

WEST SENECA ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to protect and improve the environment as a valuable resource and asset for the people and the Town of West Seneca. We strive to advise the Town Board and make recommendations that will promote a clean, healthy, and well protected environment supporting a sustainable society and economy. The committee shall also provide community outreach and education to achieve these goals.

Environmental Issues for current action and long term planning purposes for the West Seneca Environmental Commission (WSEC)					
Category Sub-categories	Priority 1 = High 2 = Medium 3 = Low	Details	Actions	Team Members	Status / Comments
Water Quality					
Buffalo Niagara River - keeper	1		1. Assisting with National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Grant for implementation of flood control methods along the Buffalo Creek. 2. Floor bench in Buffalo Creek.	Evelyn Hicks	Attended several meetings in 2023
Storm Water Coalition					
Pesticide / Herbicide Use					
New subdivisions impact on Sanitary Sewers					

Storm Drain Medallions	1	Was a past major project for WSEC. A recent study (sampling) determined about 46% are now missing from where placed.	1. Purchase replacement medallions. Determine how and when to replace. 2. Idea: What can be done to have developers install these on storm drains in new developments? Update town codes for new subdivisions?		DEC marking requirements?
Trees					
Tree Inventory Grant	1	Grant awarded to the town in Dec. 2023.	1. WSEC is a partner with the town for the grant activities with focus on public outreach and education during grant implementation. 2. Delay caused by new DEC system and NYS Comptroller. 3. Project team to be formed and represented by commission members .	Tree Subcommittee (Thomas J. Mudd, Jr., Danielle Bagley, Ryan Taylor) include others as needed.	1. Formal letter of partnership provided to gran writer in June 2023 and included with grant application. 2. Pending contract to be signed by Town Supervisor with DEC May 2024. 3. TBD
Urban Forestry Management Plan	1	Subsequent to completion of tree inventory above. 2nd part of the grant.	See above.	Tree Subcommittee (Thomas J. Mudd, Jr., Danielle Bagley, Ryan Taylor) include others as needed.	

Tree City USA		Is this something the town board would support?			
Invasive Species					
Approved Tree List	1		1. Tree Subcommittee has a proposed tree list. 2. Formal letter with tree list recommendations sent to the town board 3/21/2024.	Tree Subcommittee	1. Links to tree inventory grant, future grant opportunities. 2. On agenda of town board meeting on March 25, 2024. Was referred to town attorney for review.
Green-Space					
Town Parks					
Buffer Zones for Subdivisions					
Growth / Zoning Impacts					
Community Gardens	1		Agenda topic for 6/10/24 WSEC mtg. Town resident input.		
Hiking trails					
Bike Paths	?	GObike and West Seneca Bikes	Interface with these organizations to identify priorities for WSEC.	Danielle Bagley	
Road Traffic					

Bike Lanes	1	GObike and West Seneca Bikes	1, Interface with these organizations to identify priorities for WSEC. 2. Letter from Chris Holmes, founder of West Seneca Bikes, expressing concerns about bikeability in West Seneca received January 2023.	Danielle Bagley	1. On-going. 2. Letter was sent to West Seneca Town Board in April 2023. emails and discussions occurred with Chris Holmes. Commission reviewed email chain during April 15, 2024 meeting. Still have concerns and questions. Feedback provided to town board liasion.
Pedestrian Walkways					
Growth / Zoning Impacts					
Wildlife Concerns					
Deer Overpopulation	1	Deer Task Force / Survey, Other Information	1. West Seneca Deer Management Plan published May 2022. 2. Town Board meeting 5/6/2024 presentation on Ecological Impacts of White-tailed deer by Zach Goodrich Head of Land Stewardship at Tiff Nature Preserve Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences.		1. What is plan for 2nd survey? Funding? Why was this given back to WSEC vs. Further TB actions. Plan not being followed. 2. Presentation copy provided. Bob Amadon attend the TB meeting. Will review at future WSEC meeting.
Coyote Overpopulation		Is this a real concern?			

Growth / Zoning Impacts					
Recycling					
Hazardous Waste					
Electronics Waste					
Composting	1	1. Farmer Pirates (Farmers Market) 2. NEST (Northeast South Towns) Solid Waste Management Board	1. Attending events in March and April 2024 to support the events and inform the public about the WSEC. 2. Attend NEST meetings and bring back information to the WSEC.	1. Bob Amadon, and others? 2. Barb Lipiew	1. Both events were attended by commission members as part of public outreach. Refer to commission meeting minutes. 2. On-going
Climate Change Impact					
Water Quality					
Forest / Trees					
Impacts from Extreme Weather Events					
Climate Smart Community	?	Refer to what East Aurora and Lancaster have done on this.			
Air Quality					
Traffic congestion					
Industrial Pollution					
Pesticide / Herbicide Use					
Noise Pollution					

Highway Traffic					
Industrial Sources					
Noise Ordinances					
Other					
Survey Town Residents (voice of the customer)					
Rank and summarize Environmental issues important to them					
Effectiveness of the town's environmental policies					