

# NYSFOLA CNY Regional Conference September 12, 2025

## PROGRAM

- 9:00– 9:30 **Registration and Coffee**
- 9:30 – 9:45 **Welcome**  
*Tarki Heath* - President, Kettle Lakes Association; VP, NYSFOLA and Song Lake Association
- 9:45 - 10:25 **Rooted in Water: Understanding Aquatic Plants in Our Lakes**  
*Andrew Brainard* - Executive Director, Upstate Freshwater Institute
- 10:30- 11:10 **The Importance of Wetlands**  
*Olivia Green* - Freshwater Resilience Specialist and *Cathy Gibson* - Water Resource Specialist, The Nature Conservancy of New York
- 11:15 **Break: Exhibitors, HAB Id, iMapInvasives, CSLAP**
- 11:45 - 12:25 **The Wildlife in Our Watersheds and Why They Matter**  
*Tom Hughes* - Environmental Stewardship Biologist, NYS Office of Parks
- 12:30 - 1:25 **Lunch \ Stewarship Award \ Networking \ Exhibitors**
- 1:30 - 1:55 **Legislative Brief**  
*Jacob Welch* - President, Finger Lakes Regional Watershed Alliance (FLRWA)  
*Douglas Merrill* - Vice President, FLRWA  
*Ken Belfer* - President, Mohegan Lake Improvement District
- 2:00 -2:40 **A Wet New World: Navigating DEC's New Wetland Permit Process**  
*Nicole White* - Certified Lake Manager and Owner, Little Bear Environmental Consulting LLC
- 2:45 - 3.25 **Protecting Natural Resources Through Programs Including Unified Septic System Regulations.**  
*Megan Webster* - District Manager, Ontario County SWCD
- 3:30 - 3:45 **Break: Exhibitors, HAB Id, iMapInvasives, CSLAP**
- 3:45 - 4:15 **Septic Panel Discussion:**
  - *Megan Webster* - District Manager, Ontario County SWCD
  - *Adam Effler* - Executive Director, Owasco Lake Watershed Management Council
  - *Eric Buck* - Septic Design Engineer
- 4:20 - 4:30 **Raffle / Evaluation / Closing Remarks**  
*Colleen Zawadzki* - President, Tully Lake Association; VP, Kettle Lakes Association  
*Tarki Heath* - President, Kettle Lakes Association; VP, NYSFOLA and Song Lake Association
- 4:30 **Networking on Porch Area**
- 5:00 **Little York Lake Boat Tour** (must sign waiver at registration)

### Hands-on Experiences:

*HAB's: Bring a sample of your lake water and review it with Greg Boyer and Gold Standard Diagnostics*

*iMapInvasives: Setup an account or have your questions answered*

*CSLAP: Review or ask questions about your report or other matters*