

By 1927, the capacity of the entire Hemlock-Canadice watershed had been reached. As demand for water exceeded supply, the city was forced to buy water from the Lake Ontario company and from Eastman Kodak which had its own Lake Ontario intake. From that time to the present, the proportion of Hemlock water delivered to city customers has steadily declined. The use of the water by the City of Rochester forced the removal of the cottages along the lakeshore during the 1920's.

Recently, the State Health Department has stepped up pressure on the city to construct a water filtration plant. New water supply regulations have more stringent turbidity limits which are occasionally exceeded by Hemlock water.

As the city continued to press for tax relief both for its watershed property and now a new filtration plant, the early signs of cooperation hit a snag. The towns had become somewhat dependent on tax revenue from the city, but it was that same tax structure which forced the city to explore options which were repugnant to the towns.

In 1988, the Town Board of Livonia finalized a contract with the City of Rochester for them to build a water treatment plant in Hemlock. The contract included a net bonus of \$500,000 for Livonia over the life of the contract. In addition, the Hemlock Lake watershed was forever protected in its natural state. By 1992, Rochester will rebuild Hemlock Park with overlook areas, walkways, pavilions, bathroom facilities, and recreation areas. With the fast growth rate of Livonia, this agreement also helps us address our future drinking water needs without adversely affecting Conesus Lake. A problem that has existed for almost one hundred years has been mutually solved. The City of Rochester has had Livonia and area towns and school districts in court for many years arguing over taxes. This agreement stops all that, and at a great savings of attorney's fees to all of us. The net result is that we have a better working relationship with all the municipalities involved.

The other Finger Lakes of western New York have become essentially private ponds, ringed by development. Hemlock Lake offers us a last chance to avoid the mistakes of the past and preserve this beautiful remaining treasure.

An Act to Release The Rochester and Hemlock Lake Plank Road Company from the construction of a part of their Road.

PASSED, APRIL 24, 1852.

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

§1. The Rochester and Hemlock Lake Plank Road Company may, at their option, build and construct the Plank Road laid out by them, for the whole twenty-eight miles, or thereabouts, which they were organized to build; or they may finish only the twenty-five and three-fourths consecutive miles of the same, which is now nearly completed, and be released from all obligations to build any more; and when they shall have finished the said twenty-five and three-fourths consecutive miles, they shall be entitled to all the rights, immunities and privileges of Plank Road Companies, formed under the general Plank Road Laws, for the whole length of time remaining unexpired of their charter, the same as though they had organized to build but twenty-five and three-fourths miles, and shall be entitled to collect tolls thereon, at the rate prescribed by law.

§2. The Treasurer of the said Plank Road Company shall, within thirty days after the passage of this Act, cause a written or printed notice, containing a copy of said Act, to be served on each subscriber to the Capital stock of said Company; such service may be made personally, or by depositing said notice in the Post Office, properly directed to such subscribers respectively.

§3. Any such subscriber to the Capital stock of said Plank Road Company who, at the time of making such subscription, resided at any point southerly from the present southern terminus of said Plank Road, as now built and used, (except such subscribers as reside within half a mile of the said present southern terminus,) shall, on application in writing to the Treasurer of said Plank Road Company, and on surrendering his stock certificate, have refunded to him the amount which such subscribers may have paid on such stock subscription, together with the interest on each sum so paid, from the time of payment, deducting therefrom any amount of dividends which he may have received on said stock. Provided such application shall be made within three months from and after the passage of this Act. But the foregoing provisions of this section shall not apply to any person who has signed a petition, addressed to the Legislature of this State or either branch thereof, requesting the passage of this Act, or any similar Act, or who shall, before the passage of this Act, have sold or otherwise disposed of his interest in such stock.

§4. This Act shall take effect immediately.

SIN: Take notice, that the foregoing is a copy of an Act of the Legislature of the State of New York, passed at the late session of said Legislature, June 9th, 1852.

Yours, &c.,

F. OLARK,

Treasurer of Rochester and Hemlock Lake Plank Road Company,
At Rochester, Monroe County.

Rochester,

To Mr.

Philip Short