



Great Lakes Splash!

*The Latest News & Events from New York Sea Grant's Great Lakes Extension
February 2009*

New York Sea Grant Partners on New "Boating Info Center"

February 11-15, 2009, visit the new "Boating Information Center" at the 2009 Central New York Boat Show at the main entrance of the Toyota Building at the New York State Fairgrounds. New York Sea Grant, the US Coast Guard Auxiliary, Syracuse Sail & Power Squadron, Onondaga County Sheriff's Office, New York State Canal Corporation, Environmental Facilities Corporation, the Office of Homeland Security and U.S. Customs & Border Patrol have partnered to provide up-to-date information and resources for complying with state and federal boating safety regulations and laws, finding pump-out stations, protecting the marine environment, and discovering New York's boating destinations. The Boating Information Center will also include the Discover Clean and Safe Boating vessel decked out from bow to stern with all the gear needed to properly and legally equip a pleasure boat to be on the water in 2009. Another new exhibit at the show will feature aquatic invasive species info made available by the Finger Lakes Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management (PRISM).

More info: <http://www.cnyboatshow.com>

Young Boater Certification Offered Feb. 12-15

Youth from 10 to 17 years old who want to legally operate a boat in New York State waters in 2009 may complete a Young Boater's Safety Certification Course being offered at the Central New York Boat Show at the New York State Fairgrounds February 11-15, 2009. One of the two certification courses offered by New York Sea Grant, the US Coast Guard Auxiliary, and the Syracuse Sail & Power Squadron at the 2009 Central New York Boat Show will begin Thursday, February 12, 6-8:30pm, and end on Saturday, February 14, 10am- 3:30pm. The other course will begin Friday, February 13, 6-9pm and end Sunday, February 15, 10am-3pm. Pre-registration is required. Course is free.

More info and registration: 315-312-3042; <http://www.cnyboatshow.com>

Great Lakes ALIVE! On-line Workshop February 16-27

As part of the Centers for Ocean Sciences Education Excellence Great Lakes (COSEE GL) Program, New York Sea Grant is pleased to invite teachers, managers and stakeholders interested in learning more about the Great Lakes to join in a free on-line workshop February 16-27, 2009. Five key science presentations on Great Lakes biology and ecology will be offered during the workshop, including a talk on fish and the fishery by Dr. Randy Snyder of Buffalo State College.

More info and registration: 716-645-3610, <http://www.coexploration.org/coseegreatlakes>

Hear Deep Wreck Explorer Jim Kennard March 7 at Great Lakes Underwater 2009

Well-known and respected deep wreck explorer Jim Kennard will keynote the Great Lakes Underwater 2009 program at SUNY Oswego on March 7th. His "Deep Shipwrecks of Lake Ontario" presentation will feature a rare, 200-year-old dagger-board schooner discovered by Kennard and diving partner Dan Scoville using high resolution, side-scan sonar in very deep water near Oak Orchard, NY. The presentation will also feature two other wrecks found in depths between 400 and 700 feet. Kennard will also give a brief update on the deep-water discovery of the *HMS Ontario*, a British sloop-of-war that sank on October 31, 1780, during the Revolutionary War.

More info and registration: \$25 (\$20/student): 315-312-3042, <http://www.oswegomaritime.org/glu.html>

Annual State of Lake Erie Meeting – April 2009

Each April, New York Sea Grant works with NYS Assemblyman Jack Quinn, in cooperation with Southtowns Walleye Association of WNY, to hold a State of Lake Erie Meeting. New York State Department of Environmental Conservation biologists and researchers will make presentations on Lake Erie and its fishery during the 7:00-9:00 pm program. A date is yet to be determined.

More info: Helen Domske, <mailto:hmd4@cornell.edu>

Lake Ontario Food Web Workshop – April 2009

In April (date TBA) 2009, New York Sea Grant, Cornell University and the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources is holding a Lake Ontario food web workshop in Mississauga, Ontario. This workshop will focus on the basic structure and mechanics of the Lake Ontario lower food web, featuring presentations from top scientists. The lower food web links (phytoplankton-zooplankton) are critical to understanding how the lake ecosystem functions. As such, these links are key indicators of the stability of the ecosystem and are useful for the public's better understanding of how stocking and nutrient control affect the lake ecosystem.

More info: <http://www.seagrant.sunysb.edu/glsportfish/pdfs/LOnt-EcoIndicators-Fall08.pdf>
For workshop date and details: 315-312-3042

Great Lakes Teachers' Workshop April 29

The April 29, 2009, 4-6pm Great Lakes Teachers' Workshop for teachers and non-formal educators at Tift Nature Preserve, Buffalo, will focus on the Great Lakes and classroom activities that can be used to infuse Great Lakes topics into your curriculum. This workshop is a Centers for Ocean Sciences Education Excellence Great Lakes (COSEE GL)-supported program and teachers will receive a CD-Rom of 42 activities and a \$25 stipend to purchase classroom materials.

More info and registration: <mailto:SGBuffal@cornell.edu>, 716-645-3610

Lake Erie Exploration Workshop July 18-24

COSEE GL will host 15 selected educators to learn from lake scientists at their research sites in Erie, PA and the F.T. Stone Laboratory on Lake Erie at Put-in-Bay, OH. New York Sea Grant educator Helen Domske will be one of the instructors for this week-long, experiential workshop.

More info and application form: <http://coseegreatlakes.net/events/leew>

Interpretive Signage Program Underway

Planning and development are underway for the new comprehensive interpretive signage system that will place two gateway kiosks and eight stand-alone interpretive panels along the Eastern Lake Ontario Dunes & Wetlands Area (ELODWA) and at agricultural riparian buffer sites in the upper portion of the Sandy Creeks' watershed. New York Sea Grant is partnering with the Tug Hill Commission and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation to enhance public education through the new signage program as one of the demonstration projects of the Sandy Creeks' Ecosystem-based Management Initiative. Themes and conceptual designs are now being developed for the ELODWA panels; background information is being gathered for the buffer site panels.

More info: 315-312-3042, <mailto:mp357@cornell.edu>

More info on Sandy Creeks' EBM Initiative: <http://www.ecologicllc.com/scebm.html>

Watch for Info on 2009 Dunes and River Steward Program

In anticipation of funding approval for the 2009 Eastern Lake Ontario Dune Steward and Salmon River Steward programs, New York Sea Grant, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, New York State Parks, and The Nature Conservancy are planning a busy summer and fall season for the college and graduate students who work as stewards along the lakeshore and riverfront. The stewards provide public outreach education walks and programs, promote environmentally-sound recreational use of natural resources, and assist with monitoring surveys, field projects, and maintenance of natural habitat and public access areas in Oswego and Jefferson counties. Check weekly for the 2009 job descriptions at nysdunes.org.

More info: <http://www.nysgdunes.org>, <mailto:mp357@cornell.edu>

Go to nyis.info for Help with Invasive Species

A well-informed and educated public is the first line of defense against new invasions and in the management of existing invaders. New York Sea Grant, the New York Invasive Species Clearinghouse and Cornell Cooperative Extension (with funding from New York State) are providing science-based information via the website at <http://nyis.info> to help New Yorkers win the fight against invasive species of plants, animals, and insects, and pathogens. The site includes policy items and contacts for the regional Partnerships for Invasive Species Management (PRISMs). Check often for breaking news about invasive species news and new and innovative tools to prevent, detect, control and eradicate biological invaders in New York.

More info: <http://nyis.info>

Mark Your 2009 Calendar with These Important Dates

See items above for the following events:

February 11-15 – Central New York Boat Show, Syracuse, NY

February 12-15 – Young Boater Certification Courses at Central New York Boat Show, Syracuse, NY

February 16-27 – Great Lakes ALIVE! On-line Workshop

March 7 – 2009 Great Lakes Underwater, Oswego, NY

April TBA - Annual State of Lake Erie Meeting

April TBA – Lake Ontario Food Web Workshop, Mississauga, ONT

April 29, 2009 – Great Lakes Teachers' Workshop, Buffalo, NY

July 18-24, 2009 – Lake Erie Exploration Workshop, Erie, PA, Put-in-Bay, OH

New York Sea Grant Great Lakes Extension

Find us on the web at <http://www.nysgextension.org/>

and

at SUNY-Oswego

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