

NYSFOLA CNY Regional Conference

September 11, 2026

The Health of Our Lakes: Science, Threats, and Solutions

PROGRAM

Time	Session	Speaker/ Organization	Focus
9:00-9:30 am	Registration & Coffee		
9:30-9:40 am	Welcome & Opening Remarks	Conference Host	Theme, logistics, goals for the day
9:40-10:20 am	PFAS, Foam Chemistry Concerns	Rick Smith Global Aquatics Research	Finger Lakes foam chemistry, PFAS, and Microcystis
10:20-11:00 am	DEC Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs) Roadmap	Sarah Goodrich Research Scientist 1, NYS DEC	NYS short and long term HAB management plan
11:00-11:15 am	Morning Break		15 minutes
11:15-11:55 am	PFAS in Aquatic Systems	Dr. Roxanne Razavi Environmental Biology, SUNY ESF	PFAS pathways, monitoring, and implications for lake health
11:55-12:35 pm	Microplastics in Freshwater Lakes	Dr. Christy Tyler Environmental Science, RIT	Sources, impacts, sampling, and emerging concerns
12:35-1:25 pm	Lunch		50 minutes
1:25-1:35 pm	Legislative Update	NYSFOLA Representative	Sources, impacts, sampling, and emerging concerns
1:35-2:15 pm	Central New York Conditions & Water Quality Trends	Dr. Andrew Brainard Upstate Freshwater Institute	CNY Lakes, monitoring, nutrient and water quality patterns
2:15-2:55 pm	Fish Communities and Lake Ecology	Tom Brooking Cornell Biological Field Station/Oneida Lake	Fish populations, food webs, and lake management lessons
2:55-3:10 pm	Afternoon Break		20 minutes
3:10-3:50 pm	Beaver Issues: Management & Human-Wildlife Conflict	Carl Cranker Wildlife Biologist, USDA APHIS	Beaver impacts, response options, and regulatory considerations
3:50-4:20 pm	Moderated Panel / Audience Q&A	All available speakers	Connecting contaminants, lake ecology, fish, wildlife, and management
4:20-4:30 pm	Closing Remarks & Next Steps	Conference Host	Connecting contaminants, lake ecology, fish, wildlife, and management



The Stars Reception Hall at the Pavilion, Dwyer Memorial Park
6799 Little York Lake Rd, Preble, NY

Hands-on Experiences:

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

iMapInvasives: Setup an account or have your questions answered (TBD)

CSLAP: Review or ask questions about your report or other matters (TBD)

