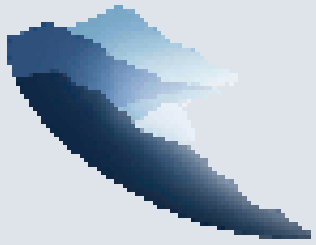


CHAMPLAIN WATERSHED IMPROVEMENT COALITION OF NEW YORK

Clinton Essex Franklin Warren Washington Counties

CWICNY Mission:

*Providing a coordinated effort to
improve water quality and other
natural resources within the New York
Lake Champlain counties through
project implementation.*



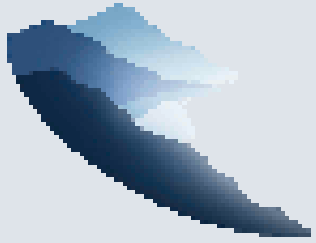
CHAMPLAIN WATERSHED IMPROVEMENT COALITION OF NEW YORK

Clinton Essex Franklin Warren Washington Counties

The Beginning

The Champlain Watershed Improvement Coalition of New York (CWICNY) was created in 2001 with the purpose of getting cost-effective conservation projects “on the ground” on the New York side of the Champlain Watershed.

The member organizations of CWICNY have varied backgrounds in agriculture, hydrology, conservation, design, construction, planning, forestry and much more.

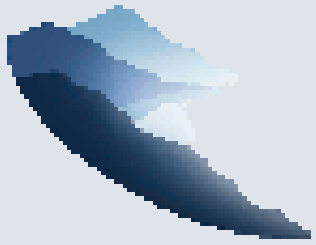


CHAMPLAIN WATERSHED IMPROVEMENT COALITION OF NEW YORK

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The Coalition Board is comprised of:

- **1 representative from each Soil and Water Conservation District**
- **1 representative from each County Water Quality Coordinating Committee**
- **1 representative from the Lake Champlain/Lake George Regional Planning Board**

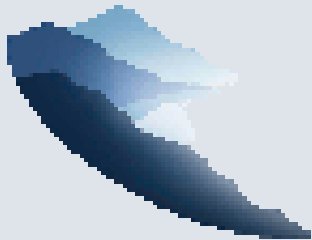


CHAMPLAIN WATERSHED IMPROVEMENT COALITION OF NEW YORK

Clinton Essex Franklin Warren Washington Counties

CWICNY is a 501-c-3 nonprofit conservation organization which identifies specific water quality and natural resources issues within the Lake Champlain Watershed and works to directly solve these problems with communities, farmers and other landowners in the watershed.

All grants and funding which CWICNY receives, goes directly towards the undertaking of these projects to help improve Lake Champlain. CWICNY goes beyond political boundaries and incorporates public sector/private citizen partnerships to complete projects that are good for the watershed as a whole.



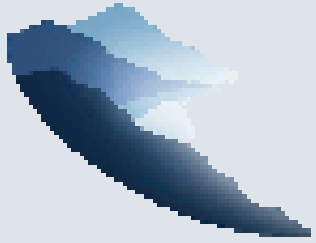
CHAMPLAIN WATERSHED IMPROVEMENT COALITION OF NEW YORK

Clinton Essex Franklin Warren Washington Counties

Objective

The objective of CWICNY, its member organizations, and its cooperating partners is to reduce phosphorus loading to Lake Champlain through the implementation of numerous projects and practices throughout the New York side of the Lake Champlain watershed.

The Lake Champlain Basin Program's management plan, Opportunities for Action (OFA) is a major resource in guiding the implementation programs that CWICNY pursues.

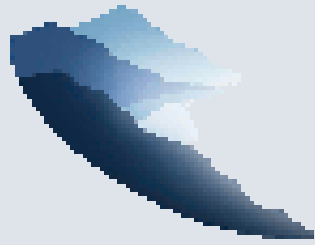


CHAMPLAIN WATERSHED IMPROVEMENT COALITION OF NEW YORK

Clinton Essex Franklin Warren Washington Counties

Who is CWICNY? County Soil & Water Conservation Districts

- Each District is a legal subdivision of state government, formed as a special district as per NYS law.
- Each county in New York State has a Soil and Water Conservation District.
- The mission of the Districts is to protect and improve the lakes, rivers, streams, soils and other natural resources of each county through locally-led conservation projects and programs.
- The Districts are not a regulatory and have no statutory regulatory authority. They are primarily technical assistance and conservation project development organizations.



CHAMPLAIN WATERSHED IMPROVEMENT COALITION OF NEW YORK

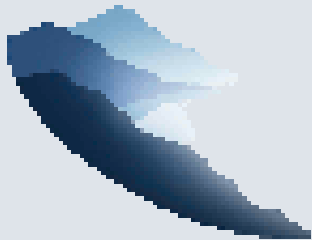
Clinton **Essex** **Franklin** **Warren** **Washington Counties**

A signature project for **Clinton County SWCD** was to partner with the **Town of Plattsburgh** to secure funding through the LCBP for a Vacuum Trailer to improve maintenance of stormwater infrastructure throughout the county. The request was made to the District by the Highway Superintendents Association because many of the Towns felt a vacuum trailer was a valuable and useful piece of equipment, but individually none of the towns or municipalities could afford one.



Other LCBP funded projects include:

- 2014 Clinton County Multi-Farm Agriculture Assistance
- 2015 No Till Hay and Pasture Program
- 2016 Cover Crop Project
- 2017 Ag Implementation Grant- Soil Health
- 2018 Priority Area Cover Crop Program
- 2019 Corn Planter Retrofit (CWICNY)
- 2020 Manure Stacking Grant (w/Essex SWCD)



CHAMPLAIN WATERSHED IMPROVEMENT COALITION OF NEW YORK

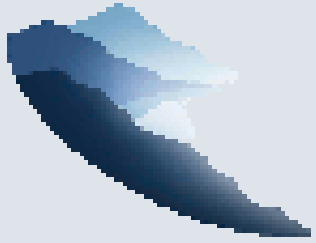
Clinton **Essex** Franklin Warren Washington Counties

Essex County SWCD Essex County has also been able to utilize funds available through CWICNY-RRAMP and LCBP on many smaller stormwater, erosion, and ag projects.

In 2020, Essex SWCD received \$20,000 towards the purchase of a no-till drill.

In 2020, Essex SWCD received \$125,000 from the LCBP to purchase new hydroseeders for both Essex and Clinton Counties.





CHAMPLAIN WATERSHED IMPROVEMENT COALITION OF NEW YORK

Clinton Essex **Franklin** Warren Washington Counties

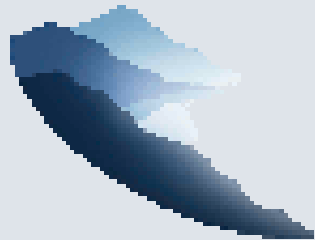
Franklin County SWCD

Rural Roads Active Management Program (RRAMP) funding was utilized from CWICNY to assist with getting a stream bank stabilization project implemented.

Franklin County SWCD is currently partnering with Warren County SWCD on a LCBP Outreach and Education grant for \$9,500 to host three workshops for loggers, foresters, landowners, zoning officials, etc. on implementing Forestry Best Management Practices (BMPs) to help protect natural resources.

During the workshops, the presenters will discuss permit restrictions, common forestry BMPs, the use of portable skidder bridges, setting up stream crossings, a field tour of a local harvest site to see implemented BMPs and a hands-on component of constructing three portable skidder bridges.





CHAMPLAIN WATERSHED IMPROVEMENT COALITION OF NEW YORK

Clinton Essex Franklin **Warren** Washington Counties

Warren County SWCD has a great deal of success implementing Stormwater Projects for Phosphorus reduction around the county.

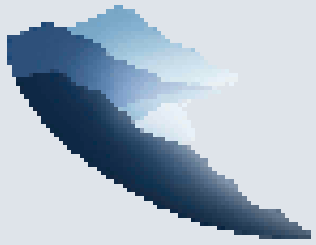
With funding assistance from LCBP they have been able to install multiple small stormwater implementation projects, create feasibility studies for installing green infrastructure practices and generate stormwater reports.

LCBP- Soil Health on Market Farms: Partnered with SUNY Adirondack, cover crop workshop, soil health BMPs, no till tools and Nutrient Management Planning

LCBP- Green Infrastructure Feasibility Studies for Warren Co Municipal Center: bioretention, catch basin, drywell, cisterns all in study design
Gurney Lane: catch basin, raised timber frame rain garden, grass swale and cistern all in study design



Queensbury Birdsall: Two tiered timber framed planted bioretention, grass swale, catch basin



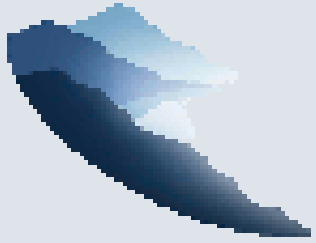
CHAMPLAIN WATERSHED IMPROVEMENT COALITION OF NEW YORK

Clinton Essex Franklin Warren **Washington** Counties

Washington County SWCD has been very successful applying for NYS funding. In the past 5 years, they have had 8 applications funded, of these 6 were for farms in the Champlain Watershed, totaling \$3,102,877 spent on phosphorus reduction practices.

- Have utilized Targeted Watershed funds through CWICNY to install Ag BMP's
- As a member of CWICNY, have 3 farms involved in the LCBP funded No Till Corn Planter conversion project.





CHAMPLAIN WATERSHED IMPROVEMENT COALITION OF NEW YORK

Clinton Essex Franklin Warren Washington Counties

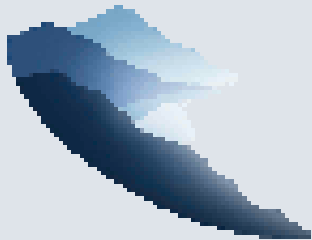
The Water Quality Coordinating Committees

In the late 1980's and into the early 1990's there emerged in New York State a greater awareness of the role of nonpoint sources as the primary threat of contamination of the state's water bodies.

Because nonpoint pollution sources are everywhere, and results from activities of everyone, New York State has concluded that the solution for nonpoint source pollution must be equally broad-reaching.

New York State has facilitated and encouraged involvement at the local level. The underlying belief is that the local grassroots awareness and support are essential if nonpoint source control initiatives are to be effective, and the local initiatives will make it possible to greatly expand the number of watersheds that can be addressed.

Based on this belief, New York State encouraged the establishment of local committees to deal with the problems of nonpoint source pollution. Formed at the County level, these committees are called Water Quality Coordinating Committees



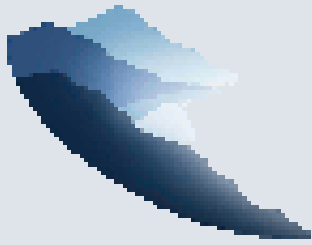
CHAMPLAIN WATERSHED IMPROVEMENT COALITION OF NEW YORK

Clinton Essex Franklin Warren Washington Counties

MISSION STATEMENT (Clinton County WQCC)

“To protect and improve the water resources of Clinton County through a coordinated, inter-agency approach involving concerned public and private entities.”

- Members appointed by the County Board of Legislators/Supervisors
- Comprised of individuals representing diverse areas of expertise relative to water quality issues
- Meet quarterly to discuss current issues and opportunities
 - Inform and involve the public in pertinent water quality issues.
 - Identify and prioritize water quality issues and problems.
 - Encourage and assist in the process of integrating and involving various governmental and private entities and organizations concerned with having expertise in water quality issues.
 - Develop specific initiatives and recommendations that serve to address and recognize water quality issues



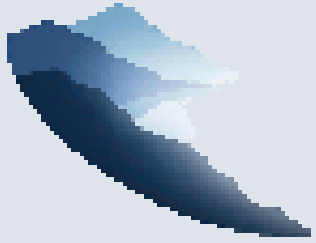
CHAMPLAIN WATERSHED IMPROVEMENT COALITION OF NEW YORK

Clinton Essex Franklin Warren Washington Counties

3. The Lake Champlain-Lake George Regional Planning Board

The Lake Champlain-Lake George Regional Planning Board works with communities and organizations to develop plans and programs to ensure the long-term health of the region's waterbodies.

- Much of the LCLGRP's service area lies within the Lake Champlain watershed. The New York State portion of the watershed is just over 3,000 square miles within Warren, Washington, Essex, Clinton, and Franklin counties.
- The LCLGRP will assist municipalities and other eligible applicants in applying for and administering grants related to water quality and watershed management planning, and outreach and education.
- The LCLGRP is a valuable partner in CWICNY; they have assisted with the application and management of larger NYS Water Quality Improvement Program grant projects



CHAMPLAIN WATERSHED IMPROVEMENT COALITION OF NEW YORK

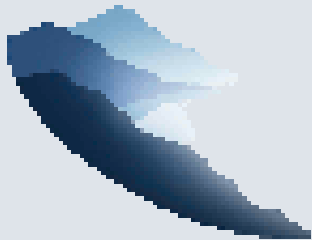
Clinton Essex Franklin Warren Washington Counties

Recent CWICNY PROJECTS FUNDED BY LCBP

Rural Roads Active Management Program (RRAMP)

Utilizing funding provided by the Lake Champlain Basin Program (LCBP), CWICNY, developed a new roadside protection program that provide guidance and assistance to municipalities when facing challenges with secondary roads.

- RRAMP encourages the use of best management practices to increase resiliency of infrastructure, reduce erosion, protect natural resources, and save time and money.
- CWICNY developed two educational guides for local municipalities, the Rural Roads Best Management Practices Manual and the Rural Roads Active Management Program Field Guide. .
- In 2018, CWICNY utilized \$100,000 obtained thru the LCBP to fund planning and implementation projects in all 5 counties.



CHAMPLAIN WATERSHED IMPROVEMENT COALITION OF NEW YORK

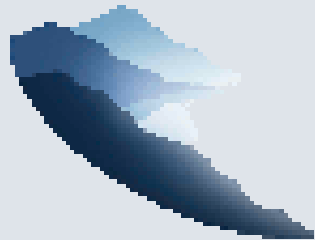
Clinton Essex Franklin Warren Washington Counties

Rural Roads Active Management Program (RRAMP) Education and Training

After a successful completion of the 2018 RRAMP funding and implementation program, CWICNY felt it important to get this program going state wide by talking about experiences and successful projects.

- In February 2019, many CWICNY members took part in a Municipal Sub-committee meeting in Albany. The RRAMP program, BMP Guide and other ditch maintenance programs were discussed and State Soil & Water Conservation Committee staff were assigned to pursue the matter.
- In 2019, CWICNY continued to advocate for state wide guidelines to protect rural road infrastructure and water quality through integration of economically-feasible BMPs to facilitate a harmonious, resilient, and sustainable networks of secondary road corridors.

We are encouraged that our program has raised awareness of rural road maintenance and erosion prevention best management practices on a state wide level.



CHAMPLAIN WATERSHED IMPROVEMENT COALITION OF NEW YORK

Clinton Essex Franklin Warren Washington Counties

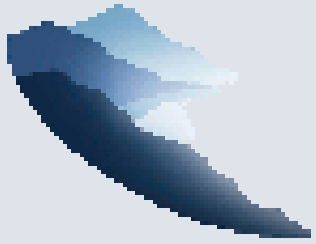
CWICNY Corn Planter Retrofit Project

In 2020, CWICNY was awarded \$50,000 by the LCBP to assist 7 farms in NY to convert their existing corn planting equipment to allow for no-till planting.

3 farms in Clinton, 1 in Essex, and 3 farms in Washington Counties were selected and have retrofitted their corn planters with assistance from Cornell Extension Specialists and Soil & Water staff.

NRCS Practice 329- “Residue and Tillage Management, No-Till” has been shown to effectively reduce nutrient and sediment pollution to waterways



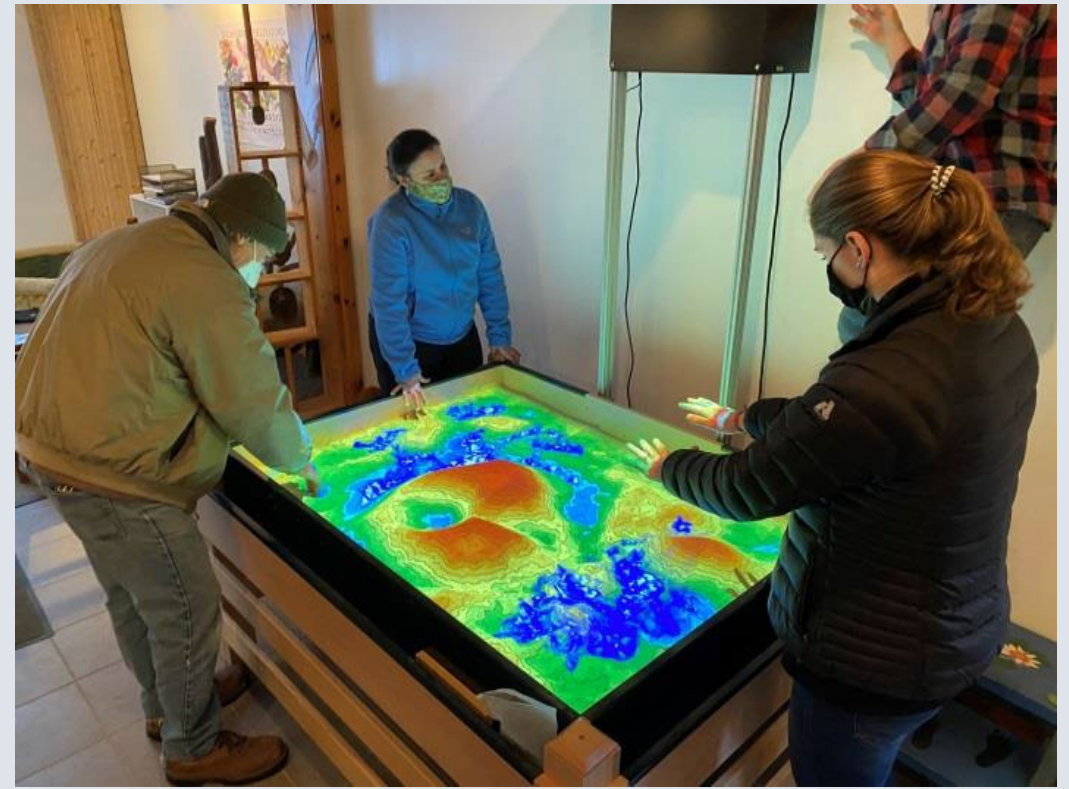


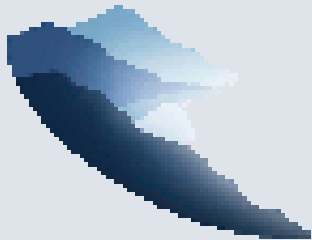
CHAMPLAIN WATERSHED IMPROVEMENT COALITION OF NEW YORK

Clinton Essex Franklin Warren Washington Counties

LCBP Outreach and Education Augmented Reality Sandbox (ARS) model

In 2020 the Champlain Watershed Improvement Coalition of New York (CWICNY) received an educational grant from the Lake Champlain Basin Program (LCBP) to purchase and install an Augmented Reality Sandbox (ARS) model at the Up Yonda Farm Environmental Education Center in Bolton Landing. The purpose of purchasing this model was to further the education of the mission and goals of both organizations. Housing the model at this facility which is centrally located in the region and has an annual audience of 10,000 students and public.





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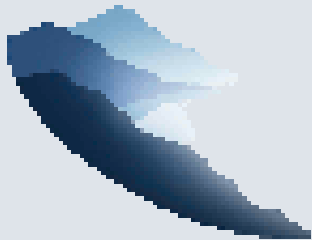
Clinton Essex Franklin Warren Washington Counties

CWICNY's NY Realtor Educational Training Program

Real estate agents are in a unique position to educate members of the public, many upon their first arrival to the Lake Champlain Basin.

CWICNY's NY Realtor Educational Training Program was aimed at training realtors on the important interactions between the natural world and development, including septic system, wells, floodplains and wetlands, so they can, in turn, educate their clients on making informed decisions for land use planning.

This was achieved by developing a 3-hour, NYS DOS approved Watershed Protection Course for Real Estate Professionals. CWICNY partnered with staff from the Chazen Companies, Southern Adirondack Realtors, Northern Adirondack Board of Realtors, and the Clinton County Board of Realtors to bring this training to area realtors, which was funded by the Lake Champlain Basin Program.



CHAMPLAIN WATERSHED IMPROVEMENT COALITION OF NEW YORK

Clinton Essex Franklin Warren Washington Counties

Current and past CWICNY activities as an Organization

- Legislative Tours
- Rural Roads Active Management Pilot Program
- **DOS Grant for Subwatershed Assessment Plan**
- ARRA grant for Roadside Erosion Assessments
- WQIP grants (2) to address the Roadside Erosion sites
- **Recycling Ag Plastics Program**
- **Targeted Watershed Funds in 2008**
- Hydroseeder purchases for all SWCD's through grants
- Innovative Stormwater Management Practices
- Stormwater, Erosion and Sediment Control Trainings
- Salt Reduction Trainings and Equipment
- **Partnership with Lake Champlain Lake George Regional Planning**
- NAACC assessments
- Riparian Buffer and Streambank Stabilization
- Partnership on many levels across all disciplines
TU, SWCC, USFWS, DEC, Municipalities, Public Officials,
and Legislators
- Outreach and Education Grants from LCBP
- Septic Education for Realtors
- Rainwater Harvesting Demo Project in Lake George
- Rainwater Harvesting Projects across the Watershed
- **Stormwater Tradeshow and Conference in its 15th year**
- EM River Model at New York State Fair
- **Cover Cropping**
- Agricultural BMP's from Waste Storages to Milk House
Waste Projects
- Regional Conservation Partnership Program with VT and
Greater Adirondack RC&D
- Hazard Mitigation and Flood Assistance after Irene