WATERWORKS

New York State Federation of Lake Associations, Inc.

October 2005



Inside...

Board of Directors	p. 2
From the President	p. 2
New PWC Law	p. 3
2006 Conference Dates	p. 4
BoatU.S Foundation \$\$	pp. 5-6
Design a Life Jacket	p. 6
NYSFOLA Survey p	p. 7-10
Poems to Ponder	p. 11
CSLAPenings	p. 12
2006 CSLAP Form	p. 13
Membership Form	p. 14
News from Our Members	p. 15
Available from NYSFOLA	p. 15
Calendar of Events	p. 16

State Releases Draft Report from Invasive Species Task Force

—Adapted from NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation Press Release

In July, the New York State Departments of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and Agriculture and Markets announced the release of the Draft Report of the New York State Invasive Species Task Force (ISTF). The Draft Report describes problems associated with invasive plants, animals and pathogens, and discusses existing efforts to fight these problems by government, conservation groups and industry. The Draft Report also makes recommendations about how New York can more effectively combat this growing and expensive threat. Public review sessions were held at six locations throughout the state in August.

Invasive species are non-native species that can harm our ecosystems, food supply, human health and "built environments," such as gardens, landscaping, industry, and infrastructure. Common invasive species found in New York include: Zebra mussels, Eurasian watermilfoil, Asian Long-horned Beetle, Water Chestnut, Swede Midge, Purple Loosestrife, Giant Hogweed and Black Swallowwort.

As a threat to our biodiversity, invasive species have been judged second only to habitat loss. Invasive species come from all around the world, and the rate of invasion is increasing with the rise in international trade. Since the Task Force began its work in 2004, at least six new species have invaded New York.

The Draft Report is available in full on the web at www.dec.state.ny.us. For those without access to the web, copies of the Draft Report can be obtained by calling DEC at (518)402-

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 Donald Cook

I hope that everyone had a good summer. I am sure that our lakes played a big roles in helping us stay cool during the hot summer months.

The NYSFOLA Board of Directors has been hard at work organizing the May 5, 6 and 7, 2006 annual conference and 2006 regional meetings. We hope to have regional meetings in 5 areas of the state. These conferences provide great information for interaction with experts on watershed ecology as well as other NYSFOLA members who have problems similar to our own. We hope you will join us! The first meeting will be held in the Western Region on October 22nd.

On August 13th, the Honeoye Valley Association had their annual meeting. I had the pleasure of organizing a very successful program in the afternoon. Eleven people were chosen to ride along on a boat with Dr. Bruce Gilman of Finger Lakes Community College. Members of this group learned about the equipment and techniques used to gather information about the lake. They were able to use such devices as a mini dredge, a water quality probe and a plankton net. They also got a good look at the creatures in the sediment and lake water. Finally, they had an opportunity to ask questions related to the lake quality and a proposed management plan. We hope to offer a similar experience at the annual conference.

Hurricanes Katrina and Rita brought home the destructive capacity of water as well as its vital role in our survival. These natural disasters continue to show the importance of protecting and improving our water resources.

Sincerely. Donald Cook, President



Governor Pataki Signs Legislation to Increase Boater Safety

New Legislation Will Increase Minimum Age Allowed to Operate Personal Watercraft to 14

On July 28, 2005, Governor George E. Pataki signed legislation that will increase safety on New York's waterways be increasing the minimum age of those allowed to operate personal watercraft (PWCs) to 14 years old. Previous law required any person between the ages of 10 and 18 to possess a boating safety certificate to operate any mechanically powered vessel, including PWCs. This meant that operators as young as 10 years old were allowed to operate these vessels. The new legislation eliminates the youngest operators but maintains the requirement for a boating safety certificate. The new law will take effect January 1, 2006.

"New York State has been blessed with a wide variety of spectacular waterways that are a popular destination for families and outdoor enthusiasts, and we are committed to making sure that everyone who enjoys the water has a safe and pleasurable experience," Governor Pataki said. "Last year's boating season was the second safest on record, and the new law that I am signing today is another step we are taking to make New York's waterways as safe as they possibly can be."

Senator Dean Skelos said, "On behalf of parents and water sports enthusiasts, I thank Governor Pataki for signing this important legislation into law. Personal watercraft are powerful motor vehicles that, in many ways, are no different than motorcycles. By raising the minimum age to 14, Governor Pataki and the State Legislature have acted responsibly to enhance public safety for the thousands of New Yorkers that enjoy our

beaches and other waterways."

Assemblywoman Patricia Eddington said, "This law is long overdue. New York is currently one of only three states that allow children to operate personal watercraft at age 10 without any supervision of an adult. Today's personal watercrafts are bigger, faster and more powerful than ever before. Increasing the operating age from 10 to 14 is a common-sense measure that will improve water safety for our families."

Since 1995, governor Pataki has signed legislation to require personal watercraft education, toughen boating-while-intoxicated laws, strengthen vessel emission statutes, improve mandatory life jacket wear requirements and has provided increased state assistance for boating navigation enforcement.

New York has been a leader in PWC safety initiatives. In 1998, the governor signed legislation requiring boating safety courses for operators of personal watercraft. Since the law went into effect, PWC accidents have dropped by a dramatic 63%. New York has the largest mandatory education program for the operation of these vessels in the country.

New York ranks 7th in the country for total number of registered boats with more than 520,000 motorized vessels, and the state's fatality rate for registered boaters is below the national average. New York's boating safety program helped educate a record-setting 40,000 New York boaters last year.

2006 NYSFOLA Annual Conference and Membership Meeting

"Is Your Lake in Hot Water?"

Friday May 5 - Sunday May 7, 2005 White Eagle Conference Center Hamilton, NY



We're already working on the program. Talks may include (but are by no means limited to):

- The Regulation of Docks, Boathouses and Moorings.
- Dam Safety and Repair in the Wake of the Hadlock Pond Flood, Fort Ann, NY.
- Whole Lake Management: Successes and Failures
- Global Climate Change: Is it Heating up Your Lake?
- How to Hire a Lake Management Consultant
- Organizing your Organization: Tips for Lake Association Volunteers
- How to Prepare an Aquatic Plant Management Plan
- Because You Asked...More about Septic Systems!
- Lake Law 101
- Fish, Fowl, Leeches....and more!
- Multi-level Approaches to Lake Management

Field Trip

Tour a Madison County Wind Farm!

Perennial Favorites:

- Limnology 101 All about your lake
- Aquatic Plant Identification Workshop
- CSLAP Training

Keynote Speaker

Mr. Daniel F. Larkin "History of the Canal System in Madison County"

Is there something you would like to learn about? Fill out the survey on pages 7-10 and send it in!!

Does someone from your lake deserve special recognition? Nominate them for a NYSFOLA "Lake Steward Award." Presentations will be made at the conference in May.



BoatU.S. Foundation Now Accepting Grant Applications

Boating Safety Grants

The BoatU.S. Foundation Safety Grant Program deadline is just a month away, but it's not too late to apply for funding for your organization's project idea. Grants are open to small, local nonprofit groups and organizations, and are a unique way to increase safe boating practices around the country. The deadline to apply is November 1, 2005.

Over the past 15 years, the Foundation has awarded over \$615,000 in Boating Safety Grant funds to develop innovative projects that promote safe boating on local waterways. Topics have ranged from creating literature on the effects of boating under the influence to boat ramp signage informing users about free vessel safety checks. Interested groups can request up to \$4,000 for eligible projects.

Grant guidelines, information, and applications are available online at www.boat.us.com

Clean Water Grants

Each year, the BoatU.S. Foundation awards local nonprofit volunteer organizations up to \$4,000 for the promotion of **clean boating** education. Over the past 6 years the Foundation has awarded almost \$100,000 to local community organizations, yacht clubs, flotillas and squadrons. They are looking for creative and innovative projects that teach boaters to reduce their impact on the waters they use for boating. Topics can range from petroleum pollution to pumpout education to keeping trash out of our waterways.

Are you interested in applying for a BoatU.S. Foundation Clean Water Grant? If so:

- Think about the environmental issues that affect your local waterway. Are there positive steps boaters can take to make the water cleaner? How can they reduce their environmental impact?
- Explore the BoatU.S. Foundation grant writing guides. The BoatU.S. Foundation
 web site has a sample applications and FAQ's to help you during the application process.
- **Be sure to check out the <u>focus topic page</u>**. Each year the Foundation selects a clean boating topic that they feel needs more education at the local level

- **Sign up for the BoatU.S. Foundation e-newsletter**. Forms are on the website. This will keep you up-to-date about what the Foundations is doing and what new services are available.
- **APPLY!** To be eligible for grant funding, your organization MUST BE VOLUNTEER AND NON-PROFIT. The deadline for the next cycle of Clean Water Grants is February 1, 2006.

To learn more about the Clean Water grants, visit www.boatus.com/cleanwater/grants.

And while you're thinking about safe boating....

Innovations in Life Jacket Design Competition

In 2003, drowning accounted for 70% of the 703 boating fatalities that year. Of the drowning victims, an alarming number of the victims (86%) were not wearing a life jacket. The U.S. Coast Guard has estimated that over 400 may have been saved if only the person was wearing his/her life jacket.

A recent study by the Boat U.S. Foundation for Boating Safety & Clean Water indicated that lack of comfort was the number one reason why life jackets are not worn in greater numbers. In fact, the average life jacket wear rate for boaters was 22 percent in 2003.

The Boat U.S. Foundation and the Personal Flotation Device Manufacturers Association (PFDMA) believe that innovation and application of new technology might entice more boaters to wear life jackets.

If you are a creative thinker and have an idea for a new and innovative life jacket, your ingenuity may help save lives. They are sponsoring a competition with a winning prize of \$5,000. The goal is to design a comfortable, wearable flotation device unlike anything boaters have ever seen before. Designs are not required to meet current U.S. Coast Guard requirements to qualify or win. The entry deadline is December 2005.

For more information, visit www.boatus.com/Foundation/lifejacketdesign.

Special thanks to BoatU.S. for providing this information to NYSFOLA. We hope some of our members take advantage of these opportunities! The BoatU.S. Foundation is a national non-profit organization that creates education and outreach campaigns, researches issues and products, and helps boaters learn to be safer and betters stewards of the environment while boating.

NYSFOLA Asks YOU to help us!

Throughout the year, the NYSFOLA office gets questions on many topics related to lakes throughout the state, such as:

"Have any lake associations used SONAR for Eurasian milfoil?" "How did it work?" "Have any lake associations replaced dams? How did they fund the project?" "Our insurance rates have tripled. Do you know how lake associations are handling this problem?"

Alas, we're only able to provide information, if it is first provided to us. We're hoping that you will all take the time to complete this survey and send it back to the office. It will provide us with a great statewide "picture" of lake issues so that we can share the information with all of you.

2005 NYSFOLA Membership Survey—Mail to NYFOLA Office ASAP!

Na	ame of Lake County			
Contact				
-	Lake Association Information			
1.	What is the approximate membership of your lake association?			
2. How often does your lake association meet?				
3. Is your lake association legally incorporated? (circle one) YES NO				
4.	What is the primary purpose of your lake association?			
Ed	ucational Social Fish & Game Club Tax District			
Ot	her			
5.	Is membership obligatory (deeded or otherwise) for lakefront owners?			
6.	If so, how do you enforce this?			
7.	What is your approximate annual budget?			

8. What are your primary sources of revenue? Dues grants tax district Other					
9. What are your annual dues?					
10 Does your lake association have paid staff? YES NO					
Your NYSFOLA Participation					
11. How long has your lake been active in NYSFOLA?					
12. Has anyone ever attended the annual conference/membership meeting? Yes No Don't know					
13. If not, why not? (circle all applicable) time of year cost					
location not interested Other					
14. What topics would be of most interest to your lake association?					
15. Suggestions for future conference locations?					
16. Do you regularly read "Waterworks?" YES NO					
17. What topics would you like to see featured in upcoming issues?					
Aquatic Plant Management / Lake Management					
18. Has your lake association been involved in aquatic plant management? YES NO					
19. What plants have you attempted to control? Why?					
20. What types of in-lake management strategies have you used?					
Aquatic Herbicides (type)					
Mechanical Harvesting Benthic Barriers Grass Carp					
Aquatic Weevils Suction Dredging/Harvesting Other					

21.	Approximately, what was the total cost of all in-lake management strategies:
22.	What were the funding sources?
23.	Do you think your in-lake management strategies worked? Why or why not?
24.	Is there a lake management plan for your lake? YES NO
25.	Was it a volunteer effort? Or completed with paid staff/consultants?
26.	If funded, what were the funding sources?
27.	What was the cost of producing the plan?
28. strat	Has your lake association (or other related entity) adopted watershed-wide management regies?
Exp	YES NO lain:

	Insurance/I	Liability/Dams		
29.	Does your lake association have insurance?	YES	NO	
30.	If yes, do you have: general liability	directors/off	icers	both?
31.	What is the approximate yearly cost for your	r insurance?		
32.	Would you recommend an insurance carrier	?		
33.	Does your lake have a dam? YES		NO	
34.	If yes, who is responsible for the maintenand State of NY Other	ce of the dam?		
35.	When was the dam last inspected and/or rep	aired?		
36.	If applicable, how has your lake association	funded dam rep	air?	
37.	How much has your lake association spent or	n dam maintena	nce?	
	"Special I	Regulations"		
Mo	Does your lake have any of the following? It torboat restrictions PWC restrictions ek and Shoreline Ordinances Special Zoning	Watershed Rule	es and Regulation	ons
39.	If so, when were they adopted and by whon	n?		
40.	Would you be able to provide us with a copy	of the legislation	n?	
	"The Bi	ig Picture"		
	What are the most important issues facing yo? (use as many additional sheets of paper as			an NYSFOLA

THANK YOU FOR HELPING US IMPROVE OUR SERVICES TO YOU! Don't forget to put NYSFOLA on YOUR newsletter mailing list!



It Couldn't Be Done

By Edgar Albert Guest

Somebody said that it couldn't be done,
But he with a chuckle replied
That "maybe it couldn't," but he would be one
Who wouldn't say so till he'd tried.
So he buckled right in with the trace of a grin
On his face. If he worried he hid it.
He started to sing as he tackled the thing
That couldn't be done, and he did it.

Somebody scoffed: "Oh, you'll never do that;
At least no one ever has done it";
But he took off his coat and he took off his hat.

And the first thing we knew he'd begun it.
With a lift of his chin and a bit of a grin,
Without any doubting or quiddit,
He started to sing as he tackled the thing
That couldn't be done, and he did it.

There are thousands to tell you it cannot be done,

There are thousands to prophesy failure; There are thousands to point out to you, one by one,

The dangers that wait to assail you.

But just buckle in with a bit of a grin,

Just take off your coat and go to it;

Just start to sing as you tackle the thing

That "cannot be done," and you'll do it.

Original text: Edgar A. Guest, *Breakfast Table Chat* (Detroit, 1914)



Camp

It was a place where summer memories began only to become forever embedded in our memories as "the good old days."

Shale by the lakeshore.... It was so much fun to write your name on the warm, smooth surface that was so perfect for skipping across the glassy wa-

ter....one...two...three...PLOP! Circles rippled out from where the stones once more became embedded in the sand.

Rocks, rocks and more rocks— buckets carried home. The lake always left us more. Each spring we found them piled high around the poplars.

Thunderstorms rolled across from the distant shore. Time for one last swim before dashing to the porch to watch the lightning strike the rolling waves.

How many hours did we spend playing in the clay left by glaciers so many thousands of years before? Making little pots decorated with stones and beach glass...covering ourselves with the sticky mud and letting it harden in the warm, summer sun.

We listened to the gulls call from the nearby island. Did they know what was happening?

Were they trying to tell us?

"Be careful on the rocks now, " mother would call. Their surfaces had become covered with a thick, green carpet. The smell of rotting algae and dead fish drifted through the air near the shore.

If you were brave, you could still get to the best swimming spot...just raise your arms high above the thick, feathery plants that lay across the water.

Too many weeds for swimming. Too much algae to go near the beach. Too expensive to keep a place that wasn't used. Time to sell...camp.

Submitted by a NYSFOLA Member



CELEBRATING OUR 20TH SEASON!

CSLAPpenings

Greetings Everyone!

It's hard to believe it, but our 20th season is winding down. Many of you have finished your sampling, packed away the equipment and put the cooler in "cold storage." For those of you still braving the chillier waters of autumn, please remember that all samples must be received by October 31st whether or not all eight rounds have been completed. This will help the lab

analyze the data and report the results to Scott. He can then start writing those long awaited reports!

Ah, but lest you think your job is completely finished, please take a look at the next page. If you are planning to sample your lake next year, please fill out the 2006 CSLAP application and send in your 2006 participation fee and NYSFOLA dues (see page 14) as soon as possible. (It is very helpful if you send them all together.) We now have over 100 participants, and the paper trail has become increasingly important. Next spring, bottles will be packed and shipped in the order that the paperwork and funds are received! (This will be an attempt to reward the earlybirds—especially the folks on Lake Warn who usually send things in January and get bottles late because of their "W" alphabetical status!) Believe it or not, we already have 3 new lakes whose checks are in hand! So hats off to the Three Lakes Council (Lake Oscaleta, Lake Rippawam and Lake Waccabuc) in Westchester County.

All of you have committed a significant amount of time and effort gathering data on your lakes this year. We thank you for your dedication and for keeping the program safe as well as successful. Our special thanks to Elliott LaRose of Geneganslet Lake, Barbara Stulak from Indian Lake and Jim Adsit from DeRuyter Reservoir who endured chronic UPS problems but never gave up hope (or sampling).

Here's wishing you all a pleasant "off-season." Don't forget to "think spring" and send in the 2006 paperwork!

Scott Kishbaugh, NYS DEC and Nancy Mueller, NYSFOLA

2006 CSLAP APPLICATION FORM

CSLAP is a joint venture between the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) and the NYS Federation of Lake Associations, Inc. Please return this completed form with your participation fee to: NYSFOLA P.O. Box 84 LaFayette, NY 13084-0084

Date		Lake Name		
County				
CSLAP Contact Person (SU	PPLIES WILL BE SEN	T TO THIS PERSON/AI	ODRESS IN THE SPRING OF 2006)	
Name		E-Mail		
Address		(We c	annot ship to a P.O. Box address)***	
City	State	Zip		
Phone				
Problem/issues facing your	lake and/or lake associat	tion:		
Lake Size/Depth:				
Invasive species control me	thods used in past (circle	e one)		
Mechanical Harvesting F	Herbicide (please specify	(r) Grass Carp	Benthic Barriers Other (specify)	
Please arrange for any new bership in NYSFOLA is a recommitment in order to mal 2006 CSLAP PARTICIPA 1 SITE: \$200.00	s (2 primary and 2 second volunteers to attend the intequirement of the programme the data meaningful. ATION FEE(S)*** SITES: \$450.00	dary) should be identified initial training session at tum. It is requested that a last SITES: \$800.00	he samples: I before the sampling season begins. The NYSFOLA annual conference. Me lake association make a five (5) year INVOICE COST OF ALL EQUIP-	
***If your lake needs to USPS, please subtract \$60 the participation fee per will no longer have a procount. The \$60 discounter shipping costs which paid by the lake associate	60 from site. We epaid ac- t is to cov- must be	C	SLAP CHECKLIST SLAP Application Form SLAP Participation Fee 006 NYSFOLA Membership Form 006 NYSFOLA Dues	

Now Accepting 2006 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 "4", please remit your 2005 and 2006 dues to the NYSFOLA office as soon as possible.

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.

2006 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 in good standing— \$10.00 (get your own copy of WATERWORKS instead of reading it at your meeting!) Corporate Membership _____ \$200.00 Student _____ \$10.00 Name of Lake Association or Individual Contact Name Address _____ City, State, Zip Telephone____ E-mail Lake Location (county) (especially important if your lake is one of many named Loon, Mud, Round, etc.) \$_____ Any additional donation? \$ (thank you) Fee Send payment to: New York State Federation of Lake Associations, Inc. (NYSFOLA) **P.O. Box 84** LaFayette, NY 13084

News from Our Members

The **Schroon Lake Association** has been working with several communities around the lake to establish boat-speed regulations.

The New York State Legislature has granted **Keuka Lake** towns and villages "home rule" status to adopt local laws related to the construction and location of boathouses, moorings and docks.

The Town of Richmond was awarded a \$40,000 grant under the NYS Environmental Protection Fund to develop a **Honeoye Lake** Management Plan and a Hydrologic and Nutrient Model for the watershed to predict sources of nutrients to the lake. The model will be used to support a proposed alum application project.

Available from 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

Exotics To Go!; This compact disk is "fast food" for people who need materials to give presentations about zebra mussels and other aquatic nuisance species. Contains 7 PowerPoint presentations including scripts, images, and talking points that focus on zebra mussel impacts and control. Twenty- two informational publications in PDF format and lists of people to contact are also included. Produced by the Illinois-Indiana and Minnesota Sea Grant programs on behalf of the Great Lakes Sea Grant Network. \$6.00 includes shipping & handling.



Makes a Great Gift!

Lakescaping for Wildlife and Water Quality Highly recommended guide to protecting your lake shoreline the "natural" way. This book is our new bestseller and has many great tips for minimizing stormwater runoff and erosion. It can also help you prevent those nuisance waterfowl from "fowling" your lakefront property!

WATERWORKS

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Calendar of Events

NYS AEMC & NYS ACC 2005 Conference on the Environment: "Wind & Water: Waves of the Future" October 8-10, 2005. White Eagle Conference Center, Hamilton NY. (518)392-9179

NALMS' 25th Anniversary Symposium: "Lake AEffects: Exploring the Relationship between People and Water" November 9-11, 2005, Madison, Wisconsin. For more information, log onto www.nalms.org.

2006 National Water Quality Monitoring Council (NWQMC) - 5th National Monitoring Conference: "Monitoring Networks: Connecting For Clean Water" May 7-11, San Jose, California NWQMC2006@tetratech-ffx.com