

Oswego County Environmental Management Council

2018 Strategic Plan

Objective 1: Maintain steady progress toward reducing discharge of toxic substances, nutrients and sediments to the waters of the County.

Strategy 1a: Participate in a cooperative effort to re-activate the Oswego County Water Quality Coordinating Committee.

Strategy 1b: Provide an EMC member as liaison to organizations working on the reclamation and revitalization of Lake Neatahwanta.

Strategy 1c: Monitor, research and report on discharges to local water bodies as needed.

Objective 2: Support long-term planning and control mechanisms and effective response efforts to insure residents, resources and properties are safeguarded from the effects of flooding and water level fluctuations.

Strategy 2a: Monitor Lake Ontario level changes resulting from implementation of International Joint Commission regulations.

Objective 3: Support the protection, stabilization, restoration and optimum public use of the Lake Ontario coastal zone's important environmental resources.

Strategy 3a: Continue to monitor proposals to develop offshore and land based wind powered electricity generating systems in Oswego County and surrounding area, including review of impacts of other similar developments around the world.

Strategy 3b: Participate with Oswego County Legislature in developing best management practices, guidelines or regulations regarding public, private or commercial development of wind-powered electricity generating systems.

Strategy 3c: Provide an EMC member as liaison to Dune Coalition and monitor the progress of the Stewardship Vision for the ELO Dune/Wetland system.

Objective 4: Develop an ecological approach to planning for county growth to protect habitat for the diversity of plant and animal species, assure the protection of unique and irreplaceable biological resources, and sustain the traditional pastimes of hunting, fishing, trapping and viewing wildlife.

Strategy 4a: When proposed, review revisions to local, county, regional, and state comprehensive plans and encourage incorporation of wildlife habitats of threatened, rare and endangered species which warrant protection in these planning efforts.

Strategy 4b: Participate in projects involving the inventory and development of the Salmon River Corridor and Watershed, including the Salmon River corridor trailway.

Strategy 4c: Provide support for the Friends of Great Bear Recreation Area.

Strategy 4d: Identify tasks to further education, interpretation and research opportunities related to resources that have scientific or educational importance and natural heritage value.

Strategy 4e: Monitor Environmental Notice Bulletin, assess impacts of proposals, provide comments to lead agencies as needed.

Objective 5: Support the preservation and management of public and private forest lands for a variety of uses including sustainable harvest of forest products, recreation, wildlife habitat, surface and groundwater protection, and air quality enhancement.

Strategy 5a: Monitor and research issues such as zones of water contribution, recharge areas, and aquifers relating to water withdrawal developments in Oswego County.

Strategy 5b: Encourage support and funding for Tug Hill Aquifer research.

Objective 6: Encourage implementation of best available technology and best management practices to maintain and improve air quality and protect the health of County residents.

Strategy 6a: Provide support through an EMC member liaison for the Oswego County Solid Waste Management Board.

Objective 7: Encourage practices for efficient, environmentally sustainable agricultural production and maintain or enhance agricultural lands as a viable and competitive natural resource.

Strategy 7a: Monitor research and proposals for biomass-to-energy projects in Oswego County.

Objective 8: Increase EMC data accessibility for public use.

Strategy 8a: Expand EMC electronic presence by regularly updating EMC home page and investigating other opportunities available on the internet.

Strategy 8b: Prepare reports, fact sheets, and other sources of information related to environmental issues, as recommended by the EMC or requested by the Oswego County Legislature.

Strategy 8c: Prepare an annual “EMC State of the Environment Report” and submit to the Oswego County Legislature.

Strategy 8d: Continue the EMC guest speaker program for education about current environmental issues.

Objective 9: Maintain EMC presence through participation in community environmental education events.

Strategy 9a: Continue participation in public events with environmental themes in Oswego County.

Strategy 9b: Review, update and distribute educational materials and information that EMC showcases at public events and posts on the county government EMC website pages.

Strategy 9c: Develop a proclamation for the Oswego County Legislature to encourage all county citizens to participate in Earth Week cleanup and events.

Objective 10: Participate in any review and revision of the Oswego County Comprehensive Plan when proposed.

Objective 11: Monitor and provide information about the threats invasive species pose to terrestrial and aquatic resources in Oswego County. Support continued funding for water chestnut and other invasive species control in County waters.

Strategy 11a: Provide an EMC member as liaison to the regional St. Lawrence Eastern Lake Ontario Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management (SLELO PRISM) with Jefferson, St. Lawrence and Oneida Counties and encourage participation by Oswego County agencies.

Strategy 11b: Promote and distribute information on community preparedness and developing action plans to combat invasive species in the county.

Approved November 20, 2017

Tim Carroll, Chair

Oswego County Environmental Management Council

