33nd NYSFOLA Don Cook Western Region Conference
Friday, October 30, 2026
The Palmer Opera House
12 West Main Street, Cuba, NY
Our Dynamic Lakes: Understanding Connections and Inspiring Action

Program:

9:00-9:30	**Light Refreshments**
9:30-9:40	**Welcome from NYSFOLA and Introducing CSLAP Coordinator Abby Hullihen** David Carr, Executive Director
9:40-10:20	**Connected Waters, Common Challenges: Aquatic Invasive Species in Western New York** Andrea Locke, Coordinator, Western New York Partnership for Invasive Species Management, Buffalo State University
10:20-11:00	**Mechanical Harvesting Approach to Managing Aquatic Plants on Chautauqua Lake** Heather Nolan-Caskey, Operations Manager, Chautauqua Lake Association
11:00-11:40	**Connecting Nutrient Management, Environmental Sustainability and Farm Profitability** Kirsten Workman, Nutrient Management and Environmental Sustainability Specialist, Cornell PRO-DAIRY Team and Nutrient Management Spear Program
11:40-12:10	**The Wheel of Conservation: Engaging Communities in Watershed Stewardship** Allen Fagan, District Manager & Hannah Guindon, Conservation Technician, Wyoming County Soil and Water Conservation District
12:10-1:00	**Lunch**
1:00-1:40	**From Ideas to Action: Building Lake-Friendly Communities Together** Emily DeBolt, Executive Director, Canandaigua Lake Watershed Association and Vice-Chair, Finger Lakes Regional Watershed Alliance
1:40-2:20	**What's in the Mud? Lake Sediments as Storytellers** Jacalyn Wittmer Malinowski, PhD, Assistant Professor of Geological Sciences, SUNY Geneseo
2:20-3:00	**Western New York Fisheries Health and Trends** Pete Austerman, Aquatic Biologist, NYS DEC Region 8
3:00-3:10	**Parting Thoughts and Looking to 2027**

Refreshments provided by The Perfect Blend Coffeehouse and Eatery

Parking is available across W. Main Street, in the lot behind Community Bank and the former Cuba National Bank building. This lot can also be accessed from Pa Ingalls Lane off Genesee Street.

Accessible Facility: The Palmer Opera House has a modern elevator for anyone preferring not to use the stairs.

While in Cuba, the 19th century **"Cheese Center of the World"**, visit **The Cuba Cheese Shoppe**, 53 Genesee St. Conference participants may receive a discount coupon, courtesy of The Cuba Cheese Shoppe.