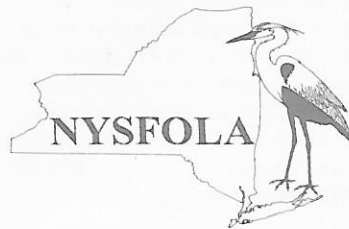


# WATERWORKS

*New York State Federation of Lake Associations, Inc.  
Celebrating Our 25th Anniversary 1983-2008*

August 2008



## *25th Anniversary Conference Old Friends...New Faces*

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*NYSFOLA Manager Nancy Mueller (center) greets former NYSFOLA Board member Bob Roessle and his wife Estelle. Bob served on the Board of Directors from 1992-2001. The Roessles made the trip to Hamilton all the way from Little Fresh Pond in Southampton.*

**WOW!** That's the only way to describe the 25th anniversary conference held May 2nd-4th at White Eagle Conference Center in Hamilton. We're not sure what drew the huge crowd to Hamilton this year. Perhaps it was the great agenda which included everything from dam safety regulations to water quality issues. Perhaps it was the lure of drinking from light-up wine glasses at the banquet. We do know that everyone had fun and learned a great deal. Mark your calendars now for May 1-3, 2009.

Dr. Bruce Gilman, Community College of the Finger Lakes, received the 2008 Lake Tear of the Clouds award for his dedication to NYSFOLA and New York's lakes. Gil Poderson and Butch Hoffman from Ulster Heights Lake and Ted Muniak from Lake Peekskill all took home Lake Steward awards for their dedication to their respective lake communities. Matt Dalen from the Lewisboro Ledger received the 2008 Media Award for his articles on the 2007 CSLAP Analytical Contract delay. More inside!

*NYSFOLA's mission. is to protect the water resources of New York State by assisting local organizations and individuals through public dialogue. education, information exchange and collaborative efforts.*

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**WATERWORKS**

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*All letters to the editor represent the viewpoints of the author and may or may not reflect the opinion of the NYSFOLA membership or Board of Directors.*

**From the President...by John Slater**

*Because this is the first "Waterworks" since our Conference back in May, I would like to thank everyone for the tremendous job they did dealing with all the logistics. The speakers were well received; the accommodations were excellent; the food and drinks more than filled us up— they made us want to return to the White Eagle Conference Center again and again. As a matter of fact, we have booked the conference center for the next three years. I am particularly happy about that because it means a short trip across Lake Moraine for me!*

*Many NYSFOLA members may, however, been disappointed with the actions of our organization the last month or two. They may have wished that NYSFOLA had taken a stronger position against the revised amendments to the New York State Dam Safety Regulations. Our letter, which pointed out our members' concerns (9 of them specifically) and asking the state to reconsider parts of the revised regulations, may not have been enough to satisfy the outrage that many lake associations feel when it comes to who should take responsibility for ownership and maintenance of dams around New York State.*

*That being said, many of our Board members did take individual actions such as writing independent letters to senators and assemblypersons or meeting with them to express their concerns. Board member Bob Rosati has been diligently working to keep NYSFOLA "in the loop" on this issue since 2006.*

*It needs to be understood that NYSFOLA is an organization that represents lake associations' concerns, but it does it in an educational, informative manner rather than as a lobbying body. Yes, we do have a one member, unpaid, lobbying "wing" of our organization who works in that capacity under Board direction, but the Board places undefined, "low keyed" restrictions on that person in an effort to build bridges rather than burn them.*

*Therefore, it is hoped that those lake associations or individuals who may have had different expectations from NYSFOLA dealing with the new dam regulations, understand and respect our intentions and our function in this matter.*

*Another major, on-going issue deals with the topic of invasive species. For this issue, there is little controversy but much to be done. Already established are the eight Partnerships for Regional Invasive Species Management-PRISMs. Though these PRISMs are in different stages of development, I can unequivocally say that they are progressing effectively. NYSFOLA is doing all that it can to be an integral part of what is going on with the newly created Office of Invasive Species Coordination, the Invasive Species Council and state funding for invasive species management. Several of our members are active in each of the eight regions.*

*Another issue that has touched some lakes already, and looms larger on the horizon, concerns using lake water as a private water supply. The NYS Department of Health has issued "Fact Sheet #5" which raises the concern about the ability to use lake water as a household water supply. (See page 6 for more information.) Has your lake been impacted? Please let us know!*

*Finally, we hope that many of you will join us for the Western Regional Conference in October. Take advantage of all NYSFOLA has to offer!*

*John Slater, President*

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## *Dam Safety Regs —Help Wanted!*

*by Nancy Mueller, Manager*

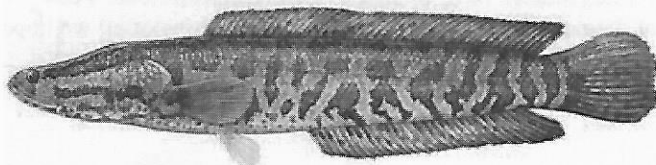
- Several of you have called or e-mailed the NYSFOLA office wondering what the current status is of the pending dam safety regulations and/or what NYSFOLA is currently doing about it. President John Slater's comments in his President's Letter give a quick summation. I'm going to give you the "big picture" from the office.
- **How long has NYSFOLA been involved?** Many of you may not realize this, but we have been working on this issue since the first draft appeared in 2006. We sent Board members and lake association representatives to the very first round of "information sessions", got some media attention (Albany Times Union), and made some in-roads with members of the legislature. We invited DEC's Dam Safety Chief Alon Dominitz to two consecutive NYSFOLA conferences and even supplied him with a hard hat. That's right, we have been at this for TWO YEARS! Much credit goes to NYSFOLA Board member Bob Rosati, from Melody Lake, who has had significant contact with his Senator, James Seward, over these last two years. It should not be surprising then, that Senator Seward has taken a lead in opposing the current language of these regulations. Board member Jim Hood has also made several phone calls on behalf of NYSFOLA, and we thank him for his efforts. Much of the feedback he received appears below. We have also communicated the extent of the problem with other statewide groups that eventually submitted their own comments.
- **What have we accomplished?** Several members of the NYS Legislature have written to DEC Commissioner Peter Grannis to express their opposition to the current language of the pending regulations. Obviously that's not all we hope to accomplish. We would like to see legislation allocating money for dam maintenance and establishing an insurance pool or other means of providing affordable insurance. We would also like DEC to come up with a list of qualified engineers.
- **What needs else needs to be done?** Members of the legislature have repeatedly expressed the need for contact from their **CONSTITUENTS**. You must write, phone, or meet with your senators and assembly members. Invite them to one of your meetings. Invite them to your lake. They want specifics! What are the impacts on your lake association? What will this (or has this already)-cost your lake association? Will you be forced to declare Chapter 11? Will you breach your dam rather than comply with the regulations? How will that impact local revenues (tax assessments) or the environment? Are you able to find capable engineers that meet DEC's experience requirements? Have you been able to get insurance? What does it cost? Have you tried to have your dam reclassified? Were you successful? (Ask the folks at Mariaville Lake about this one!) What other problems have you had? NYSFOLA has tried to help by putting information on our website, but you must take action as well. Please send us copies of correspondence so that we can continue to be informed of the impacts on our membership. Nearly 70 people signed up for more information at the conference. To date, I have only heard from about 10 lake associations — those who have been hit the hardest already. That's not going to be enough!
- **Why didn't NYSFOLA participate in "Dam Lobby Day?"** This was an event coordinated by an individual who has more recently stepped into the dam safety realm. He is a paid, professional lobbyist and is helping some of our members but is not employed by, endorsed by or affiliated with NYSFOLA. The NYSFOLA Board of Directors felt that it was important for NYSFOLA to continue to take the lead representing our members without additional cost. There was also concern that an event late in the legislative session would not be very productive. That being said, we publicized the event via e-mail and in no way discouraged our members from participating if they chose to do so.
- **What Else?** We will continue to work with all of you on this problem, but we *must* hear from you, too! Send us copies of your communications and responses. Let us know what is happening on your lake. This is how we will be a more effective organization. However, remember that we also want to keep our working relationship with DEC intact. Despite our opinion of the proposed dam safety regulations, we also need to keep in mind that this is the same agency that gives us CSLAP and is helping with the editing of "*Diet for a Small Lake*" as with many other projects over the years. As President Slater indicated, we want to build bridges, not burn them. We hope you will help us do so.



## Northern Snakehead Fish Found in Orange County

*Adapted from 06/27/08 and 07/29/08 NYS DEC Press Releases*

In late May 2008, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Fisheries staff responded to a report by a local fisherman of an invasive species in Catlin Creek near Ridgebury Lake in the Town of Waywayanda, Orange County. Subsequently, DEC conducted an investigation and verified the presence of the Northern Snakehead (*Channa argus*), a species native to Asia. The species is thought to have been introduced into U.S. waters through aquaria and water gardening enthusiasts or ship ballast water. The Snakehead has earned the nickname "frankenfish."



The Northern Snakehead, *Channa argus*  
Photo by Susan Trammel  
United States Environmental Protection Agency  
[www.epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov)

While the Northern Snakehead is not a threat to human health or safety, it is an aggressive predator that has the potential to prey on and compete with native fishes throughout New York State. Therefore, the DEC has taken immediate action to contain its spread by erecting fish barriers in Catlin Creek. In addition, DEC has determined that use of the aquatic pesticide Legumine to eradicate this species is essential to protect native fish populations and prevent any possible expansion of Northern Snakeheads beyond the headwaters of Catlin Creek. Legumine is a specially formulated product developed for eradication of fish from lakes, ponds, streams and reservoirs and has been used for many decades to restore aquatic ecosystems throughout the United States. The active ingredient, Rotenone, is an extract from several different tropical plants and breaks down rapidly after application with no lasting toxicity. Ridgebury Lake and Catlin Creek will be treated.

## Want More info on Aquatic Invasive Species?

Portland State University's Center for Lakes and Reservoirs has put together a catalog of Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Education and Outreach Materials which is accessible at:

<http://www.clr.pdx.edu/projects/edoutreach>

According to the information on the website:

This searchable inventory of AIS outreach materials is available to all users and has a dynamic web interface that allows registered users to input their own education and outreach materials as well as having a peer review and ratings system for material evaluation to help maintain a high standard for submissions. New users may wish to browse through the system before using the search features to get a better idea of the types of materials available. Organizations that have developed outreach tools that are available for distribution are encouraged to register and use the dynamic interface to upload a record of their own materials.



They are also developing an image gallery where AIS images will be available for non-commercial use. The photo to the left is one of the currently available images showing a boat trailer with aquatic plants. It can be used to educate

boaters about the importance of cleaning all equipment in order to prevent the spread of aquatic nuisance species from one lake to another.

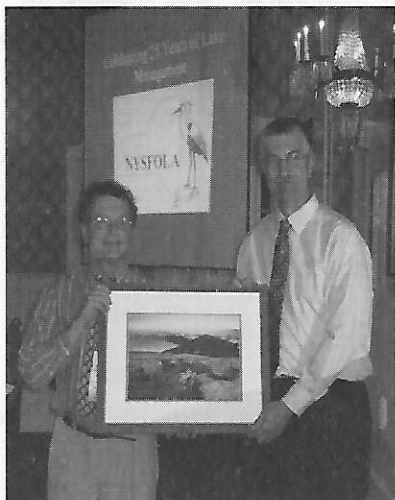


# A Great Celebration!

## NYSFOLA Celebrates 25 Years of Lake Management

### Lake Tear of the Clouds Award

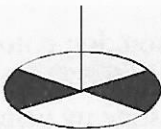
Past-President Donald Cook presents the 2008 Lake Tear of the Clouds Award to Dr. Bruce Gilman, Community College of the Finger Lakes. Bruce was selected based on his research and educational efforts in the Finger Lakes Region, his contributions to NYSFOLA as one of the first members of the Scientific Advisory Board and participation in many regional and statewide conferences. Congratulations Bruce!



Past President Don Cook (left) presents the Lake Tear of the Clouds award to Dr. Bruce Gilman.

### CSLAP Training

For the first time in the history of the Citizens Statewide Lake Assessment Program, it took two boats to train all of the new participants. Fortunately the weather was good. Longtime CSLAP volunteer from Babcock Lake, and NYSFOLA Board member, Jan Shields was recruited to help out. Thanks to our "captains" from the Lake Moraine Association.



### Lake Steward Awards

Three outstanding people were nominated by their lake associations this year to receive the 2008 Lake Steward Award.

Gil Poderson and Butch Hoffman from Ulster Heights Lake Association were recognized for their efforts to join NYSFOLA in 2007, encourage lake association members to attend the 2007 conference, including the dam safety session, and repair an aging dam upon their return back to Ulster Heights. In just one summer, nearly \$13,000 was raised. Great job!

Ted Muniak from the Lake Peekskill Preservation Committee was awarded for his life long dedication to his lake, community and NYSFOLA. His contributions have been truly exemplary. Bravo!



Lake Peekskill Supervisor Sam Davis (left) and Lake Steward Award recipient Ted Muniak at the banquet.

### Silent Auction and Raffles

As always, everyone had a great time bidding on an eclectic mix of Silent Auction merchandise. This year's auction set a record! Special thanks to Allied Biological, Inc. for their donation of the production of a small lake bathymetric map. It was won by Theresa Cerezola from Robinson Pond.

### Newsletter Awards

There was stiff competition this year with a record number of newsletters! Kudos went to: Honeoye Valley Association (large association) and the Mariaville Civic Association (small association) newsletters.



Jan Shields presents the large association newsletter award to Don Cook from the Honeoye Valley Association

### Vendors & Supporters\*

Abraxis, LLC  
Allied Biological, Inc.  
Alpha Boats Unlimited  
Aquamarine, Division of Erectoweld, Inc.  
Cabin Life Magazine  
Cayuga Wine Trail  
Inst. for the Application of Geospatial Tech.  
Pleasant Valley Winery, Hammondsport  
Princeton Hydro, LLC  
SePRO Corporation  
Swedish Hill Winery, Romulus  
The L.A. Group  
Upstate Applications  
UWS Aquacleaner, inc.  
Wildlife Supply Company  
Wild Visions, Inc.  
Woit Engineering and Consulting, P.C.  
YSI-Son Tek

\* The products and services offered by commercial exhibitors at the NYSFOLA Conference are not necessarily endorsed by the NYSFOLA Board of Directors.

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# NYS Department of Health Limits Lake Water as Private Water Supply Source

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*Adapted from the Keuka Lake Association's newsletter with many thanks from NYSFOLA*

The Keuka Lake Association has alerted NYS-FOLA about an issue that may affect the availability of lake water as a source for individual household water supplies. This could have significant economic impacts on lakeshore properties in many areas.

The New York State Department of Health (DOH) recently passed individual water supply regulations (IWS) (Appendix 5-b of the Sanitary Code). The regulations were incorporated in the new building code administered by the NY Department of State and will be enforced locally by each town Code Enforcement Officer. This has the potential to result in uneven application of the regulations from town to town.

New York State Department of Health Fact Sheet #5 states that:

Water from rivers, lakes, ponds and streams contain bacteria, parasites (e.g. giardia and cryptosporidium), viruses and possibly other contaminants not typically found in groundwater. Water from these sources need to have extensive treatment, monitoring and maintenance to be suitable for drinking. Private homeowners typically don't have the equipment, expertise and training to reliably provide acceptable quality drinking water. Surface water should not be used as a water source and is not eligible for approval via specific waivers or Building Permits issued pursuant to the Residential Code.

The only water supply option available for new construction or extensive renovations will be a

drilled well. If it can be proven by an engineer's report that satisfactory groundwater can NOT be obtained with a well, a shore-well may be allowed if it can be proven that it can be constructed and monitored to assure potable water.

While the intent is clearly to provide homeowners with a safe source of drinking water, the new regulations limit the viable and practical water supply options for lakeshore properties. The separation distances (100'-200' from a septic system) required for a drilled well or shore-well may not be possible on small lakeshore lots. The DOH has stated that they will not be granting waivers for using lake water supply systems for new or replacement systems OR allowing reduced separation distances. If you cannot meet the separation distances, you will not be given a permit.

Treatment options for lake water will not be considered an acceptable option, even though certified technology from the National Sanitation Foundation (NSF International) is widely available. DOH does not believe that homeowners can adequately maintain treatment systems.

For more information, log onto:

[http://www.health.state.ny.us/environmental/water/drinking/part5/append5b/fs5\\_sysceptible\\_water\\_sources.htm](http://www.health.state.ny.us/environmental/water/drinking/part5/append5b/fs5_sysceptible_water_sources.htm)

Please contact the NYSFOLA office if your lake association is impacted by the regulations. We will continue to monitor this situation and hope to have a speaker from DOH at the 2009 annual conference in May.

# NYSFOLA Earns Coveted Spot on NYS Invasive Species Council Advisory Committee

Great news for NYSFOLA! Board member James Hood has been asked to serve on the NYS Invasive Species Council Advisory Committee..

The Invasive Species Council was created last year and is charged with implementing specific initiatives to protect native species and prevent the spread of invasive plants and animals. The Council's creation was designed to ensure effective and coordinated state efforts to manage and control invasive species. The Council is also charged with identifying future policy measures which will prevent the spread and further introduction of invasive species.

The Council is co-chaired by the Commissioners of the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation and the Department of Agriculture and Markets. Council membership includes the Commissioners of Transportation, Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, and Education; the Secretary of State; the Chairperson of the New York State Thruway Authority; the Director of the New York State Canal Corporation; and the Chairperson of the Adirondack Park Agency.

The enabling legislation that formed the Council also directed the Council to work closely with an Advisory

Committee made up of representatives of: New York biodiversity research institute, New York State's land grant university, New York Sea Grant, a statewide organization formed to address invasive species, a statewide land conservation organization, a statewide agricultural organization, a nursery business, a boating organization, the Darrin Freshwater Institute, the Soil and Water Conservation Districts, the Natural Heritage Program, a New York State forestry school, a lake association (this is likely the slot NYSFOLA is filling for all of you), the New York City Department of Environmental Protection and a statewide local government organization.



At the request of the NYSFOLA Board of Directors, Jim has stayed in close contact with NYS Department of Environmental Conservation staff, on behalf of NYSFOLA, to request representation on the Advisory Committee. His hard work, and our decades of invasive species control efforts, have paid off!

We will continue to keep you informed of news from the Council and Advisory Committee. Members with concerns, questions or comments, can contact Jim at

jhood@lakegeorgeassociation.org by phone at (518) 668-3558.

## Does Your Public Radio Station Carry "Water Drops" Essays?

*Water Drops* is a series of timely two-minute essays on the science, hydrology, culture, history, policy, law, government and organizations involved with water. Essay topics range from "Acid Rain" to "Watershed Functions". Developed by Dr. Peter E. Black, professor emeritus at the State University College of Environmental Science and Forestry in Syracuse, for WRVO.FM in Oswego, these essays are now available for free use by any public radio station in accordance to the terms set form at the Public Radio Exchange website <http://www.prx.org>.

For more information, log onto Dr. Black's website <http://www.watershedhydrology.com/html/WaterDrops.html>. You can even download some of the broadcasts to your .mp3 player. Ask your local public radio station to



# 14th Annual Western Regional NYSFOLA Meeting

NYSFOLA Board members from the Western part of the state invite everyone to their 14th annual gathering.

October 18, 2007 10:00AM to 3:00PM

Moonwinks Restaurant

One Mile North of Cuba, NY on NYS Route 305

(Log onto NYSFOLA's "Water Column" <http://e-notes.nysfola.org> for directions)

## TOPICS WILL INCLUDE:

- "Keyholing" - Developers using lakefront lots as access to lake for large development in the watershed— panel of experts
- Developing a protocol for aquatic plant surveys — Scott Kishbaugh, NYS DEC.
- Impact of the new dam regulations — Rushford Lake Association
- For more information, contact Don Cook at [dcook006@rochester.rr.com](mailto:dcook006@rochester.rr.com).

## Lunch Menu (Check One)

☐ Hot roast beef, potato, soup, dessert and coffee

☐ Caesar salad with grilled chicken and asiago cheese, soup, dessert and coffee

☐ Hot meat loaf, potato, salad, dessert and coffee

\*\* A fee of \$12 and registration is due no later than October 7, 2008. Checks should be made payable to: CLCOA-Cuba Lake and mailed to: Barbara Utter, 5086 Willowbrook Drive; Clarence, NY 14031.

NAME OF ORGANIZATION \_\_\_\_\_

NAME(S) OF PARTICIPANTS \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/Town \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

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## *Happenings at the Finger Lakes Institute*

In July, the Finger Lakes Institute in Geneva hosted a group of middle and high school teachers, from a variety of school districts and disciplines, for a 3-day workshop focused on the Finger Lakes region. During the workshop, teachers were introduced to lessons in invasive ecology while on board the Hobart and William Smith Colleges' research vessel *The William Scandling*. Subjects included the impacts of the quagga and zebra mussels on the food web and the water quality of Seneca Lake. On a trip to the Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge, the teachers honed their plant identification skills using field guides. While canoeing the Seneca River, they even spotted a bald eagle! The teachers also took a trip to the Finger Lake Community College's Mueller Field Station at the southern end of Honeoye Lake to capture and identify common aquatic insects, fish, and amphibians and to learn how the physical and chemical properties of ponds and streams differ.



There are lots of educational opportunities available through the Finger Lakes Institute. To learn more, log onto <http://fli.hwsedu/>.



### **WORTH CHECKING OUT!**

#### **“Twelve Least Wanted: A Whirlwind Tour of the Twelve Worst Aquatic Plants in NYS”**

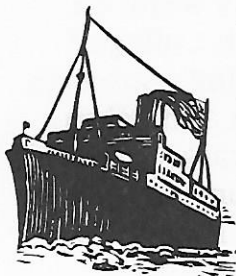
Did you miss the conference? Scott Kishbaugh's "famous" PowerPoint presentation is now available on-line at [http://www.nysgextension.org/ans/fl-prism/assets/pdf/NYSDEC\\_InvasivePlant\\_Presentation.pdf](http://www.nysgextension.org/ans/fl-prism/assets/pdf/NYSDEC_InvasivePlant_Presentation.pdf). It's not as good as the "live" version, but it's very informative!

Also, the National Invasive Species Information Center at USDA's National Agricultural Library <http://www.invasivespeciesinfo.gov> is now posting a page of "State Resources" for New York at <http://www.invasivespeciesinfo.gov/unitedstates/ny.shtml>

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## Court Ruling Halts Unpermitted Ballast Water Discharge:

### Clean Boating Act of 2008 Exempts Recreational Boaters

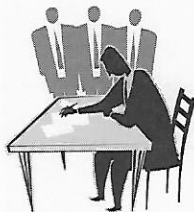
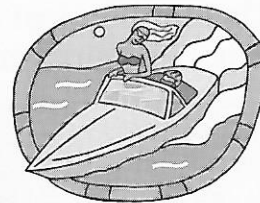


Three environmental groups and six states, including New York, recently won a court ruling that will require freighters to get a permit from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) before they can discharge potentially polluted ballast water in United States waters. The decision will affect all coastal waters, including the Great Lakes, which have been a primary pathway for invasive species. Starting September 30, 2008, ships will no longer be able to discharge ballast water without a permit from EPA.

The plaintiffs claimed that the EPA had allowed billions of gallons of contaminated ballast water to be discharged annually despite evidence that these discharges were introducing aquatic invasive species into U.S. waters. In its July 23rd decision, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals upheld a lower court's 2005 ruling that ships must comply with the Clean Water Act.

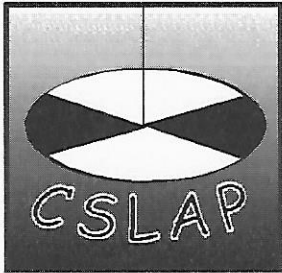
New York Attorney General Andrew Cuomo praised the decision stating, "Today's decision is a huge win in protecting New York state's Great Lakes from invasive species and pollution that for too long have threatened our local ecosystems, economies and our health."

However, the decision wasn't without its detractors. New York State Senator Charles Schumer was concerned about language in the decision that could require recreational boaters to apply for permits or face extensive fines of up to \$32,000 per day. While supportive of discharge regulations for commercial vessels, Schumer feared that the recreational boating industry would be severely impacted by the regulations. In a trip to Central New York, Senator Schumer noted that, "Just as thousands of Central New York families are getting their boats in the water for the summer season, a storm cloud of onerous and unfair regulation is gathering on the horizon. By forcing small central New York boaters to abide by the same regulations as massive oil tankers, these new rules-with budget busting fines-threaten to sink the important and thriving recreational boating industry across the region." A 2003 study, funded by New York Sea Grant and conducted by Cornell University, found that recreational boating had a total statewide impact of over \$2 billion, accounted for over 18,000 jobs, and contributed \$728 million to labor income in New York. Boating was found to be a key recreational industry throughout New York, especially in the marine waters, the Hudson River, Great Lakes, St. Lawrence River, the Finger Lakes, and Lake Champlain.



However, on July 22nd both the U.S. Senate and the U.S. House of Representatives passed the Clean Boating Act of 2008 which relieved recreational boaters of the permit requirement. Senator Schumer was a sponsor of the legislation which was signed into law by President Bush.





# CSLAPpenings

Dear CSLAP Volunteers,

WOW! The season is approaching the halfway mark, and the problems have been few and far between even with a record number of sampling sites. A few kemmerers have been retired, and a few minor protocol issues have been noted, but all is well. THANK YOU!

Just a few quick notes and reminders:

The latest edition of the **CSLAP Sampling Protocol** is on the web at <http://www.nysfola.org>. If you need a refresher, it's always there. Click on the blue "Lake Management" button at the top of the home page; Click on CSLAP, and you'll find the CSLAP Sampling Protocol in PDF link at the bottom of the page.

If you need a refill of  $MgCO_3$ , don't forget to return the empty squirt bottle!

If you need filters, please return the empty container.

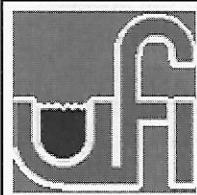
Don't forget to record the shallow AND deep temperatures and sampling depths (for lakes conducting hypolimnion sampling).

Please don't write notes to Nancy or Scott on the Chain of Custody Sheets or the Sampling Record/Observation Forms. They will end up in a filing drawer and not necessarily seen until October! Put the note ON TOP OF THE COOLER!

**The sampling season ENDS on October 31st.** Samples received after that date will not be accepted for analysis. Forms for the 2009 season will be mailed out sometime after the first of the year and will be due by March 15th, 2009.



Nancy Mueller, NYSFOLA and Scott Kishbaugh, NYS DEC



Special thanks to MaryGail Perkins, Gina Quaring, Elizabeth Miller and the rest of the staff at Upstate Freshwater Institute for keeping the coolers moving back and forth so smoothly. If you would like to learn more about Upstate Freshwater Institute, log onto: <http://www.upstatefreshwater.org>

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# Scientists Find Bird and Fish *E. Coli* in Wild Fish

*University of Minnesota, Sea Grant News Release*

Scientists at the University of Minnesota have found that some of the potentially harmful bacteria in the Duluth-Superior Harbor come from an unlikely source: the fishes. It's not the fishes' fault, though. They are just carrying around bacteria that are already in their environment.

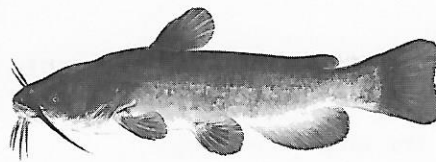
University of Minnesota researchers Dennis Hansen, John Clark, Satoshi Ishii, Michael Sadowsky, and Randall Hicks are the first to discover the sources of *E. coli* (*Escherichia coli*) in several species of wild fish. They collected carp, brown bullheads, Eurasian ruffe, round gobies, white perch, and rock bass from the Duluth-Superior Harbor as part of a Minnesota Sea Grant-funded study to determine the sources of bacteria that result in local beach closures.

In a peer-reviewed paper recently published in the Journal of Great Lakes Research, the scientists describe that most of the *E. coli* were found in bottom-dwelling fishes (brown bullheads, ruffe, carp and round gobies) and the genetic matches were most similar to *E. coli* found in bottom sediments, Canada geese, mallard ducks, and human wastewater. The researchers did not test the bacteria for pathogenicity.

"We didn't find the bacteria in the fish meat — it's carried in their intestine," said Randall Hicks, biology professor at the University of Min-

nesota Duluth. "Anglers shouldn't worry about using the fish as food. They should just be careful not to cut open a fish's intestine."

If an angler happens to cut open fish intestines during cleaning, Jeff Gunderson, associate director with Minnesota Sea Grant, suggests they thoroughly wash the fish with clean water and cook it fully.



Brown Bullhead — *Ictalurus nebulosus*  
Average 8-14 inches

New York State Department of  
Environmental Conservation

*E. coli* is an indicator of potential pollution. Levels of it are used to determine whether local beaches should be posted with "no water contact" advisories. There are a variety of types of *E. coli*. The most worrisome for humans is usually the *E. coli* from other humans (often from sewage overflows). While many strains are harmless, some cause gastrointestinal illnesses. Symptoms include vomiting, diarrhea, or other more serious conditions people would not want as a reminder of a fund day at the beach.

"Fish probably acquire *E. coli* when they eat food contaminated with

feces," said Hicks. Researchers don't expect *E. coli* to flourish in cold-blooded fish, since the bacterium is more common in warm-blooded animals. "However, it is possible that fish may reintroduce *E. coli* bacteria into waterways when they excrete their own waste," Hicks said. "Currently, it's probably more appropriate to consider fish as carriers of *E. coli* from other sources, rather than a new source of contamination in our waterways," Hicks added.

Until 1966, *E. coli* was thought to survive only in warm-blooded animals such as birds and mammals, but it has since been discovered in the intestines of wild fish. The sources of the bacteria in these cold-blooded animals was thought to be from polluted water and food, but researchers didn't attempt to trace it.

Subsequently, *E. coli* was discovered in the intestines of farm-raised tilapia and rainbow trout. The fish were not the source for the *E. coli*, rather, the suspect was their food, which had been contaminated by pigeon droppings.

For more information on this project, order the free journal article: *Sources and Sinks of Escherichia coli in Benthic and Pelagic Fish*, from Minnesota Sea Grant by calling (218)726-6191. Ask for JR 544.



## North American Lake Management Society 2008 International Symposium

### *“Lake Management in A Changing Environment”*

**November 11-14, 2008**

Chateau Lake Louise

Lake Louise, Alberta, Canada

Online registration is now open for NALMS' 28th International Symposium in Lake Louise, Alberta, Canada! The theme of the symposium is “Lake Management in a Changing Environment” and will take place November 11-14, 2008. This year's symposium will include approximately 250 oral and poster presentations on a wide variety of lake management topics as well as workshops, daily plenary sessions and a number of social and networking opportunities. A detailed preliminary program will soon be available on the NALMS web site <http://www.nalms.org>.

*NYSFOLA is a chapter of the North American Lake Management Society.*

### **Lake Contour Maps and Other Info on DEC Website**

The New York State Lake Contour map series (in PDF format) is available on-line at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/9920.html>. Information on depth contours, water surface area, mean depth and available fish species is available for selected state waters. Just click on a county name to see what maps are available.

The maps are to be used as a fishing aid only and should not be used for navigation purposes, and public access may not be available on all waters. Symbols appear on some of the maps indicating the type of boating access available. A list of fish species present is also printed on the maps.

The DEC website also has some more advanced mapping tools on its Virtual Globe Data page. If you log onto <http://www.dec.ny.gov/pubs/42978.html>, you can use freely available virtual globe software packages to access DEC's geodata which includes the Lake Contour Maps, New York State Dams Inventory, and Environmental Remediation Sites. You'll need a computer with plenty of speed and memory to run the necessary programs such as Google Earth or ArcGIS Explorer, but the programs can be downloaded free of charge. The satellite imagery is amazing!

### **Save the Dates!**

**May 1-3, 2009**

### **26th Annual NYSFOLA Conference & Membership Meeting**

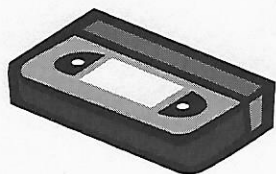
**White Eagle Conference Center  
On Lake Moraine  
Hamilton, NY**





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## Available at the NYSFOLA Office



***Managing Lakes Through Community Participation***; 25 minute video. Why lake associations are formed, how they get started, tackling priority issues, case studies, ties with local government and lake community.  
Cost-\$15.00 plus \$2.00 shipping & handling

***Water Quality Monitoring in Lakes and Tributaries***, video. Demonstrates the techniques used for water quality monitoring, based on procedures used in Citizens Statewide Lake Assessment Program (CSLAP). Useful for starting a monitoring program.  
Cost-\$15.00, plus \$2.00 shipping & handling

***Through the Looking Glass***, A Wisconsin Lake Partnership publication containing information on nearly all aquatic plants.  
Cost -\$24.95, plus \$2.00 shipping & handling



***Lakescaping for Wildlife and Water Quality***, published by the State of Minnesota this book shows how to plan and plant an diverse natural lakeshore landscape. Read about techniques to restore wildlife habitat, wildflowers, and clean water - preserve or restore the natural beauty that attracted you to lakeshore living in the first place. Makes a great gift!!

## We are now taking orders for...

### "A New Diet for a Small Lake"

This comprehensive guide to lake management, with particular emphasis on New York lakes is getting closer to publication. We do not yet have a price because the printing costs have not yet determined. **Chapters are in the final editing stages**, and graphics are being prepared before the book goes to press. If you would like to be notified when the book is ready, please fill out the form, and mail it to:

NYSFOLA  
P.O. Box 84  
LaFayette, NY 13084

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

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**Now Accepting  
2008 Membership Dues  
Are Your Dues Current?**

*Your mailing label is the key to your membership standing. The digit next to your name indicates the last year your dues were paid. Your membership fees are based on the calendar year, and we appreciate that some associations cannot submit fees until mid-summer. This is not a problem.*

*If the digit is a "7", you may submit your 2008 dues are now due. If the digit is an "8", you are a member in good standing of NYSFOLA for the upcoming calendar year.. THANK YOU!*

*If you have any questions about your membership, please do not hesitate to contact the office at 1-800-796-FOLA. Thank you for your continued support of NYSFOLA.*

**2008 Membership Form  
NYS Federation of Lake Associations, Inc.**

**Lake, Watershed and other Associations:**

Small Association, 10-74 members _____	\$35.00
Medium Association, 75-149 members _____	\$75.00
Large Association, 150 or more members _____	\$150.00
Park Districts (Town, County, etc.) _____	\$200.00
Individual Membership (not a member of a lake association) _____	\$20.00
Individual member of a NYSFOLA Lake Association <b>in good standing</b> — — (get your own copy of WATERWORKS instead of reading it at your meeting!)	\$10.00
Corporate Membership _____	\$200.00
Student _____	\$10.00

Name of Lake Association or Individual \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Web Site \_\_\_\_\_

Lake Location (county) \_\_\_\_\_

(especially important if your lake is one of many named Loon, Mud, Round, etc.)

Fee \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Any additional donation? \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (thank you)

**Send payment to: New York State Federation of Lake Associations, Inc. (NYSFOLA)  
P.O. Box 84  
LaFayette, NY 13084**

## **WATERWORKS**

NYS Federation of Lake Associations, Inc.  
P.O. Box 84  
2574 Webb Road  
LaFayette, NY 13084

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
LAFAYETTE, NY  
PERMIT NO. 2

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### ***Calendar of Events***

#### ***14th Annual NYSFOLA Western Regional Meeting***

*October 18, 2008*

*Moonwinks Restaurant Cuba, NY*

#### ***Oneida Lake Watershed Conference***

*October 21, 2008*

*Lake Shore Yacht & Country Club, Cicero, NY*

*Contact: Anne Saltman, CNY Regional Planning & Development Board  
(315)422-8276 ext. 206*

#### ***North American Lake Management Society***

#### ***"Lake Management in a Changing Environment"***

*2008 Symposium - November 11-14, 2008*

*Chateau Lake Louise, Lake Louise, Alberta*

*<http://www.nalms.org>*

#### ***SAVE THE DATES!***

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*May 1-3, 2009*

*White Eagle Conference Center, Hamilton, NY*