

Conservation Advisory Council 5/18/16 Meeting Minutes

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#1 Welcome/Background (How the CAC came to be.) *It was created as an outgrowth of the Town of York Impact Research Group.*

#2 What is a CAC? *An advisory body that can advise town agencies on the development, management, and protection of natural resources such as water, land, air, forests, meadows, farmland, minerals, soil, plants, animals, habitat/landscape corridors, viewsheds, trout streams, footpaths, trails, green space, etc.*

#3 IRG recommendations for CAC agenda (*see Town of York webpage, IRG 2015 Report, pg 29*)

#4 Concerns:

- *Stream water quality*
- *Disappearance of hedgerows/habitat corridors*
- *Green Burials*
- *Crossroads of Routes 36 & 63 near York Central*
- *Zombie houses*

#5 Projects:

- *Undertake a baseline study of the streams in York using the DEC WAVE (Water Assessments by Volunteer Evaluators) Program*
- *Research Green Burials*
- *Continue development of the Little Italy Trail from Greigsville to Retsof to Piffard*
- *Research ways to resolve the zombie house problem*

#6 Additional notes:

- *Future CAC meetings – 3rd Wednesday of the month, 7:30pm (next meeting – June 15)*
- *WAVE training at Alfred on 5/19/16*
- *Possible public presentation from Steve Schiano on forestry*
- *Attendance at the Genesee River Basin Summit – RIT (5/25/16; 8am-4:30pm)*
- *CAC sponsored hike along the Little Italy Trail*

Respectfully submitted,
Dave Nagel

5/19/16 WAVE Training Report

We now have a member of the CAC who has had the necessary DEC training and is now permitted by the DEC to collect macro invertebrates in NYS streams and rivers in order to help create a DEC inventory of stream water quality. Samples will be taken from the streams in York beginning on July 1.

5/25/16 Genesee River Basin Summit Report

'Erosion of stream banks in the Genesee Basin is a major ecological and economic problem for our region... causing: loss of valuable farmland, costly dredging at the Mt Morris Dam and Rochester Harbor, sediment levels that reduce fish populations and reduce appeal for recreation and tourism, and high nutrient levels that lead to harmful algal blooms and beach closings.' Federal, state, regional, and local experts are moving forward to try to remedy this and there may be grant money available to localities to help with this effort.