Great Lakes Watershed Cleanup



MAY 2021

Linda Kohl, District Governor

SPECIAL ENVIRONMENTAL EDITION

Great Lakes Watershed Cleanup

Greetings everyone,

Thanks to Marilyn Lyon for the special edition of The Grapevine celebrating the wonderful Club participation in the Multi District Great Lakes Watershed Cleanup!

I want to thank the many Rotarians and 40 Rotary Clubs in District 7120 for participating in the first but hopefully not the last, Multi District Great Lakes Watershed Cleanup!

Most clubs scheduled their cleanups for Saturday, April 24 being it was the Saturday following Earth Day on April 22. It was fortunately a beautiful sunny day for Rotarians to work together to clean up debris along the Great Lakes watershed.

A big thank you goes to Gary Anderson, from Geneseo Rotary and Chair of the District Environmental Action Committee. Gary tirelessly worked to coordinate the Watershed Cleanup initiative for District 7120.

Thanks to all who participated in this premiere event!

Yours in Rotary,

DG Linda



WHAM News Bright Spot, April 26

https://13wham.com/features/bright-spot/bright-spotcommunity-clean-up

Our Bright Spot shines on a weekend clean-up project. Saturday, members of 41 Rotary Clubs worked across Monroe County cleaning up more than 50 sites, part of their Great Lakes Watershed Cleanup Mission. Groups said the most common item they picked up was a facemask.

"Be sure if you're not wearing a mask and you can dispose of it, put it into a garbage receptacle," said Linda Kohl, Rotary District Governor. "Don't leave it out there in a park where animals can choke and be harmed."



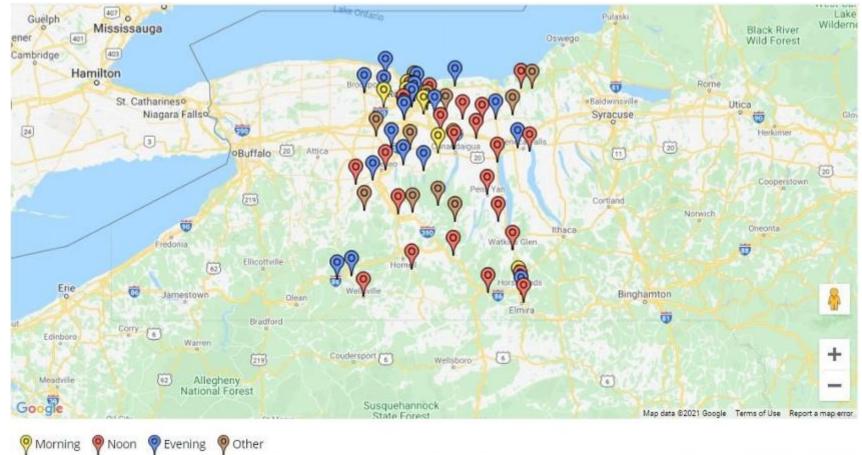








District 7120







Supporting the environment becomes a new area of focus

The Rotary Foundation Trustees and Rotary International Board of Directors have both unanimously approved adding a new area of focus: supporting the environment.

More than \$18 million in Foundation global grant funding has been allocated to environmentrelated projects over the past five years. Creating a distinct area of focus to support the environment will give Rotary members even more ways to bring about positive change in the world and increase our impact.



RI President Mark Maloney says that during his travels around the world as a Rotary senior leader he encountered many Rotary members and Rotaractors who advocated for the environment to be an area of focus.

"I believe strongly that our Rotary Foundation programs now have a valuable added dimension to our efforts," says, Maloney. Foundation Trustee Chair Gary C.K. Huang says that with the global population reaching near eight billion, protecting the environment is increasingly important.

"It is time for us to use our collective resources to invest in a smart and efficient way to protecting our environment," says Huang. "We are qualified to take this initiative because we are a global group of problem solvers with diversified talents."

In 1990-91, RI President Paulo V.C. Costa made the environment one of his primary causes, creating the Preserve Planet Earth subcommittee, which looked at ways clubs and members could conduct environmental initiatives.

"We have finally caught up to Costa [his vision]," says Past RI President Ian H.S. Riseley, chair of the Environmental Issues task force, which championed the new area of focus.

"As a lifelong environmentalist, I'm delighted that our great organization has recognized that the environment is a worthy and appropriate destination for our project activity," says Riseley. "This is an exciting moment in Rotary history."

Supporting the environment becomes Rotary's seventh area of focus, which are categories of service activities supported by global grants. It joins peacebuilding and conflict prevention; disease prevention and treatment; water, sanitation, and hygiene; maternal and child health; basic education and literacy; and community economic development.

Grant applications for projects will be accepted beginning on 1 July 2021. Gifts and commitments from Rotarians and others will be sought to provide global grant support for the new area of focus.

Geneseo Rotary ~ Conesus Lake, Long Point Park







Cleaning up the pavilion from leaves and walnuts. Getting leaves away from picnic areas. Clean ashes out of and painting grills Clean debris from beach and outdoor shower area. Picking up sticks and debris in the remainder of the park. Photos by Leah Fletcher. Submitted by Marilyn Lyon



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The Rush Henrietta Rotary members were out cleaning up the boat launch area near Riverton Golf course. It was part of Earth day Clean-up Submitted by Steve Synesael











Penn Yan Rotary & Dundee Rotary ~ Keuka & Seneca Lake Outlet





Penn Yan and Dundee Rotary taking care of the Keuka & Seneca Lake Outlet.

Rotary covered the 8 mile stretch in Yates County that affects the watershed for both

Keuka Lake and Seneca Lakes along the Outlet Trail.

- Submitted by Stacy Wyant

Penn Yan Rotary:

Stacy Wyant, Pres. and Christine Wyant Jackie and Bob Shrader PDG Jeff Krans and Diane Krans

Kate Ferguson Schmidl Rob and Carol Schwarting **Bob Smith** Sue Andersen Morgan Andersen (Interact Club)

Dundee Rotary participates in the Great Lakes Watershed event for Earth Day 2021! - John Frederick

Dundee Rotary:

John Frederick, Pres. Alan Giles PP Kate Ring

Bill McIlvride, PE Fran Willis Kathy and Kevin Ring Amy Fleet Pack 25 for Boy Scouts





Nunda Rotary ~ Letchworth State Park



The Nunda Rotary Club devoted a morning to help clean up the litter left on one of the many trails in Letchworth State Park in honor of Earth Day. The three Nunda Rotary members were joined by two Keshequa High school students and one Letchworth Elementary student and together the six-member team collected two garbage bags full of recyclables and two garbage bags full of trash. From Nunda Rotary

Newark Rotary ~ Erie Canal



Part of the team that cleaned up the Erie Canal banks. Awards were given for unusual items found during the cleanup. On the same day another Newark crew picked up trash on State Route 88.



Bloomfield Rotary ~ Wetland Area





Earth Week in East Bloomfield! Cleaning up the Wetland Area between and owned by the Bloomfield Schools: Twelve Rotarians, the leaders and girls of the American Heritage Girls Troop 0024, a representative from each of the 2 local BSA troops, and several other community members, joined forces this morning to remove trash, cut back brush, clear dead branches, and decrease the cattail population obstructing the boardwalk. We filled a dump truck with biodegradable matter, filled many bags of trash, and made new friends with people who share a common purpose. This will be only the beginning of our ambitious plans to restore the wetland to the peaceful and beautiful center for nature study it was intended to be when it was built more than 20 years ago. Stay tuned for more!

From Lydia Archer



Willing hands made light work - and the weather was awesome! American Heritage Girls helping out! From Bloomfield Rotary Club



Clifton Springs Rotary ~ Sulphur Brook



On a sunny, beautiful spring Saturday morning fifteen intrepid members of the Clifton Springs Rotary Club (and one future Rotarian) cleaned up the Sulphur Brook, and its environs, in Clifton Springs. The Sulphur Brook empties into the Canandaigua Outlet which eventually empties into the Erie Canal. Fifteen very large garbage bags were filled by the enthusiastic Rotarians.

Sodus Rotary ~ Sodus Point

Sodus Rotary District 7120 Collected over 40 bags of trash from the Lake Ontario shoreline at Sodus Point beach, the canoe and kayak public launch, Willow Park shoreline and the public boat launch. along Sodus Bay. We partnered with the Neighborhood association of Sodus Point (NASP) and the Wayne County Soil and Water conservation district for our first Great Lakes Watershed clean up. There were over 12 tires collected. Prizes were given to the largest object, the most unusual object and most items collected. The most unusual item was a bent quarter, The largest object collected was a car axle, followed by two car bumpers. We had great participation, with over 35 individuals many of them students & families from Sodus Central School system. Thank you to everyone! What a great day for a water quality. From Maxine. Appleby Sodus Rotary

Over 35 individuals helped clean the lake Ontario and Sodus Bay shoreline on Saturday, April 24th as part of the Rotary Great lakes watershed cleanup.

From Carolyn Wetherby















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Penfield Rotary ~ LaSalle Landing Park On Irondequoit Bay











Lyons Rotary ~ Erie Canalway Corridor











On Saturday, April 24, the Lyons Rotary and local volunteers participated in Global Earth Day and the Great Lakes Watershed Cleanup, a multi- state initiative to "cleanup" our lakes, streams and waterways. In the Lyons area, the focus was a one (1) mile segment of the Erie Canalway Corridor which included Abbey Park, the Erie Canalway Bike Trail, the Lock 27 area, the Lyons Dock and adjacent flower bank area, the area adjacent to the Canalside baseball fields, and the Lyons Southside Erie Canal Park.

Working in small groups or individually, and coordinated by Rotarian Keith Bridger and Greeter Bob Stopper, over 40 volunteers comprised of Rotary Club members, Canalway Greeters, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and concerned citizens, spent three hours accumulating huge bags full of garbage, trash, plastics, glass bottles, Styrofoam food containers, and discarded bait containers. Other "cleanup" items included broken plastic chairs, broken dishes, tires, and several loads of brush and trimmings.

The Lyons National Bank, Dobbin's Hardware, and Burnham's Lawn Service also contributed to the success of the day. The day concluded with a distribution of free "Lock 27" T shirts, pizza, and a feeling of pride and accomplishment by all.

The "Watershed/ Canalway Cleanup" effort was best characterized by Lyons Rotary President Rena Reed, "Thanks to the Lyons Rotary Club and all the volunteers, one (1) mile of the Erie Canalway Corridor in Wayne County is now a safer, healthier, and more esthetically pleasing

environment for all."

Submitted by: Robert Stopper,

Rena Reed



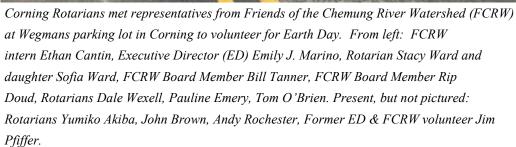
Corning Rotary ~ Chemung River

The Corning Rotary Club partnered with the Friends of the Chemung River Watershed (FCRW) to celebrate Earth Day by cleaning up a section of the Chemung River between the Benjamin Patterson Bridge and the Bridge Street Bridge in Corning Saturday, April 17. The Corning Rotary Club also donated \$500 to the FCRW to commemorate the day.

The initiative is aligned with Rotary International's newly added Environmental focus area and will become an annual activity for the Corning Rotary Club.

- Submitted by Paula Smith







Corning Rotary President Paula R. Smith presents a \$500 donation to Friends of the Chemung River Watershed Executive Director Emily Marino

Canandaigua Rotary ~ Waterways That Feed Into Canandaigua Lake













Ask and they will come! On Saturday, April 24th the Canandaigua Rotary Club, with help from the Canandaigua Kiwanis Club, Interact Club and Honor Society students from Canandaigua Academy as well as other community volunteers, all worked together to cleanup several areas around Canandaigua. Approximately 80 volunteers collected over 50 bags of trash found in or near waterways that feed into Canandaigua Lake. The Great Lakes Watershed Cleanup was an international, multi-Rotary District project to cleanup the Great Lakes and other waterways surrounding the Great Lakes. From Jodi Kaufman

Victor - Farmington Rotary ~ Rotary Centennial Walking Path Along Scenic Mud Creek

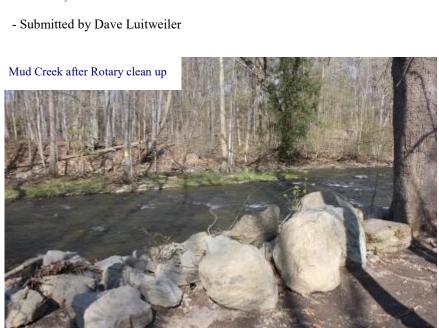
Recently, a work party consisting of members of the Victor – Farmington Rotary Club gathered at Mertensia Park in Farmington to clean up discarded trash and debris in wooded areas along the Rotary Centennial Walking Path. The pathway is located along scenic Mud Creek that flows through the park. It is noted for the bluebell flowers found along the pathway and in the woods. It is popular with hikers and residents.

The Rotary Centennial Walking Path was created in 2005 by the Victor – Farmington Rotary Club in celebration of the 100th anniversary of the founding of Rotary. Rotary clubs throughout the world were encouraged to create a project in their community to recognize the centennial year. Locally, the Rotary club project involved the Boy Scouts of America who participated in constructing the trail.

The Rotary Centennial Walking Path is one of numerous Rotary projects that involve local parks in the townships of Victor and Farmington. The club partners with local town officials to establish sustainable and meaningful contributions to the park systems.

Victor – Farmington Rotary club members spread out in small groups and were successful in filling five large trash bags with discarded debris found along the creek and in the bushes and woods.

The club's project was part of a Rotary International project, The Great Lakers Watershed Cleanup, involving Rotary clubs in the US and Canada that are in areas adjacent to a Great Lake. Rotarians on both the US and Canadian side fanned out along the lake's shoreline and/or local rivers, lakes, ponds, creeks, or canals, to collect and remove rubbish and debris. Participating in the local cleanup were Rotarians Jim Crane, Galen Powers, Kim Yourch, Karen Hansen, Bruce Chapman, Bev Rosbrook, Kelly Cochrane and son Marcus, Judy Luitweiler, and Dave Luitweiler



litter from Mud Creek







Elmira Rotary ~ Lackawanna Trail

Elmira Rotary Watershed Clean Up

On Saturday, April 26th, the members of the Elmira Rotary helped the Friends of the Chemung River Watershed, Inc., collect litter near the Lackawanna Trail in Elmira and bag it into nearly 25 large bags! It was hard work and a good workout, but we kept our smiles the entire time! The executive director of the Chemung River Watershed said: "Without support from organizations like Rotary we would have a hard time keeping our whole 2,600 sq. mi. Watershed clean. Remember, every piece of garbage that isn't disposed of properly is one more piece that may end up in our bodies. Environmental Health = Public Health!

-Submitted by Laurie Liberator







Watkins - Montour Rotary ~ Clute Park Waterline, Watkins Glen



Watkins Montour Rotary Earth Week Clean-Up April 24

It was a day of service as we did the clean-up in the morning and then hosted a chicken BBQ at lunch time that sold out in 27 minutes!

I was so grateful to have the club come together to implement this initiative. Special thanks to Nancy Loughlin for being the point-person day of.

Metrics:

Name of Club: Watkins-Montour Rotary Club Where Cleaned Up: Clute Park Waterline,

Watkins Glen Volunteers: 11 Bags Filled: 12 Snow Fences Rolled: 3

- Submitted by Tiffany Bloss



"Service Above Self"

Nancy Loughlin, Ken Wilson, Nancy Ruda, Elizabeth Watson (and daughter Anna), Bridgette Stewart, Judy Phillips (President), Glenda Gephart, Michelle Benjamin (and husband Tim), Matt Hayden

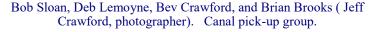
Pal - Mac Rotary ~ Erie Canalway & Shoulders Along Rt. 21

Great Lakes Clean-Up

Pal-Mac Rotary's Great Lakes Watershed cleanup. We had seven people helping to clean up our section of the canal, at the same time we had another six or eight people cleaning up our section of along Rt. 21 highway. We collected 132 pounds of garbage from the canal area. Our group started with breakfast at yellow Mills Diner and then headed out to do the cleanup! - Submitted by Leslie Vecchiotti, Jeff Crawford



Rollo Black, Mark Clement, Kim Clement, Marie Fessler, Kim Brooks, Dianne Sloan, and Maurina Schmidt. Road pick-up.











Webster Rotary ~ North Ponds Park & Lake Ontario Shoreline



We had a beautiful day! We had 7 Interact Students from our two High Schools and 6 Rotarians for the effort. One group went to the shoreline and the other did the North Ponds Park area. We had four bags total I believe at the shoreline.

- Submitted by Robyn Whittaker









The Geneva Rotary Club annually cleans up along Route 14 south of the city, but in the last couple of years the club added a new location ... the lakefront at the north end of Seneca Lake. Rotarians, Interactors from Geneva High School and Rotarators from Hobart and William Smith Colleges all help out. Assistant Governor and Geneva Rotarian Jim Dickson's shirt points out what we all know ... that Rotarians work hard for their communities.

Submitted by Philip G. Beckley







Avon & Caledonia - Mumford Rotary ~ Genesee River

On the morning of April 24th Rotarians in the Great Lake States and Canadian Provinces took part in the Great Lakes Watershed Cleanup. This initiative involved Rotarians from hundreds of clubs cleaning lakeshores, rivers, streams, and canals that feed in and out of the Great Lakes and is one of the largest volunteer coordinated cleanups to ever take place in North America. Avon Rotary did our part by teaming up with Cal-Mum Rotary Club to clean access points along the Genesee River, one of the main rivers to feed into Lake Ontario. Together we hauled out 31 bags of trash, a tire, an old drainage pipe, among other stuff. Kudos to Avon and Caledonia-Mumford Rotarians for their efforts to make our community a cleaner place. While other Avon Rotarians volunteered to clean up the Genesee River access point, another hard working team assembled the new bleachers for the Avon Driving Park ball fields. This year's District Simplified Grant project is nearly completed. Thank you volunteers!

Written by Mike Ford

Submitted by Laurie Vonglis















Bath Rotary ~ Tyrtle Beach On Lake Salubria & Three Areas On Keuka Lake

As part of the Rotary District 7120's Watershed Project, the Bath Rotary Club participated in the cleanup of public access sites to local waterways. Members cleaned up the area of Tyrtle Beach on Lake Salubria outside the Village of Bath and three areas on Keuka Lake, including Champlain Beach outside the Village of Hammondsport, Keuka Yacht Club, and the Branchport Inlet in the town of Jerusalem. The local project was spearheaded by Tess McKinley, Jane Russell, and Jessica Thomas. Those Bath Rotarians who participated in this project enjoyed cleaning up the above areas as well as enjoying hours of fellowship and friendship with their fellow Rotarians.

For those who do not live in the Southern Tier, Tyrtle Beach, held annually on Lake Salubria, is a fundraiser for a multitude of youth programs in the area. The founders of the event named it Tyrtle Beach because it often occurred at the time when some local residents traveled to Myrtle Beach. A prominent community member is selected to jump in the lake, usually cold at the end of April, while community members and organizations pledge money for the event. The Bath Rotary Club usually pledges \$1,000/year and challenges the Bath Kiwanis Club to do the same. Some of the past jumpers have been Bath Rotarians. This year's jumper was Kelly Fitzpatrick, a Certified Public Accountant, Steuben County Legislator, and Bath Rotarian. Written by Elaine Tears, Pictures by Tess McKinley, Jessica Thomas, and Cheryl Muller



Bath Rotary Club clean up debris at the site of Tyrtle Beach on Lake Salubria as part of Rotary District 7120's Watershed Project. Standing left to right are: Logan Herrick, Tess McKinley, Angela Mattoon, Bill White, Elaine Tears, and Don Snyder. Herrick is a Bath-Haverling Central School 10th grader who earned community service points for helping the Rotarians.



Bath Rotarians cleaned up the area of the Branchport Inlet on Keuka Lake As part of District 7120's Watershed Project. Standing left to right are: Nancy Latour, Cheryl Muller, and Jane Russell.



Champlain Beach on Keuka Lake cleaned up by Amanda Chafee and Jessica Thomas as part of Rotary District 7120's Watershed Project.



Bath Rotarians, Amanda Chafee, President-Elect, and Jessica Thomas, President, clean up Champlain Beach on Keuka Lake as part of Rotary District 7120's Watershed Project.

Wolcott Rotary ~ South End Of Sodus Bay



Seneca Falls Rotary ~ Cayuga Lake State Park

Seneca Falls Rotarians and Jr. Rotarians participated in a clean up day at Cayuga Lake State Park. Submitted by Liz Becht and

Mark Benjamin











Irondequoit Rotary ~ Irondequoit Bay

Tom Kosanke Our final report:

Bags collected: 14 (12 on 4-24 and

2 on 4-17).

Participants: 20 (18 on 4-24 and

2 on 4-17). Time: 2 hours

Unusual items found: 1 tire (with wide white

wall!!); hockey puck

Coordinated effort with the Town of Ironde-

quoit - Invigorate Irondequoit

















From Rochester Northwest Rotary - cleaning up along the Genesee River near Lake Ontario. Submitted by Judith Bennett

Photo below: Barbara and Dan Hoffman, Jim Ryan, Paul Minor







Brockport Rotary ~ Erie Canal

1 mile, approximately 5000 steps,

1.5 hours = 3 full garbage bags (including 20 cans turned into recycling center for our Polio Account at local recycling center). Art Appleby, Doug Clare and Mary Jo Orzech participlated in successful Canal Clean Sweep on Saturday, April 24, 2021. It was a beautiful day with just enough breeze to feel great. Thank you to those who were there in person or with us in spirit. I hope we can do it next year with the **Brockport Rotaract students!**

Submitted by Mary Jo Orzech



Photo right: Mary Jo Orzech. Doug Clare and Art Appleby, Brockport Rotary Club





Brockport President Doug Clare, Art Appleby at Brockport Canal Clean Sweep



Red Creek Rotary ~ Lake Ontario





The Rotary Club of Rochester Southwest held a clean-up of the Erie Canalway from the Genesee Valley Park tennis courts to Scottsville Road on Saturday, April 17. Six people filled 5 bags with garbage.

From Lisa Norwood









Ontario - Walworth Rotary ~ The Shoreline Of Ontario-On-The-Lake & More.

Ontario-Walworth Rotary Participates in the Great Lakes Watershed Cleanup

Ontario-Walworth Rotary Participated in the Great Lakes Watershed Clean Up Event on April 24th as part of an Earth Day Celebration. More than 50 clubs from District 7120 and Canada worked together to cleanup along the shores of our lakes, streams and waterways. Ontario-Walworth Rotarians, family members and friends, Boy Scouts and Explorers conducted the cleanup up on Saturday, April 24th as follow up to Earth Day.

The major areas of focus for the cleanup, or this Rotary Club's area, were Bear Creek, Casey Park, Maxwell Creek, and the shoreline of Ontario-on-the-Lake. Some of the objectives of holding this large scale coordinated cleanup event were to:

- 1. Improve the aesthetics of the Great Lakes and waterways by removing garbage from public areas and roadsides
- 2. Reduce the amount of plastic and litter on our lands and in our waterways
- 3. Remove waste that could potentially be ingested by pets and other wildlife
- 4. Provide an opportunity for public participation in collaborative activities
- 5. Educate the public about the effects of littering, the importance of recycling, and instill a sense of stewardship

The cleanup in this area was a huge success with many bags of garbage along with a variety of other items ranging from a bowling ball, plastic piping and a tire being loaded onto a trailer and taken to the ALPCO dump. Participants were treated to a lunch of hot dogs, mac salad, cookies, cupcakes and water after the cleanup.





Gananda Rotary ~ The Canal Path in Macedon



In honor of Earth Day, the Gananda Rotary Club covered 2-1/2 miles of the Canal Path in Macedon and picked up about 70 lbs. of trash. The majority of the weight was a lead pipe and roofing shingles. To say the least, the stretch from the O'Neil Rd. Bridge and to Canandaigua Rd, was pretty tidy. People are very respectful about the trail. Very little debris of the pop cans, cups and litter.

Some of the Club members are pictured in front of Lock 30, ready to begin. On the trail, and in the ditches around the canal path, collecting debris, and then at the end, the Club members and family and friends, happily showing off their trash collection.

Submitted by Patti Holdraker, Gananda Rotary Club





East Rochester Rotary ~ Irondequoit Creek In The Village Of East Rochester

Members of the East Rochester Rotary, along with some helpers, participated in the Great Lakes Watershed Cleanup working along Irondequoit Creek in the Village of East Rochester.

Submitted by Mary Kay Parrone





Pittsford Rotary ~ Erie Canal & Irondequoit Creek & More

The Pittsford Rotary Club partnered with the Town of Pittsford, the Mendon and Sutherland High School Interact Clubs, the Nazareth College Sustainability Task Force and Seth Green Trout Unlimited to spruce up the Erie Canal and Irondequoit Creek as well as nearby areas along East Street, in Powder Mills Park and along the Cartersville and Auburn Trails. Submitted by David Irwin











"Service Above Self"



Fairport Rotary ~ Erie Canal

Fairport Rotary Number Participating 10 Bags of trash collected 5 Brandon Scribner





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Naples Rotary ~ Naples Creek

Naples Rotary Club volunteering to do our small part in the multi-district Great Lakes Watershed Clen-up initiative.

The Naples Creek is very important to our community, and our club, serving as a venue for our Trout Derby and for the Great Grape Race, aka Lucky Ducky Derby.

Our task maybe a fairly simple but nonetheless significant in helping to maintain our pristine waters in the Finger Lakes. Submitted by Sherry French

In total we had 11 participate. Submitted by Jack Fredericks

















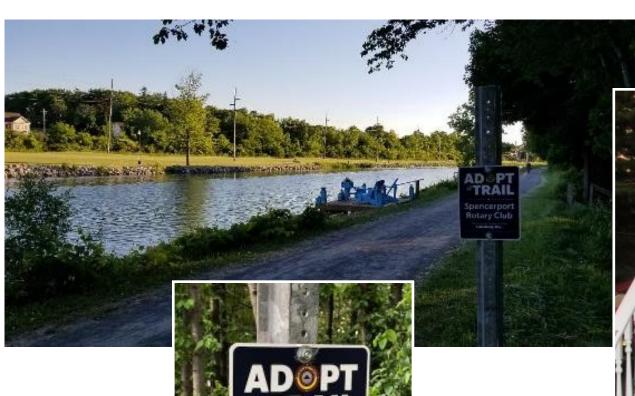




Spencerport Rotary ~ Continued Cleanup Along The Canal

For the past 4 years, the Spencerport Rotary Club has been a sponsor of the "Adopt a Trail" program, partnering with the NYS Canal Corp. and Parks & Trails New York. Twice a year, Rotarians walk the trail assigned to them on the canal and clean up any litter. The club plans to continue this effort annually for many years, including during the Great Lakes Watershed Cleanup.

Submitted by Colleen Farley



Spencerport Rotary Club

