

Waterworks

New York State Federation of Lake Associations, Inc.

August 2023

Inside this issue:

Presidents Letter	2
Classic Reference on Aquatic Plants	3
Lake Tear of the Clouds Award	4
Lake Steward Awards	5
Newsletter Awards	6
Guidelines for Implementing BMPs to Control Invasive Species in the Adirondack Park	
What is Swimmer's Itch?	7
Identifying HABS: Options of Lake Associations	8-10
NALMS 2023	11
Lake Friendly Living	
CSLAPpenings	12
Regional Confer-	13
Be Septic Smart!	14
Membership form	15

Members Celebrate NYSFOLA's 40th Anniversary in Lake George



K. Wayne Bunn from the Otsego Lake Association accepts a newsletter award for "Our Glimmerglass" from NYSFOLA Executive Director Nancy Mueller.

NYSFOLA members continue to support the annual conference in ever-increasing numbers, and our 40th anniversary conference held May 5-6th was no exception. Thank you to everyone who took the time to join us. We hope you learned a lot and enjoyed the talks.

Our keynote speaker, Neil Patterson from the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry in Syracuse gave a keynote talk to "celebrate, restore, and build relationships between indigenous communities and their aboriginal territory." Neil reminds us all that "the pragmatic way in which indigenous people have co-evolved within their landscapes provides a model for re-imagining and creating sustainable food, material, and energy systems."

NYSFOLA's highest honor, the Lake Tear of the Clouds Award, was presented to former DEC Dam Safety Section Chief Alon Dominitz. We also presented our annual newsletter awards, Lake Steward awards, and Scott A. Kishbaugh Secchi Disk awards. You can read more about our honorees in the following pages.

The weather was beautiful for CSLAP training on Saturday May 6th. DEC's CSLAP Coordinator Alene Onion joined NYSFOLA Executive Director Nancy Mueller in a day-long training for new volunteers. Over 40 volunteers were trained at this session, and many more were trained over the next few weeks at locations around the state.

We hope to see everyone again for the 2024 Annual Conference. It will be held once again at the Fort William Henry Hotel and Conference Center in Lake George May 3-4, 2024. If there are particular topics you're interested in hearing about, please let us know. (fola@nysfola.org).



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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A Voice for New York Lakes

NYSFOLA is an affiliate of the North American Lake Management Society
www.nalms.org.



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President's Letter - Tarki L. Heath

Although most of New York has experienced moderate temperatures compared to the rest of the nation, rainfall has had significant impacts, with periodic, localized flooding occurring with more intensity and frequency. Some of us have experienced first-hand the impact from these storms and the consequences for our lakes. Add to that, the intense wildfire smoke from Canada that kept many of us indoors, or wearing masks, when the air quality reached unhealthy limits. The impacts from this air pollution on our aquatic systems is not yet clear, but the experiences from western states may provide a warning regarding atmospheric nutrients and other pollutants. We will be looking for the latest research to share with our members as we continue to feel the effects of a warming planet.

Those of you who attended the annual membership meeting in Lake George are aware that NYSFOLA will be expanding to create two full-time positions. We will soon have a full-time NYSFOLA Citizens Statewide Lake Assessment Program (CSLAP) Coordinator as well as a full-time Executive Director.

Over the last two decades, Nancy Mueller has balanced two part-time positions – CSLAP Coordinator and NYSFOLA Executive Director. Not only have both of these jobs grown over the years, but we find ourselves looking at a future with an increasing number of member lake associations facing greater challenges than ever before. Membership growth is positive news, but we need to take steps to ensure that the NYSFOLA office can handle the new capacity to be of assistance to all of our members.

The NYSFOLA Board of Directors has spent considerable time contemplating and discussing the future of our increasingly important and growing organization. Last winter, the Board agreed that continued membership

growth required increased staffing capacity to best serve the needs of our member lake associations. At the same time, with more lake associations participating in CSLAP than ever before, and over 600 volunteers conducting the sampling, coordinating that program is no longer a part-time job.

NYSFOLA has made a commitment to retain a full-time Executive Director. Since the new position was announced in May, the NYSFOLA Search Committee members Eric Randall, Mark Teece, Dean Long and I have performed a professional and decisive search for this important position. The Board of Directors will be making an announcement soon, and we are excited about the future of NYSFOLA.

To our delight, Nancy has agreed to take on the full-time position of NYSFOLA CSLAP Coordinator. Her involvement with the program for over 3 decades ensures a smooth transition just as we enter into a new 5 year contract with the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC).

In spite of some growing pains, the Citizens Statewide Lake Assessment Program is up and running smoothly again this year thanks to Nancy Mueller, DEC CSLAP Coordinator, Alene Onion, DEC staff member Giancarlo Coppola, our colleagues at Upstate Freshwater Institute, and all the dedicated CSLAP volunteers across the state who devote their time and efforts to ensure the success of the program.

Our new contract commits NYSFOLA and DEC to expanding CSLAP in both reach and capacity. We are charged with providing access to CSLAP to an



even greater number of lakes across the state, particularly in areas where a variety of socio-economic issues may limit the engagement and connection of communities with their nearby lake resources. At the same time, NYSFOLA sees a future of expanding needs to address watershed and lake management which will require greater support and more programming for our members.

By the time this newsletter is released, several Regional Conferences will have taken place. We thank the sponsors, organizers, and volunteers who make these events happen. The NYSFOLA Western Regional Conference is scheduled for October 28th at Waneta Lake in Steuben County. (See page 13 for more on these conferences.)

Even with the growing challenges on the horizon, we are excited about the future of NYSFOLA and the many opportunities we see. As we begin this new phase, we will look to our members for input on the programming you would like to see. What are your biggest challenges, and how can NYSFOLA help you solve them?

As always we are thankful for the support our membership and volunteers provide to NYSFOLA, and the care you bring to lakes across the state. Please feel free to contact me at tarkiheath@gmail.com with your ideas on how NYSFOLA can be the best “Voice for NY lakes.”

Tarki

Second Edition of a Classic Reference Now Available

NYSFOLA is pleased to announce the publication of the long-awaited second edition of “Aquatic and Wetland Plants of Northeastern North America” by Garrett E. Crow and C. Barre Hellquist. NYSFOLA was part of a broader effort to bring this new edition to press, and we were happy to support this work.

The second edition of this widely acclaimed publication provides the most comprehensive and illustrated guide to the native and naturalized vascular plants—ferns, conifers, and flowering plants—growing in aquatic and wetland habitats in northeastern North America, from Newfoundland west to Minnesota and south to Virginia and Missouri. Features include:

- coverage of 1,219 plant species, 1,259 taxa, 325 genera, and 112 families
- 633 pages of illustrations, covering 88 percent of the taxa
- keys that include figure numbers corresponding to drawings to facilitate identification
- emphasis on vegetative characteristics as well as flowering and fruiting features habitat information, geographical ranges, and synonymy

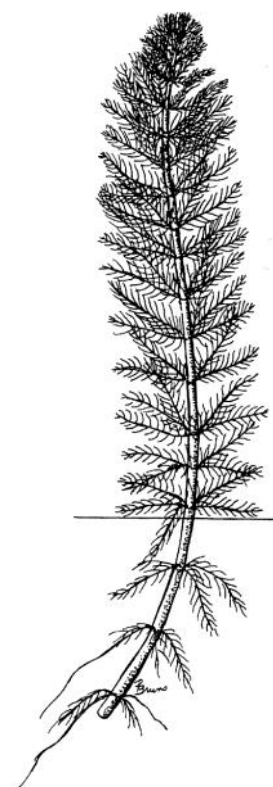
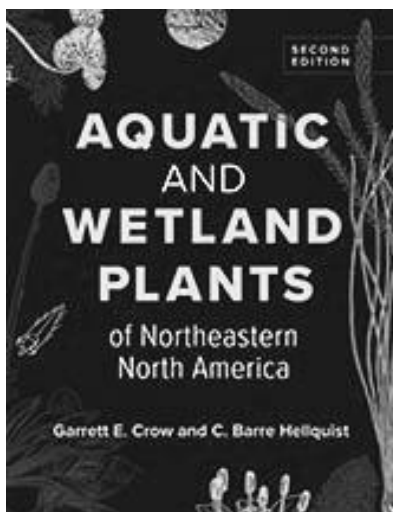
- a chapter on nuisance aquatic weeds
- glossaries of botanical and habitat terms
- a full index to scientific and common names

Wetland ecologists, botanists, resource managers, students of environmental sciences, lake association managers, public naturalists, and environmentalists concerned with the preservation of increasingly threatened wetland areas will welcome this updated, clear, workable, and comprehensive guide.

The cloth bound book is now available from the University of Wisconsin Press: <https://uwpress.wisc.edu/books/5921.htm> at a price of \$99.95 ISBN 9780299343002

Garrett E. Crow is professor emeritus of botany at the University of New Hampshire, visiting scholar at Calvin University, and professor of botany at Au Sable Institute of Environmental Studies.

C. Barre Hellquist is professor emeritus of biology at the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts and research associate at the Botanical Research Institute of Texas.



Lake Tear of the Clouds Award Presented to Alon Dominitz

The Lake Tear of the Clouds Award is NYSFOLA's highest honor. This award, named for the "highest" lake in the state, is awarded to a person who has shown the highest dedication to lakes and watersheds, assisted NYSFOLA in its mission and produced exceptional performance in his or her field of endeavor.

This year, we honored and thanked former NYS Department of Environmental Conservation Dam Safety Section Chief, Alon Dominitz. In August 19, 2009, DEC issued revisions to the Part 673- Dam Safety Regulations to ensure the safety of the state's dams. However, as with most regulatory changes, there were many issues. Notably many NYSFOLA member lake associations were faced with the challenges of funding, engineering, and emergency management planning – especially those members who owned Class C High Hazard dams.



Alon Dominitz gives remarks at the annual banquet

However, during his time as the Dam Safety Chief, Alon continually assisted our organization to thoughtfully communicate the state's dam safety regulations. He worked diligently with our Board of Directors and membership to address their concerns while still meeting the requirements to ensure the safety of New York's dams – to prevent loss of life and property. He worked with the

NYSFOLA Dam Safety Committee, kept in close communication with us, and gave many conference presentations. Through it all, Alon demonstrated an extraordinary ability to accept both the praise, and the criticism, that often befall a public employee. For some of his presentations, he came wearing both a hard hat and a big smile!

Alon was also very engaged with the public at large. He made every effort to hold seminars and talks in many com-

munities throughout the state to help educate dam owners and the general public about dams, the importance of inspections and maintenance, and the need to keep them safe. He worked more than he didn't, and New York dam owners were fortunate to have him at the helm.

While Alon has moved on to a position with the Office of Renewable Energy Siting, we thank him and recognize his many years of service. We also look forward to continued a continued relationship with the Dam Safety Section, and the new Chief Donald Canestrari.



NYSFOLA Dam Safety Committee member Laurel Wolfe (Left) and NYSFOLA Executive Director Nancy Mueller (Right) present Alon Dominitz with NYSFOLA's Lake Tear of the Clouds Award. Photo of Lake Tear of the Clouds by Carl Heilman II

NYSFOLA Recognizes Lake Stewards

Each year, NYSFOLA recognizes individuals who have gone “above and beyond the call of duty” for their respective lake associations. Nominations are solicited from our members, and each year, we are amazed by the work done by some extremely dedicated volunteers.

This year, we recognized:

Jan Douglass, a NYSFOLA Board member from the Millsite Lake Cottage Owners Association. Jan’s nomination letter praised her love of the Millsite Lake community where it is said that she is the first to welcome newcomers, often with her famous chocolate chip and cherry cookies. She has a long record of service to the Millsite Lake Property Owners Association Board of Directors and has organized a wide range of events including the annual picnic, promotion of camaraderie among lake property owners, and dedication to the Citizens Statewide Lake Assessment Program (CSLAP).



Jan has also diligently promoted septic system testing and has worked with the Indian River Lakes Conservancy. As a licensed aquatic herbicide applicator, she has worked to control aquatic invasive plants on beautiful Millsite Lake. Her “unwavering commitment to the betterment of Millsite Lake and the local Redwood community” were deemed exemplary.

The Dubois Family (Don, Karen, Bo and Kayla) from the Orange Lake Civic Association. According to association President Kevin Sterling, “volunteers come and go, but the DuBois family is a constant in our community. In addition to CSLAP sampling, Don used to serve on the board as Treasurer and he and his sons used to manage placing and removing our boating safety buoys every year. I’m sure there is even more that they have contributed that I’m not even aware of in my eight year tenure here.”

Bob Duncan from the Ballston Lake Improvement Association. NYSFOLA recognized Bob for his love of the Ballston Lake community and more than three decades of service.

In a lengthy letter outlining Bob’s many contributions to the association, he was particularly praised for his roles in data management, preparing and managing grant applications, coordinating aspects of a large sewer project and an affiliated website, working to develop flood warning procedures, and even taking on beaver control. Bob is clearly an extremely active member of the Ballston Lake Improvement Association.

NYSFOLA can concur with Bob’s contributions to data management as he has made helpful and detailed comments about the CSLAP Dashboard and water quality portal that will ensure that CSLAP data is complete and more easily retrieved by users in the years to come.

Michael Schaffer from the Lake Luzerne Association. The nomination letter received by NYSFOLA for Mike praised his devotion to the Lake Luzerne Community for over 25 years. “Michael has been a driving force in the effort to control the spread of milfoil in the lake. He has been involved in all aspects of the effort including fundraising, assisting with milfoil management, organizing volunteers, and building relationships with local government and lake management experts...Over many years and countless hours, Mike has been instrumental in spearheading many initiatives to keep our lake healthy. The result is a lake that has become a destination for water recreation and is enjoyed by our town residents and visitors alike.” Michael’s volunteer contributions to the Citizens Statewide Lake Assessment Program and the American Red Cross were also noted with much gratitude.

Has someone gone “above and beyond the call of duty” for your lake association?

Nominate them for a 2024 NYSFOLA Lake Steward Award

Send a letter detailing the individual’s contributions to your lake association to:

NYSFOLA Lake Steward Award

PO Box 84 LaFayette, NY 13084 or email to fola@nysfola.org

Awards will be presented in May 2024.

Kudos to our Newsletter Contest Winners

Submitted by Theresa Mayhew, NYSFOLA Board Member and Contest Coordinator

Many thanks to all the lake associations that entered this year's NYSFOLA newsletter contest. Those of you who toil at producing these informative documents to help inform, educate, motivate and occasionally entertain your lake association members are to be commended for your efforts! It takes time, organization and perseverance to get newsletters out, be they hard copies or digital.

One thing our volunteer judges noted was that all entries strived to advance water quality knowledge and foster community engagement and involvement.

We usually get the bulk of our entries for the large association, print newsletter category and would really like to see more submissions from our small and medium lake association members. Look for information on next year's contest in early 2023 (deadline, scoring criteria, etc.).

In the meantime, another round of applause for this year's

winners, who were recognized at our annual conference this past May at the Fort William Henry hotel and Conference Center in Lake George.

Small Lake Association - Print Newsletter:

First Place: *Melody Lake News*, Melody Lake Association

Medium Lake Association - Print Newsletter

First Place: *Our Glimmerglass*, Otsego Lake Association

Large Lake Association - Print Newsletter

First Place: *The Lake Reporter*, Canandaigua Lake Watershed Association

Second Place: Hatch and Bradley Brook Lakes Association Newsletter

Third Place: West Caroga Lake Association

Newsletter

Large Lake Association - Digital Category

First Place: *The Mini Pearl of ESSLA*, East Shore Schroon Lake Association



FAQs Received From Lake Associations re: Inter-Agency Guidelines for Implementing Best Management Practices to Control Invasive Species on DEC-Administered Lands of the Adirondack Park



Curly Leaf Pondweed - Photo by Tom Shedd

In May 2023, at the NYSFOLA annual conference in Lake George, the Adirondack Park Agency (APA) and the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) offered a public presentation, on managing invasive species on DEC-Administered lands within the Adirondack Park.

This document provides helpful answers related to frequently asked questions and can be found on the NYSFOLA website at: <https://nysfola.org/aquatic-invasive-plants/>

Lake associations can confer with DEC's Division of Lands and Forests to determine whether the Department has jurisdiction over the underwater lands in question. landsforests@dec.ny.gov or (518)402-9405.

What is Swimmer's Itch?

For the first time in many years, the NYSFOLA office has been receiving calls from across the state about occurrences of "Swimmer's Itch" also known as Cercarial Dermatitis.

Here is some information from the NYS Department of Health that lake associations can share with their members: <https://www.health.ny.gov/publications/6645/>.

What is Swimmer's Itch?

Swimmer's itch (cercarial dermatitis) is caused by a parasite that lives in waterfowl and snails. People can get symptoms when the parasite penetrates the skin.

Swimmer's itch symptoms include an itchy rash, raised red bumps and tenderness of the skin. Symptoms can appear minutes to days after exposure and can last for several days. Most cases do not require medical treatment.

Steps to Prevent Swimmer's Itch

Don't swim, wade or recreate in water with waterfowl, snails or weeds. Avoid areas with cloudy water, blooms and scum.

Towel dry thoroughly after contact with water. Rinse off and towel dry at the end of the day.

Help spread the word in your community by reporting symptoms of swimmer's itch to your local health department

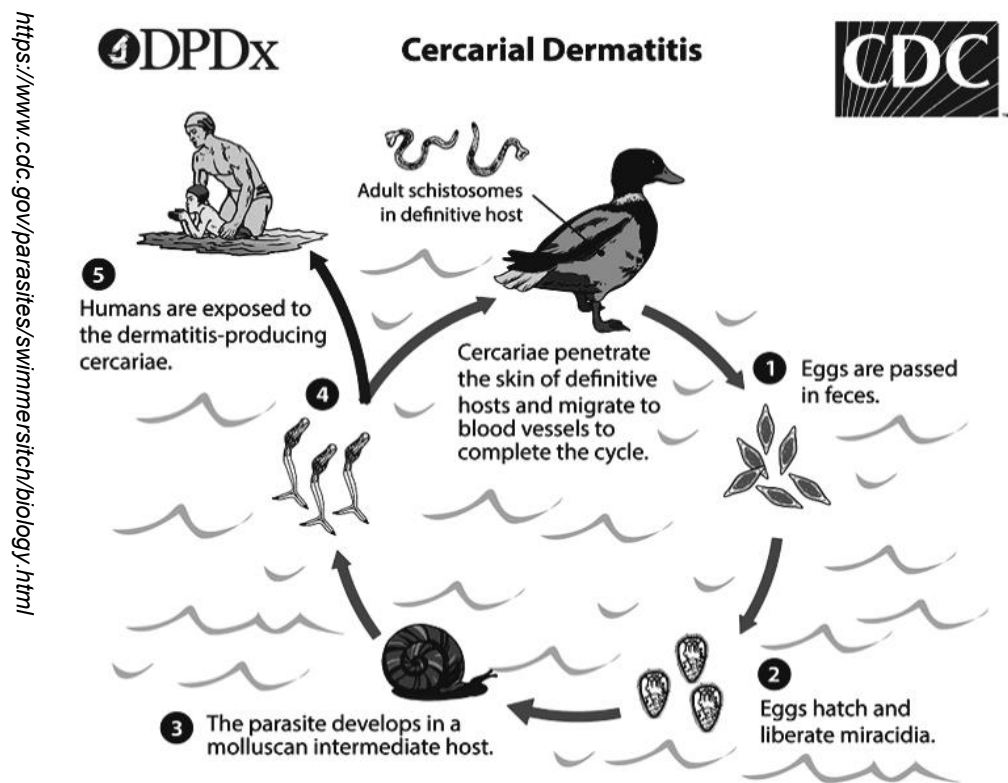
Who is at Risk?

Anyone can get swimmer's itch. Children are more likely to get swimmer's itch than adults because kids spend more time in shallow waters where the parasite may be present, and are less likely to towel dry. Swimmer's itch is not contagious; it cannot be passed from person to person.

How to Treat Swimmer's Itch

Most cases of swimmer's itch get better on their own. Over-the-counter and home remedies such as anti-itch and corticosteroid creams, cool compresses, Epsom salts, baking soda and colloidal oatmeal baths can help to soothe symptoms.

Try not to scratch. Scratching affected areas can cause a bacterial infection. If itching is severe, contact a health care provider, who might suggest prescription strength lotions or creams.



Additional Information

The NYS Department of Health also has this information available as a printable .pdf tip strip at: <https://www.health.ny.gov/publications/6645.pdf>.

More information is also available from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention at: <https://www.cdc.gov/parasites/swimmersitch/faqs.html>.

Identifying Harmful Algal Blooms: Options for Lake Associations



The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's advice regarding Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs) is **Know It, Avoid It, Report It!** (https://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/77118.html#Know_Avoid_Report)

In the context of the "Know It!" part of that message, many of our members have asked NYSFOLA about various options for identifying Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs), especially now that sampling for them is no longer part of the Citizens Statewide Lake Assessment Program.

The information on the following pages is being provided to assist lake associations and/or individuals. We have listed various available options for identifying blooms. There may be others, and this is not meant to be a fully comprehensive list. *In addition, the products and services offered by commercial vendors are not necessarily endorsed by the NYSFOLA Board of Directors or staff. Members are urged to seek references and check with permitting agencies (if required) before purchasing products or entering into a contract for services.*

NYSFOLA also urges its members to heed the advice from the NYS Department of Health and the NYS Department of

Environmental Conservation - **"When in Doubt, Stay Out!"** (<https://www.health.ny.gov/environmental/water/drinking/bluegreenalgae/>)

Drawing water from the lake? The NYS Department of Health's **"Harmful Blue-green Algae Blooms: Understanding the Risks of Piping Surface Water into Your Home"** flyer can be found here: <https://www.health.ny.gov/publications/6629.pdf>

Pets can be particularly vulnerable to illness from Harmful Algal Blooms. For more information, download the NY SeaGrant brochure entitled, **"Dogs and Harmful Algal Blooms"** at https://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/water_pdf/habspets.pdf.

And, finally, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's **Harmful Algal Bloom Notification Page** is up and running throughout the season. The public can find out where blooms have been reported. The website also enables people to report blooms and upload photos <https://nysdec.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=ae91142c812a4ab997ba739ed9723e6e>.

Comparison of Some Currently Recognized Cyano-HABs Programs

Organization	Sample Evaluation and Services	Expected Return Results	Equipment Cost	Sample Analysis Cost	Number of Samples	Toxin Analysis	Genus/Species Identification	Enumeration - Density Estimate
BloomOptix www.bloomoptix.com	This program works with an artificial intelligence (AI)-powered microscopy tool that enables clients to monitor their waterways for HAB-causing cyanobacteria. A mobile app provides the means to automatically identify and count cyanobacterial cells belonging to six of the most common HAB producing genera: <i>Microcystis Dolichospermum Aphanizomenon Woronichinia Limnoraphis Gloeotrichia</i>	BloomOptix has been able to provide results back to the sampler within minutes.	New participants will need to purchase the digital iolight microscope. Volunteers need a smart phone.	There will be an annual subscription for users who already own an ioLight 2mm microscope \$1,500.	No Limit at this time.	No	Yes	Yes
EPA Cyano-scope Monitoring Collaborative www.cyanos.org	Tier 1 Bloom watch aids observers in the identification of bloom conditions based on use of typical bloom condition photographs. Tier 2 Cyano-scope volunteers are instructed in microscope use and learn to identify typical HABs cyanobacteria. Tier 3 Cyanomonitoring adds the use of two channel fluorometer to estimate cyanobacteria density. Information collected is uploaded to I-naturalist.	Samples are concentrated and require microscope examination and uploading to iNaturalist. An evaluation is completed by an onsite volunteer.	\$ 300.00 for sample preparation kit and \$500.00 for microscope kit. Volunteer needs a computer to upload data.		No specific limit at this time.	No	Yes, depending on volunteer skill.	Yes, depending on volunteer skill – will take a few hours.

Comparison of Some Currently Recognized Cyano-HABs Programs

Organization	Sample Evaluation and Services	Expected Return Results	Equipment Cost	Sample Analysis Cost	Number of Samples	Toxin Analysis	Genus/Species Identification	Enumeration - Density Estimate
Upstate Freshwater Institute (UFI) www.upstatefreshwater.org/HABLab.html (315) 431-4962 ext. 115	Volunteers will collect samples that meet typical HABs visual characteristics. Samples will be sent to UFI's New York State certified lab for cyanobacteria identification, Microcystin toxin testing and cyanobacteria concentration.	1-2 days for Cyanobacteria identification and concentration. 5-10 days for Microcystin toxin results. Data accessed through web portal.		\$250/Sample	No Limit	Yes	Yes	Yes (µg/L)
Turner Handheld Fluorometer www.turneresigns.com/fluorosense-handheld-fluorometer	Turner Designs manufactures handheld devices that detect light wavelengths for chlorophyll and phycocyanin (PC) associated with cyanobacteria. The devices are factory calibrated and no extraction is needed.	Immediate	Around \$1,600.00 for a single channel meter		No limit	No	No	Yes, 0 – 199 µg/L
Gold Standard Diagnostics www.goldstandarddiagnostics.us/home/products/rapid-test-kits/algalextoxins/algalextoxin-test-strip-kits/	Gold Standards produce ELISA immunoassay kits to detect contaminants including HABs kits. The Recreational HABs detection kit uses test strips that change color if water contains toxins above 4ppb. Kits have a shelf life.	Testing takes about an hour		Approx. \$590.00 for twenty or \$185.00 for five.	5 or 20	Yes >2.5ppb	No	No

Finger Lakes “Lake Friendly Living” Program

Lake associations in the Finger Lakes have formed a “Lake Friendly Living” coalition to encourage voluntary practices that benefit the water quality and ecosystem health of the Finger Lakes and their watersheds.

Throughout the Finger Lakes, lawn signs mark the locations of “lake friendly” residents who have signed a pledge to be good stewards. “Lake Friendly Living” events are held each May to increase public awareness.

The coalition has many resources available to share with other lakes in New York, and they have been happy to do so. Skaneateles Lake Association Executive Director Frank Moses has been helping us spread the message and share the information at several NYSFOLA gatherings and lake association meetings around the state.

You can find available resources on the Finger Lakes Regional Watershed Alliance web page at: <https://www.flrwa.org/lake-friendly-living>. Links to the individual lake association web pages (near the bottom of the landing page) provide additional information that can be easily adapted for your lake association.

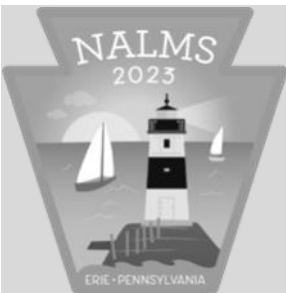
Here are some examples of “Lake Friendly Living”:

Minimize Run Off

- Reduce hardscaping and other impermeable surfaces
- Limit lawn size
- Use water wisely

Eliminate Pollutants

- Test your soil. Only use phosphorus free fertilizer when needed.
- Minimize pesticide use
- Maintain septic systems
- Reduce the use of plastics
- **Capture and Infiltrate**
- Restore your shoreline with native plants and trees
- Plant a rain garden
- Use a rain barrel to collect stormwater



North American Lake Management Society International Symposium *Great Lakes, Local Solutions*

October 22–26, 2023 - Bayfront Convention Center - Erie, PA

At a time when climate change, invasive species risks, and cultural pressures threaten the natural environment and biodiversity of our fragile ecosystem, the opportunity to highlight and mesh the State of Pennsylvania and its rich diversity of aquatic habitats is long overdue.

The Pennsylvania Lake Management Society is proud to welcome the 2023 North American Lake Management Society conference to Lake Erie. As we endeavor to highlight the “Great Lakes, Local Solutions” agenda, Erie, PA provides the opportunity to explore Presque Isle State Park, a National Natural Landmark and the Tom Ridge Environ-

mental Center, while indulging in the amenities of the Bayfront Convention Center and all that Lake Erie has to offer.

Registration is now open at: www.nalms.org.

Early Bird Registration Deadline: September 1st

Hotel Group Rate Block Closes: September 20th

Regular Registration Deadline: October 13th



NYSFOLA is an affiliate member of NALMS.

CSLAPpenings



It's hard to believe that we're at the mid-point of the 2023 CSLAP sampling season already, and we thank each and every volunteer for the contributions they have made this year. We have had both extremely dry conditions and large rainfall events with flooding, but our volunteers have managed to adapt their schedules to get the sampling completed. Things to note:

CSLAP Reports

The newer (2019-2022) CSLAP reports are in an electronic format, and you can find yours on DEC's CSLAP Dashboard: <https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/c32878596a0a47deb5f97ea5e07ec9c5>. (You can just type CSLAP Dashboard into your search engine.) Click on "Go to CSLAP Reports" and search for any lake you're interested in.

The 2022 reports are particularly useful for anyone looking for CSLAP data. There is a "hot link" in the report to the data.

The older reports are on the NYSFOLA website in .pdf format.

What do Lake Associations Use Their CSLAP Data For?

Both NYSFOLA and DEC remain very interested in learning more about the ways that lake associations are using their CSLAP data. We conducted a survey a couple of years ago, but we didn't get responses from everyone. You'll be hearing from us again. What are you learning from the sampling? Is it informing lake management decisions? We would like to start featuring some of your stories in upcoming publications and newsletters.

End of the 2023 Sampling Season is September 30th

September 30th is the last day for sampling. All samples need to be received at Upstate Freshwater Institute by Friday October 6th. Samples collected after September 30th or received after October 6th will not be analyzed.

Looking Ahead to 2024 - We're exploring ways to collect dissolved oxygen data from CSLAP lakes, and a pilot project will soon be underway on a handful of lakes. Stay tuned!

Enter Field Data

Report a HAB

Plot Field Data

Go to CSLAP Reports

Depth Profile

Ice On/Off Data

Report Invasive Species (iMap Invasives)

CSLAP Training Videos

CSLAP Website

NYSFOLA Website

The first training session for new volunteers will be held as part of the NYSFOLA Annual Conference at the Fort William Henry Hotel and Conference Center in Lake George. Mark your calendars for May 3-4, 2024 (training on the 4th).

Summer Regional Lake Conferences Highlight a Wide Variety of Lake Related Topics

Regional conferences around the state continue to be sponsored and/or supported by NYSFOLA, and we are pleased to see great attendance at all of them.

On June 2nd, many NYSFOLA members attended the annual **Indian River Lakes Conservancy Water Quality Conference** in Redwood. There were many great presentations including one on the Citizens Statewide Lake Assessment Program (CSLAP) by NYSFOLA Executive Director Nancy Mueller.

On June 9th, NYSFOLA sponsored the annual **Lower Hudson Lakes Seminar** presented in partnership with Town of Kent Lakes Association, Putnam County Soil & Water Conservation District, and Cornell Cooperative Extension of Putnam County.

If you missed it, you can watch it on YouTube at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HOFkiDhherA>. Speaker presentations can also be found on the NYSFOLA website: <https://nysfola.org/regional-conferences/>.



After a break during the month of July, NYSFOLA held the **Central NY Regional Conference** entitled “Your Watershed in Focus” in collaboration with the Cortland-Onondaga Kettle Lakes Association. The event was held at Dwyer Memorial Park on Little York Lake in Preble on August 11th.



We also had many members on the same date in attendance at the annual Adirondack Lakes Alliance (ALA) Symposium at Paul Smith’s College. This year, the Symposium was renamed the **Adirondack Lakes Alliance Ed Griesmer Memorial Symposium** in memory of ALA co-founder and longtime NYSFOLA member Ed Griesmer from Loon Lake in Warren County.

And finally, on August 18th, NYSFOLA’s annual **Columbia - Greene County Lakes Coalition** conference was held at Sleepy Hollow Lake in Athens.



These events take many hands to be successful, and we thank everyone who organized, presented, exhibited and volunteered for the benefit of New York’s lakes.

SAVE THE DATE! - Registration and program coming soon at www.nysfola.org

NYSFOLA Annual Western Regional Conference



**October 28, 2023
10:00AM - 3:00PM
The Boathouse at Waneta
4015 Waneta Lake RD
Dundee, NY**



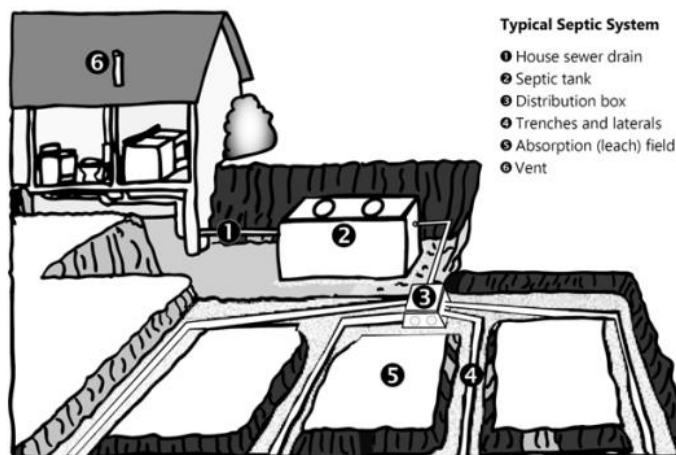
U.S. EPA Septic Smart Program

Can lake associations ever get enough information about septic systems? There's a great resource available that can provide you with educational materials that are easy to read and share.

EPA's SepticSmart Program (<https://www.epa.gov/septic/septicsmart>) a nation-wide initiative to share information on the proper care and maintenance of septic systems and encourage public stewardship in caring for these wastewater treatment systems. The SepticSmart program provides a wealth of online resources for homeowners, local organizations and government leaders to facilitate an understanding on:

- How to properly care for and use your septic system,
- How simple septic maintenance can save you money and protect your property value,
- Why maintaining your septic system can protect your family's health and the environment.

The SepticSmart program emphasizes seven simple messages to help homeowners and users of septic systems understand how to be "SepticSmart."



Follow these SepticSmart quick tips every day:

Think at the Sink! - Learn what not to put down your kitchen sink (such as fats, oils, or greases), how to properly dispose of food waste and how to use cleaning supplies in moderation.

Don't Strain Your Drain! - Learn about the importance

of using water efficiently, staggering water use of water-based appliances and using energy efficient appliances.

Keep It Clean! - Learn about the importance of testing your well water, and its relationship to your septic system.

Shield Your Field! - Learn about your septic system's drainfield, including how it works, and tips to take care of it.

Protect It and Inspect It! - Learn about a typical septic system inspection, how often an inspection should be performed and considerations for advanced systems.

Don't Overload the Commode! - Learn about what can be flushed down the toilet, and what should be thrown in the trash.

Pump Your Tank! - Learn about a typical septic tank pump-out service, and how a septic tank works.

• SepticSmart education materials (<https://www.epa.gov/septic/septicsmart-education-materials>) are targeted to homeowners but for use by anyone! These online resources (videos, brochures, etc.) may be downloaded, printed and shared as needed. Many of the materials are available in two languages and in some cases may be personalized and include:

- New Homebuyer's Brochure to Septic Systems
- Septic Smart Homeowner's Brochure,
- Do's and Don'ts Homeowner Brochure
- Proper Landscaping On and Around Your Septic System
- Quick Tips to Keep Your Septic System Healthy
- Do's and Don'ts for an Advanced Treatment Unit
- Rental Property Flyer
- Kitchen Postcard

Cornell Cooperative Extension also has a publication available that includes space to keep pumping and maintenance records: <https://www.css.cornell.edu/cwmi/waterquality/septic/CCEWQ-YourSepticSystem-Print.pdf>. There is additional information about alternative and advanced systems. Help your lake association "Be Septic Smart!"

2023 Membership Form

New York State Federation of Lake Associations, Inc.

Lake, Watershed and other Associations:

Small Association (10-74 members)	\$ 50.00
Medium Association (75-149 members)	\$ 100.00
Large Association (150 or more members)	\$ 175.00
Foundation (affiliated with NYSFOLA member)	\$ 100.00

Individual Memberships:

Individual Membership (not a member of a NYSFOLA lake association)	\$ 25.00
Individual Member of a NYSFOLA member lake association in good standing	\$ 15.00
Student Membership	\$ 15.00

Corporate Membership: \$ 250.00

Name of Lake Association or Individual _____

Location (County) _____

(important if your lake is one of many in the state with the same name)

Contact Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Telephone _____

E-Mail _____

Web site _____



Amount Remitted _____ Check # _____ Date _____

Any Additional Donation? _____

The New York State Federation of Lake Associations, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation registered with the NYS Office of the Attorney General Charities Bureau 28 Liberty Street 15th Floor New York, NY 10005 phone: (212)416-8401. A copy of our latest annual financial report is available from the Charities Bureau or by contacting NYSFOLA at P.O. Box 84 LaFayette, NY 13084. It can also be found online at www.charitiesnys.com. (Enter NYS Federation of Lake Associations in the search space.)

Send Payment to:

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