

What is DACC?

In 1972, the DeWitt Town Board created the DeWitt Advisory Conservation Commission (DACC), to advise all agencies on the development, management and protection of its natural resources in accordance with state law. The nine DACC members are appointed and serve without compensation.

Among its responsibilities, DACC may:

- ✦ Conduct research on DeWitt lands
- ✦ Coordinate the activities of unofficial bodies organized for similar purposes
- ✦ Cooperate with official DeWitt bodies active in the area of community planning
- ✦ Keep an inventory and map of all open areas within the municipality in order to obtain information pertinent to proper utilization of such open lands, including lands owned by DeWitt and NY State.
- ✦ Keep an inventory and map of all wet lands, and recommend to the Town Board an ecologically suitable program to utilize them.
- ✦ Carry out any other duties consistent with the objectives of the law

The Town Board may also authorize DACC to accept gifts and grants of money or other personal property to help carry out its responsibilities. In addition, DACC may recommend that DeWitt acquire land that may be needed to fulfill the purpose of the law.



Front Photo: Falls at Rams Gulch

Town of DeWitt, 5400 Butternut Drive, East Syracuse, NY 13057
Ed Michalenko, Supervisor

Conservation Opportunities

DACC and YOU

DACC welcomes DeWitt volunteers with experience in many areas of conservation:

- ✦ Forests
- ✦ Wetlands
- ✦ Geology
- ✦ Soils
- ✦ Visual assessment
- ✦ Wildlife
- ✦ Native vegetation
- ✦ Environmental law
- ✦ Environmental education

Offer your expertise by calling the Supervisor's office to:

- ✦ Describe your interest in conservation;
- ✦ Enquire about serving on DACC;
- ✦ Attend our monthly meetings as a member of the public;
- ✦ Volunteer your skills as needed.



Vegetation inventory

Town of DeWitt

Advisory Conservation Commission



Our Mission

To ensure the sustainable use and protection of the natural resources of DeWitt and to further the awareness of conservation practices and policies throughout the Town.

Land Conservation

Land Conservation in DeWitt

Central New York has beautiful natural lands. Yet all too quickly houses and businesses replace the trees and open spaces that first lure us from the city to the countryside. Developers in DeWitt may choose to set aside a percentage of their land for conservation, or pay into a fund to buy land for public use. To fulfill the promise of that policy, DACC wants to develop a priority list of undeveloped lands, so that as opportunities arise to purchase land for conservation open space or easements, DeWitt will be prepared to act.

How Land Conservation Serves Us

Conservation areas provide distinctive *Visual Resources* that enrich the spirit and provide psychological renewal. They provide *Habitat* for wildlife, giving a variety of experiences and respite from man-made environments. Land conservation promotes good *Health* by providing reserves of cleaner air and trails for outdoor activities. Neighborhoods are *Safer* when conservation restricts development in hazardous areas.

How Conservation Land Can Be Managed



Clark Reservation

Passive recreation provides a cost-effective use of land, which in its natural state requires mainly trail maintenance, to provide beautiful areas for hiking and bird watching.

Restoration of degraded land opens up new areas for recreation, development and habitat. Although the land can heal itself, a management plan will add value to the community more quickly and effectively.



Abandoned Quarry



DeWitt Neighborhood



Meadowbrook Creek



Education: Flood Tolerant Plants

DACC Activities and Objectives

- ✦ Arboretum signs and brochure
- ✦ Critical Areas Handbook
- ✦ Earth Day Fair and cleanup
- ✦ Education for sustainable design
- ✦ Engage DeWitt residents in protecting our residential and natural areas
- ✦ Forestry and Vegetation Management Plan
- ✦ Green infrastructure
- ✦ I-481 interchange vegetation planning
- ✦ Land clearing regulations
- ✦ Meadowbrook floodplain
- ✦ Natural Areas Inventory
- ✦ Natural landscape guidelines
- ✦ Neighborhood development signage
- ✦ Onondaga Nature Corridor
- ✦ Tree inventory and planting
- ✦ Tree Ordinance
- ✦ Wetland assessment and planning
- ✦ Zoning update

<http://www.townofde Witt.com/DeWittAdvisoryConservationCommission.aspx>