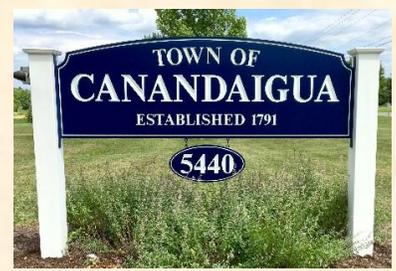


# Town of Canandaigua News

March 2019

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## **Natural Resource Protection News** *From the Town of Canandaigua Environmental Conservation Board*

### **Woodlands in the Town of Canandaigua** by: Saralinda Hooker, ECB Member

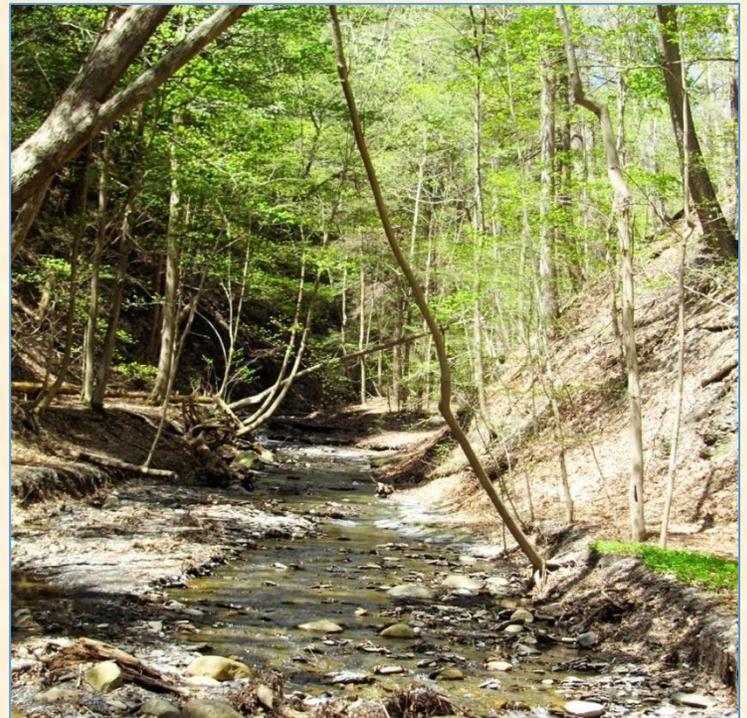
The Town's [Open Space Master Plan](#), completed and adopted in 2018, makes for good reading on the subject of the various ecological communities found within the Town boundaries. Based on a land cover survey from 2002 and a category system developed by the NYS DEC's Natural Heritage Program, all undeveloped parcels were mapped according to their ecological community type. Even more so than an aerial photograph, the resulting maps give a bird's eye view of the character of the Town's open space - where to find active farms, abandoned farms returning to shrub lands, wetlands, and forests of different types. Follow this [link](#) to explore the map in detail.

What and where are the main types of woodlands and forested wetlands in the Town?

**Successional Northern Hardwood Forest** – This is the most common forest type in the Town, with 6,748 acres. These are hardwood or mixed forests on sites which were historically cleared for farmland or logging, and were abandoned to reforestation over the past 40 to 90 years. They occur most densely in the southern half of the Town, where the land is steeper and less productive for farming than the northern half. These large continuous forest stands provide habitat for breeding birds and for mammals such as deer, fox and bobcat. Shallow seasonal wetlands (vernal pools) within these forested areas are also critical habitats for some amphibians.

**Hemlock-Northern Hardwood Forest** – This type of forest is found on the steep slopes along streams leading to the lake. We have about 147 acres of this forest type in the Town, mainly along Tichenor Point Creek, Menteth Creek, Barnes Creek, and a few other gullies at higher elevations. The

Hemlock Overlook trail at the top of Onanda Park offers a terrific example of this forest type. The majestic hemlocks are well adapted to steep slopes, and their evergreen shade moderates the temperature fluctuations in summer and winter, providing valuable habitat to deer, fox, porcupines and coyotes.



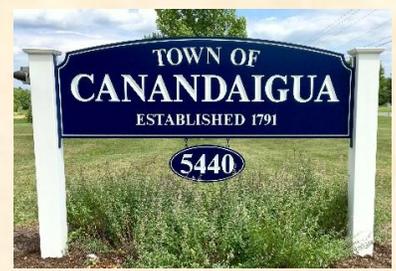
Looking up the gully at the hemlock-northern hardwood forest in Barnes Creek

**Floodplain Forest** – When a hardwood forest occurs within a seasonal floodplain, the result is a floodplain forest. These areas flood regularly in the spring and typically dry out during the summer months, sometimes flooding again during wet periods later in the year. These areas, which total about 325 acres, are particularly important for flood control, as they allow swollen waterways to expand their footprint, slow their momentum and drop their heavy loads of silt and debris. The Town's largest areas of Floodplain Forest lie *continued on next page...*

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Example of a silver maple-ash swamp

"very vulnerable" by the DEC, with fewer than 100 occurrences of this type of forest in the state.

**Silver Maple-Ash Swamp** – We have roughly 1,687 acres of Silver Maple-Ash Swamp scattered around the central and northern parts of the Town. This type of forest community happens in a poorly-drained depression, and usually has standing water year round. Some of the Town's largest areas of this forest type are between Middle Cheshire Road and Route 21, south of Nott Road (108 acres), east of Woolhouse Road between Nott and Bliss Roads, north and south of Buffalo Street Extension east of Cooley Road, and along Padelford Creek in the northern part of the Town. Silver Maple-Ash Swamps are considered "somewhat vulnerable." They provide important habitat for birds, amphibians, especially breeding salamanders, and mammals such as beaver.

along the Canandaigua Outlet, between Routes 5&20 and Ontario Street Extension, and on the north side of Grimbler Road, along Schaeffer Creek. Floodplain Forests are rated as

Canandaigua Lake may be our most impressive natural resource, but our forests and wetlands also contribute to our special rural character, and make a good home for our feathered and furry friends too.

**The following story is brought to you by the Town of Canandaigua Agricultural Advisory Committee. Follow this [link](#) to learn more about the committee.**

## 'Just' a farm kid is a job prospect extraordinaire

By Rudy Taylor  
February 21, 2013  
Montgomery County Chronicle

While attending a job fair last week where Taylor Newspapers manned a booth, I met lots of job seekers.

Some brought resumes. Others just moseyed by, picked up the free stuff on our table and asked a few questions.

But one young woman created a memory for me.

She was a senior in high school, seeking summer employment before starting to a community college in the fall.

"Are you hiring?" she asked.

We said probably not, but we're always looking for good resources, such as part-time photographers and writers.

"We'd be happy to take your resume," I told her.

Then she said something that stuck with me. "I'm afraid my resume wouldn't be too impressive," she said. "I've spent all my life working on my parents' farm. I go to school in the *continued on next page...*