

iroquois report

Summer 2003 edition

Iroquois Announces LEAF Grant Recipients

The Land Enhancement and Acquisition Fund (LEAF) was established in 1995 to help pipeline communities preserve open space, establish and improve parklands and enhance community-based recreational facilities. LEAF provides funding for the enhancement or acquisition of important open space or park properties which represent unique environmental and recreational opportunities, as well as for projects which are beneficial to the environment. This year, the Landis Arboretum completed their signage project, and the Town of Manheim (see their entry to the right) completed their fence project. With no further ado, Iroquois is pleased to announce the following 2002/2003 LEAF Grant recipients:

Town of Sherman Preservation & Conservation Comm.

Fairfield County, CT

Production and distribution of a comprehensive Natural Resources Inventory Report to help guide the town's conservation and other planning efforts.

Town of Dover CAC

Dutchess County, NY

Purchase and installation of a gate, sign, and plantings at the entrance to the town's Boyce Park,

a park previously enhanced through Iroquois' Land Preservation and Enhancement Program (LPEP).

Village of Athens

Greene County, NY

Materials for construction of a concession stand and handicap accessible facilities at the Village Green recreation area.

Town of Manheim

Herkimer County, NY

Purchase and installation of an Ironwood rail fence at the town's Faville Falls Park, a park previously enhanced through LPEP.

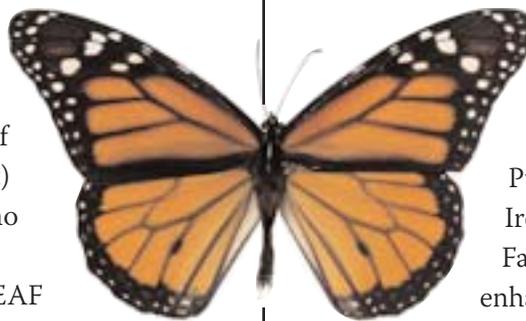
Schoharie Land Trust, Inc.

Schoharie County, NY

Acquisition of a conservation/agricultural easement for Mereness Farm in the town of Sharon, NY.

More on LEAF

Project submissions must be received by September 30, 2003 to be considered for the 2003/04 funding cycle. If you would like a copy of Iroquois' LEAF Guidelines and Criteria, please contact Ruth Parkins, LEAF Program Administrator, at ruth_parkins@iroquois.com.



Printed on
recycled paper

Iroquois Report is a publication of the Iroquois Pipeline Operating Company. Iroquois' headquarters are located at One Corporate Drive, Suite 600, Shelton, Connecticut, 06484. If you have any questions regarding the topics in this issue of the Iroquois Report, please contact Ann Marie Wheeler at (203) 925-7207.



Guide to the Butterfly Field

Update on 1995 LEAF Grant recipient, and the metamorphosis of their project.

In 1995, Iroquois awarded The Nature Conservancy's (TNC) Sunny Valley Preserve a \$10,000 LEAF Grant. In 2000, with two thirds of the project well under way, TNC requested a reallocation of the unspent funds to enhance a butterfly meadow on a field through which the Iroquois pipeline passes. Three years later, the field is flourishing and it is currently estimated to be home to some 80-90 butterflies.

Initially, funds were earmarked for a study on the impact of wetland management techniques. But as time went by, research completed by The Nature Conservancy and other conservation partners surpassed the intent of the project. With funding on the table from the US Department of Agriculture, TNC requested a redirection of the unspent funds from Iroquois. It was approved, and TNC began work on the six-acre butterfly meadow.

Iroquois' portion of the funds was used for research and development of planting and field maintenance recommendations appropriate for the butterfly life cycle. Hikers are given handouts produced with



Great Spangled Fritillaries



white Spring Moth



Wing detail of the Common Wood Nymph



Come autumn, this field will be awash with color, from both the foliage and the butterflies.

LEAF funds, and in-field signs identify various butterfly species to everyday visitors and guided tours alike.

During a visit to the field, Margaret McCauley, Director of TNC's Sunny Valley Preserve, indicated where the field had recently been mowed to give the clover a better chance of taking hold, allowing the clover to attract different species of butterfly than are attracted by the abundant growth of milkweed and coreopsis.

LEAF funds were also used to build a viewing platform in the wetlands area. Visitors walking out to the butterfly meadow can pause here to see wetland plant and bird life.

If you're thinking of a trip to the meadow, prime butterfly viewing season is upon us. "August is hot, humid, and sticky," says Margaret, "maybe not pleasant for you, but the butterflies will be perfectly at home." And the fields will be awash with deep purple asters, violet Joe Pye Weed, and goldenrod.

For directions or more information, call the Sunny Valley Preserve at 860-355-3716.

MOTH OR BUTTERFLY?

- Look at their antennae. Butterflies have thread-like antennae with a clubbed tip. Moths have feathered or spiked antennae.

- Contrary to popular belief, most butterflies do not spin cocoons (although moths do).
- Typically, butterflies are active in the daytime while moths are nocturnal.