

The Grapevine

Newsletter of the HONEOYE VALLEY ASSOCIATION

VOL. 25 No. 1

SPRING 2012



18th Annual Roadside Clean-up Saturday, April 21st

The annual spring clean-up of roadside litter starts at 8:00 a.m. Saturday, April 21 at the Richmond Town Hall.

The Honeoye Valley Association, organizer of the clean-up, will hand out trash bags and safety vests to participants and coordinate road assignments.

Many local organizations take part. You can participate as a member of one of them, or as an individual. Come to the Town Hall on April 21 and check in for a road assignment if you don't already have one. Residents of Bristol should meet at their Town Hall.

For more information call HVA board member Don Cook (367-9293).



New Weed Harvester for summer 2012

Last fall Ontario County sent a questionnaire to all Honeoye Lake lakefront residents to determine their opinions and level of support regarding the Weed Harvesting Program. The results of the questionnaire showed overwhelming support for the weed harvesting program and indicated a preference for expanding the program and making it more efficient.

(Con't. on p.3)



About Your HVA...

The Honeoye Valley Association is a not-for-profit volunteer organization that works in a variety of ways to protect and preserve the environmental quality of the Honeoye Lake watershed.

To become a member (and receive this newsletter regularly), send \$20 to the HVA, PO Box 165, Honeoye, NY 14471.

To contribute articles, letters or opinions for this newsletter, send them to the above address.

Visit us on our website at www.hvaweb.org.

The HVA Board of Directors meets at 7 p.m. on the second Wednesday of the month, March through November. We meet at the United Church of Christ on Main Street. All meetings are open.

The HVA Board of Directors:

Hugh Turner	367-3522
Frank Powell	367-2927
Kay Luther	229-2315
Helen Johnson	229-2273
Terry Gronwall	367-3000
Jack Starke	367-2079
Don Bennett	229-2003
Jerry Clearman	229-5498
Don Cook	367-9293
Tom Young	367-8086
Ed Jackson	367-3546
Amrut Patel	671-1484

HVA to Work with Honeoye Community Food Pantry

The Honeoye Valley Association is making plans to assist the Honeoye Community Food Pantry toward the end of the lake season. The Honeoye Food Pantry is an all volunteer ecumenical group that provides food items to families in need in the Honeoye area.

The HVA is planning to sponsor a food drive at the end of the Labor Day weekend and also a Sunday afternoon later in September. We believe when many people close up the cottage for the winter there will be food left over that would be very much appreciated at the Food Pantry. We anticipate having a collection site at the Honeoye United Church of Christ on the above mentioned

afternoons. Exact dates and times will be published in the July Grapevine as well as in local newspapers and on posters around the community.

Your food donations are always accepted and appreciated. Donations can be dropped off at the Church Street entrance of the United Church of Christ at any time. If the doors are locked, the area is checked regularly and your donations will be brought into the Food Pantry. The current needs of the Food Pantry include bottled juices, pork and beans, canned fruits, jello, pudding mixes, pancake mixes, and oatmeal. Consider adding some of these items to your grocery list and donating them to the Food Pantry.

Thank you for your support of this important community service.

RICHMOND ANNUAL COMMUNITY BEAUTIFICATION AWARD

The Town of Richmond is accepting nominations for the Richmond Annual Community Beautification Award. The Award, now in the fifth year, is intended to encourage the enhancement of the appearance of properties visible from public areas within the Town and recognize the efforts of those responsible for said improvements.

Eligible improvements could include a building façade, lakeshore improvement, sidewalk garden, major cleanup, or rehabilitation of an area or building. The criteria for selecting the winner will include overall appearance, landscaping, architecture, exterior building appearance, general maintenance/upkeep, and consistency with the Town's Comprehensive Plan.

The recipient will be recognized at a special meeting with the presentation of a plaque. A permanent plaque listing recipients through the years is planned for the Town Hall

The 2011 recipients were Glenn and Melissa Schreiber for improvements made to 4860 County Road 36 in Honeoye. The citizen comments quoted from the nomination forms included "Over the last year or so the Schreibers have been making gradual improvements as well as renovations to this hamlet home built in about 1850. The overall appearance has great curb appeal, the landscaping is tastefully done, and the entire property is exceptionally well maintained. They have even added a

Weed Harvester (Con't.)

Because of these results the towns of Canadice and Richmond, in cooperation with Ontario County, decided to purchase a new larger more efficient harvester. The towns and county entered into a contract with Alpha Boats of Weedsport, NY to build an Aquatic Plant Harvester Model FXB-11 and associated equipment (shore line conveyer & transport trailer) for \$220,000 with delivery by May 31, 2012. This harvester should be on the lake by late June to start the harvesting program for 2012. Ontario County will pay for the harvester and continue operating the harvester as in the past. The towns will repay the county a portion for the capital expenditure over a 7 year period.

This harvester has an 11 foot width and is capable of cutting to a depth of 6 '9" with 1000 cubic feet load capacity. Previous harvesters used over the past 25+ years were 8' wide with a maximum cutting depth of 5' and ~700 cubic feet storage capacity. It is expected that the new harvester will have nearly the same harvesting capacity as the two harvesters that have been used over the past seven years. The new harvester should also be more effective in collecting weed fragments. The old harvesters provided many years of service, but had become unreliable over the past several years

With the warm weather the region has been experiencing and virtually no ice cover, weed growth will get an early start and there is the potential for heavier than normal weedbeds, so it will be beneficial to have a new high capacity reliable harvester.

Beautification Award (Con't.)

garage to the home which has been located in such a manner as to preserve the historic appearance from the public road. This property provides a fine example for what can be done with a hamlet home to improve the appearance of our community and provide an attractive home for their family."

The 2012 award will recognize an improvement generally done during 2011. There are nomination forms with full details available at the Richmond Town Hall, Honeoye Public Library, and Allens Hill Library. Use of the form is encouraged although not required. Nominees could be individuals, community groups, or a combination. Nominations must be submitted to the Richmond

Planning Board, PO Box 145, Honeoye, NY 14471 or dropped off at the Town Hall by May1, 2012.

Honeoye Lake State Boat Launch Update

As of late March, the Honeoye Lake State Boat Launch construction project was well along toward completion. The launch site was actually in use every day during the warm weather period of mid March to late March.

There are now two docks for launching and retrieving your boat to hopefully relieve some of the congestion that used to occur with one dock. There will an area dedicated to parking the lake weed harvester. There will also be another dock and launch system dedicated specifically to kayak and canoe traffic. This addition to the original plan was the result of local input and just approved with an expected completion date of August, 2012.

The parking area near the lake is paved with new pavement markings for traffic control and parking. This area has four handicap spaces each large enough for a vehicle and trailer. There are also nine additional spaces for vehicles with trailers as well as seven regular size parking places. In the upper area toward East Lake Road there are 68 paved parking places for vehicles with trailers. The employee's booth where you pay to use the launch is new and better located.

This project should make it easier for people to launch and retrieve their boats safely. The greatly improved parking facilities should eliminate the parking along the former narrow access driveway and along East Lake Road. The project was designed and funded by the NYS Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation.



Town of Richmond
5th Annual Community Beautification Award
Nomination Form

Purpose: The Annual Community Beautification Award was developed to recognize the efforts of those that improve the overall appearance of the community through enhancement of their property. The Award is to recognize those responsible for an improvement in appearance such as building façade, lakeshore improvement, sidewalk garden, major cleanup, or rehabilitation of an area or building. All properties within the Town of Richmond that are visible from public property are eligible for the Community Beautification Award. The recipient will be recognized with a presentation of a plaque.

- Criteria:**
- Overall appearance
 - Landscaping
 - Architecture
 - Exterior building appearance
 - General upkeep/maintenance
 - Consistency with Comprehensive Plan

Nominated property address/location: _____

Owner (if known): _____

Contact information (if known): _____

Briefly describe the nominated property/project, including information on significant improvements that have been made during 2011 and how this property has made a significant contribution to the beautification of Richmond. Before and after photographs, if available, and use of this form are encouraged but are not necessary.

Submitted by: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

_____ Email: _____

Please submit nominations by May 1, 2012 to: Town of Richmond Planning Board
8690 Main Street
PO Box 145
Honeoye NY 14471

Dear HVA Members,

There has been a great deal of controversy over the issue of tapping the methane gas reserves in the Marcellus Shale beneath the watershed in the Finger Lakes Region by means of Hydro-Fracking. In November the Finger Lakes Regional Watershed Alliance, an organization of some 10,000 members in the watershed of Canandaigua, Cayuga, Conesus, Honeoye, Keuka, Otisco, Owasco, Seneca, and Skaneateles Lakes, took the following position regarding Hydro-fracking (HVHF):

- (1) The science and technology do not yet support that the use of HVHF to stimulate gas flow in the watersheds can be done safely and not provide risk to the water resources.
- (2) Increases in sediment loading due to drilling and HVHF for natural gas in the Marcellus Shale layers in the Finger Lakes watersheds will denigrate the water quality of the lakes and tributaries.
- (3) There are major unknowns regarding the treatment and disposal of flow back water from HVHF for natural gas wells. No information exists regarding the effective treatment of flow back waters that contain brine, hydraulic fracturing chemicals, and material extracted from the shale including naturally radioactive materials.
- (4) There should be confirmation from local towns and municipalities to prohibit heavy industrialization and undesirable changes to a community resulting from natural gas drilling and local zoning laws and ordinances.

In summary the Finger Lakes Regional Watershed Alliance believes the HVHF drilling for natural gas in the entire Finger Lakes region including the watersheds of all eleven Finger Lakes should be prohibited at this time Because:

1. The science and technology have not developed to ensure the safety of the water resources that supply drinking water to millions of Finger Lakes Region and New York State residents.
2. Natural gas drilling increases sediment load on area lakes, and will both degrade water quality and increase the costs placed on municipal drinking water facilities to provide safe drinking water. The increased sediment load will also permanently increase nutrient load in our lakes resulting in irreversible water quality degradation.
3. There are no effective means to properly neutralize and dispose of flowback water that is environmentally safe and protects our drinking water resources. Further, no complete treatment for flowback water and waste from HVHF for natural gas currently exists.
4. NYSDEC, as a regulatory agency, should affirm in the SGEIS the rights of local towns and municipalities to prohibit industrial activities like natural gas drilling within their communities under New York State's Home Rule Law, which statute guarantees their authority to enforce zoning ordinances that protect and preserve the health and welfare of their residents.

This is a brief version of the position letter signed by Lynn Thurston Nov. 11th 2011 and sent on to Commissioner Martens on behalf the Alliance.

It is politically advantageous to have the support of the Alliance in this matter as the collective voices of 10,000 members have a lot more political clout than the membership of each local organization.

Have you joined and paid your dues yet? Please do so if this is an issue in which you want to have your voice heard!

Hugh Turner
Pres. HVA

Your 2012-2013 HVA Membership Renewal

Please renew your 2012-2013 HVA membership today. The HVA can only accomplish its mission of enhancing the quality of the environment and life experiences in and around Honeoye Lake through both your personal and financial support as a member.

If you have already renewed your membership, we greatly appreciate your support for all of the HVA's initiatives.

The Honeoye Valley Association is dedicated to protecting, preserving, and enhancing the quality of the environment and life experiences in and around Honeoye Lake. Through your membership the HVA can support activities like monitoring the lake water quality, supporting new water quality research activities, annual litter clean-up of over fifty miles of area roads, Finger Lakes Community College Environmental Conservation student scholarships, boat safety courses, signs displaying local boating laws, publishing the Grapevine, and serving as an advocate to other agencies for lake and watershed issues.

A large, diverse membership offers more viewpoints and assistance to various committees and projects. The membership year runs from July 1 through June 30 and the annual dues are \$20 per membership.

If you have membership questions, suggestions, or need additional forms, please contact any Board member listed in the Grapevine, or write to us. More information is available at www.hvaweb.org. Thank you.

Detach and mail with your check:

Date: _____

Individual (\$20) New Member Renewal Extra donation for water quality projects \$____

Lake		Mailing	
Name :		E-Mail:	
Address:		Address:	
City:		City:	
State:	Zip:	State:	Zip:
Phone:		Phone	

I would also like to be involved with the committees circled below:

Aquatic Vegetation
Boat & Safety
Stream Monitoring

Membership Drive
Publishing
Litter Control

Board of Directors
Fish & Wildlife

Honeoye Lake grant

In November of 2007 Ontario County Soil and Water Conservation District, in conjunction with the Honeoye Lake Watershed Task Force and sponsored by the Town of Canadice, submitted and was approved for a grant to explore and prioritize Streambank Erosion Related Action items. The grant from NYS Department of State Division of Coastal Resources, Environmental Protection Fund was approved.

The deliverables for the grant included two parts, one part being the inventory and characterization of the streams in the watershed to be followed by prioritization of issues, potential design and permitting. These initiatives were accomplished

through many inkind hours by volunteers and work by Ontario County SWCD. Volunteers and staff from the SWCD walked many of the streams in the watershed and documented there findings after being trained in a protocol for documentation. A final document cataloging these findings is due out in April of 2012.

The second deliverable was to be an inventory and assessment of local laws and regulations regarding erosion in the watershed. This initiative was to be done by Ontario County Planning in a partnership with Greater Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council. This portion of the grant has been extended.

Honeoye Valley Association
PO Box 165
Honeoye, NY 14471