Technician's Report – Ben Luskin – 07/24/2015

Grants and Projects

- Round 18:
    - Brotherhood: Grading, shaping, seeding and mulching still needs to be completed; along with other Operations and Maintenance items.

- Round 20:
    - Red Top: Construction has continued on the Bedded Pack. Trusses, purlins, and bracing is in place.

AEM

- Toolite Farms, LLC: Continued work on Tier 3B-CNMP
- Wilder: Tier II summary and follow up letter; soil tests and farm walk for grazing plan
- Foote: Maps for Tier 2 and planning
- Jarvis: Tier II review, printed new Tier II sheets, & maps
- Article for newsletter on improving pastures with soil health

Technical Assistance

- Abramson: Pond & Fish
- Moved no-till drill twice
- Salem Fire Department: Met with the fire department and John Connell a wetlands biologist with the Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) for a site review of the new fire house location. The meeting was to review/confirm a determination that was made years ago by the ACOE that the site was not sending runoff into White Creek and that the fire department had not filled in a wetland. John Connell confirmed this and drafted a letter to the fire department stating his findings. The Salem fire department would like the SWCD and NRCS to look into doing a wetland determination and delineation for future expansion of the parking lot. This is needed to do any further filling.
- Barton stream erosion: Discussed with landowner and Rensselaer County SWCD
- Moy: National Wetlands questions for property in Cambridge. Maps and suggestions given.

Miscellaneous

- AEM webinar
- Typed minutes for Upper Hudson River Watershed Coalition meeting
- Performance appraisal
- WQIP: Tablet layer downloads for roadside assessment project

Meetings Attended

- June 23 - Managing pests in the new world of alfalfa - Easton, NY
- July 9 - Upper Hudson River Watershed Coalition - Warrensburg, NY
- July 22 - Environmental Education Foundation, annual meeting - Auburn, NY
- July 23 - Annual Crops & Soils Field Day - Alburgh, VT

Upcoming Meetings

- August 31 - State Fair booth for the Conservation Districts Employees Association