

TOWN OF LAGRANGE CONSERVATION ADVISORY COUNCIL (CAC)

A. 2017 ACCOMPLISHMENTS.

1. Reviewed applications received from the Town Planning Board and commented on their environmental impacts at the monthly meetings on second Monday of each month.
2. Installed the software program with the latest data to review planning board applications (GIS layers) and the program required to read it (Arc Reader) in the CAC laptop computer after working with Sean Carroll of Cornell Cooperative Extension of Dutchess County for several months.
3. Attended the annual Dutchess County EMC/CAC Roundtable at Cornell Cooperative Extension of Dutchess County in Millbrook on March 1 and presented highlights of the 2016 CAC achievements and 2017 objectives.
4. Participated in the Operation Trash Bash, road side pick-up, in the Town of LaGrange on April 22 and picked up trash on both sides of one-mile section of Cramer road.
5. Hosted a public meeting in the LaGrange Town Hall on May 4 from 7:00 to 9:00 PM to recognize students from 5th through 12th grades in the Arlington school district who won awards at the Dutchess County Regional Science Fair. It was well attended by the students, their families and friends. Students gave power point presentations of their winning projects
6. Participated at the LaGrange Community Day on June 17 by having 2 CAC tables with the latest environmental and conservation information and staffed by CAC volunteers to assist visitors and answer questions. New this year were (a) a *NY Times* environmental quiz (from the 6/13 issue) for adults which had very positive response and (b) recruiting information for new CAC members. Two members of the community signed up and are very active and contributing members of CAC.
7. Sponsored and lead a walking tour of the Wappinger Creek Greenway Trail in the Town of LaGrange on September 16 as part of the 18th Annual Hudson River Valley Ramble program. This involved working with the Town of LaGrange Parks and Recreation Department to have the trail mowed and cleared for the walk as well as publicizing the event.
8. Implemented a new major CAC project, which required many CAC volunteer hours over 3 months for fund raising, publicity, soliciting skilled volunteer coaches, etc. It was held at the LaGrange Town Hall from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM

on November 4th and was first “LaGrange Repair Café”. Free repair of household items for the community was done by 18 skilled volunteer coaches (including 4 from CAC) to help the environment by reducing waste. Taxpayer money was not used. The event was a resounding success (see attached poster and comments).

9. Attended the NYS 2017 Conference on the Environment at Kingston, NY on November 17 and 18. It was a well-attended event (104 attendees). We received the NYSACC Environmental Project Award (one of three awards presented this year) for the Repair Café/Free Repair of Household Items event on November 4th. The framed award will be presented to the Town Board for public display in the Town Hall. This was the sixth Environmental Project Award that LaGrange CAC has won since 2006 (the most for any CAC in New York State).
10. Implemented significant improvements at Wappinger Creek Greenway Trail this year in addition to routine maintenance. Trail renovations included: (a) making improvements to the south section of the trail by creating a stone-step bypass at a steep-slope section of trail (and begun spec'ing out a proposed rope hand-grip next to the steps), (b) creating and installing the first 4 of a planned 12-18 wooden signs to identify the species of trees as well as 4 metal signs to identify some common plant species along the trail, (c) restoring the trailhead kiosk with Welcome signage, information noting trail facts, guide sheets noting various plants and trees found on the trail, a map with descriptions of other trails in LaGrange, and a display holding hand-out copies of the LaGrange trails guide map.
11. Explored the feasibility of extending the Wappinger Creek Greenway Trail to Milano Drive in the Spring of 2018 by walking the proposed trail path with Mike Kelly (LaGrange Highway Superintendent). Mike is willing to provide a Highway Department employee and a Brush Hog machine for one day to assist with clearing brush on the proposed trail.
12. Received approval from the Town Supervisor, Alan Bell to receive funding and manpower in 2018 to handle brush clearing and restoration of the Popsicle trail, which is much needed in order to restore this trail section to public use.
13. Kathy Smith, master gardener and retired IBM vice-president, and her friend Linda (who is also a master gardener) have continued to plant and maintain the two CAC Xeriscape gardens in front of LaGrange Town Hall. They are probably the last well-maintained Xeriscape gardens in Dutchess County.
14. Attended the following environment related workshops and seminars:
 - (a) Renaissance of a Community Using Code Enforcement, Zoning and Planning.
 - (b) Using Natural Resource Mapping.

NYSACC

New York State Association of Conservation Commissions

Environmental Project Award



In recognition of the members of the

2017 Community Engagement Award
LaGrange Conservation Advisory Council
Free Repair of Household Items

Maung Htoo, Chair
Robert G. Kinkade
Rolf H. Nijhuis
Adrian Berezowsky
Paul Horstmann
John Sommer
Ellen Waggener

for outstanding accomplishments in enhancing
the quality of the environment in their community

Presented at the annual
Conference on the Environment

November 17, 2017

Date



President, New York State Association
of Conservation Commissions



LaGrange Repair Café

Free Repair of Household Items

At the LaGrange Town Hall, 120 Stringham Road
Saturday, November 4th
10 am - 2 pm

Organized and Hosted by the
LaGrange Conservation Advisory Council
to Help the Environment by Reducing Waste

Examples of household items for repair:

- ☀ Lamps, vacuums, toasters, other electrical items/small appliances
- ☀ Chairs, picture frames, small tables, and wood items
- ☀ Computers and electronics
- ☀ Clothing and textiles

FREE COOKIES AND CIDER WILL BE SERVED

Walk-ins Welcome. However, pre-registration is encouraged:
E-mail LaGrangeRepairCafe@gmail.com before November 4.
Please include your name, e-mail address and items for repair
(*limit of 2 items per person*) to help us in planning the event.

Learn more at RepairCafeHV.org

Sponsors:

- ☀ LaGrange Sunrise Rotary Club
- ☀ Carter MGM Insurance Agency, LLC

Leave your
COMMENTS
Please!

They did a good thorough job fixing
the vacuum.

My wife's clothes dryer is better
than new and likely to outlast the
17 year first run!

Thank you!

Ed McKenna

It's A MIRACLE! Actually 2 miracles!
The gentlemen are wizards. They
fixed both my upright vac and
my sewing machine!! Oh - I guess
that means I'm back to house cleaning
and mending. That's great!!

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!
See you in April!!! (PLEASE) Rnta

Our first time at your Repair Cafe.
What a wonderful experience. John Wackman
repaired my childhood chairs that have
not been usable for over 30 years!
We can't thank everyone enough. Everyone
was friendly and helpful.

Charles + Dianne Patitucci

our experience was OUTSTANDING
Knowledge with the repairs
was well worth the time !!
A HAYES

THE HELP I RECEIVED WAS EXCEPTIONAL.
VERY PATIENT + KNOWLEDGEABLE,
I ~~WOULD~~ BE HAPPY TO COME AGAIN
+ TO REFER ANYONE. THANK YOU
CHARLENE FORTIG

John + Ken fixed my 2 utensils!
I'm grateful. Kathleen Mansel



5/4/17: Arlington School District Winning Quintet

6/17/17: LaGrange Community Day CAC Duo

9/16/17: Wappinger Creek Greenway Trail Walk Trio
11/4/17: LaGrange Repair Café Volunteers



TOWN OF LAGRANGE CONSERVATION ADVISORY COUNCIL (CAC)

B. 2018 OBJECTIVES

1. Continue reviews of applications received from the LaGrange Planning Board.
2. Attend the annual Dutchess County EMC/CAC Roundtable at Cornell Cooperative Extension of Dutchess County in Millbrook and present highlights of the 2017 CAC achievements and 2018 objectives.
3. Host a public meeting at LaGrange Town Hall in April involving students at Arlington High School who won awards at the Dutchess County Regional Science Fair.
4. Participate in the late-April Operation Trash Bash, the road side litter clean-up in the Town of LaGrange.
5. Participate at the LaGrange Community Day in June and hand out current information on the environment, conservation, and CAC-supported activities in town.
6. Organize and host two LaGrange Volunteer Repair Cafes to repair household items for the community free-of-charge without using taxpayer money (one in the Spring and one in the Fall).
7. Display and distribute current information on the environment and conservation at LaGrange town hall.
8. Update CAC-related information on the Town of LaGrange web site.
9. Sponsor and lead a walking tour of the Wappinger Creek Greenway Trail in the Town of LaGrange in September as part of the 19th Annual Hudson River Valley Ramble program.
10. Continue significant improvements, tree signage installation and maintenance of Wappinger Creek Greenway Trail.
11. Extend the Wappinger Creek Greenway Trail through the Milano Drive town property site.
12. Complete brush clearing and restoration of the Popsicle trail, to facilitate ongoing public use.