

Waterworks

New York State Federation of Lake Associations, Inc.

November 2013

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DEC Releases Draft Invasive Species Regulations

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) recently announced its long awaited regulations regarding the importation, sale, purchase, transport, and propagation of invasive species. The proposed rule was published in the New York State Register and the Environmental Notice Bulletin on October 23rd.

According to DEC, the proposed regulations "include a list of prohibited species which shall be unlawful to knowingly possess with the intent to sell, import, purchase, transport or introduce; a list of regulated species which shall be legal to possess, sell, purchase, propagate and transport but may not be knowingly introduced into a free-living state; and require a permit for research, education and other approved activities involving prohibited species and release of regulated species into a free-living state. The rulemaking also specifies the criteria used in making such classifications and a means for future classification of species. The proposed regulations also establish grace periods for certain prohibited species to allow businesses to plan the management of existing stock."

Species were ranked on a variety of ecological and socio-economic factors, and are classified as "Prohibited" or "Regulated" depending on their level of invasiveness. Specific factors used to determine the regulatory status of a species include:

- 1) whether a species meets the definition of an in-

(Continued on page 3)

Public Hearing Schedule

Buffalo - Tuesday December 10, 2013 at 2:00pm
DEC Region 9 Headquarters, 1st Floor Conference Room

270 Michigan Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14203

Syracuse Wednesday December 11, 2013 at 2:00
State Fairgrounds, Martha Eddy Room
581 State Fair Blvd
Syracuse, NY 13209

Albany Monday December 16 at 3:00
DEC Central Office, Public Assembly Room (Floor 1)
625 Broadway
Albany, NY 12233

Long Island Tuesday December 17 at 2:00
State University of NY at Stony Brook
DEC Region 1 Headquarters, Basement Conference Room
50 Circle Rd
Stony Brook, NY 11790

Agency staff will be available one half hour before the start of the hearings to answer questions.



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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 - George C. Kelley



NYSFOLA Manager Nancy Mueller and I have spent a good portion of the late summer and fall traveling! In July, I visited Jan Anderson's regional meeting in the lower Hudson Valley. In October, Nancy traveled to the Indian

River lakes region in the northern part of the state to further promote NYSFOLA and answer questions about the Citizens Statewide Lake Assessment Program (CSLAP). I also attended Don Cook's regional meeting in the far western portion of the state. Don introduced me, and I was able to announce that NYSFOLA will host the North American Lake Management Society (NALMS) International Symposium in 2015. The announcement was well received. All groups seemed to enjoy their respective meeting activities.

On October 21st, Nancy and I attended the monthly meeting of the Finger Lakes Regional Watershed Alliance (FLRWA) meeting in Geneva. The Alliance has one representative from each of the nine member Finger Lake associations. Don Cook represents Honeoye Lake and facilitated the contact between FLRWA and NYSFOLA. Nancy presented a concise presentation about NYSFOLA, its aims and activities. The group invited us to become an official Partner in order to increase the "voice" we each have on issues of mutual concern. Nancy was named as the representative.

After our October 26th NYSFOLA Board meeting, Nancy and I flew to San Diego for the 2013 NALMS International Symposium. Nancy has been representing us at the NALMS meetings for several years and has amazing rapport with many members at the conference. Former NYSFOLA Treasurer Don Keppel joined us in San

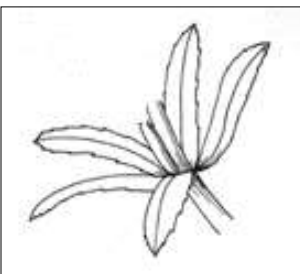
Diego, as did Bill Harmon, Matt Albright, and Holly Waterfield from the SUNY Oneonta Biological Field Station. Matt and Holly are both former NALMS Regional Representatives and also have made great alliances at NALMS. Bill brought some of his students, some of whom are NYSFOLA scholarship recipients working with our member lakes on lake management plans. As with any conference, there were many outstanding events and presentations and a few pitfalls we will try to avoid in 2015!

One of our objectives was to meet with NALMS Conference Coordinator Jeff Schloss. Nancy and I, Don, Bill and Matt met him for breakfast one morning to further evaluate potential locations for the 2015 conference. Lake George, Lake Placid and Saratoga are all under consideration pending availability, cost, transportation issues and other important factors. The location will be announced after a contract has been negotiated and signed by NALMS.

The NYSFOLA Board has agreed to move our office from Nancy Mueller's house to a two-room suite in downtown LaFayette, just a few steps from the post office she visits daily. This has become necessary as our organization continues to grow, and the workload on Nancy has reached an uncomfortable level. It is no longer possible for one "part-time" person to manage the needs of NYSFOLA from the space in Nancy's house. Equally important, we have agreed to organize TWO conferences for 2015: the traditional May NYSFOLA membership meeting and conference and the October NALMS conference. The new office also has room for us to consolidate the remaining boxes of "Diet for a Small Lake" from Jim Cunningham's office and Nancy's garage. More later as this evolves!

Have a wonderful holiday season.

vasive species; 2) whether the species is currently on a federal list or listed in other states as an invasive species and its native habitat has climatic conditions similar to that of New York State; 3) ecological impacts 4) biological characteristics and dispersal ability; 5) ecological amplitude and distribution; 6) difficulty of control; 7) economic benefits or negative impacts of the species; 8) human health benefits or negative impacts of the species; and 9) cultural or societal significance of the benefits or harm caused by the species.



Hydrilla = "Prohibited"

Species invasiveness was ranked from "Insignificant" to "Very High," and regulatory categories were established based on this ranking. Some species will be classified as "Prohibited" while others will be "Regulated."

A regulated species that is sold or offered for sale must be labeled "Invasive Species-Harmful to the Environment" in at least 14 point bold font. The label must also offer alternative non-invasive species along with instructions to prevent the spread of the species.

Exceptions to the rule are allowed, by permit, for research, education, or other approved activities.

The full text of the Rule Making Activity can be found in the October 23rd NYS Register <http://docs.dos.ny.gov/info/register/2013/oct23/pdf/rulemaking.pdf>.

Public comments on the proposed rule will be accepted through December 23, 2013 and should be sent to Leslie Surprenant, NYS DEC, Invasive Species Coordination Unit, 625 Broadway, Floor 5, Albany, NY 12233 or email invasivesregs@gw.dec.state.ny.us.

NYSFOLA will be commenting (in support) of this rule-making, and we encourage lake associations to make your voices heard. Please send copies of your comments to the NYSFOLA office via mail or e-mail. See page 2 for contact information.

The full list of proposed regulated species can be found at: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/regulations/93848.html>. The list includes aquatic (freshwater and marine) as well as terrestrial species. Both plants and animals are included. Some of the aquatic invasive species are listed here, but we encourage you to take a look at the full list since many common landscaping plants are included.

Selected Freshwater Aquatic/Wetland Species

Algae & Cyanobacteria: Prohibited

Didymosphenia germinate - Didymo
Prymnesium parvum - Golden Algae

Plants: Prohibited

<i>Cabomba caroliniana</i>	Fanwort
<i>Egeria densa</i>	Brazilian Waterweed
<i>Hydrilla verticillata</i>	Hydrilla, Water Thyme
<i>Hydrocharis morus-ranae</i>	Frogbit
<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>	Yellow Iris
<i>Ludwigia hexapetala (L. grandiflora)</i>	Uruguayan Primrose Willow
<i>Ludwigia peploides</i>	Floating Primrose Willow
<i>Lysimachia vulgaris</i>	Garden Loosestrife
<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>	Purple Loosestrife
<i>Murdannia keisak</i>	Marsh Dewflower
<i>Myriophyllum aquaticum</i>	Parrot-feather
<i>Myriophyllum heterophyllum</i>	Broadleaf Water-milfoil
<i>Myriophyllum x pinnatum</i>	Broadleaf Water-milfoil Hybrid
<i>Myriophyllum spicatum</i>	Eurasian Water-milfoil
<i>Nymphoides peltata</i>	Yellow Floating Heart
<i>Phragmites australis</i>	Common Reed Grass
<i>Potamogeton crispus</i>	Curly Pondweed
<i>Trapa natans</i>	Water Chestnut

Fish: Prohibited

<i>Channa argus</i>	Northern Snakehead
<i>Channa marulius</i>	Bullseye Snakehead
<i>Channa micropeltes</i>	Giant Snakehead
<i>Clarias batrachus</i>	Walking Catfish
<i>Gambusia affinis</i>	Western Mosquitofish
<i>Gambusia holbrooki</i>	Eastern Mosquitofish
<i>Hypophthalmichthys harmandi</i>	Largescale Silver Carp
<i>Hypophthalmichthys molitrix</i>	Silver Carp
<i>Hypophthalmichthys nobilis</i>	Bighead Carp
<i>Misgurnus anguillicaudatus</i>	Oriental Weatherfish
<i>Mylopharyngodon piceus</i>	Black Carp
<i>Neogobius melanostomus</i>	Round Goby
<i>Petromyzon marinus</i>	Sea Lamprey
<i>Proterorhinus semilunaris (P. marmoratus)</i>	Tubenose Goby

Aquatic Invertebrates: Prohibited

<i>Bellamya chinensis (Cipangopaludina chinensis)</i>	Chinese Mystery Snail
<i>Bithynia tentaculata</i>	Faucet Snail
<i>Bythotrephes longimanus (B. cederstroemi)</i>	Spiny Water Flea
<i>Cercopagis pengoi</i>	Fishhook Water Flea
<i>Corbicula fluminea</i>	Asian Clam
<i>Dreissena polymorpha</i>	Zebra Mussel
<i>Dreissena rostriformis bugensis</i>	Quagga Mussel
<i>Hemimysis anomala</i>	Bloody Red Shrimp
<i>Orconectes rusticus</i>	Rusty Crayfish
<i>Potamopyrgus antipodarum</i>	New Zealand Mud Snail

There are also some aquatic species listed as **Regulated** rather than prohibited. These can be found on the DEC website along with the terrestrial and marine species.

NYSFOLA Gets a New Office!

For the first time in our organization's history, NYSFOLA will have a public office space. It has been a long time coming. For 30 years, the corporation has functioned out of office space located in the home of the person in charge of operations. We have now reached a point where the growth of the organization, and the demands upon it, necessitate a more formal office space.



The two room office suite will be centrally located in LaFayette near the intersection of U.S. Routes 11 and 20, and we hope to be fully relocated by the first of the year.

The mailing address will remain unchanged at P.O. Box 84, LaFayette, NY 13084. We also anticipate that our phone number and e-mail will remain unchanged. Stay tuned!



NYSFOLA President George Kelley "inspects" the new NYSFOLA headquarters in October.

NYSFOLA Hosts Regional Conferences

Members of the NYSFOLA Board of Directors have been busy putting together regional "mini" conferences. On July 19th, NYSFOLA member lake associations from the Lower Hudson region met in Kent, NY on the shores of China Lake. The meeting was organized by NYSFOLA Secretary Janet Andersen and hosted by the China-Barrett Association. Special thanks to Chris Doyle of Aquatic Biological, Inc. who was the headline speaker. He also offered an aquatic plant identification opportunity for anyone bringing in a specimen from their lake.

Theresa Mayhew coordinated an August meeting of the Columbia County Lakes Coalition for lake associations in Columbia and Green Counties. Topics included invasive species (aquatic and terrestrial), blue-green algae, and dredging. A short presentation on a Hudson Estuary Watershed Resiliency Project dealing with flood management and extreme weather events was also on the agenda.

In October, Don Cook hosted his 19th Western Regional Conference at Moonwinks Restaurant near Cuba, NY.

Thank you to our Board members Jan, Terri, and Don for organizing these mini-conferences!

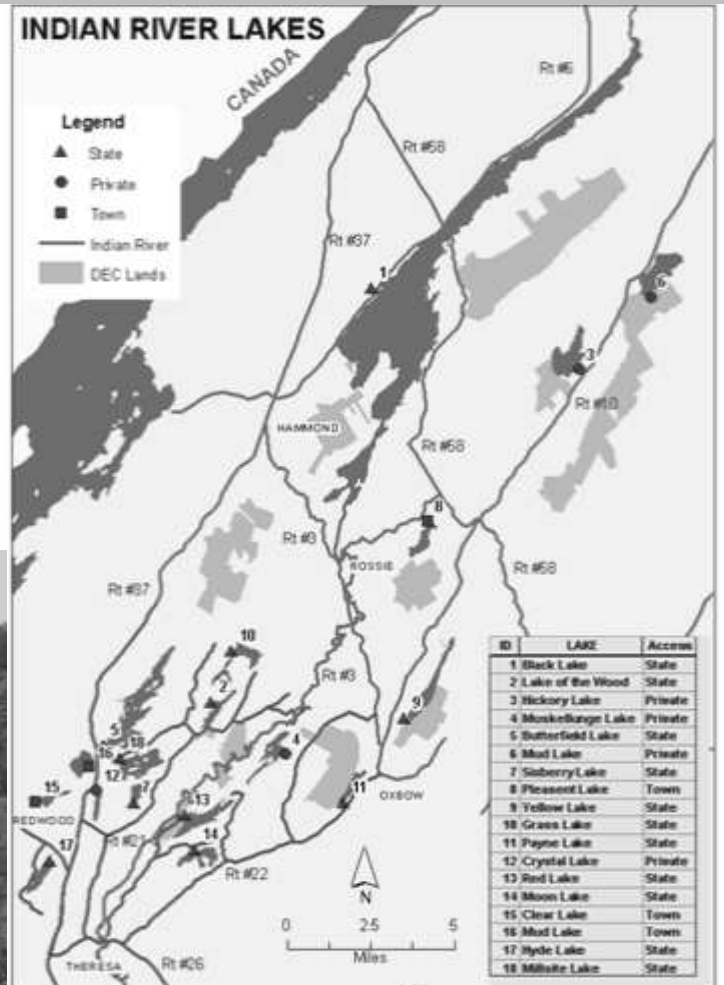


NYSFOLA Board member Don Cook (right) introduces guest speaker Professor of Biology Sid Bosch from SUNY Geneseo

Indian River Lakes Conservancy Promotes CSLAP & NYSFOLA

NYSFOLA members from the Indian River Lakes region gathered together in September to learn more about NYSFOLA, lake management, and the Citizens Statewide Lake Assessment Program (CSLAP) from NYSFOLA Manager Nancy Mueller and Treasurer Walter Dutcher.

Eighteen lakes comprise the Indian River Lakes system in Jefferson and St. Lawrence counties: Black Lake, Lake of the Woods, Hickory Lake, Muskellunge Lake, Butterfield Lake, two Mud Lakes, Sixberry Lake, Pleasant Lake, Yellow Lake, Grass Lake, Payne Lake, Crystal Lake, Red Lake, Moon Lake, Clear Lake, Hyde Lake, and Millsite Lake. The lakes span the range from shallow, productive lakes to deep, cold water lakes and are popular fishing and recreation sites.



Map NYS DEC - <http://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/51788.html>

Although many of the lake associations are long time NYSFOLA members and CSLAP participants, they have recently come together under the “umbrella” of the Indian River Lakes Conservancy (IRLC), a member supported land trust in Redwood, to further promote lake management and monitoring strategies for the region.

In recent years, the lake associations at Black, Butterfield, Grass, Hyde, and Millsite lakes have all been CSLAP participants. In addition, Grass Lake is currently participating in the lake management program sponsored by NYSFOLA and the graduate program in lake management at SUNY Oneonta. Grass Lake Association member Jim Ninos said that the program has been extremely helpful to his association in the development of a lake management plan.



While many of the lakes in the region have relatively few problems, other lakes have suffered from water quality degradation, including harmful algal blooms, and the introduction of invasive aquatic species. The collaborative effort strives to protect the lakes that maintain good water quality while reducing nutrient input and managing invasive species in the others.

Frozen Lakes Swimming With Life

By Paul Skawinski, Regional Aquatic Invasive Species Education Specialist, Golden Sands RC&D, and author of [Aquatic Plants of the Upper Midwest](#).

Reprinted from "Lake Tides" a publication of UW Extension a member of the Wisconsin Lakes Partnership, Vo. 57, No.1

Through the winter season, our lakes look quiet and dormant, but underneath that ice and snow; many plants and animals are busy doing what they do best.

From above the ice-covered water, we see a lifeless, barren land. The howling winds blow cold. The ice reaches deep into the lake.

Nevertheless, just a few feet below the harsh winter, our lakes are swimming with life!

Photo by Bill Hecht, Cayuga Watershed Network

Water is most dense around 39°F, allowing ice to float and form a barrier between the lake and the frigid winter above. In most lakes, this insulation from the bitter cold allows much of the lake volume to be preserved as liquid water. The ice barrier has a negative side too though, as it reflects or absorbs much of the incoming sunlight before it can be used by aquatic plants for photosynthesis - an essential process that adds dissolved oxygen to lake water. Plants like coontail, Elodea, and algae can remain active under the ice, producing that critical oxygen supply. When a lake is deprived of sunlight for too long, especially shallow or nutrient-rich lakes, a situation called "winterkill" results. This is when the level of dissolved oxygen in the water is so low that most oxygen-breathing animals cannot survive.

In lakes where the oxygen level is sufficient, living organisms continue as normal. Cold-water fish like cisco or lake trout that may have been restricted to deep water in the summer can explore the entire lake now. Warm-water fish like bluegills or largemouth bass may prefer being near the bottom where the water is slightly warmer, if they have enough oxygen.

The abundant aquatic insects that are seen swimming or flying around lakes in summer tend to survive as aquatic larvae in the winter to avoid exposure to harsh temperatures. Adult whirligig beetles - the ones you see zigzagging across the lake surface at

lightning speed - survive the winter as tiny, predatory larvae on the lake bottom. Similarly, the aerial powerhouses, known as dragonflies, that zip through the air in summer also spend the winter on the lake bottom as predators of smaller insects. These insects and others provide an important food source for fish and other creatures during the winter season, as they await for the bright sunshine of spring to rejuvenate

Paul Skawinski photo



Juvenile dragonflies (nymphs) spend the winter under the ice.

the food web of the lake.

Most aquatic plants spend the winter in a dormant state, reserving their energy until the next growing season. Seeds and turions are often programmed to resist germination until a certain day length or water temperature is reached. This ensures that the plants will be growing when conditions are favorable for their survival. A few hardy species like coontail, Elodea, and curly-leaf pondweed can grow year-round because of their ability to survive in cold water and low-light conditions. Indeed, these species can be found in nearly every aquatic habitat in Wisconsin.

Some near-shore plants like cattails and water lilies send their energy down to the root systems below the sediment for storage over the winter season. The remaining leaves simply decay and are replaced in spring. While the lake bottom may seem like a safe location to store this energy, muskrats commonly dive down to snack on these tasty stores. In order to enter and exit the frozen lake, muskrats build large mounds of vegetation on top of the ice or along the banks in cattail marshes, which conceal an opening in the ice and serve as entryways to this aquatic supermarket.



Photo by Bill Hecht, Cayuga Watershed Network

Northeast Aquatic Nuisance Species Panel



NYSFOLA members may not realize it, but you are all represented by Board member Bill Harman on the Northeast Aquatic Nuisance Species Panel (NEANS). Established in 2001, NEANS was the fourth regional panel organized under the auspices of the federal Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force, an inter-governmental organization dedicated to preventing and controlling aquatic nuisance species, and implementing

the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act (NANPCA) of 1990. The various NANPCA mandates were expanded later with the passage of the National Invasive Species Act (NISA) in 1996. The ANS Task Force consists of 13 Federal agency representatives and 12 Ex-officio members, and is co-chaired by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. The ANS Task force coordinates governmental efforts dealing with ANS in the U.S. with those of the private sector and other North American interests via

regional panels and issue specific committees and work group

NEANS addresses issues and concerns relative to the freshwater and marine resources of its member states. The Panel's members represent state, provincial, and federal governments; academia; commercial and recreational fishing interests; recreational boaters; commercial shipping; power and water utilities; environmental organizations; aquaculture; nursery and aquarium trades; tribal concerns; lake associations; and the bait industry.

NYSFOLA members should check out the NEANS **Online Guide to Aquatic Invasive Species in Northeastern North America** <http://neans.org/northeast.htm> that provides information about invasive species threatening northeastern North America. It also your organization to create customized field guides. Browse the site and learn about a wide variety of marine and freshwater invasive species and how to identify them. Then head to the water with your customized field guide and help stem the tide of invasive species by participating in spread prevention and early detection efforts to detect and prevent new invasions. We thank Bill Harman for his many years of service on the NEANS Panel.

Werner Named Skaneateles “Citizen of the Year”!

On October 17th, the Skaneateles Area Chamber of Commerce honored a long-time friend and member of NYS-FOLA. Dr. Robert (Bob) Werner, President of the Skaneateles Lake Association and SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry (ESF) Professor Emeritus, was named “Citizen of the Year” in recognition of his longstanding contributions to the protection of Skaneateles Lake.

During Bob’s 33 years of teaching at ESF, he shared his enthusiasm for lakes and fisheries with his students. His introductory limnology course inspired many of his students to enter the field of lake management including NYS-FOLA Manager Nancy Mueller.

Bob’s interest in Skaneateles Lake began in 1971, shortly after he and his wife Jo moved to the area. He joined the Skaneateles Lake Association where his scientific knowledge proved to be an invaluable asset to the organization.

He is chair of the Town of Skaneateles Lake Monitoring Committee and has served as the Skaneateles Lake representative on the Finger Lakes Regional Watershed Alliance (see below) from its inception in 2010. He has also been



NYSFOLA Manager Nancy Mueller and former teacher Dr. Bob Werner taking time out for a picture at the NYSFOLA Annual Conference

committed to eradicating Eurasian watermilfoil from Skaneateles Lake and has served as a technical advisor on that effort.

Congratulations, Bob! This recognition well deserved and long overdue.

NYSFOLA Partners with Finger Lake Regional Watershed Alliance

In October, NYSFOLA President George C. Kelley and Manager Nancy Mueller traveled to Geneva, NY to attend a meeting of the Finger Lakes Regional Watershed Alliance (FLRWA). This regional group was recently organized in

an effort to “bring together the members, expertise and desires of the Finger Lakes watershed associations to preserve and protect the watersheds of the Finger Lakes region with a collective voice.” The member lake associations represented by FLRWA include: Canandaigua Lake Watershed Association, Cayuga Watershed Network, Conesus Lake Association, Honeoye Valley Association, Keuka Lake Association, Otisco Lake Preservation Association, Owasco Watershed Lake Association, Seneca Lake Pure Waters Association, and the Skaneateles Lake Association. All are members of NYSFOLA.

NYSFOLA was asked to become an official partner of the FLRWA in order to enhance communications between the organizations and to collaborate on mutual goals of lake protection and management. We look forward to working in partnership with this regional organization.





NYSFOLA to Host NALMS 2015

Annual Symposium in Adirondack Region

NYSFOLA President George Kelley, Manager Nancy Mueller, Board member Bill Harman and some of his staff and students headed to San Diego recently to attend the North American Lake Management Society International Symposium in San Diego. It was an enjoyable few days made even more so by the sunny San Diego weather.

George and Nancy got a new perspective on lake management issues on a field trip to the Hodges and Olivenhain Reservoirs where water quantity issues trump quality issues in arid Southern California.

While at the symposium, NYSFOLA reaffirmed its commitment to hosting the 2015 meeting which will be held in Lake George, Lake Placid or Saratoga pending NALMS' negotiations with local hotels and convention centers.

We look forward to showcasing lake management activities in the Empire State, and we will be looking for volunteers to assist us with this undertaking. Please contact Nancy Mueller at the office (800)796-3652 or foia@nysfola.org if you are interested.

NYSFOLA has been affiliated with NALMS since 1993, and we believe that hosting this conference will enhance



George Kelley enjoys the San Diego sunshine (top). Olivenhain Reservoir (below) was built to serve as an emergency water supply to the City of San Diego. The dam is 318 ft high & stores 24,000 acre-feet of water.



Hodges Reservoir provides water to San Diego area residents and also serves as a popular recreation spot. Boat inspections are mandatory!

SAVE THE DATE!

NYSFOLA Annual Conference

May 2-4, 2014

White Eagle Conference Center

Hamilton, NY

NYS Mandatory Boater Education Law For Young Boaters Takes Effect May 2014

Young powerboat operators will have to pass a safety course beginning on May 1, 2014, when amendments to Sections 49, 71-d, 75, 78 and 79 of the Navigation Law go into effect. Many boating groups and public officials praised the law which was passed in response to several high profile boating accidents around the state. Critics say it doesn't go far enough since it only applies to boaters 18 years of age or younger.

According to the NYS Department of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation website, any person born on or after May 1, 1996 and at least 10 years old who operates a motorboat must be the holder of a boating safety certificate issued by one of State Parks, the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary or the U.S. Power Squadron.

An approved course of instruction includes at least 8-hours of classroom training and a proctored examination. Students must be at least 10 years of age to take a course. Age and education requirements for personal watercraft operators remain unchanged.

Motor Boat Education Requirements:

- Any operator under 18 must be accompanied on the vessel by someone at least 18 who holds a certificate if required by age, or someone at least 18 who is not required to hold a certificate.
- An operator 18 or older who is required to hold a certificate but does not, accompanied by someone else over 18 who holds a safety certificate.
- The owner of a recently purchased motor boat, if legally required to hold a boating safety certificate, may operate such vessel without the required certificate for a period of time not to exceed 120 days from purchase.
- Persons 18 years of age or older may rent a vessel without holding a safety certificate, provided the operator of the livery holds a certificate, demonstrates the use of the vessel, and the person renting the vessel

demonstrates their understanding of the vessels operation in return.

- Those under the age of 18 must have a safety certificate in order to rent a vessel.

Motor Boat Operators Exempted From Having To Hold A Boating Safety Certificate:

Persons born before May 1, 1996

- Certified New York Safe Boating Instructors Members of the USCG Auxiliary or US Power Squadron
 - Persons licensed by NYS Parks, the United States Coast Guard or Canadian Coast Guard to operate commercial vessels
 - Police officers, peace officers, fire and rescue personnel, and life guards when acting pursuant to assigned duties
 - A resident of another state or country who is the holder of a valid boating safety certificate issued according to the laws of their home state or country



First-time violators will face fines ranging from \$100-\$250.

Personal Watercraft Rentals: The Navigation Law has been amended to extend the expiration date of Section 73-a, Subdivision 2, regarding the rental of personal watercraft. Persons over the age of 18 renting personal watercraft may continue to operate them without having to hold a boating safety certificate. This provision, originally set to expire on January 1, 2012, will now expire in 2014. York State Department of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation has lots of boating resources on their website. Check it out at: <http://www.nysparks.com/recreation/boating/resources.aspx>.

A list of Boater Safety Classes currently being offered can be found at: <http://www.nysparks.com/recreation/boating/safety-courses.aspx>. Think ahead to spring!

DEC Rids Adirondack Pond of Non-Native Fish to Restore Native Brook Trout Fishery

NYS DEC PRESS RELEASE -

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) recently completed a major effort to eradicate non-native fish from Lower Sargent Pond in Hamilton County, DEC Regional Director Robert Stegemann announced today. The pond will be stocked with fish next year to reestablish the high quality, naturally reproducing native brook trout fishery that had existed there before its population was depleted due to the presence of the non-native fish.

"Native brook trout populations have been significantly reduced in the Adirondacks and other areas throughout the east, but we are committed to restoring these populations in local waters," said Director Stegemann. "This tremendous coordinated effort will ensure the continued existence of a natural aquatic community and provide a high quality wilderness fishing experience for anglers."

Providing a high quality wilderness fishing experience on Lower Sargent Pond promotes Governor Cuomo's NY Open for Hunting and Fishing Initiative, which has improved recreational activities for in-state and out-of-state sportsmen and sportswomen, and boosted tourism opportunities throughout the state. This initiative includes the streamlining of hunting and fishing licensing along with reduced license fees, improved access for fishing at various sites across the state and increased regional hunting and recreational opportunities.

The eradication of non-native fish, followed by restocking with native brook trout is a key component of DEC's Brook Trout Restoration Program. DEC is a partner in the Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture (<http://easternbrooktrout.org/>), which is working to protect, restore and enhance brook trout populations and habitats across their native range.

For decades Lower Sargent Pond was considered a high quality fishery, which sustained natural reproducing brook trout population. It was one of the most popular fly-in fishing destinations in the Adirondacks, and many anglers would walk the two miles into the pond to fish for brook trout.

As the abundance of largemouth bass increased in the pond, the brook trout population severely declined. In 2012, no young brook trout were present; only large, older brook trout that had been hatched before the bass population had grown. The decline in the brook trout population was not due to overfishing. The primary causes were illegal fish stocking and use of bait fish.

The eradication of non-native fish from a water body is known as a "reclamation." The reclamation procedure is used to return the water to a historic natural aquatic community, provide higher quality fishing opportunities and, where possible, to reintroduce endangered fish species such as round whitefish.

The reclamation of the 131-acre Lower Sargent Pond is the largest reclamation in New York State in several decades. A considerable amount of resources and an extensive coordination were needed to complete the reclamation over a five-day period. The effort included the participation of dozens of DEC staff from various regions and programs, and assistance from the State Police Aviation Unit for helicopter transport of personnel, equipment and supplies. There were 37 trips by helicopter during the project, but many workers still had to walk two miles to and from the nearest road carrying equipment and supplies.

Non-native fish, such as bass, yellow perch and golden shiner, negatively impact the native fish communities and ecosystems of Adirondack waters. Non-native fish prey on the eggs and young of native fish. They out compete brook trout and other native fish by consuming large quantities of zooplankton (very small aquatic animals) and other prey food that the native fish feed upon.

It is illegal to move fish from one water body to another without a permit from DEC. The possession or use of fish as bait is prohibited in Lower Sargent Pond and many other trout ponds in the Adirondacks to prevent the introductions of non-native fishes.

Adirondack heritage strain Little Tupper brook trout will be stocked in the pond next year. It is projected that in the next three to five years, Lower Sargent Pond will once again be a high quality wilderness brook trout fishing destination.

Brook trout thrive on a diet of insects and other invertebrates, and grow to large size in ponds that do not have minnows as forage. The current state record brook trout is a 6 pound fish caught in an Adirondack wilderness pond that contains no other fish species. Minnows can become abundant in a pond or lake and compete with brook trout for food - decreasing the brook trout population.

More information on protection of native brook trout, impacts of non-native fish, rotenone and other topics can be found on the DEC Protecting Adirondack Fish [<http://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/31920.html>] web page. [<http://www.dec.ny.gov/press/77537.html>].

CSLAPpenings



The 2013 season is complete, and we are already making preparations for 2014. We want to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of our dedicated volunteers.

Equipment Storage: A full set of CSLAP equipment costs approximately \$1000. Please remember to treat it with care. All equipment should be cleaned before storage. Do not store the equipment where it will be subject to freezing temperatures or excessive moisture. Kemmerers should be stored (preferably hung) in the open position in order to keep the gaskets from premature wear.



2014 Applications: We will be sending out forms around the first of the year for the 2014 season. Lake associations scheduled to participate will be sent applications. We are working on the list at this time. Lakes that have been sampled for the last 5 years will be scheduled to rotate out for one year. They will return for the next five years. Although we are still working on the list, lakes currently **Scheduled to Rotate Out in 2014**

Craine Lake
Crooked Lake
Eatonbrook Reservoir
Lebanon Reservoir
Little York Lake
Roaring Brook Lake
Sacandaga Lake
Saratoga Lake (opting out)
Sleepy Hollow Lake

Rotational Adjustments: There are several new lakes that want to participate next year, and we are going to have to adjust the rotation schedule to accommodate them. Simply put, there are more lakes than the budget for analysis, shipping, and equipment can accommodate. To accommodate this problem, **we are going to cut down the number of Index Lakes** (lakes that do not rotate out) and place them into the rotational schedule. We are currently determining which ones should rotate based on a number of fac-

tors including size/depth, trophic state, geographical location, etc. Lake impacted by this rescheduling will be notified as soon as possible. Lakes rotate out in 2014 will return in 2015 for a 5 year period.

Scheduled to Rotate Back In: Lakes that were rotated out in 2013 and are set to return for the next five years are:

Beaver Dam Lake
Goodnow Flow
Hyde Lake
Little Wee Wah Lake
Peck Lake
Pleasant Lake (Oswego Co.)
Robinson Pond
Song Lake
Stissing Lake
Timber Lake (Westchester Co.)
Tuxedo Lake
Ulster Heights Lake
Wee Wah Lake

Please let us know immediately if you do not plan to return to the program.

New to the Program (or returning after several years): We also have a number of lake associations that have expressed an interest in participating. At this time, we have scheduled the following lakes to participate:

Blue Heron Lake
Boyd Pond
Panther Lake
Lake Pleasant (Hamilton County)
Lake Pleasure
Lake Salubria
Spring Lake
Twin Lake (Columbia County)

You can see by the number of lakes rotating out vs. the number entering the program, that we have a numbers imbalance and a need to increase the rotation OR increase the funding. This brings us to the following page...

We Encourage You to Express the Needs of CSLAP To Decision Makers in Albany and Washington

You can see by the lopsided rotational schedule that CSLAP is becoming more and more important to lake associations across the state. Having said that, it is also true that the budget has not increased in several years and, in fact, was hit by a significant (30%) cut this year due to the federal **sequestration**. This meant that we had to reduce the number of samples that were analyzed.

In addition, the federal funding for the **Harmful Algal Bloom monitoring** runs out after the 2014 season. There is no identified source of money to continue this very important program.

Staffing for CSLAP is limited to some of Scott's time and some of Nancy's time. We could use some help.

As such, we are encouraging our CSLAP participants to let their representatives know about these issues and how important the program is to their lake association. Since both state and federal money is potentially involved, please consider writing to government officials at both levels.

You can find address information on the NYSFOLA website www.nysfola.org. Go to the "About Us" tab at the top of the home page, and drop down to "Advocacy Program" where you will find "Government Contacts."

Some CSLAP facts to point out in your communications (phone or letter):

- The Citizens Statewide Lake Assessment Program (CSLAP) is a volunteer lake monitoring program run by the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) in collaboration with the New York State Federation of Lake Associations, Inc. It was initiated in 1985, and is mandated by Article 17-0305 of the NYS Environmental Conservation Law.
- Over 200 lakes have participated in the program since its inception. Lakes in nearly every county participate in the program.
- Over 100 lakes are currently participating in the program.

- **Funding is no longer adequately addressing the analytical, shipping, equipment, and training costs for all the lakes that want to participate.** Federal sequestration cut the CSLAP budget in 2013 resulting in a decrease in the number of samples that could be analyzed.
- Lake associations contribute to the cost by paying an annual fee of \$350 (shallow lake) or \$450 (deep lake) to participate. For small lake associations, this is often a significant part of their budget.
- Volunteers collect information on water quality, invasive species, harmful algal blooms, and recreational use. Data from CSLAP is vital to statewide programs such as invasive species control, development of numeric nutrient criteria, updates of Priority Water Body lists and the development of Total Maximum Discharge Loads (TMDLs).
- Harmful Algal Bloom monitoring, conducted as part of CSLAP, in collaboration with Upstate Freshwater Institute and the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry in Syracuse has been an important addition to the program. Federal funding was secured to run the program over the past few years, but no funding source has



Photo by Carl Grillo

Funding for the Harmful Algal Bloom monitoring program has not been identified beyond 2014. What does this mean for your lake?

been identified to keep the program running beyond 2014. DEC has initiated a Harmful Algal Bloom Notification system to alert citizens to the potential health hazards of blue-green algae blooms. Notification is dependent upon sampling data to support the listing of a lake.

- What does CSLAP mean to your lake association?
- What is the local impact of harmful algal blooms?
- Send photos!

Please copy NYSFOLA on any feedback you receive. We want to continue to make the program the best it can be and accommodate every lake association that wants to be in the program for as long as the volunteers are willing and able to collect the data. Thank you all for your dedication to CSLAP.

Available from NYSFOLA



Diet for a Small Lake: The Expanded Guide to New York State Lake & Watershed Management

A “must have” publication for anyone who cares about New York State lakes. This publication offers and introduction to lake ecology, descriptions of lake restoration and watershed management techniques and relevant New York State laws and regulations plus guidance for preparing a watershed management plan.

New Price! Get them while they last! \$15.00

Hardcover: \$25.00



Lakescaping for Wildlife and Water Quality

This book is a great resource for those who want to be lake friendly property owners. The book includes chapters about lake ecosystems, designing lakeshore landscaping and selecting the right plants. The book has a bit of an upper-midwestern slant, but it is very applicable to New York lakes.

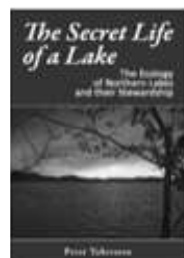
Spiral Bound Paperback: \$20.00



Life on the Edge: Owning Waterfront Property

Published by the Wisconsin Lakes Partnership, this lakefront friendly living guide is useful for New Yorkers, too. In it's 7th edition, *Life on the Edge... Owning Waterfront Property* is considered one of the nations best guides for potential and new water front property owners. This refreshingly practical and easily understood publication will pay back sizable dividends in matching expectations to the realities of water front living.

Paperback: \$10.00



The Secret Life of a Lake: The Ecology of Northern Lakes and their Stewardship

We are very pleased to offer this new publication written by NYSFOLA member and CSLAP volunteer Peter Tobiasen from the Lake Pleasant-Sacandaga Association. Peter has taught aquatic biology for many years at

Union College. By letting readers in on a lake's “secret life,” the author hopes to give them a deeper understanding of these complex and dynamic ecosystems, and perhaps even motivate some to become more active in a lake's preservation. Paperback: \$18.00



Through the Looking Glass: A Field Guide to Aquatic Plants

A Wisconsin Lake Partnership publication containing wonderful line drawings and descriptions of the most common freshwater plants. Paperback: \$25.00



Shipping and Handling: Books will ship via U.S. Postal Service Media Rate.

1 copy \$5.50
2 copies \$6.50
3 copies \$7.50
4 copies \$8.50



Please make check payable to NYSFOLA and mail to:

New York State Federation of Lake Associations, Inc.
P.O. Box 84
LaFayette, NY 13084

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DIET FOR A SMALL LAKE (pap)	\$15.00		
DIET FOR A SMALL LAKE - (hdc)	\$25.00		
LAKESCAPING ...	\$20.00		
LIFE ON THE EDGE	\$10.00		
THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS	\$25.00		
THE SECRET LIFE OF A LAKE	\$18.00		
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TOTAL			

2014 Membership Form
New York State 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

Individual Memberships:

Individual Membership (not a member of a NYSFOLA member lake association)	\$ 20.00
Individual member of a NYSFOLA member lake association in good standing	\$ 10.00

Corporate Membership:

\$200.00

Student Membership:

\$10.00

Membership is based on the calendar year. The digit next to your name on your "Waterworks" mailing label indicates the last year your dues were paid. If the digit is an "14," you are a member in good standing. If not, you may remit your 2014 dues at your earliest convenience. Please call the NYSFOLA office if you have any questions about your membership. Thank you.

Name of Lake Association or Individual _____

Location (County) _____ **Sponsor (if any)** _____

Contact Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Telephone _____

E-Mail _____

Web site _____

Amount Remitted _____ Check # _____ Date _____

Any Additional Donation? _____

NYSFOLA is a 501(c) 3 Not-for-profit organization. You will receive a gift receipt, and your donation may be tax deductible to the extent permitted by law.



Send Payment to:

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Upper Saranac Lake—Photo by Guy Middleton