no darkness during the Arctic summer. They have no innate fear of humans and are attracted to open, flat areas with minimal snow depth that resemble their native tundra: fields, wetlands, shorelines. For some reason, they seem to be particularly fond of airports, where they can pose a serious threat to planes.

Even people who pay little attention to birds are likely to notice the arrival of Snowy Owls because their appearance is so striking. With their mostly white plumage (females and immature birds tend to be heavily barred with brown), round heads, and piercing almond-shaped yellow eyes, they look a bit like very large, earless Persian cats. As with most raptors, females are larger than males, and a large female can be two-

and-a-half feet high and have a five-foot wingspan. Although a white bird is difficult for humans to see against the blinding snow, Snowies do not seem to be taking advantage of cryptic coloration. Like all owls, they do not change the color of their plumage from season to season, and their white feathers are highly visible against the arctic summer vegetation. In addition, they only appear white to species like ourselves who cannot see UV radiation; to other animals, they appear dark gray. There are few places for prey to hide on the tundra, anyway, so perhaps their coloration is merely a practical energy-saving strategy, since melanin is energetically expensive to produce.

The future of the Snowy Owl may ultimately depend on the fate of the lemming, which in many places is increasingly uncertain. As the tundra warms because of climate change, the grasses, mosses, and lichens that lemmings eat are replaced by trees and shrubs. The rodents rely on thick, stable layers of snow in which to hide and raise their young, but warmer temperatures often bring less snow, or snow that is wet and icy. As a result of these changes, the lemming populations of Scandinavia and Greenland have dwindled, and Snowy Owls are disappearing in some parts of Europe.

In North America, however, climate change seems to be working in both species' favor, at least for now. Snowy Owl irruptions have become an almost annual event, and we seem to be on track for another one this year (winter of 2015–2016, *ed.*). The giant white birds have already begun appearing in large numbers in the Upper Midwest, and several have been seen in the farm fields of Seneca County and at the Syracuse Hancock International Airport.

—*Jacqueline Stuhmiller*



# Natural Resource Protection News

From the Town of Canandaigua Environmental Conservation Board

## New Year, New You! Wasting Less in 2018

From the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

Reprinted with permission

As we start the New Year, we welcome our New Year's resolutions ranging from eating healthier to saving money to learning a new skill or hobby. This year, why not make a resolution to support waste reduction?

Reducing your waste doesn't have to be an all or nothing goal. Try just one or two of these simple ideas to make changes that can help you keep a waste reduction lifestyle.

### Think Reuseables

- Pack environmentally friendly, **zero waste lunches**. Use reusable containers for sandwiches and snacks, bring reusable cutlery and carry it all in a reusable lunch box rather than a single use plastic bag or container.
- Carry a **reusable water bottle**. Not only will you reduce your waste, but you'll save money.
- Invest in **rechargeable batteries** and recycle them when they've reached the end of their useful life.
- Use a **reusable coffee mug**. Some stores give a discount for bringing your own mug.

### Purchases

- Sharing is caring. Ask to borrow an item from family and friends before purchasing something new. Is there a **local tool lending library** in your area?
  - Try to **repair** items before you replace them with newly purchased items. Explore repair cafes in your surrounding area.
- **Reduce packaging waste**. Buy in bulk, look for items packaged in recyclable materials and avoid individually packaged and over-packaged goods.



- Buy items made with **post-consumer recycled content material**. This helps to make sure what we put in our recycling bins gets turned into something new.

### Go Paperless

- Convert to online billing and save payment confirmations electronically.
- Refrain from printing emails or online material. Recycling paper is great, but it takes energy to recycle and produce new paper.
- Cancel subscriptions you no longer read, or subscribe to the electronic version of your favorite news source.
- Remove your name from junk mail and catalog mailing lists.
- Opt Out of a receiving a phone book.

### Food Waste

- **Reduce food waste**. Plan your meals,

serve leftovers or incorporate them in a new recipe.

- Learn more about **product dating** and common misconceptions. What is the difference between "best if used by" vs. "sell by" vs. "use by"?
- Learn how to **store** your food for prolonged freshness and a longer shelf life.
- Bring a **reusable container** for your restaurant leftovers.
- Start **composting** your food scraps in your backyard compost pile or contact your local hauler to see what services are available.



Along with making a waste reduction resolution, why not try setting a goal to be a better recycler too! We wish you all a less wasteful, healthy, and happy new year!

### Waste Diversion and Recycling Become Ontario County Priorities

This is the first in a series of articles from the Environmental Conservation Board and related organizations on waste diversion and recycling, which have become priorities. In 2014, the Ontario County Board of Supervisors adopted the Local Solid Waste Management Plan with the goal of reducing the amount of solid waste generated in the county by 60 percent by 2024 in preparation of the closing of the Ontario County Landfill in 2028. Municipalities are now implementing initiatives to inform the public and encourage recycling. Please join this effort and watch for future articles.

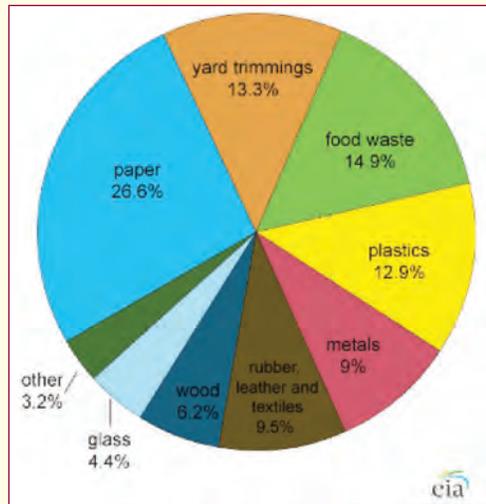


# Natural Resource Protection News

From the Town of Canandaigua Environmental Conservation Board

## Food Waste is an American Problem *and* a Town of Canandaigua Problem

**Total Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) Generation in the United States by Type of Waste, 2014**  
Total = 256 million tons



Source: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, "Advancing Sustainable Materials Management: 2014 Fact Sheet," November 2016

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Municipalities are now implementing initiatives to inform the public and encourage recycling. Please join this effort and watch for future articles.



Food waste is an American problem and a Town of Canandaigua problem.

The numbers are astonishing. The *most conservative* indicate that more than one third of the available food in

the United States is wasted each year. That wasted food is worth more than \$136 billion. Other surveys increase both amounts.

The waste doesn't end with just the food, of course. There are production and transportation costs, landfilling costs, methane gas production from decaying organics (methane gas is a 21-times-more-powerful greenhouse gas than CO<sub>2</sub>) and the ongoing cost of monitoring emissions and leachate for decades after the landfill closes. We can and should do better than this.

### Source Reduction

Source reduction is the beginning (this will also save money).

- > Plan menus.
- > Make a shopping list based on the menus, and stick to it.
- > Use food with the shortest shelf life first. Rotate older purchases to the front of the fridge.

- > Freeze leftover meat and vegetables. Use them to make soup stock later.
- > Repurpose leftovers. For example, dry bread makes great croutons with just a bit of toasting.
- > Enjoy a leftover buffet night each week. The kids will love it.

### Feed Hungry People

Donate to soup kitchens, food banks and shelters. Diverting just 15 percent of the currently wasted food in the USA would cut the number of food insecure Americans in half.

### Feed Animals

Divert food scraps to animal feed. Chickens and pigs, in particular, are omnivores and will happily convert scraps to eggs or body mass.

### Compost

Food waste can be composted into nutrient-rich sustainable soil additives.

### Collect

Food waste collection programs are well established in many large cities such as San Francisco and Minneapolis in this country and are quite common in Europe. Vegetable peels, egg shells and food scraps are tucked into a specialized container for weekly municipal collection and composting or energy generation. If they can do it, so can we.

Sources: U.S. EPA, City of Minneapolis Food Waste Program, EcoMaine Community Food Waste Recycling

*Save the date!*

**Join the Environmental Conservation Board**

**Saturday, June 16, 2018**

**at the New Town Highway Facility Open House**

**Displays on Food Recycling, Composting and More**



# Natural Resource Protection News

From the Town of Canandaigua Environmental Conservation Board

## Recycling Food Waste . . .

. . . is coming to the Town of Canandaigua and other communities across the nation. As our landfills reach maximum capacity, an alternative means of managing food waste is needed. We should think of food waste as an untapped resource.

Recycling systems for food waste from homes, institutions and businesses (e.g., schools, restaurants, hotels) have been established for many years in Europe and in many large U.S. cities such as Minneapolis and San Francisco. The Town of Canandaigua can do this, too.

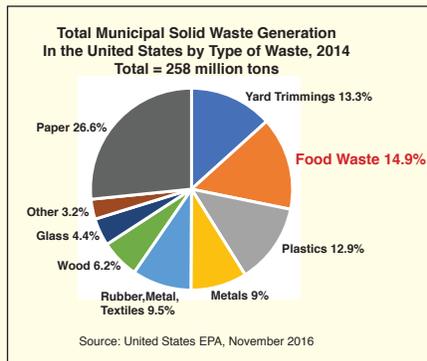
### What Food Wastes Can Be Recycled?

Any prepared or unprepared food wastes, both liquid and solid can be recycled, as well as vegetable and fruit peels, egg shells, tea bags, coffee grounds and filters. Paper napkins and brown paper lunch bags can be included, and even the faded flowers from the dinner table. Meat products, bones, cheese, and other milk products are not recommended for home composting but are included in the Food Scraps Transfer Program as outlined below. More details regarding what is appropriate for your choice of composting method will be available at the Highway Facility Open House on June 16th.

### Two Ways To Recycle Food Waste In Canandaigua—At the Town’s Transfer Station or In Your Own Backyard



Food scrap kitchen caddies will be available to the first 100 residents in each Giveaway Program.



### Collection at the Transfer Station

Food waste collection caddies can be used for countertop or under-the-sink collection. Compostable bag liners can be used to keep the caddy clean and make emptying easier. A larger five-gallon container can be used to store material from the kitchen caddy until your weekly drop-off at the Transfer Station. These organic materials can be upcycled for a valuable soil amendment or for energy production. The Town will use a hauler—Natural Upcycling to collect and transport the material to an anaerobic digester or to a commercial composting site.

There will be no charge to residents for this service. This service to residents will begin on June 30, 2018. Details will be provided at our Highway Facility Open House on June 16 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

**There is also a Giveaway Program of a kitchen caddy, compostable bags, and food scraps transfer pail to be rolled out at the Open House to the first 100 residents to apply.**

Recipients must be Town residents and have a current Transfer Station Permit. Permits are available at the Town Clerk’s Office.

### How Does Backyard Composting Work?

Residents who prefer to compost in their backyard will need a compost bin or pile for kitchen waste and other organic materials. The product of your efforts will provide a rich soil mixture for

your home gardens, flower beds, and lawns.

To help our residents establish this beneficial practice, a *Home Composting and Reducing Waste Food* publication from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) is available online at the DEC page (<https://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8799.html>). This easy and natural practice will provide exciting opportunities for family gardeners.

More information will also be available at the Town’s Highway Facility Open House on June 16th. A table with information for the many options for backyard composters will be staffed by representatives from Cornell Cooperative Extension to answer all of your questions.

**A Giveaway Program for the first 100 residents to sign-up for a wooden compost bin and kitchen caddy will also highlight the day.** There is a \$20 participation fee when signing up. The compost bin is valued at \$120. To apply you must be a Town resident and have a current Transfer Station Permit.

Further details will be available at the Open House.

*Food waste collection at the Transfer Station begins June 30th.*





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From the Town of Canandaigua Environmental Conservation Board

## — Green Living —

### Eight Things You Can Do to Help the Environment Right Now

#### ✓ Don't flush baby wipes

Baby wipes, even the ones advertised as "flushable," are among the most common objects that clog pipes and jam pumps at sewage treatment plants. Use washable cloth wipes instead.

#### ✓ Send foam "peanuts" packing

Call the Packing Peanut Hotline at (800) 828-2214 for the drop-off site closest to you that recycles "peanuts." NYS has nearly three dozen locations.

#### ✓ Turn Out the Lights!

Many species of insects, birds, sea turtles, bats, nocturnal rodents, snakes, fish, and even plants are harmed by nighttime lighting. Use lower wattage outdoor lights, motion-sensitive lights and fixtures with shields that direct light downward.

#### ✓ Water wisely

Use a rain gauge. An inch of water each week is sufficient for plants and greenery, whether Mother Nature provides it or you do. Collect rain in a barrel (many barrels can be attached to a sprinkler) to use on gardens and lawns during dry spells. Place sprinklers so they water your grass, not the street.

#### ✓ Keep cool, not cold

Bigger air conditioners aren't necessarily better. An over-sized AC is less efficient and effective than a unit properly sized for the area to be cooled. Sun, shade and how a space is used are also factors to consider. See the link in the right-hand column to Energy Star's guide.

#### ✓ Enjoy a climate-friendly cookout

Charcoal grills produce about three times more carbon emissions than propane gas grills. If you need to replace



Buried in peanuts? Time to call the Packaging Peanut Hotline.

your grill, consider buying a propane grill.

#### ✓ "Shopping" isn't always a dirty word

Reusing or recycling items is often the greener choice, but sometimes new products are actually better for you and the environment. Search the USEPA's Design for the Environment database (see link in right-hand column) for products that EPA scientists evaluated for safety and high quality.

#### ✓ What can you do with empty cat litter jugs and tubs?

If you buy your cat litter in a cardboard box or paper bag, recycling the empty container is simple. If your favorite brand comes in a large plastic jug or tub, you can still recycle it, but it requires lots of space in the recycling bin.



Here's a fun way to reuse your cat litter pails.

## —Litter Facts—

It takes more energy to make a new product like a can or bottle from virgin materials than it does to make a product by recycling. Recycling saves energy, natural resources, money, time, and land-fill space. It makes less pollution, such as greenhouse gases, and creates jobs too!

#### LITTER Fact:

It takes steel cans up to 100 years to decompose.

#### LITTER Fact:

It takes paper up to one year to decompose.

#### LITTER Fact:

It takes aluminum cans 200 years to 500 years to decompose.

#### LITTER Fact:

Glass can last for thousands of years. It does not decompose.

#### LITTER Fact:

Plastic bottles can take more than 1,000 years to decompose.

#### LITTER Fact:

140,000 plastic bags combined with wood saw dust can produce 500 square feet of composite lumber flooring.

**For more recycling information, see us at the Town Open House on June 16th.**

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**Food waste collection at the Transfer Station begins June 30th.**

Reprinted with permission from the N.Y.S. Department of Environmental Conservation. For more information, visit [www.dec.ny.gov](http://www.dec.ny.gov).



# Natural Resource Protection News

From the Town of Canandaigua Environmental Conservation Board

## Protect Our Lake: Invasive Species Workshop August 9th

Join the Town Environmental Conservation Board on Thursday, August 9th at Onanda Park (4965 County Road 16), from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. for an Aquatic Invasive Species Workshop.

The workshop will be presented by Bruce Gilman, Ph.D., Professor of Environmental Conservation at Finger Lakes Community College and Director of the Muller Field Station. His teaching expertise includes aquatic ecology, field botany, glacial geology and environmental chemistry.

This hands-on presentation with samples of local invasive species found in Canandaigua Lake will offer a free family-friendly opportunity to learn about non-native species and what we can do about their infestation.

The introduction of non-native species is likely to cause economic harm, environmental harm or harm to human health. An invasive species is able to maintain its life cycle within the local area. Although many non-native species are desirable (most agricultural crops and animals are non-native), unwanted invasive species cost time, effort and money to keep them at bay.

So, what do Eurasian water milfoil, Didymo, Water chestnut, Purple loosestrife, Hydrilla, and Starry stonewort have in common? They are all species from other parts of the world that have been accidentally introduced and which have flourished in our lake.

Some of these species were introduced into New York via ballast water discharge as ships from ports around the world travel up the St. Lawrence Seaway and into the Great Lakes.

And, as anglers and boaters move from water to water, these invasive species can be unknowingly spread. This can occur by failing to properly dry or disinfect boating and fishing equipment. Anglers and boaters are asked to be aware of the part they play in the spread of invasive species and take



action to help stem their spread. A boat steward from the Canandaigua Lake Watershed Association will demonstrate proper boat cleaning during the presentation.

For all you aquarium aficionados, did you know that many exotic aquatic plants have been introduced through the home aquarium trade? Invasive plants such as Brazilian elodea, fanwort, and hydrilla are often sold as oxygenators for aquariums. These

plants can become established in the wild and cause dense infestation that compromise water quality or recreation and human consumption if they aren't disposed of properly.

Be on the alert for these intruders! And help us keep an educated eye on Canandaigua Lake.

Source: Materials from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. For more information, visit [www.dec.ny.gov](http://www.dec.ny.gov).



## Recycling Facts

For every **ton of paper** recycled, we save 463 gallons of oil, 7,000 gallons of water, 3 cubic yards of landfill space, 4,100 kilowatt hours of energy and 17 trees. We also produce 60 pounds less of air pollution and we reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 850 pounds per year.

For every **ton of glass** recycled, we save 9 gallons of fuel oil, 1 million BTU's of energy, 1,330 pounds of sand, 433 pounds of soda ash, 433 pounds of limestone, 151 pounds of feldspar, and 25 percent of the energy necessary to make glass with virgin materials. For every **glass bottle recycled**, we save enough energy to light a 100-watt light bulb for four hours.

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[www.TownofCanandaigua.org](http://www.TownofCanandaigua.org)



## Natural Resource Protection News

*From the Town of  
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### Backyard Wildlife Habitat

Creating a backyard wildlife habitat will add much interest to your life as well as benefit the animals – birds, insects, small mammals, amphibians - that grace your neighborhood. All animals have the same basic needs - air, water, food, and cover: a place to rest and to safely raise their young. These requirements have to be available in reasonable proximity, which implies a need for safe passages to where those may be acquired.

Survey your property to see what might already be in place. Tall grasses and areas of wildflowers provide cover for rabbits and ground-nesting birds. A woodpile at the edge of a property may become cover for fox kits. Dense evergreens can shelter winter birds from storms. A



Swallowtail Butterflies enjoying some mud

dead tree in a safe location will be a wildlife hotel. Cavity nesting birds such as bluebirds and any number of woodpeckers will use the tree. Chipmunks and other small mammals may come to stay or to visit.

Water – particularly shallow water – available at ground level will entice and assist all kinds of animals.

Give a toad a drink and it will consume many times its weight in slugs and undesirable insects in your garden. Amphibians are having a hard time surviving for various reasons. Chemicals used for lawn and agricultural purposes and fungal diseases have made

serious reductions in their populations.

A small mud puddle is an attractive place for butterflies to collect needed minerals. Native mason bees use small dollops of mud to seal the egg chambers for their larvae. Native bees do not produce honey, but neither do they sting or defend their nests. They are champion pollinators, so placing a native bee house near your garden and providing a little mud will be a happy event for you and for the bees. Leaf cutter bees will also use bee houses. The small cut-leaf circles used to seal the egg chambers will not damage your plants.  
*Continued.....*

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Butterflies, bees and humming birds need nectar and pollen in abundance for food. A diversity of native plants that bloom in succession provide those needs throughout the season. Flowering shrubs such as elderberries can provide nectar during the blooming season, shelter and shade all summer long, and berries for birds later in the season.

Thoughtful planning can give your backyard beauty and fascinating wildlife visitors throughout the year. Assess what habitat components you may have already. Consider if there are areas of property that could be either planted to native food and/or cover plants. There are many online and agency sources of information available to help you, and several fine local native plant nurseries in the area.



**A Savannah Sparrow gathering food.** Courtesy, Carolyn Jacobs

## Preparation Begins for the 2019 Budget

From the desk of the Town Manager



As we approach late summer, attention at Town Hall shifts to the development of the next year's fiscal budget. State deadlines for preliminary budgets, public hearings, and adoption require the Town Board to complete the next year's budget by essentially the October/November time frame.

The Town Manager is charged with developing a balanced tentative budget with input from all of the department heads, and then presenting that budget to the Town Board. The Town Board then makes the decision if they wish to make any modifications to the tentative budget before they present it to the general public as a preliminary budget. The 2019 budget development calendar requires that a tentative budget be made available to

the general public by September 12, 2018, with the Town Board considering the establishment of a public hearing on their preliminary budget for October 15, 2018.

While work is just getting started on the budget, the Town Board, the Town's Finance Committee, Town Manager, and staff are evaluating budget lines to produce the most efficient budget possible, while still providing the services requested by the residents of the Town of Canandaigua. If you have any questions regarding the budget process please contact Town Manager Doug Finch.

## New Deputy Town Clerk

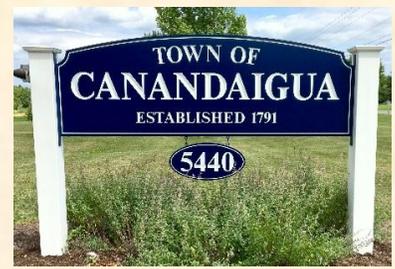


Town Clerk Jean Chrisman announces the hiring of a deputy town clerk who has joined her office team.

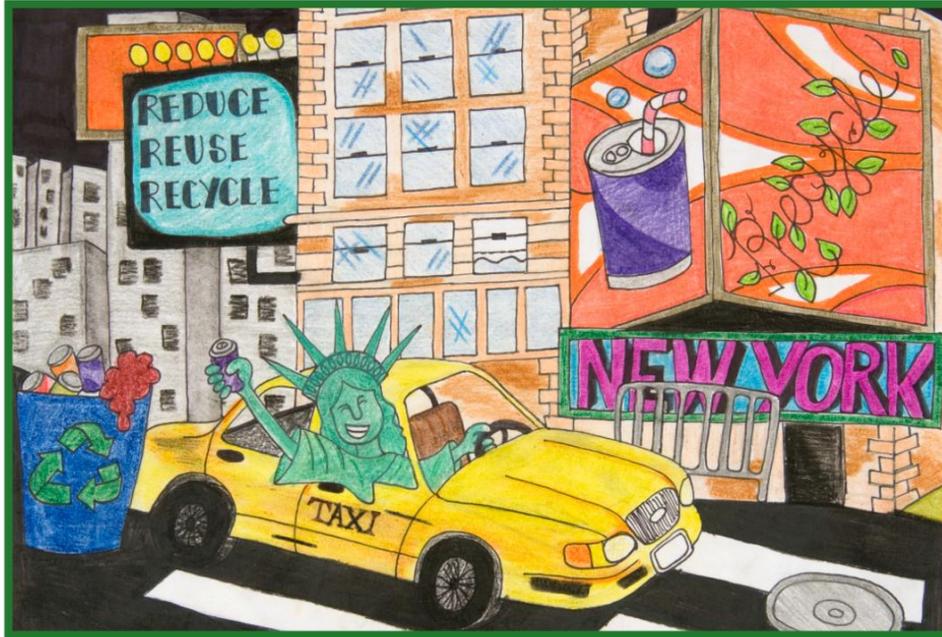
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Art by Stephanie Zdimal (Grade 10-12)

## RECYCLING Steel...

### Environmental Savings

For every ton of steel (metal) recycled, we...

- Use 40 percent less water than the amount used to make virgin steel
- Reduce air pollution by 86 percent
- Reduce water pollution by 76 percent
- Save 2,500 pounds of iron ore, 1,000 pounds of coal and 40 pounds of limestone
- For every can recycled, save enough energy to run a 60-watt light bulb for 26 hours

### LITTER Fact:

It takes steel cans up to 100 years to decompose.

## RECYCLING Aluminum...

### Environmental Savings

For every ton of aluminum recycled, we...

- Reduce energy use by 90 percent
- Reduce air pollution by 95 percent
- Reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 13 tons
- Saves 237 Btu's of energy
- For every aluminum can recycled, save enough energy by recycling just one can to run a TV for 3 hours

### LITTER Fact:

It takes aluminum cans 200 - 500 years to decompose.

## RECYCLING Glass...

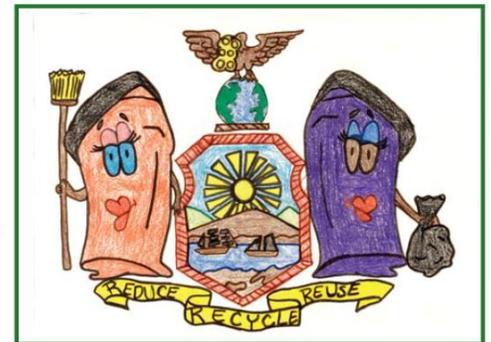
### Environmental Savings

For every ton of glass recycled, we...

- Save 9 gallons of fuel (oil)
- Save 25 percent of the energy necessary to make glass with virgin materials
- Save 1 million Btu's of energy
- Save 1,330 pounds of sand, 433 pounds of soda ash, 433 pounds of limestone, and 151 pounds of feldspar
- Reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 3.46 tons
- For every glass bottle recycled, save enough energy to light a 100-watt light bulb for 4 hours

### LITTER Fact:

Glass can last for thousands of years. It does not decompose.



Art by Joy Yabo (Grade 10-12)

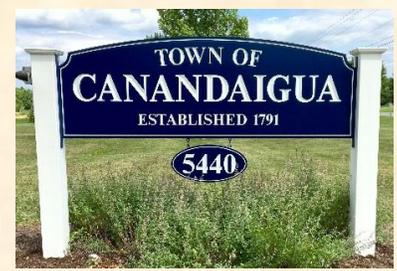


Department of  
Environmental  
Conservation

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www.TownofCanandaigua.org



## Food and Organics Recycling Tips for Success

By Kaitlynn McCumiskey

Have you taken advantage of the food and organics recycling program at our transfer station yet? I wanted to share a few tips for success:

- If you are using the compostable liners for your kitchen caddy be sure not to overload them. They can tear if overloaded and leak the

contents, defeating the purpose of the liner.

- If the inside of the bucket does get dirty, did you know you can put it in the dishwasher? The lid can also be removed to make cleaning easier.
- Did you know that you can also use paper bags as liners? I find these to be very useful when I'm husking corn. I put all the husks in a paper bag and then place them in the

green transfer station bucket.

- Be sure the lid is always fully closed and latched. This helps to prevent fruit flies from taking up residence. Frequently taking the contents of the kitchen caddy to the larger green 6 gallon transfer station bucket will help with this as well.
- If you do find yourself with an abundance of fruit flies in your kitchen, place a few tablespoons of apple cider vinegar mixed with a squirt of dish soap

in a small dish on your counter overnight –this quick and easy homemade trap should do the trick.

Refer to the insert included with your kitchen caddy for additional information about the great features the kitchen caddy (Sure-Close container) has. It has a ventilated lid so that moisture can evaporate, helping to prevent the growth of odor causing  
*continued on next page...*



**Put these items in your food and organics recycling bucket:**

 <p>Paper towels, napkins, and shredded paper</p>	 <p>Egg shells, bones, and shellfish</p>	 <p>Cereal, bread, and baked goods</p>
 <p>Dairy Products</p>	 <p>Meat, poultry, and seafood products</p>	 <p>Fruit and Vegetable Scraps</p>
 <p>Coffee grounds, filters and tea bags</p>	 <p>Pasta, rice, and other grain products</p>	 <p>Leaves and grass clippings</p>

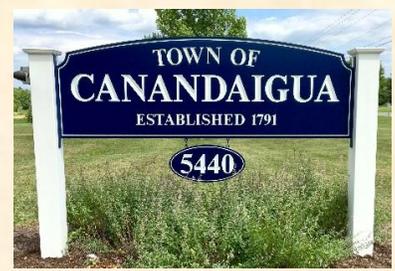
Approved compostable materials only, must be labeled ASTM D6400

**Please be sure not to contaminate the contents with:**

Plastic of any kind, including: plastic bags, wrappers, or straws

- Styrofoam
- Bottles or cans
- Milk or dairy cartons
- Aluminum foil or metal
- Wood or saw dust
- Hazardous waste

Insert explaining what can be placed in the bins for the Town's food and organics waste recycling program. Hard copies are available at the Town Clerk's office or you can request one via email from Kaitlynn McCumiskey at the Highway Department.



## Natural Resource Protection News

*From the Town of Canandaigua Environmental Conservation Board*

**The Environmental Conservation Board wishes you a Happy Fall!**

**In keeping with our charge of resource protection education, we offer a few insights into the magic of trees and their beautiful leaves! CONSERVATION TIP: "Leaf" Them Alone**



**A**s autumn approaches, we look forward to the beauty of leaves turning orange, red, and yellow. People travel to Ontario County from all over to see our trees turn to vivid colors in the fall. While most people enjoy the beauty of this time of year, they also dread the raking and clean-up that comes along with the leaves falling. It has been drilled into our heads that we need to clean up these leaves otherwise we will kill our luscious grass and will be left with a brown, messy yard in the spring. Think again! By mowing several times in the fall, this will break the leaves down into smaller pieces, creating the perfect mulch for your yard, adding nutrients to make your lawn even better next year! Some people use those leaves for weed control in their vegetable garden. If you still want to rake those leaves, move them to your backyard, woods, or hedgerow for them to decompose naturally through the winter for compost for the garden in the spring. Are you familiar with the

Town of Canandaigua's Yard Waste Recycling Program? Bring those leaves and other natural materials down to the Transfer Station area if you have no other place to let them decompose. The mulch made from the leaves and other tree material is available to residents for the taking at no charge. Fill that pick-up with mulch for your flower beds! So easy.....who knew! Also check out [ontariocountyrecycles.org](http://ontariocountyrecycles.org) for more information. In addition, think of some fun crafts you could do with kids with all those beautiful leaves. So, instead of despising your fall clean-up think of those leaves as a natural nutrient source that can be used in a variety of ways.

*Adapted from OCSWCD Newsletter August 2018*

### **IMMERSE YOURSELF IN A FOREST FOR BETTER HEALTH**

Most of us sense that taking a walk in a forest is good for us. We take a break from the rush of our daily lives. We enjoy the beauty and peace of being in a natural setting. Now, research is showing that visiting a forest has real,

quantifiable health benefits, both mental and physical. Even five minutes around trees or in green spaces may improve health. Think of it as a prescription with no negative side effects that's also free.

### **HEALTH BENEFITS FROM FORESTS**

- Boosts immune system
- Lowers blood pressure
- Reduce stress
- Improves mood
- Increases ability to focus, even in children with ADHD
- Accelerates recovery from surgery or illness
- Increases energy level
- Improves sleep

*Taken from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation*

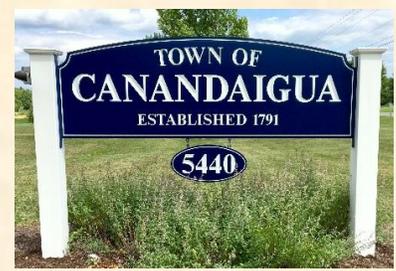
Follow this [Link](#) to read more for further information on 'How Do Forests Make Us Healthier.'



# Town of Canandaigua News

October 2018

[www.TownofCanandaigua.org](http://www.TownofCanandaigua.org)



## From the Town Assessor: Income Verification Program for Seniors

All senior citizens that are receiving the Enhanced Star Exemption and have not signed up for the Income Verification Program must do so in order to continue to receive the Enhanced Star Exemption on their 2019 school taxes.

Included in the 2018/19 New York State Budget Bill, was a provision that requires all senior citizens who receive the Enhanced STAR Exemption to participate in the Income Verification Program. In the past this provision was optional. However, New York State is now making this program mandatory.

By signing the IVP application, the NYS

Department of Taxation and Finance will determine an income for owners of the property and base their eligibility for the Enhanced STAR on that income determination.

Local assessors no longer have control over granting any STAR Exemptions (Basic or Enhanced). While we will be more than willing to help property owners fill out the IVP application, we unfortunately may not be able to assist in all cases.

In addition to filing the IVP application, all seniors who file for the Low-Income Senior Exemption must file their renewal applications in the normal manner. In the past, if a senior citizen was eligible for the Low-Income Senior Exemption, they were automatically granted the Enhanced STAR Exemption.

New York State has now unlinked these two exemptions and eligibility for the Low-Income Senior Exemption does not automatically mean one is enrolled in the Enhanced STAR Exemption.

To be eligible for the 2019 Enhanced STAR Exemption, a property owner must turn 65 in 2019 and have a combined income of under \$86,300. To be eligible for the 2019 Low-Income Senior, a property owner must turn 65 in 2019, have lived in their house 1 year, and have an income under ~\$29,900. We encourage all seniors that are close to one of these income limits to contact our office even if you believe you may not qualify - New York State's definition of 'income' is not consistent from one program to the next.

*Don't forget about the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Halloween @ Onanda coming up soon. This free, family-friendly event will take place from 2-5 pm on Saturday, October 27<sup>th</sup> at Onanda Park on West Lake Road. See attached press release and flyer for details.*

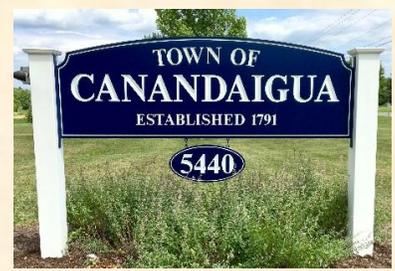
## Employee Appreciation Luncheon

Thank you to the Town Democrat and Republican Committees for sponsoring an Employee Appreciation Luncheon on Tuesday, October 9<sup>th</sup>. The event was held in the Highway Facility. Town of Canandaigua staff, board and committee members, and elected officials all enjoyed a lunch prepared by the Democrat and Republican Committee members, complete with freshly baked apple crisp. Thank you! Everyone appreciated the lunch and the support of the committees.

Halloween @ Onanda



Saturday, October 27, 2018, 2-5 PM



## Natural Resource Protection News

*From the Town of Canandaigua  
Environmental Conservation Board*

### #1 Environmental Conservation Strategy for November: Hunting

Deer have their points (pun intended). They can be graceful and picturesque. Seen from a distance, they provide a nice reminder of our town's rural character. Some of us find them tasty. With the right balance of humans and deer, we have peaceful coexistence.

Sad to say, the human-deer balance is out of whack in semi-rural and forested areas like Canandaigua. Deer love our kind of landscape, where lawns and fields are interspersed with patches of forest. The natural diet of deer is forest-based, and deer gravitate toward forest edges where they can enjoy shelter while supplementing their natural foods with nearby crops and ornamental plants.

Less noticed is that overabundant deer are threatening our forests. Over time, heavy browsing by deer can produce profound and long-lasting ecological damage:

- Disappearance of the understory shrubs that provide habitat for other wildlife species



Overbrowsed forest floor. Photo courtesy NY DEC, by Tom Rawinski

- Low survival rate of tree seedlings, so they are unable to replace the mature trees that die
- Lower biodiversity of both plants and animals
- Encouragement of invasive species crowding out native plants and animals
- Eventually, the forest loses its mature trees and its ability to provide shade, filtering and cooling to our streams

Just as livestock can overgraze a range and reduce it to a wasteland, deer can overgraze a forest. A forest suffering from too many deer has few or no trees between 1 and 5 feet high, no green leaves below 5 feet, few spring

wildflowers and birds, and an open forest floor covered with grass, ferns or invasives.

#### What to do?

New York State tries to manage the size of its deer population through regulated recreational hunting, but deer harvests continue to fall as hunting loses popularity. While hunting may not be for everyone, there is much to be said for allowing others to hunt on your property:

- In order to maintain a stable deer population, an average of 30-40% of the herd has to die every year.
- In urban and suburban areas, most deer deaths are from vehicle

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Fawn browsing. Photo Courtesy of NY DEC, by Dick Thomas.

## How do I find a responsible hunter?

Many hunters are actively looking for owners willing to grant permission to hunt. Contact your friends and neighbors for recommendations about experienced and responsible hunters, and meet them beforehand to discuss the terms for use of your land.

## What about liability and safety?

Landowners are protected from liability for non-paying recreational hunters. Walk the property with the prospective hunter to make sure you agree on the terms, locations, hours, etc.

Deer evolved as prey animals, so they have a high reproductive rate.

Controlling their numbers through hunting is more humane, not to mention safer and less costly to humans, than through vehicle accidents. For more on deer overabundance in NY, visit the [DEC website](#) and see attached flyer.

Information in this article is based on DEC publications.

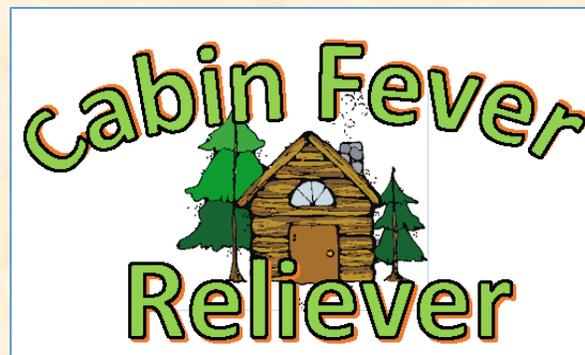
collisions, often producing more pain and suffering than a well-aimed shot.

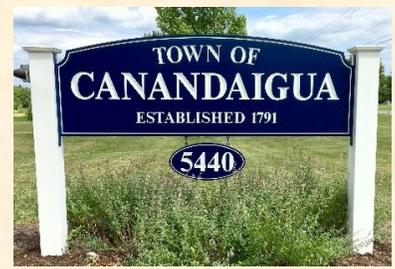
- Natural causes of death, such as predation, disease and starvation can be painful and drawn-out.

- Deer health suffers as parasites, disease and food competition affect high density populations.
- Hunting provides a source of food for the hunters' families, and often for others in need.

## CABIN FEVER RELIEVER – A NEW PROGRAM FOR SENIORS!

Come join us at Outhouse Park Lodge every Thursday morning (excluding Thanksgiving) from 9:30 am – 11:30 am for cards, coffee and snacks. The Town and City are working together to offer Seniors in the Canandaigua area a spot to gather and socialize. See flyer at the end of the newsletter for more details.





## Natural Resource Protection News

*From the Town of Canandaigua Environmental Conservation Board*

### The Beautiful Dead Tree

By: ECB Member, Edith Davey

Are you fortunate enough to own a dead tree? A tree far enough away from your house or other structures to not risk it causing damage if it falls? If you enjoy watching wildlife, letting it remain through the natural process of decay will reward you richly with opportunities to view the habitat created. An ecological succession of animals and plants follows the opening of a forest or border canopy.

In the order of arrival, the succession of animals harbored by a dead tree, or snag, usually begins with insects. Watching even these

small creatures is interesting as they create tunnels in the wood and under the bark for their nurseries and food

woody crevasses and under the bark of such trees.



Pileated Woodpecker on a dead tree. Image Credit: [Wikipedia](#)

storage. Female bald hornets and female native bees overwinter in

their declining numbers were thought

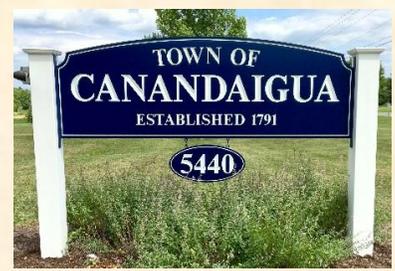
Woodpecker activity may be the first signal of the demise of a tree. Woodpeckers harvesting the ants and other insects attracted to dead trees create cavities that many birds and small animals will use for nesting. At least seven different woodpecker species are found locally. In size they range from large pileated woodpeckers to small nuthatches.

Woodpeckers, chickadees, nuthatches, wrens, tree swallows and bluebirds all use dead tree cavities, although other species will nest in these as well. Before bluebird boxes were promoted to rescue our state bird, their declining numbers were thought

# Town of Canandaigua News

December 2018

[www.TownofCanandaigua.org](http://www.TownofCanandaigua.org)



to have resulted from the lack of available tree cavities that had been their natural home.

Hawks and owls will use tall dead trees as hunting lookouts. Look for dried owl pellets beneath these trees to detect what the bird may have caught for lunch. Bits of fir and bones in the pellets will tell you what small rodents are active in your woods.

Chipmunks and squirrels are lively residents of dead trees, and opossums, raccoons, and fox families will often use hollow logs for denning purposes. Learning to read the tracks and signs of wildlife will entertain you during a long winter's walk.

Mosses and mushrooms will appear as the roots decay, lending more variety and interest to the site. As the

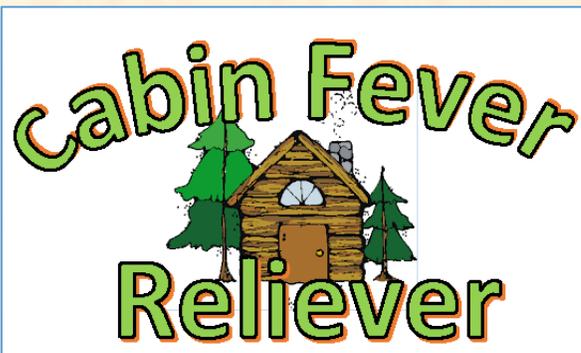


Woodpecker holes in a snag. Image Credit: M. Rehemtulla. [Sourced from Wikimedia](#)

tree canopy opens after the death of a large tree, sprouts from seeds will emerge. Wildflowers (aka "weeds") will also sprout and provide some protection for young trees against browsing deer. Wild raspberry bushes provide excellent barriers against herbivore depredations and are often among the first plants to sprout as berry seeds are carried by birds.

Dead trees in a harmless place are a lesson in ecology for those who watch. However, periodically inspecting all your trees, living and dead, for invasive insects and egg masses is a good idea. If the invasion of spotted lantern flies into New York is to be avoided, public vigilance is needed. Likewise, Oak Wilt and Hemlock Woolly Adelgid problems join concerns about Asian Longhorn beetles and Emerald Ash Borers. Any of these should be reported to DEC or other responsible agencies.

For further reading on the benefits of standing dead trees, or 'snags,' [click here](#).



## CABIN FEVER RELIEVER

Come join us at Outhouse Park Lodge every Thursday morning from 9:30 am – 11:30 am for cards, coffee and snacks. The Town and City are working together to offer seniors in the Canandaigua area with a spot to gather and socialize. No registration is required and there are no residency restrictions. See flyer at the end of the newsletter for more details.