



Community Grants Program

New York State Pollution Prevention Institute (NYSP2I) provides financial and technical support for projects that raise awareness and understanding of pollution prevention practices and lead to implementation at the local level

2014 Erie County Envirothon

Erie County Soil & Water Conservation District (ECSWCD)

was established to protect and promote the health, safety, and general welfare of present and future generations of Erie County residents through the conservation of soil, water, air, plant, and animal resources by delivery of sound science-based, locally directed technical and educational assistance.



Project Description:



ECSWCD coordinates the Erie County Envirothon, a free annual outdoor environmental education program that is open to all Erie County high school students. The Envirothon is presented in two parts: *Workshop Day* and *Competition Day*. During *Workshop Day*, the students learn firsthand about environmental topics from local professionals. On *Competition Day*, teams of students contend in environmental topics such as: forestry, soils, aquatics, wildlife, and a current issue topic. The goal of the event is to develop environmental awareness in the youth of today, with the hope they will implement these concepts in the future.

Project Description:

At the 2014 Erie County Envirothon, over 100 partners, volunteers and students participated. The following goals were achieved:

- 60 students were educated on how to reduce common environmental impacts of agriculture from soil erosion, surface and ground water contamination, use of fertilizers, and manure, pathogen loading, wastewater and other byproducts.
- Five (5) workshops were presented to students by conservation partners in the categories of: wildlife, forestry, aquatics and soils, and on the 2014 theme, "Sustainable Local Agriculture/Locally Grown"
- NYSP2I -P2 Initiatives were highlighted during *Competition Day* for students to gather and disseminate information.



- Integrated P2 Information was provided at the following meetings and venues:
 - NYSP2I Website linked to District Website, www.ecswcd.org
 - Lake Erie Watershed Protection Alliance (LEWPA) meeting
 - Erie County Soil & Water Conservation District Tree and Shrub Program/Earth Day Event
 - Erie County Water Quality Meeting

