

2021

# ANNUAL REPORT



Warren County Department of

**Planning and Community Development**

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Cover, Table of Contents and Looking Forward photos: Amanda Beck

# Message from the Director

The following Annual Report for 2021 provides a broad brush review of the actions and activities of the Planning Department. The staff continued administration of a number of grants, with the year being somewhat of a transition period as numerous grants were completed and significant new ones awarded. The continuing impact of COVID had a negative effect on local project partners' efforts to complete projects resulting in some grant awards not being fully expensed prior to the end date of contracts.

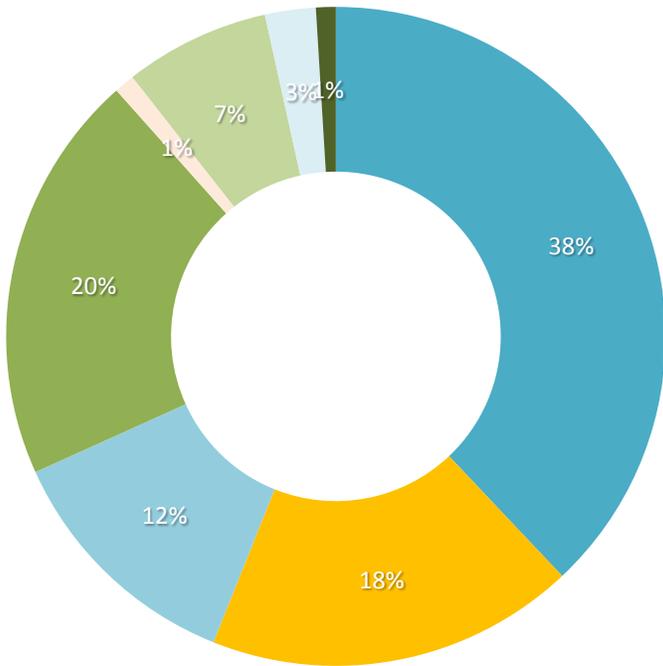
During 2021 the position of Assistant County Planner became vacant and was subsequently filled by Ethan Gaddy, AICP, a long time County resident who came over from the private sector. Ethan brings extensive experience with community planning and we look forward to his input and ideas moving forward.

The GIS staff continue to perform at a high level with Sara Frankenfeld being selected as the Warren County Employee of the Month for February. The Warren County Soil and Water Conservation named Sara one of the "conservationists of the year" for her work. Sara was also the driving force behind the agreement with Cliff and Redfield Interactive to produce civic discussions regarding wilderness and its impact on the lives of residents of the County.

The Department continues to be responsive to the ever changing needs of the County and local municipalities and we look forward to a productive 2022.

Wayne E LaMothe, AICP  
Director of Planning and Community Development

# Key Facts and Figures for 2021



## Staff Time Distribution

- General Planning – 3249 hrs/38%
- GIS – 1549 hrs/18%
- LWRP Lakes – 1043 hrs/12%
- LWRP First Wilderness – 1726 hrs/20%
- Smart Growth – 86 hrs/1%
- E-911 – 610 hrs/7%
- Shared Services - 213 hrs/2%
- Other - 83 hrs/1%

Stony Creek Wastewater System Feasibility  
HVAC Assessment for Countryside

**2** plans and reports completed

**5**

major projects completed

- Stony Creek Pedestrian Bridge
- Papermill Park
- North Creek Main St Streetscape Enhancements
- Warrensburg Community Center
- First Wilderness Letterboxing Trail

**\$1.28**  
million

in project money expended

**\$1.52**  
million

in grant money received

- Countryside Improvements
- Housing Needs Analysis
- Organics Management
- Schroon Lake Aquatic Invasives
- Recreation Economy Plan

**5**

grant awards received

# Organization and Staff

The Warren County Department of Planning and Community Development provides general planning services, community development assistance, and geographic information system support for the County. The Department consists of five full-time and three part-time staff members. Staffing changes in 2021 included the replacement of Chris Belden with Ethan Gaddy as Assistant County Planner.



**Wayne LaMothe, AICP**

County Planner  
*full-time*



**Ethan Gaddy, AICP**

Assistant County Planner  
*full-time*



**Sara Frankenfeld**

GIS Administrator  
*full-time*



**Patricia Tatch, AICP**

Planner, Special Projects  
*part-time*

**Amanda Beck**

Junior Planner  
*full-time*



**Martin Fitzgerald II**

Housing Cost Coordinator  
*part-time*



**Sue Tucker**

Office Specialist  
*full-time*

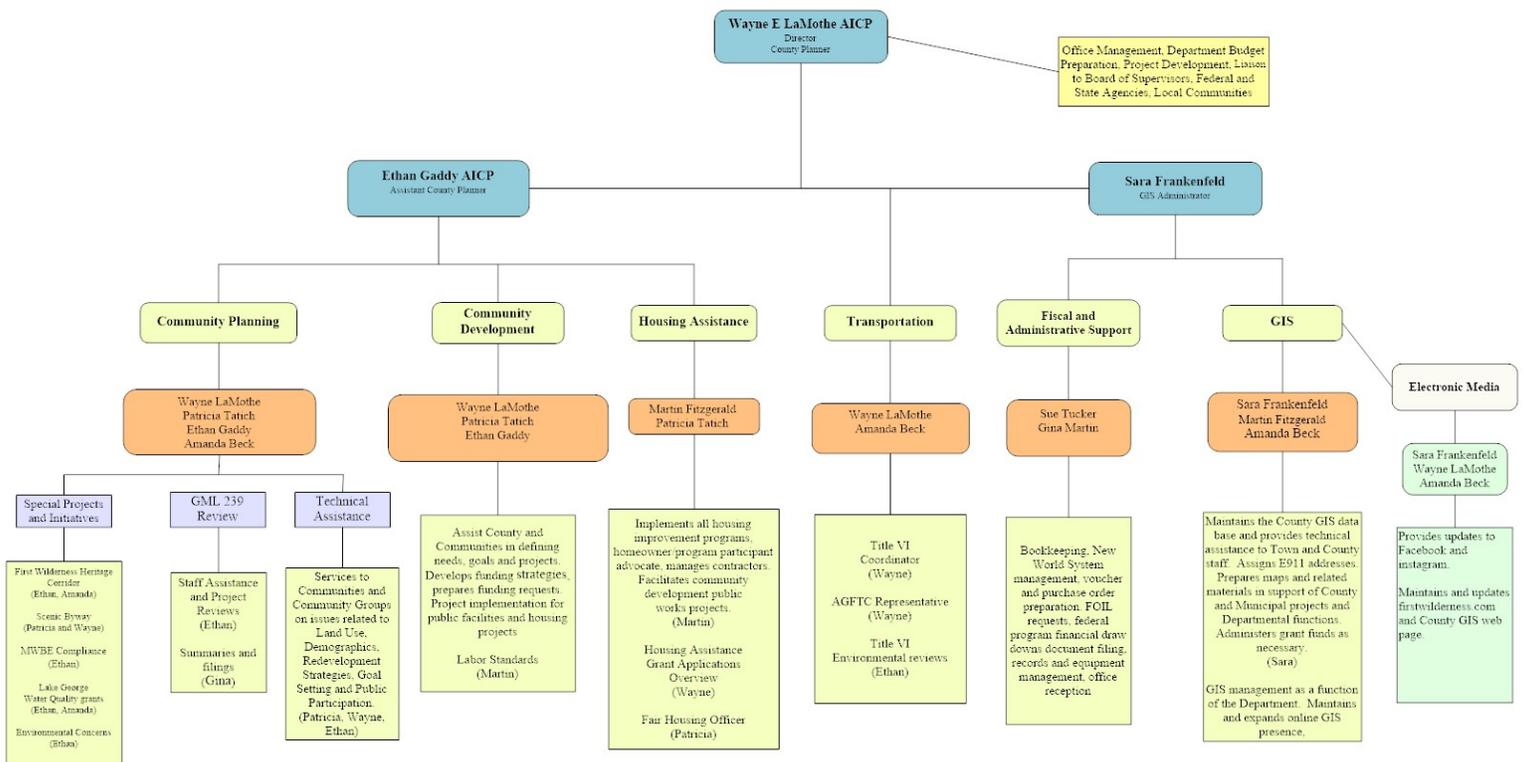


**Gina Martin**

Office Specialist  
*part-time*



## Table of Organization Warren County Planning and Community Development Department 2021

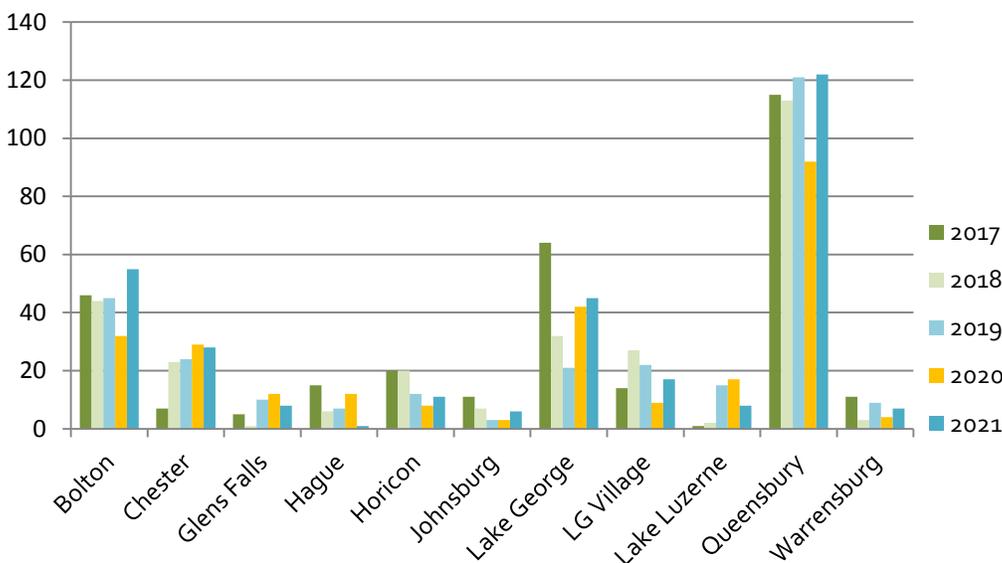


# County Planning Agency

Local law number 3 of 2012 authorized the Planning Department to fulfill the County's obligations pursuant to GML 239 l and m. This report fulfills the Agency's responsibility in accordance with Section 239d paragraph 6 of the General Municipal Law to provide an annual report to the County Board of Supervisors. The County Planning Board function continues to be staffed by the Department of Planning and Community Development.

	Site Plan	Area Var	Use Var	Rezon/ LL	Cond Use	Sign Var	Other	Total
Bolton	17	38	0	0	0	0	0	55
Chester	14	12	0	2	0	0	0	28
Glens Falls	5	1	0	2	0	0	0	8
Hague	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Horicon	1	0	8	0	2	0	0	11
Johnsburg	0	0	5	0	0	0	1	6
Lake George	23	17	0	3	0	0	2	45
LG Village	13	1	0	3	0	0	0	17
L Luzerne	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	8
Queensbury	59	51	0	5	0	5	2	122
Warrensburg	3	3	1	0	0	0	0	7
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>308</b>

The towns of Bolton and Queensbury make up over half of all referrals to the County. Presently, the County has agreements in place that reduce the number of projects from each community. Referrals were up 48 projects over 2020.



## Site Plans

140

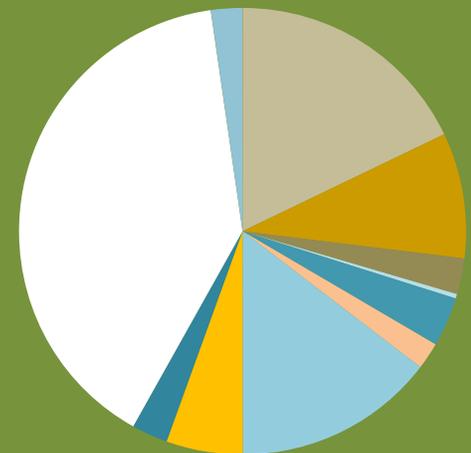
## Area Variances

140

## Total Projects

Reviewed

308



- Bolton - 18%
- Glens Falls - 3%
- Horicon - 4%
- Lake George - 15%
- Lake Luzerne - 3%
- Warrensburg - 2%
- Chester - 9%
- Hague - 0%
- Johnsburg - 2%
- LG Village - 6%
- Queensbury - 40%



# Community Development

# First Wilderness Heritage Corridor

The First Wilderness Heritage Corridor unites the Warren County towns of Lake Luzerne, Stony Creek, Thurman, Warrensburg, Johnsbury, Chester and Horicon with a regional planning approach that has served as a successful grant funding mechanism for the past 20 years. In 2021, the Planning Department wrapped up several large multi-year community development



projects in the First Wilderness communities. The department also successfully launched the First Wilderness Letterboxing Trail, using DEC Smart Growth funding. In addition, we began an exciting collaborative project that will join local students with regional experts to put a strong spotlight on the region as a destination for cultural and heritage tourism in the years to come.

## Local Waterfront Revitalization Program

The Department oversaw the closeout of four grants from Department of State in 2021 related to activities in the First Wilderness Heritage Corridor. The total value, including local funding, for these awards amounted to a \$3,820,476 investment in the Corridor Communities.

## Dean Farm Improvements in the Town of Stony Creek

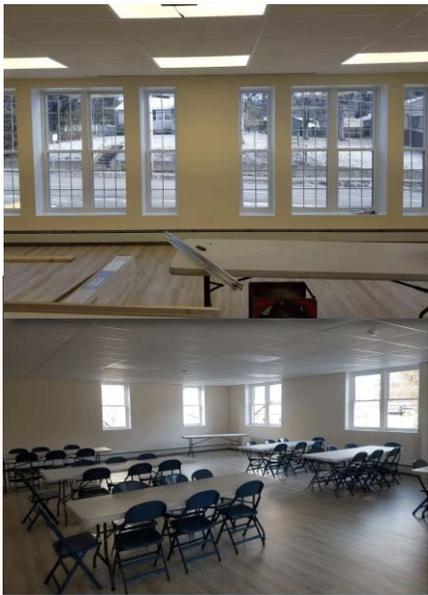
The Dean Farm project area is in close proximity to the Hamlet of Stony Creek and an existing Town Park. The Department assisted the Town with the design and construction of a pedestrian bridge over Stony Creek to connect the Dean Farm properties and the local Park. The Town also purchased an eight acre parcel and developed additional trails as an extension to the Dean Farm property.

As part of the Dean Farm project an assessment was done to determine the feasibility for a Hamlet wastewater collection and treatment system.



## Papermill Park

The Town of Warrensburg continued site work at Paper Mill park on the Schroon River. The Town completed improvements to the access road, constructed an ADA accessible observation deck and elevated walkway along the shoreline and finalized work on the pavilion.



## Town of Warrensburg Community Center

The Town has nearly completed the work to convert the former Fire Station into a Community Center. Grant funds were used to purchase materials and volunteers, with some paid labor, converted the three-bay facility into separate meeting and activity rooms. A small food prep area is being finished to complement the full kitchen located elsewhere in the facility. Audio Visual equipment has been installed in one of the meeting rooms along with ADA compliant restrooms.

## North Creek Main Street Streetscape Work

The Town completed elements identified in the North Creek Main Street Enhancement Plan relating to selected streetscape improvements between the Town Municipal center and the North Creek Train Station Complex. The improvements included new laterals for the water services to Main Street businesses, installation of sidewalks and curbs and electrical services to support the installation of period style lighting fixtures.



# Adirondack Smart Growth Program

The Planning Department closed out the final component of this \$67,936 grant award from the Department of Environmental Conservation for First Wilderness marketing and promotion.

## First Wilderness Letterboxing Trail

We launched the First Wilderness Letterboxing Trail the first weekend in June with a very well-attended event at the Kinnear Museum in Lake Luzerne. This fun treasure hunt activity incorporates orienteering, art, and puzzle solving. Its intent is to get visitors and local residents out and exploring free historic, cultural and recreation sites throughout the First Wilderness Heritage Corridor.

We created a small printed passport with spots for 28 stamps. The stamps were hidden in weather-proof boxes throughout the Corridor. The passport contains clues written in the form of a riddle, which letterboxers solve to find the box. Once found, they use the hand-carved stamp in the box to mark their passports. If they have their own personal stamp, they can leave a mark in the notebook in the box.

This free activity proved to be enormously popular. We printed 1,000 passports to start the program and after several reprints, ultimately distributed close to 4,500 passports. The passports are available at town halls, visitors' centers, and museums throughout the region. Caretakers of boxes at sites such as the Chester Museum of Local History have reported large increases in visitation by driven by letterboxers. This activity illustrated the appeal of cultural and historic tourism in the region.

The Letterboxing Trail was a hit with visitors and residents of all ages. We had a large number of senior participants who enjoyed both the historical component of the challenge and the fact that it did not require a large amount of hiking. Numerous out-of-state visitors came to the region for the express purpose of completing the challenge. We had over 100 finishers, who each received First Wilderness patches, and much interest in continuing the program for next year.



# Stories From Open Space

A collaborative project with media firm Cliff & Redfield Interactive, the Warren County Historian, the Warren County Historical Society, local students, and the Planning Department to celebrate the cultural heritage of the First Wilderness Corridor.



[www.FirstWilderness.com](http://www.FirstWilderness.com)  
[StoriesFromOpenSpace.org](http://StoriesFromOpenSpace.org)

In the spring of 2021, an author from local collaborative media firm Cliff & Redfield Interactive (CRI) reached out to the department with interest in writing an article about hiking in the First Wilderness. Staff assisted with the article which was released as a six-page spread in the September/October issue of *Adirondac* magazine.

During the course of preparing the article, the co-owners of Cliff & Redfield became increasingly interested in the history of the First Wilderness Heritage Corridor and approached the Planning Department with the offer to work on a collaborative media project with students, which is their specialty. They offered this at no cost to the County. During the second half of 2021, we got all of the pieces in place to launch our Stories From Open Space series in early 2022.

We're collaborating with CRI, the Warren County Historian, the Warren County Historical Society, the Kelly Adirondack Center at Union College, local experts, and local high school and college students to create a Collaborative History of Warren County as well as develop Trip Reports and focus on planning efforts throughout the region. We're looking forward to fully engaging in this project over the course of 2022. Content will be shared on the two websites at left, as well as on social media.

## First Wilderness Website and Social Media

The Planning Department redesigned and relaunched the First Wilderness website on an updated platform in the fall of 2021.

During the second half of 2021, GIS staff redesigned the First Wilderness website, which had not been substantially updated for several years, and moved it to a GIS-based platform. This allowed for the full integration of the History Mapper, Recreation Mapper, and Letterboxing Trail. The new website also contains historic highlights for each town as well as fun things to do for visitors and incorporates content from our Stories from Open Space series. It has had a positive response, with over 16,000 page views in the few months since its release.

The County's Public Affairs director took over the maintenance of the First Wilderness Facebook page. This has been a very successful move, with a large increase in followers and engagement over the department's previous efforts. First Wilderness has 600 followers on Instagram and over 1000 followers on Facebook, with a reach of nearly 21,000 people in the past six months.



[www.FirstWilderness.com](http://www.FirstWilderness.com)  
[facebook.com/firstwilderness](https://facebook.com/firstwilderness)  
[Instagram.com/firstwilderness](https://Instagram.com/firstwilderness)

# Protecting Our Lakes

Since 2017, the Warren County Planning Department has submitted funding applications and overseen the implementation of critical water quality projects in the Lake George and Schroon Lake watersheds.

## Septic Initiatives

The Department was involved in multiple septic related initiatives in 2021.

- Environmental Facilities Corporation/ Department of Environmental Conservation Septic Replacement Program: Administering \$340,000 grant program to replace and upgrade septic systems on Lake George.
- Participated in Lake George Park Commission (LGPC) Septic Initiative Steering Committee. This group provides assistance to the LGPC as they develop septic regulations applicable to the entire Lake George watershed.
- Worked with clean water advocates to petition state leaders to release additional funding for Septic Replacement program. Due to the large demand for septic replacement funds additional funding has been requested from the NYSDEC.

- Collaborated with Lake Champlain Lake George Regional Planning Board to apply for a Lake Champlain Basin Educational Program grant. Grant funding will be used to produce and disseminate educational materials on septic systems to property owners.

## Lake George Watershed Management Plan

The Department continues to work with the Town of Queensbury and Lake Champlain Lake George Regional Planning Board on NYSDOS funded project to develop a plan for entire Lake George watershed. Throughout 2021 the Warren County Planning Department assisted in the review of project deliverables, developed mapping products and supported public outreach events.

## Lake George Milfoil and Aquatic Invasive Efforts

The Warren County Planning Department provided ongoing administration and oversight of the milfoil eradication grant program in the Lake George Basin. The department developed a custom field data collection interface and online data dashboards so that milfoil harvesters could report their progress in a more accurate and timely manner than ever before.

Milfoil Removed:

Lake George: **135,500 lbs**

Schroon Lake: **834 lbs**



Boats Decontaminated:

Lake George: **1,004**

Schroon Lake: **273**



Boats Inspected:

Lake George: **34,954**

Schroon Lake: **7,264**



# Programs and Technical Assistance

# Climate Smart Communities

Warren County is a certified bronze New York State Climate Smart Community. The department led several Climate Smart related activities in 2021.



## EV Fleet Initiative

The assistant county planner is working with Tammie Delorenzo, Julie Butler, Scott Rogers, and Supervisor Braymer to develop an approach to incorporating EVs into the municipal fleet. We are working across departments to evaluate opportunities, issues and case studies from other municipalities. In order to get the best possible deal for taxpayers we have entered into an informal arraignment with a consortium of counties (led by Suffolk) to explore group procurement options for EVs.

## Municipal Center Energy Audit

Warren County is utilizing a NYSERDA incentive program to explore energy efficiency upgrades at the municipal center. Participation in the Clean Energy Communities program allowed Warren County to receive a 50% discount on an ASHRAE level 2 energy audit. There should be considerable cost savings and GHG reductions that result from actions prompted by this energy audit.

Learn more about the Climate Smart efforts at [warrencountyny.gov/climate](http://warrencountyny.gov/climate)

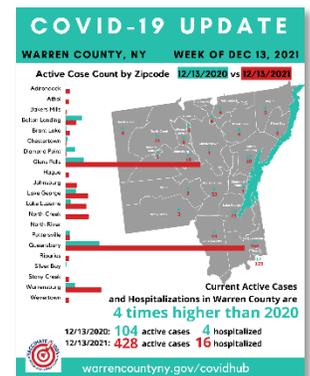


## ARPA Committee

Warren County Planning Department staff served on the Committee created to allocate over \$12 million in funding provided to the County as part of the American Rescue Plan Act. The department has worked with the committee and the public to establish priorities and conducted stakeholder outreach.

## Covid Technical Support

GIS staff continued to provide mapping, data, and technical support for the County's Covid-19 response efforts, spending about 250 hours of staff time during 2021. This included updating the charts and maps on the County's Covid Hub website, updating site content as necessary, and producing infographics for public outreach. Maintenance of the website was primarily transitioned to the County's Public Affairs Director during the fourth quarter of 2021.



# Adirondack Glens Falls Transportation Council

The Planning Director continued to serve on the AGFTC Planning Committee and as an alternate on the Policy Committee. The Planning Director provided input and assistance on the North Creek Ski Bowl project and at planning meetings throughout the year, totaling approximately 8 hours of assistance to AGFTC in 2021.



Planning Department staff also provide GIS Technical Assistance for A/GFTC. This time is reimbursed. GIS Staff spent 10.5 hours during 2021, providing general GIS technical support as well as an update of the interactive online dashboard for A/GFTC's transportation improvement plan, which can be found here: [https://warrencountyny.gov/agftc\\_tip](https://warrencountyny.gov/agftc_tip).

## Lake Champlain Lake George Regional Planning Board

The Planning Department continued to strengthen its working relationship with the Regional Planning Board during 2021, both providing and receiving assistance with numerous projects.

### Quantifying Phosphorous Reduction

GIS staff continued work on the Phosphorous Reduction project, calculating drainage basins and land use for nutrient load reduction projects throughout the Champlain Basin. Staff time for this project is being reimbursed by the Planning Board. The project will continue during the first half of 2022.



### Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Update

Planning Department staff served on the Project Advisory Committee with Lake Champlain Lake George Regional Planning Board (LCLGRP) to ensure that Warren County projects and initiatives were captured in the CEDS. Using data from the Capital Project Inventory developed by the Planning Department, Warren County was able to provide a robust list of projects for consideration of future federal grant funding.

### Economic Dashboards

GIS staff assisted the Regional Planning Board with developing a series of online dashboards displaying housing, demographic, and economic indicators for the five county region covered by the Regional Planning Board. Work on the dashboards will continue during 2022.



# Mapping and GIS

# Mapping and GIS

Warren County GIS is comprised of two full-time and one part-time staff, responsible for maintaining the County's GIS data sets and online GIS presence, including the Community Map, Imagemate Online, the Recreation Mapper and several other widely used applications. In addition, GIS staff has responsibility for assigning e-911 addresses and updating and maintaining the address point, road centerline, and district boundary data used in the County's e-911 Call Center, as well as in other applications. GIS staff also collate and provide demographic data on request in support of numerous projects and agencies.

Routine GIS maintenance of basemap data and applications accounts for approximately a quarter to a third of staff GIS time, with the remaining time spent in support of Planning Department projects and projects for other departments and agencies. Over the course of 2021, Warren County GIS provided assistance to Board of Elections, Building Code Enforcement, the County Administrator's office, DPW, Parks and Recreation, Emergency Services, Public Health, the Historian, Soil and Water, the Sheriff's Office, Tourism, and the Treasurer's office, as well as the towns and the City of Glens Falls. In addition, Warren County GIS has contracts to provide technical support and mapping assistance to the Adirondack/Glens Falls Transportation Council, the Lake Champlain/Lake George Regional Planning Board, and the Lake George Park Commission.

Some of the smaller GIS projects completed during 2021 included:

- Walking/Driving Tours for the Mill Pond, Lake Luzerne, and North Creek
- App to allow Fish Hatchery staff to enter stocking reports in real time to an accompanying website
- Support for broadband projects
- Bus route map for Johnsbury Central School
- Online dashboards for proposed Septic Law and the Septic Replacement Program
- Map of the Bolton Sewer District
- Analysis and online dashboard inventorying the change in lodging operators, number of rooms, and tax revenue since 2008
- Assistance with maps for proposed Warrensburg hamlet expansion
- Assistance to snowmobile clubs with trail data and map updates
- Overdose dashboard allows Sheriff/GFPD staff to enter overdose case information to a publicly accessible website
- Trail mapping for Swede Mt and Fox Hill
- Hike/Snowshoe map and web app for the Town of Bolton
- Snowshoe Warren County website
- Field data collection app for outfalls for WC Soil and Water
- Analysis of historic building permit data for upcoming housing study
- Compiling and mapping Census 2020 data released for redistricting
- Lake George zoning update
- Crandall Park map
- Map of City of Glens Falls owned parcels
- Capital Improvement Plan update
- Website and field data collection app for the Long Path
- Form and website for public to report gypsy moth infestation locations
- Assisted towns with field data collection for water and sewer infrastructure



140 new e-911 addresses issued



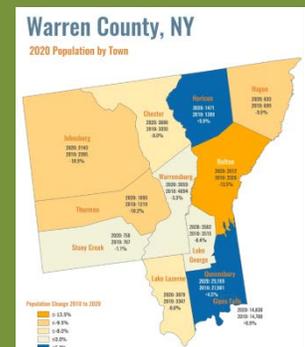
Overdose dashboard



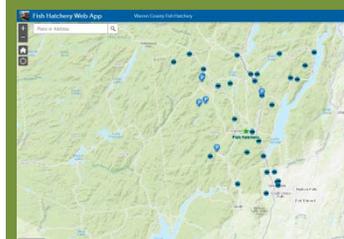
Lodging dashboard



Snowshoe website



Census 2020 mapping



Fish stocking web app

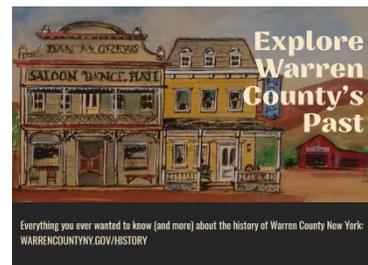


Crandall Park map

# Major GIS Projects

## Warren County History and Historic Lodging Websites

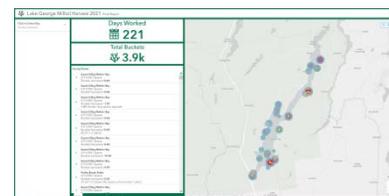
Warren County GIS staff worked with Warren County Historian Stan Cianfarano during 2021 to move the County's bicentennial website to a new platform using ArcGIS Online. The result is a comprehensive new website that features historic facts and photos for each town in the County. GIS Staff also worked with municipal historians to create an inventory of historic lodging throughout the county back to the 18<sup>th</sup> century.



[warrencountyny.gov/history](http://warrencountyny.gov/history)  
[warrencountyny.gov/historiclodging](http://warrencountyny.gov/historiclodging)

## Milfoil Field Data Collection App and Dashboards

As part of the departments LWRP grant award for milfoil eradication efforts in Lake George, GIS staff met with the Lake George Park Commission, the Fund for Lake George, and the Lake George Association to determine a method for collecting more accurate and spatially located data for the 2021 milfoil harvest. We created a field data collection app and trained the harvesters in its use. We created a dashboard that allowed agency staff to monitor field data collection real time. We also gathered historic milfoil data and collated it to create a historic milfoil data dashboard. These apps will allow agency staff and the public to view progress from year to year and to more effectively target funding for eradication efforts.



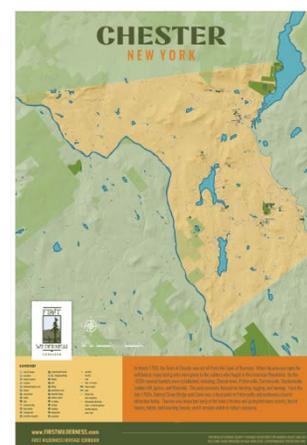
Final: <https://tinyurl.com/5f3d78nv>  
Working: <https://tinyurl.com/3ytnzsj6>  
Historic: <https://tinyurl.com/2p9vj6nd>

## Infrastructure Mapping Support for Towns and DPW

GIS staff continued to develop infrastructure mapping for both the towns and the County DPW. Town sewer and water staff were offered the option to checkout a high-accuracy GPS receiver and field data collection app and were provided training for its use in the field to update infrastructure data. We hope that more towns will take advantage of this offer in 2022. GIS staff also worked with County DPW staff to continue transitioning infrastructure and facilities data from hardcopy and spreadsheet formats into GIS. This project will continue into 2022.

## Town Maps for Kiosks

GIS staff created detailed large-scale print maps for each of the First Wilderness communities. These maps feature recreational, historic, and cultural resources in each town. They will be printed on sturdy material and mounted in the First Wilderness kiosks in early 2022.



## WARREN COUNTY GIS MAINTAINED WEBSITES AND 2021 USAGE STATISTICS

Covid Hub: 699,000 views

<https://warrencountyny.gov/covid>

Imagemate Online: 116,000 views

<https://imo.warrencountyny.gov>

Community Map: 98,000 views

<https://gis.warrencountyny.gov>

Mobile Parcel Viewer: 23,700 views

<https://warrencountyny.gov/mobile>

First Wilderness (partial yr): 16,000 views

<https://www.firstwilderness.com>

GGFTtransit Route Map: 15,300

<https://gftransit.org/schedule>

Recreation Mapper: 10,400 views

<http://warrencountyny.gov/recmapper>

Historic Lodging: 3,400 views

<https://warrencountyny.gov/historiclodging>

History Mapper: 2,900 views

<https://warrencountyny.gov/historymapper>

Overdose Dashboard: 2,400 views

<https://tinyurl.com/mr2c688e>

Snowshoe Warren County: 2,300 views

<https://warrencountyny.gov/snowshoe>

Planning and Zoning Lookup: 1,700 views

<https://warrencountyny.gov/gis>

Hike/Snowshoe Bolton: 1,000 views

<https://www.boltonchamber.com/hiking>

Board Of Elections Locator: 1,000 views

<https://warrencountyny.gov/boemapper>

Warren County History: 900 views

<http://warrencountyny.gov/history>

Fish Hatchery App: 850 views

<https://warrencountyny.gov/dpw>

Capital Improvement Plan: 695 views

<https://warrencountyny.gov/mobile>

Septic Replacement: 680 views

<https://tinyurl.com/3cydvnp2>

Gypsy Moths: 495 views

<https://tinyurl.com/yc62xn2k>

Remarkable Trees: 380 views

<https://warrencountyny.gov/trees>

AGFTC Tip Viewer: 100 views

[https://warrencountyny.gov/agftc\\_tip](https://warrencountyny.gov/agftc_tip)

Milfoil Harvest 2021 Report: 250 views

<https://tinyurl.com/5f3d78nv>

# Collaboration

Working with local organizations towards common objectives is a backbone of the Department of Planning and Community Development's philosophy of collaboration. In addition to supporting the towns in various planning and community development initiatives, the department worked closely with numerous agencies and departments in 2021, including the Sheriff's Department, the Public Affairs director, Public Health, the County Administrator's office, the Office of Emergency Services, the Department of Public Works, Parks and Recreation, Real Property, Board of Elections, the Regional Planning Board, A/GFTC, the Lake George Park Commission, and the Soil and Water Conservation District.

In 2021, the Planning Department began working with collaborative media firm Cliff & Redfield Interactive on a project to encourage cultural and historic tourism in the First Wilderness Heritage Corridor. This project has included partnership with numerous entities, including the Warren County Historian, the Warren County Historical Society, the Kelly Adirondack Center, Skidmore College, and numerous local experts and students. We look forward to continuing this collaboration in 2022.

Participation in local and regional organizations, including volunteer time, by Department staff includes:

**Adirondack/Glens Falls Transportation Council**

**Warren County Climate Smart Task Force**

**Adirondack Cycling Advocates**

**Warren County Assessors' Association**

**Adirondack Hamlets to Huts**

**Adirondack North Country Association**

**Bike Glens Falls**

**Crandall Park Beautification Committee**

**Glens Falls Climate Task Force**

**Glens Falls Mayor's Working Group**

**Friends of the Farmers Market**

**North Creek Business Alliance**

**NY Planning Federation**

**NY Upstate Chapter of the American Planning Association**

**Tri-Lakes Business Alliance**



Looking Forward

# 2021 Grant Awards

2021 was a transition year in which the department closed out numerous multi-year projects and applied for funding for several new projects. The year proved to be one of the department's most successful ever in terms of grant awards, with over \$1.52 million awarded through several state and federal programs. This funding positions the department well for completing much-needed projects throughout the County over the next few years.

## Community Development Block Grant Program

administered by the NYS Housing Trust Fund Corporation

### Pottersville Water District - \$36,100

The Town of Chester, in mid-2021, received a CDBG funding award (No.232CP18-20) for \$36,100 to complete an Engineering Evaluation Study for the Pottersville Water District System. The Town of Chester has a need to improve the reliability of the distribution system through the replacement of asbestos pipe. The water system has a long history of service interruptions and contaminant infiltration. The final report will evaluate geologic impacts, system demands due to projected growth, alternative replacement methods, life cycle analysis and costs to water district residents. An assessment management plan, value added improvements and system mapping will be completed. Planning staff is assisting the Town with in-kind services through the completion of the Study and the final NYS monitoring report. The information from the Study will be used by the Town in future funding requests to the NYS Environmental Facilities Corp., the USDA Rural Development Program and the NYS CDBG Infrastructure Program. The Study will be completed in mid-2022.



### Housing Needs Analysis - \$46,000

The County, through the Planning Department, has a long history of involvement in housing assistance programs funded under the federal Community Development Block Grant



Program, the federal HOME Program as well as other special housing programs funded by NYS. During 2021, the Planning Department, with authorization by the Board of Supervisors, applied for CDBG funding to undertake a Housing Needs and Demand Analysis Plan. Local officials, planning and development organizations have determined that there is a severe housing shortage of rental and single family homes for the general workforce, seniors and lower income persons. Residents of Adirondack towns, particularly those employed in the tourism and hospitality industry, must compete for available housing with seasonal residents and the short term rental market. The impact from COVID has dramatically increased home sales and purchase prices. There is limited housing available and out-of-reach for local residents.

Current information is needed to understand the housing needs, determine market demand and establish a plan of action to increase the supply of housing. Warren County was awarded CDBG funding (No.1197CD110-21) in the amount of \$46,000 to complete the planning project. In addition, the Warren County LDC and EDC Warren County have each contributed \$10,000 towards the studies. The Planning Department is contributing \$10,000 in-kind for project administration for a total project cost of \$76,000. The Associate Planner has been participating in weekly meetings with a Housing Work Group formed by EDC Warren County to raise awareness on housing issues within the County and bring additional information to the County's planning project. It is anticipated that the housing reports will be completed in 2022.

## NYS Office of Community Renewal

### Countryside Adult Home - \$300,000 and \$810,932

As a follow up to the Beardsley report, completed in 2019, the Department submitted an application to NYS Office of Community Renewal (OCR) for assistance with replacing the roof at Countryside.

The provisions of the funding source required that all significant issues with the building be addressed as part of the project. To that end the County Board of Supervisors committed \$250,000 from the building reserve fund and an additional \$1,000,000 of bonds. The grant application for \$300,000 was awarded in May.

A second funding round by NYS OCR was announced using CARES Act



funding. The funding was to be used to address COVID related issues. The Department submitted a preliminary consultation form to the State to upgrade the HVAC at Countryside to MERV13 standards compliance. The Department was invited to submit a full application and, working with DPW to ascertain program costs, applied for \$810,932. That application was funded in late 2021.

The Department is working with DPW and CHA Engineers to prepare a bid document for release in the Spring of 2022.

## NYS Climate Smart Communities

administered by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

### Organics Management Plan - \$40,000

To further Warren County's commitment to combating climate change while saving tax dollars the Planning Department applied for \$40,000 through the NYS DEC Climate Smart Communities program to develop an organics management plan, matched with \$40,000 of local funding. This project was launched after the development of the Solid Waste Management Plan found that approximately 30% of Warren County waste that currently goes to a trash incinerator or landfills is organic material that could otherwise be recycled or composted. Reducing the amount of organic waste going to landfills and the trash incinerator will reduce GHG emissions and save taxpayers money.



The grant application's success was announced at the end of 2021. Currently the Planning Department is working with the Department of Public Works to launch the study.

# Local Waterfront Revitalization Program

administered by the New York State Department of State



## Schroon Lake Watershed Aquatic Invasive Species Efforts - \$251,838

The environmental health of our waterways is critical to the regional economy. Warren County Planning Department secured an additional \$251,838 for two more years of the boat inspection/decontamination and milfoil eradication program that began in 2018. Matched with local money, the project total is \$335,784. The recently secured grant and locally funded project will deploy new technology and assemble a project advisory committee to evaluate potential efficiencies in AIS eradication efforts. Representatives from Paul Smiths Adirondack Watershed Institute, NYSDEC, lake associations, and municipalities have already committed to serving on the advisory committee.

# Strategic Planning and Feasibility Study Program

administered by Empire State Development

## Outdoor Recreation Economy Strategic Plan - \$42,500

Recognizing that outdoor recreation is a critical element of our county's attractiveness as a place to visit and live the Warren County Planning Department secured \$42,500 from Empire State Development to develop a long-term strategy to develop Warren County's outdoor recreation economy. Matched with local money, the project total is \$85,000. The planning process will result in the identification of capital projects, the development of a business attraction and retention plan, and benchmarking to measure industry performance.



# Looking Ahead to 2022

In addition to continuing development and mapping on the grant programs Planning Department has works for 2022.



ongoing planning, community efforts and beginning work outlined above, the several new projects in the

## **Comprehensive Plan**

The Department will explore the options for completing a County Comprehensive Plan. The Plan would include the recommendations of the Housing Study, the Recreation Study and the Capital Improvement Plan. The focus will be on exploring what can be done in house and when a private consultant should be engaged. The Department will request a set aside from ARPA funding to complete this Plan.

## **ARPA funding**

Department staff are members of the ARPA Advisory Committee and will continue to facilitate meetings in support of allocating funding consistent with Final Rule.

## **Fair Housing Plan**

A Fair Housing Plan is required of all CDBG recipients. The current Plan was adopted by resolution 231 of 1991 and needs to be updated.

## **Grant requests**

The Department will continue to monitor available grant funding in support of local community needs and projects identified in the County's Capital Improvement Plan.

## **GIS Apps and Dashboards for DPW**

GIS Staff will continue to assist DPW with transitioning to a GIS environment for managing transportation and facilities data. This will include the creation of a combination of dashboards, maps and field data collection apps, as well as training.

## **Create a Countywide Letterboxing Trail**

Following on the success of our First Wilderness Trail, we will create a countywide trail for launch in early summer 2022.

## **Conduct a Buildout Analysis for the Town of Warrensburg**

Department staff are working with the Skidmore Advanced GIS class over the spring 2022 semester to perform a buildout analysis for the Town of Warrensburg. This will assist the town with planning and potential hamlet expansion efforts and will also help to inform the Housing Study. If time allows, we will perform building analyses for additional towns.

## **Hardcopy Recreation Map**

GIS staff intend to create a large countywide recreation map for print.

# APPENDIX

The table below provides a comprehensive list of all components for the Planning Department’s current funding awards, along with the status of each component.

2013 First Wilderness LWRP Award (C1000460) - Project amount \$1,107,000 (30 April 2020)	
Component	Status as of 12/2021
<p><b>Component 1: Town of Hadley – Sacandaga River Whitewater Park</b>            This project involves the development of the first phase of a whitewater park on the Sacandaga River in the area west of the Bow Bridge in the Town of Hadley. Phase I includes the placement of the boulders in the river to create an area for whitewater kayaking and whitewater events. All design and permits are in place and funding will be used for construction only.</p>	<p>Due to issues with NIMO, this project cannot be completed.            Funding was transferred to            Component 2.</p>
<p><b>Component 2: Town of Stony Creek - Dean Farm Preserve Enhancements and Extension</b>            This project involves the design and construction of enhancements to the Dean Farm Recreation Area in the Town of Stony Creek, including an improved parking area and development of restroom facilities.</p>	<p>Complete.</p>
<p><b>Component 3: Town of Stony Creek – Hamlet Streetscape Enhancements</b>            This project involves the design and construction of streetscape and gateway enhancements in the hamlet of Stony Creek, including informational signage, street furniture and landscaping. The enhancements implement recommendations adopted in the Stony Creek Hamlet Revitalization Plan.</p>	<p>Complete.</p>
<p><b>Component 4: Town of Lake Luzerne – Adirondack Folkschool Enhancements</b>            This project involves the enhancement of teaching facilities at the Adirondack Folkschool in the Town of Lake Luzerne. Enhancements include: a new 1,500 sq ft blacksmith building, a new exterior siding and finish of the existing Adirondack Folkschool main building, and new concrete walkway connections between the three buildings and parking lot on the Adirondack Folk School campus.</p>	<p>Complete.</p>

<p><b>Component 5: Project Management and Administration</b>  Project management and administration services will be provided for the project through the Warren County Planning Department pursuant to a Memorandum of Understanding with the corridor communities.</p>	<p>Complete.</p>
<p><b>2015 First Wilderness LWRP Award (C1000670) – Project amount \$851,976 (31 May 2019)</b></p>	
<p><b>Component</b></p>	<p><b>Status as of 12/2021</b></p>
<p><b>Component 1: Paper Mill Park - Town of Warrensburg</b> The Town of Warrensburg will prepare final designs and construct selected site improvements, such as a waterfront boardwalk and a canoe/kayak access at Paper Mill Park, a new waterfront park on a 3.5 acre former brownfield site on the Schroon River.</p>	<p>Complete.</p>
<p><b>Component 2: Finalize Layout of First Wilderness Trail</b> Warren County will prepare schematic designs for development of a regional waterfront hiking and biking trail for the First Wilderness Heritage Corridor from Corinth to Tahawus. The designs will identify the preferred trail route, property ownership, and legal and/or regulatory requirements necessary to complete the trail.</p>	<p>Complete.</p>
<p><b>Component 3: Warrensburg Community Center - Town of Warrensburg</b>  The Town of Warrensburg will prepare final designs and construct selected improvements at the Warrensburg Community Center in order to enhance its function as a focal point for downtown activities and community events.</p>	<p>Complete.</p>
<p><b>Component 4: Historic Mills District Park Improvements - Town of Warrensburg</b> The Town of Warrensburg will prepare final designs and construct selected site improvements to the Historic Mills District Park, such as installation of permeable pavers, relocation of utilities, changes in traffic circulation, and construction of pedestrian facilities and parking enhancements.</p>	<p>Complete.</p>
<p><b>Component 6: North Creek Main Street Improvements - Town of Johnsbury</b> The Town of Johnsbury will complete selected streetscape improvements identified in the North Creek Main Street Enhancement Plan which was prepared through a previous EPF award. Improvements may include installation of sidewalks and curbs in the area between the Town Municipal center and the North Creek Train Station complex.</p>	<p>Complete.</p>

<p><b>Component 7: Local Capacity Building to Advance Waterfront and Community Revitalization</b> The proposed project also continues support for local capacity through the Corridor Coordinator position which is responsible for overall project management and implementation, policy development, compliance with state and federal regulations, establishment of performance schedules, and interagency coordination.</p>	<p>Complete.</p>
<p><b>2016 First Wilderness LWRP Award (C1000976) - Project amount \$1,040,600 (1 September 2022)</b></p>	
<p><b>Component</b></p>	<p><b>Status as of 12/2021</b></p>
<p><b>Component 1: Harris Preserve</b> The project involves 105 acres of land off Potash Road in Lake Luzerne to be used by Hadley-Luzerne Central School students and the greater community. The goal is to connect the state-owned land at the top of Potash Mountain with the Harris land, so there's a continuous access to the top of Potash Mountain which is currently land locked.</p>	<p>Complete.</p>
<p><b>Component 2: North Creek Station Trail</b> The community of Johnsbury is interested in upgrading the walking path established by the Rotary Club along North Creek, from the Tannery Pond Community Center to the new Riverfront Park Trail. The total length of the trail is approximately 2,200 feet.</p>	<p>Complete.</p>
<p><b>Component 3: Expansion of First Wilderness to in Town of Horicon</b> With the recent addition of the Schroon River to the Inland Waterways list it is advantageous to include the community of Horicon into the First Wilderness Corridor Program.</p>	<p>Complete.</p>
<p><b>Component 4: North Creek Ski Bowl Connections</b> The Community is requesting funding to conduct a recreational assessment of the land adjacent to Ski Bowl Park for expansion.</p>	<p>Complete.</p>
<p><b>Component 5: North Creek Main Street improvements</b> The Town will complete elements identified in the North Creek Main Street Enhancement Plan relating to selected streetscape improvements between the Town Municipal center and the North Creek Train Station Complex.</p>	<p>Complete.</p>
<p><b>Component 6: Social media marketing and Promotion</b> The County will contract with a design firm to provide electronic media services and promotion.</p>	<p>Complete.</p>

<p><b>Component 7: Pottersville Well Head Upgrades</b>  As part of the 2009 EPF award to Warren County (Coo7088) an analysis of the existing water district infrastructure in Chestertown and Pottersville was completed. One of the most pressing needs identified was the upgrade of the existing wellhead structure and piping to eliminate flooding and dangerous working conditions.</p>	<p>Complete.</p>
<p><b>Component 8: LWRP Project Identification</b>  Mapping inventory of local and regionally significant, historic structures, sites, cemeteries - including environmentally significant public spaces. Identify creative and cultural organizations that can provide a connection to local artisans</p>	<p>Complete.</p>
<p><b>Component 9: Project Oversight</b>  Warren County, through its Planning Department, will provide administrative services for this project.</p>	<p>Complete.</p>
<p><b>2012 Lake George Water Quality LWRP Award (C1000230) - Project amount \$780,000 (31 March 2020)</b></p>	
<p><b>Component</b></p>	<p><b>Status as of 12/2021</b></p>
<p><b>Component 1: Implementation of BMP's to Enhance Erosion and Sediment Control</b>  The Warren County Soil and Water Conservation District will work with highway departments in the Warren County portion of the Lake George watershed to implement practices to minimize the negative impacts of erosion and sedimentation on nearby streams and Lake George.</p>	<p>Complete.</p>
<p><b>Component 2: Aquatic Invasive Species Boat Inspection and Boat Wash Stations</b>  To prevent the introduction of aquatic invasive species, the Lake George Park Commission will operate boat inspection/decontamination stations.</p>	<p>Complete.</p>
<p><b>Component 3: Project Oversight</b>  Warren County took over management of this Village of Lake George grant from Dave Decker</p>	<p>Execution of the contract was completed in October 2018.</p>
<p><b>2014 Watershed Management Priority Action Plan LWRP Award (C1000532) - Project amount \$1,070,500 (31 March 2021)</b></p>	
<p><b>Component</b></p>	<p><b>Status as of 12/2021</b></p>

<p><b>Component 1: Assessment of Economic Value of Clean Water in Lake George</b></p> <p>The Lake Champlain-Lake George Regional Planning Board will undertake a comprehensive review and analysis of existing economic studies and literature over the past several decades which have evaluated the link between the environmental quality of significant waterbodies and how those condition tie in with local and regional economic conditions surrounding those waterbodies. Specifically, analyses will evaluate directly identified correlations between long-term declines in water quality and clarity of waterbodies and resultant impacts to those regional economies. The results of this detailed analysis will inform decision makers about the value of long-term protection strategies and how the quality of the environment is linked with economic sustainability.</p>	<p>Complete.</p>
<p><b>Component 2: Quantify the Water Quality Benefits of the West Brook SW Management Project</b></p> <p>The Fund for Lake George, the Lake George Association, the Lake George Land Conservancy, and the Warren County Soil and Water Conservation District will collect and analyze water samples and compare it to historical water quality data; characterize the effectiveness of West Brook stormwater control infrastructure; report findings to identify areas and methods for systematic improvement.</p>	<p>Complete.</p>
<p><b>2014 Watershed Management Priority Action Plan LWRP Award (C1000532) - Project amount \$1,070,500 (31 March 2021) – continued</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;">28</p>	
<p><b>Component 3: Implement BMP's to Reduce Road Salt Entering the Lake</b></p> <p>Upgrade winter road maintenance vehicles including installation of: pavement temperature sensors; bucket scales; global positional automatic vehicle location units; automated spreaders. Participating municipalities include the Towns of Bolton, Hague, Lake George and Queensbury, Ticonderoga, Putnam, Dresden, the Village of Lake George and Warren County.</p>	<p>Complete.</p>
<p><b>Component 4: Eurasian Milfoil Control</b></p> <p>AE Commercial Diving Services will continue implementation of a program to eradicate and control existing invasive population of Eurasian watermilfoil within the watershed.</p>	<p>Complete.</p>
<p><b>Component 5: Project Oversight</b></p> <p>Warren County is under contract with the Village of Lake George to manage the program.</p>	<p>The contract was executed in the last quarter of 2018.</p>

2017 Lake George Milfoil Eradication (C1001175) - Project amount \$800,000 (31 December 2023)	
Component	Status as of 12/2021
<b>Component 1: Eurasian Milfoil Control</b> AE Commercial Diving Services will continue implementation of a program to eradicate and control all existing dense beds of invasive Eurasian watermilfoil in Lake George.	Complete.
<b>Component 2: Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Plan Implementation</b> To prevent the introduction of aquatic invasive species, the Lake George Park Commission will operate boat inspection/decontamination stations.	Complete.
<b>Component 3: Project Oversight</b>	Complete.
2018 Schroon Lake Boat Inspection (CFA81948) - Project amount \$386,334 (31 March 2024)	
Component	Status as of 12/2021
<b>Component 1: Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Plan Implementation</b> To prevent the introduction of aquatic invasive species, project partners will increase inspection and decontamination services for vessels entering Schroon Lake.	Complete.

<p><b>Component 2: Eurasian Watermilfoil Control</b>          To implement a program to eradicate and control existing invasive population of Eurasian watermilfoil within Schroon Lake. In 2019, Invasive Solutions Dive Company was selected to harvest Eurasian watermilfoil. A solicitation has been released to procure these services for 2020 and 2021.</p>	<p>Work began in 2019. Complete.</p>
<p><b>Component 3: Project Oversight</b></p>	<p>Complete.</p>
<p><b>2015 Comprehensive Watershed Action Plan for Lake George (CFA56792) - Project amount \$89,000 (31 December 2023)</b></p>	
<p><b>Component</b></p>	<p><b>Status as of 12/2021</b></p>
<p><b>Component 1: Develop Comprehensive Watershed Action Plan for Lake George</b>          The Lake Champlain-Lake Champlain Regional Planning Board will contract with the Town of Queensbury and regional partners to identify goals, actions, and tracking strategy for the development of a Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan for Lake George.</p>	<p>Work is ongoing.</p>
<p><b>Component 3: Project Oversight</b>          Warren County will contract with the Town of Queensbury to administer the program.</p>	<p>Contract executed in first quarter of 2020.</p>
<p><b>2016 Adirondack Smart Growth Grant Award (Coo427G) - Project amount \$67,936 (31 July 2021)</b></p>	
<p><b>Component</b></p>	<p><b>Status as of 12/2021</b></p>

<p><b>Component 1: Letterboxing Trail</b>  The First Wilderness Letterboxing Trail will involve installing boxes at various locations within each of the Corridor communities. Funding received will be utilized to purchase project materials including boxes, passport booklets, stamps, challenge rewards and staff time to design and implement the trail.</p>	<p>Complete.</p>
<p><b>Component 2: Step on Guide Services – Reallocated to Social Media and Website Support for the Town of Johnsburg.</b>  Due to the demise of SNCRR, these funds have been reallocated for social media and website support for the Town of Johnsburg.</p>	<p>Complete.</p>
<p><b>Component 3: Displays</b>  This component involves the creation of interpretive displays in Lake George Visitors Center</p>	<p>Complete.</p>
<p><b>Component 4: Corridor Promotion Materials</b>  This component involves the design and printing of promotional materials for each community in the corridor</p>	<p>Complete.</p>
<p><b>Component 5: Corridor Coordinator</b>  The Planning Department will provide administrative services for this project</p>	<p>Complete.</p>
<p><b>2022 Schroon Lake Invasive Species Initiative (C1002047) – Project amount \$335,784 (Awarded January 2022)</b></p>	
<p><b>Task</b></p>	<p><b>Status as of 1/2022</b></p>
<p><b>Task 1: Project Advisory Committee Facilitation and Program Administration</b>  The Warren County Planning Department will organize and facilitate meetings and communication between the Project Advisory Committee.</p>	<p>Work to begin in 2022.</p>
<p><b>Task 2: Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Plan Implementation</b>  Boat stewardship inspection and decontamination stations will be staffed at the following locations; Horicon Boat Launch, Route 74 Decontamination Station, Schroon Lake Boat Launch, Paradox Lake Boat Launch.</p>	<p>Work to begin in 2022.</p>

<p><b>Task 3: Eurasian Watermilfoil Control</b> A team of divers will harvest Eurasian Watermilfoil from the bottom of Schroon Lake, Warren County Planning Department will solicit qualified consultants and work with NYSDOS to meet all MWBE requirements.</p>	<p>Work to begin in 2022.</p>
<p><b>Task 4: Mobile Decontamination Unit Pilot Project</b> Due to increased costs of staffing at decontamination stations, and the fact that the members of the public are not allowed to operate the high pressure/hot water decontamination units, the Warren County Planning Department, Paul Smith's AWI, and NYSDEC have agreed to purchase and test a mobile decontamination unit that can be used by the public.</p>	<p>Work to begin in 2022.</p>
<p><b>Task 5: Integrate Geographic Information Systems (GIS) for Data Collection and Historic Data</b> Warren County Planning Department will improve data collection for divers as well as create publicly accessible dashboards showing real-time data collection and historic milfoil harvest data.</p>	<p>Work to begin in 2022.</p>
<p><b>2022 Warren County Organics Management Plan (CFA 107933) – Project amount \$80,000 (Awarded January 2022)</b></p>	
<p><b>Task</b></p>	<p><b>Status as of 1/2022</b></p>
<p><b>Task 1: Convene Advisory Committee</b> Warren County DPW with the Warren County Planning Department will convene an advisory committee to oversee the development of the Organics Management Plan.</p>	<p>Work to begin in 2022.</p>
<p><b>Task 2: Develop Existing Conditions Report</b> The contractor, with assistance from the Warren County Planning Department, will develop an existing condition report that summarizes the current collections/disposal currently being utilized, current composting initiatives, an inventory or significant organics generators, and the amount of organic material being generated in Warren County and is being landfilled or incinerated.</p>	<p>Work to begin in 2022.</p>
<p><b>Task 3: Public Outreach</b> The contractor, with assistance from the Warren County Planning Department will hold public engagement sessions at public events, develop a project website with an online questionnaire, and provide public outreach information that transfer stations and municipal centers.</p>	<p>Work to begin in 2022.</p>

<p><b>Task 4: Assess Variable Composting Technologies &amp; Techniques for Appropriateness in Warren County</b></p> <p>Based on the results of the findings from Task 2 the contractor will review case studies, best practices from other counties with similar proportions of suburban/rural landscapes, and emerging techniques from across the country.</p>	<p>Work to begin in 2022.</p>
<p><b>Task 5: Evaluate Feasibility of a Pilot Program for Household Organics Composting</b></p> <p>The consultant shall evaluate potential approaches to a household waste composting pilot program.</p>	<p>Work to begin in 2022.</p>
<p><b>Task 6: Evaluate Feasibility of Establishing a Large-Scale Composting Facility</b></p> <p>The contractor will consider locations, business models, operations and maintenance, potential clients, partnerships with haulers, county hauling options, local hauling options, and costs of implementing a program.</p>	<p>Work to begin in 2022.</p>
<p><b>Task 7: Prepare Organics Management Plan</b></p> <p>The contractor will prepare a draft Organics Management Plan that includes the findings from Task 1 through 6.</p>	<p>Work to begin in 2022.</p>
<p><b>2022 Warren County Outdoor Recreation Economy Strategic Plan (CFA109263) – Project amount \$107,500 (Awarded January 2022)</b></p>	
<p><b>Task</b></p>	<p><b>Status as of 1/2022</b></p>
<p><b>Task 1: Asset Identification and Evaluation</b></p> <p>Inventory of existing outdoor recreation businesses and physical facilities. Evaluation of the outdoor recreation businesses employment statistics, seasonality, trends, and revenue.</p>	<p>Work to begin in 2022.</p>
<p><b>Task 2: Outdoor Recreation Industry Roundtables</b></p> <p>Explore challenges and opportunities with members of the outdoor recreation economy including topics of; marketing, attraction of diverse/underrepresented groups, community readiness, gap identification, infrastructure needs, etc.</p>	<p>Work to begin in 2022.</p>

<p><b>Task 3: Public Engagement/Outreach</b> Distribute electronic surveys, develop social media content, press releases, hold two community workshops at existing outdoor recreation events.</p>	<p>Work to begin in 2022.</p>
<p><b>Task 4: Develop Draft Recommendations and Goals</b> Based on findings from Tasks 1-3 the consultant will prepare a summary of findings and develop draft recommendations and goals. These preliminary recommendations and goals will be used to inform Tasks 5-7.</p>	<p>Work to begin in 2022.</p>
<p><b>Task 5: Develop Business Attraction and Retention Strategy</b> Engage with local businesses and industry professionals from other outdoor recreation hubs, and review relevant case studies to identify gaps in the current inventory of businesses and physical infrastructure.</p>	<p>Work to begin in 2022.</p>
<p><b>Task 6: Capital Project Identification</b> Identify eight priority capital projects that will expand economic opportunity for the Outdoor Recreation Economy in Warren County. Identified projects should include cost estimates, partners, construction analysis, and potential funding sources.</p>	<p>Work to begin in 2022.</p>
<p><b>Task 7: Final Report</b> Establish industry targets/benchmarking/visitor monitoring. Explore sustainable funding sources for coordinating ongoing collaboration with the outdoor recreation industry and for the development of capital projects.</p>	<p>Work to begin in 2022.</p>
<p><b>2022 CDBG Warren County Housing Needs Assessment Study – Project amount ~\$60,000 (Awarded January 2022)</b></p>	
<p><b>Project Description</b></p>	<p><b>Status as of 1/2022</b></p>
<p>The County will request assistance to undertake the assessment of housing needs within all County Towns. The emphasis for determining housing needs will be on year-round, affordable housing for the existing work force, new workers and those households desiring alternative housing options. The assessment will review physical and regulatory barriers to developing new housing – particularly as it concerns to Hamlets in rural communities. The assessment will also examine the housing needs for seasonal workers and identify options for creating housing to meet the needs of the tourism industry. The proposed project will also incorporate information from the Town of Queensbury’s Housing Study and the Town Planner has indicated a desire to be involved in the project. The assessment will also incorporate information collected by EDC’s Housing Working Group.</p>	<p>Work to begin in 2022.</p>

<b>2022 Countryside Adult Home Renovations – Project amount \$1,110,932</b>	
<b>Project Description</b>	<b>Status as of 1/2022</b>
<p>As a follow up to the Beardsley report, completed in 2019, the Department submitted an application to NYS Office of Community Renewal (OCR) for assistance with replacing the roof at Countryside. The provisions of the funding source required that all significant issues with the building be addressed as part of the project. To that end the County Board of Supervisors committed \$250,000 from the building reserve fund and an additional \$1,000,000 of bonds. The grant application for \$300,000 was awarded in May.</p> <p>A second funding round by NYS OCR was announced using CARES Act funding. The funding was to be used to address COVID related issues. The Department submitted a preliminary consultation form to the State to upgrade the HVAC at Countryside to MERV13 standards compliance. The Department was invited to submit a full application and, working with DPW to ascertain program costs, applied for \$810,932. That application was funded in late 2021.</p> <p>The Department is working with DPW and CHA Engineers to prepare a bid document for release in the Spring of 2022.</p>	<p>Work to begin in 2022. Work is expected to be completed by May 2023.</p>