



2012 LAKE ONTARIO WATERSHED BASIN FORUM

Community Visioning Workshop Series Summary

September 24-29, 2012

Revised February 20, 2013



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Lake Ontario Watershed Basin Forum Community Visioning Workshop Summaries

INTRODUCTION

The Finger Lakes – Lake Ontario Watershed Protection Alliance (FOLLOWPA) and New York Sea Grant (NYSG) partnered to plan and execute a series of 6 workshops, primarily in Lake Ontario shoreline communities, to gather the opinions and input of stakeholders in regards to the health of the lake and its watershed, priority projects for implementation and additional needs/concerns in these communities. FOLLOWPA's extensive email distribution network was utilized to advertise the six meetings, in addition to a series of press releases issued to local newspapers and media outlets by NYSG's Publications Department. Nearly 100 people attended the workshop series. A majority of the participants were land owners, local residents and/or local elected officials. Representatives from County governments and several non-profit organizations were also in attendance. Funding for these workshops was obtained by the Niagara County Soil and Water Conservation District from the United States Environmental Protection Agency's Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Program.

Each workshop was conducted in the same manner, using the same format and agenda. FOLLOWPA started off the meeting by introducing key personnel and making general announcements. At the Lyndonville and Webster meetings, a brief presentation on the status of the Area of Concern (Eighteen Mile Creek and Rochester Embayment, respectively) was given as well. Then, the audience was asked to complete a community visioning exercise. A representative from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) followed up with a presentation about the Lake Ontario Action and Management Plan (LAMP) and then the audience participated in a priority scoring exercise related to the LAMP priorities. Finally, FOLLOWPA and NYSG staff summarized the audience's responses to the two exercises and then the audience was asked to contribute any additional comments or concerns that they had.

The meetings were held at the following locations on the date and time specified:

1. September 24, 2012: Lyndonville Fire Department, Lyndonville, NY at 5:00 pm
2. September 25, 2012: Town of York Municipal Office, York, NY at 6:00 pm
3. September 26, 2012: Town of Webster, Liberty Lodge, Webster, NY at 5:00 pm
4. September 27, 2012: Henderson Fire Department, Henderson, NY at 5:00 pm
5. September 29, 2012: Wallington Fire Department, Sodus, NY at 10:00 am
6. September 29, 2012: SUNY Oswego, Campus Center, Oswego, NY at 2:00 pm

The issue of lake level management in the Lake Ontario-St. Lawrence River System continues to be a priority for a number of stakeholders. Because this issue continues to be highly polarizing paired with the public input opportunities built into the International Joint Commission's discussion on lake level management, lake level management was not a focus of this workshop series. That being said, FOLLOWPA and NYSG acknowledge that lake level management of the Lake Ontario-St. Lawrence System is and continues to be a priority issue for stakeholders.

MEETING RESULTS

The following key has been created to categorize the responses generated during the 2012 Lake Ontario Visioning Workshops' Community Visioning and LaMP Priorities Scoring Exercises.

1. Text Color was used to identify the comments received at each meeting:
 - a. **Red text:** Lyndonville, NY (Orleans County)
 - b. **Orange text:** York, NY (Livingston County)
 - c. **Black text:** Webster, NY (Monroe County)
 - d. **Green text:** Henderson, NY (Jefferson County)
 - e. **Blue text:** Sodus, NY (Wayne County)
 - f. **Purple text:** Oswego, NY (Oswego County)
2. Group representation was used to identify the various user groups in attendance
 - a. (LR): land owner/local resident
 - b. (LM): local municipality
 - c. (LG): local government agency
 - d. (SG): state government agency
 - e. (FG): federal government agency
 - f. (NGO): non-profit organization (includes Oak Orchard Watershed Protection Alliance, non-profit volunteer, Save Our Sodus, Sodus Bay Improvement Association, Onondaga Audubon Society)
 - g. (O): Other (includes consultant, student)
 - h. (DIS): Items that came out during the LaMP Priority Scoring Exercise that was not exclusive to a single group affiliation

Community Visioning Exercise

1. Which phrase best describes your affiliation or the group you are representing at this workshop?

	Lyndonville	York	Webster	Henderson	Wallington	Oswego	Total*
Land owner/local resident (LR)	14	2	10	8	8	2	44
Local municipality (LM)	2		2		2	1	7
Local government agency (LG)	5	1	3	2	3	1	15
State government agency (SG)				1	1		2
Federal government agency (FG)							0
Non-profit organization (NGO)**		1	8	1	2	1	13
Other (O)***			1			2	3
Total	21	4	24	12	16	7	84

* Please note that some people at the workshops chose not to participate in this exercise

2. What are your priorities for protecting/conserving Lake Ontario and its watershed?

A. Habitat Restoration and Land Conservation

- Protecting what is already there and has been historically from tax pressures, zoning pressures to create a cash cow for struggling municipalities. I'm speaking of ecology, culture, history, ability to farm. (LR)
- I do not want to see us lose species like the blue pike that disappeared (LR, LM)
- Conservation of land within the watershed and surrounding the lake (LG)
- Native plants, amphibian, animals and fish (LR)

- Dune preservation (LR)
- Maintain and increase biodiversity, aquatic habitats and their surrounding terrestrial areas (NGO)
- Better protection and consideration of Lake Ontario shoreline/nearshore areas for wildlife. This will require reduction in human use dominance of all resources (NGO)
- Keep a buffer of development on the lakeshore (LR, LG)
- The Village of Webster owns a large property (well fields) along Irondequoit Bay. The Village is interested in making sure the land remains open and productive for the pumping of water (it is in a high erosion area) (LM)
- Land protection in the coastal zone to preserve key natural processes (NGO)
- Wetland protection (NGO)
- Restoration of wetlands, reduce phosphorus and silt loading, nutrient loading (NGO)
- Preserve whatever wetland is left. Meadow marsh is essential to the health and viability of a watershed (LR)
- Birds, muskrats, sedge grass meadows, aquatic plants, invertebrates, reptiles, amphibians, the shores and wetlands (NGO)
- Healthy salmon fishery (LR)
- The protection of the natural barriers (Sodus Bay bar, AKA Crescent Beach) that form and protect the natural habitats that the tributaries and embayments offer (LR)
- Keep some land vacant – curb development (NGO)

B. Invasive and Nuisance Species Management

- Invasive species (LR)
- Control invasive species (O)
- Limit adverse impacts of invasive species (NGO)
- Invasive species – NYS and Comprehensive federal (NGO)
- Invasive species transfer from lake to lake (LR)
- Invasive species (LG)
- Controlling harmful invasive species in the lake (LR)
- Eliminate/avoid invasive species: plants, waterfowl, aquatic animals (LR)
- Invasive species control (LR)
- Invasives, fish, etc – prevention and control (LR)
- Invasive species removal (LG)
- Control/management of aquatic invasive species (O)

C. Lake Level and Shoreline Management

- Suitable lake level decisions need to be made (LG)
- Keep water levels low to conserve the shoreline – no fluctuation (LR)
- Lower water levels in the lake (LR)
- Maintain a smaller lake level window (LR)
- The lake level is kept artificially high and it is difficult to get permission to reinforce the shoreline of private property (LR)
- Reimbursement if land is intentionally destroyed by IJC practices (LR)
- Better management on water levels (LR, NGO)

- Water level management (LR, NGO)
- Continuing the present lake levels (LR)
- Maintain present Lake Ontario orders of control concerning water levels (LR)
- Water levels (LR)
- Water level regulations (LR)
- No high water (LR)
- Continue or support landowners of shoreline to prevent erosion. More effort needs to be placed upon funds to prevent erosion versus funds to repair damaged shorelines. (LR)
- Protecting coastal properties from erosion (LM)
- Protecting lakefront wall erosion (LR)
- Erosion of the lake front is a problem (LR)
- Erosion control (LG)
- Erosion (LR)
- Erosion and shoreline protection (LR)
- Protect the shoreline – stabilization is a necessity (LG)
- Shoreline and property protection (LR, LM)
- Defeat plan BV7 (LM)
- Stop BV7 from washing more soil into this lake (LR, LM)
- Minimize property damage and economic impact of water level (don't greatly change high/low limits) (LR)

D. Outreach, Education and Involvement

- Expand awareness of watersheds and structure and function of aquatic ecosystems – wetlands and stream integrity (NGO)
- Identifying elements in Oatka Creek that require remediation and lending my support, however negligible (LM)
- Educating public on human/land use impacts on water quality (LR)
- Education – helping to keep folks aware of their impact on the lake (LR)

E. Planning – Community and Watershed

- A statewide water management program, based on best available science that protects aquatic life (NGO) Comprehensive water management/conservation plan (NGO)
- Green infrastructure promotion (NGO)
- Farmland preservation (LG)
- Open space/natural resource conservation (LG)
- Watershed planning based on scientific data (LG)
- Lake shore and streamside and bayside land use planning (LG)
- General land use planning (LG)

F. Pollution – Point or Nonpoint Source

- Clean up sources of pollutants (LR)
- Non point source pollution (NGO)
- Fertilizer and non point pollution runoff control (LR)

- Non-pollution efforts and clean up (LR)
- Controlling pollution from watercraft (LR)
- Pollution generated from Stony Creek and watershed (LR)
- Pollutants – prevention and control (LR)
- The majority of Lake Ontario has been restored with the elimination of point sources of pollution. It is the nearshore areas that need our attention (LR)
- Address water pollution in Onondaga Lake and all communities in the Oswego River watershed (LR, LM, LG)
- I am concerned with the farmers in the area of Lake Ontario with the fertilizers running off the fields and polluting the lake, streaks and creeks (LR)
- Stiffer penalties for area farmers for over use of pesticides/poor waste management (LR)
- Agricultural waste runoff through streams ending up in the lake (LR)
- Not relaxing CAFO regulations (NGO)
- Non point source pollution control from stormwater runoff from agriculture and construction/development (such as phosphorus and sediment reduction) (LG)
- Ag non-point source control (LG)
- Look into sources of agricultural pollution in the US and Canada (NGO)
- Monitor any emissions from local waste treatment facilities (LR)
- Stuff being put in the water like trash run off dumping (LR)
- Keep it clean from trash dumping (LR)
- To make sure that the lake is regularly cleaned of trash and other waste that migrate to the shore from the SUNY Oswego campus (O)
- Nutrient loading reduction (NGO)
- Nutrient loading – environmental impact (LG)
- Pharmaceuticals ending up in lake water (LR)
- DEC's capability to enforce existing regulations (NGO)

G. Recreation and Tourism

- Recreation (LR, LM)
- Safe recreational opportunities on the lake (LR)
- Water quality for recreation and swimming (O)
- Protecting recreational boating (LM)
- To protect the fishing and boating (LM)
- Maintain/restore fish populations (O)
- Continue to restock the lake for fishing opportunities (LR)
- Continued national attraction to our streams for anglers while increasing the quality of fish to ingest and making that public information (LR)
- Keeping and building the fishing industry in the lake and tributaries (LG)
- Protection of water resources for recreation (LG)
- To make the lakeshore safe and enjoyable for swimming (LR, LG)
- Maximize recreation opportunity on water for sailing, boating, fishing (LR)
- Preserve canoeing quality in marsh at south end of Irondequoit Bay and marshes by Braddocks Bay and Long Pond (LR)

- Recreation (LG)
- Recreational activities (LR)
- Recreational opportunities (NGO)
- Improve water quality and fishing (LR, LM, LG)
- Preservation and responsible tourism (LR, LM, LG)
- To protect tourism and income for our communities (LM)
- Protect waterfront access for the public (LR, LM, LG)

H. Water Quality and Connectedness

- Maximize quality and quantity of water within the watershed (NGO)
- Protection of clean, drinking water source (LG)
- Improve water quality (NGO)
- Keeping it clean (LR)
- Water quality (LR)
- Potable water we're blessed in this area to have a relative abundance of clean water – let's keep that way (LR)
- Water quality (LR)
- Clean water (NGO)
- To clean up and keep clean our Bays and Lake (LM)
- Protect and conserve water quality (LG)
- Ground water contamination (LR)
- Lake Ontario provides drinking water for Lyndonville's water plant to Village residents and the Town of Yates (LM)
- Irondequoit Bay (overall shoreline of Webster) cleanliness to support fishing, boating, swimming (LR, LM)
- Village of Webster receives public water from aquifer within watershed – it is very important that water quality in the aquifer be excellent (LM)
- The natural resources and communities that depend on them, but more focused inland and upland in the watershed. The Black River is a most important recreation resource and drinking water supply. Same goes for the Salmon River and the Salmon River Reservoir (SG)
- Making Lake Ontario as healthy, clean and useable as possible for commerce and recreation (LM)
- Farmer's access to irrigation water (LG)
- Using this water for irrigation that effects the crops being produced (LG)
- Improve water quality overall drinking, etc. (O)
- Control water withdrawals in the future (LG)
- Improve water quality to improve fish quality for sport fishing (LG)
- Protecting/conserving fish populations through water quality (LG)
- Clean up water quality, while protecting erosion of waterfront (LR)
- Establish a phosphorus water quality standard for streams and rivers (NGO)
- Sewage treatment for properties on the lake or in its watershed (LR)
- Sewage treatment in waterfront communities (LR)
- Septic systems around Bay – holding tanks disallow (LR)
- Relationship of upper watersheds to Lake Ontario (LR)

- Aquatic plant management – blue green algae control (LR)
- Reduce/remove blue green algae (NGO)
- Reduce/remove algae at Ontario beaches (NGO)

I. Other

Alternative Energy

- No offshore wind turbines (LR)
- Keep the viewshed and open water – no offshore turbines, no close shore turbines (LR)
- Not placing industrial wind turbines near important bird areas or migratory pathways (more data is needed) (NGO)
- Wind mills to replace nukes (LR)
- Close nukes dispose of onsite waste in a safe way (LR)
- Replace mercury toxic fluorescent energy efficient bulbs with LEDs – less toxic, more efficient (LR)

Development

- Development (LR, LM)
- Facilitate economic development and growth while simultaneously reducing pollutant loads in watershed streams (O)
- Economic development (LG)
- Protecting yet possibly developing some of the streams that empty into Lake Ontario (LR)

Erosion

- Beach erosion (LR)
- Control erosion (LR)
- Erosion control (LR)
- Soil and erosion (SG)
- Stop erosion (LR)
- Stop erosion (LR, LM, LG)

Hydrofracking

- Hydrofracking supply/waste management/health and safety plan (NGO)
- Clean water – no fracking waste water (LR)
- Stop fracking and waste from it that will ultimately enter our watershed (LR)
- No Hydrofracking and water withdrawal from the watershed (NGO)

Miscellaneous

- I am concerned with the proposed plan to “move” the K-65 from LOOW and the risk of high contamination to Ontario via the 4 Mile and 6 Mile creeks (LG)
- Waterfront aesthetics and cleanliness of beaches and waterfront (preservation of); let us not jump into a super alternative energy source i.e. wind and contaminate the lake, destroy aesthetics changing natural beauty and possibly damaging fish and wildlife (LR)
- Aesthetics (NGO)
- Quality of life (LG)
- To protect landowners rights and property (LM)
- Fish and other wildlife (NGO)
- DEC permitting (LR)
- Dams and stream flow (removal of) (LR)

- Combined sewer overflow (LR)
- Designate the Oswego River watershed as an officially recognized watershed (LR, LM, LG)

3. What are your priorities for restoring Lake Ontario and its watershed?

A. Habitat Restoration and Land Conservation

- Restore AOCs first (LG)
- First Priority: Eighteen mile creek cleanup; Second Priority: Niagara River cleanup (LG)
- AOC/RAP delisting/toxic sediments (NGO)
- Northrup Creek Watershed (LR, NGO)
- Bring back sandy beaches (LR)
- Ash trees (LR)
- Native fish – blue pike, lake sturgeon (LR)
- Restoring key species in the native food web such as lake herring and whitefish (NGO)
- Birds, muskrats, sedge grass meadows, aquatic plants, invertebrates, reptiles, amphibians, the shores and wetlands (NGO)
- Wildlife – fish, birds, etc (LR)
- Set aside of more wildlife habitat and better management of these resources (NGO)
- Restoration of natural communities native wildlife use (NGO)
- Fish and other wildlife (NGO)
- Removal of fish barriers (LR)
- Restore the wetlands to help restore native fish and other animals (NGO)
- Wetland restoration (NGO)
- Preserve the existing wetlands in place through restorative measures. We need their innate restorative attributes (LR)
- Getting rid of cormorants (LR)
- Weed control in the bays and inlets (LR)
- Supporting initiatives town government and our citizens can support to assist restoration: definition of opportunities, investment opportunities, communication of priorities and goals in and for our town (LR, LM)
- Reducing sediment, erosion control, pollution from the Black River and Salmon Rivers, Sandy Creeks, etc. All the streams and rivers flowing into the lake would benefit from habitat restoration. These upland communities depend on these resources and the health of the lake is dependent on them (SG)
- Nature conservancy/community partnership/state partnership to buy dunes, wetlands etc to preserve them (LR)
- Prevent over development with concrete and bricks paving for McMansions (LR)

B. Invasive and Nuisance Species Management

- Clean up zebra mussels and other foreign plants and fish that are not native to the Great Lakes (LR)
- Address invasive species (LG)
- Invasive species management? Eradication? Restoration of areas affected by terrestrial and aquatic species (LG)
- I don't have a very wide knowledge of the lakeshore or the tributaries/watershed. I do know that invasive species both botanical and animal have damaged, even closed, former area so the watershed, for

instance Ox Creek off of the Oswego River is nearly rendered useless due to (I think it is purple loosestrife) (LR)

- Work on ways to control invasive species and to stop the introduction of new ones (NGO)
- Combat invasive species (LM)
- Invasive species removal (LG)
- Gain more efficient access for invasive species removal (LG)
- Control of international shipping as related to invasives (LR)
- Invasive weeds/fish (Asian carp, etc) prevention and control (LR)

C. Lake Level and Shoreline Management

- Relax requirements/permits to reinforce shoreline by allowing individual owners to do their own restoration. There simply is too much control over what landowners wish to do to improve their properties. They are the main individuals who pay major land taxes. (LR)
- Make easier for lakefront property owners to protect their shoreline: tax incentives, fast track permit process (LR)
- Preserve the shoreline (LR)
- Let the lake level itself naturally (LR)
- Change IJC lake level plan to 3 feet ~ 244 to 247 (LR, LM)
- A new regulation plan that restores some natural fluctuations in levels (NGO)
- A comprehensive approach to shoreline management – soft approaches at community level to shoreline hardening (NGO)
- Approve BV7. It will help return the watershed to a more natural flow and support the regeneration of our wetlands (LR)
- Lake levels – natural habitat protection (LR)
- To keep the levels of the lake consistent (LG)
- Maintain current lake levels 1958D (LR)
- Maintaining current lake levels according to 1958D (LM)
- Adequate water levels with IJC (O)
- Implementing Plan BV7 in order to restore muskrat populations and provide proper habitat for shorebird nesting (Black Terns) and Northern Pike (NGO)

D. Outreach, Education and Involvement

- Education. Understanding what is going on that is good; what is going on that's not so good or bad for lake and environment. (LR)
- More public education/awareness (LR)
- Educational seminars for the youth of both counties making the youth aware of concerns (area high schools). Do biology classes/environmental education have current data on the health of Lake Ontario? (LR)
- Contributing whatever I can toward an ongoing effort to clean up the creek. It can never be restored to its original pristine state, but we can try to get as close as possible (LM)
- Working with landowners/homeowners/developers to provide technical assistance to install/recommend best management practices to reduce pollutant runoff and erosion (LG)
- Educate landowners/homeowners and developers on causes of degradation (LG)
- Public needs to get on board to pressure officials to act (NGO)

- Increase awareness of various impacts on water quality and implementing sustainable land and water use practices (LR)
- Restore the Finger Lakes – Onondaga Lake and provide public education on watershed issues (LR, LM, LG)
- Provide hydrology education for public in the watershed communities (LR, LM, LG)

E. Planning – Community and Watershed

- Support monitoring and update inventories of natural resources, biodiversity and values of stream and wetlands within the watershed (NGO)
- Evaluate effects of water withdrawals on waterbodies (NGO)
- Shoreline management plan (LG)
- Watershed sampling and creating strategic plan (CEI report for Salmon Creek/Pultneyville Harbor) (LG)
- Implementation grants (LG)
- Establish/define water quality and water quality standards (LG)
- Balanced management approach including economic impacts (LR)
- Keeping within recognized environmentally healthy guidelines (LR)
- Keeping the entire ecosystem, including humans, in mind (LR)

F. Pollution – Point or Nonpoint Source

- Find and remediate point and non-point source pollution (increase water testing) (O)
- Reduce non-point agricultural contributions to pollutant loads (O)
- Watershed based approaches to reduce pollution in coastal zone (NGO)
- Require all point and non point sources that discharge in phosphorus-impaired streams be required to regularly monitor for phosphorus (NGO)
- Establish phosphorus load allocations for impaired watersheds to drive exporting enough phosphorus out of those watersheds to meet water quality standards (NGO)
- TMDL's for phosphorus-impaired streams (NGO)
- Reduce heavy metals contaminants so fish can be eaten safely (LR)
- Nutrient loading reduction – DEC finalize standards (NGO)
- Control and abatement of point source and non-point source pollution (LG)
- Prevent the dumping of waste materials detrimental to the clean water (LR)
- Reducing external nutrient loading (NGO)
- Old industrial pollution (LR)
- Combat nutrient loading and weed growth (LM)
- Slow the addition of pollutants (all types) to the Lake Ontario “system” (LR)
- Lower nutrient loading (LG)
- Reduce toxins (LR)
- The Lyndonville dam traps sediment from Johnson Creek which collects sediment from tributary one and contaminants from FMC Middleport. The Village has no reserve to clean up the pond nor make repairs to the dam. I do not believe that the primary contaminant – arsenic- has migrated beyond the dam. A remediated pond would allow for recreational opportunities/activities. (LM)
- Genesee River has to be improved to reduce pollutants impact to the environment (NGO)
- Reduce contaminant impact by better control of what is put in our landfills (LG)

- Stopping current pollution from entering the lake from factories and factory farms (LR, LM)
- Farm runoff is very heavy and uncontrolled (LR, LM)
- Implementation of Best Management Practices, agriculture, industrial and citizen (LG)
- Provide DEC with sufficient staff to ensure permit requirements are being met (i.e. municipal, industrial and CAFO facilities) (NGO)
- BMPs – agriculture, fruit farms – homeowners to decrease phosphorus loading (LR)

G. Recreation and Tourism

- Restore the fishing (LG)
- Clean up of nearshore waterbody to enable swimming and leisurely activities (LR)
- Rochester beaches (LR)

H. Water Quality and Connectedness

- Clean water (NGO)
- Clean water (LR)
- Cleaner water (LG)
- Restore good water quality to the lake (LR)
- Better control of septic systems that overflow into our tributaries (LG)
- Improving the water quality to maintain and improve the fishery (LG)
- Restore water quality to more safe levels for fish and other things interacting in the water (LG)
- Eliminate beach closings (LR)
- Reduce nasty smells at Genesee outlet (LR)
- The aquifer is in very good shape with high quality water. The Village (of Webster) is interested in assisting with whatever measures we can in limiting damage to the high erosion sire of our well fields and securing funding if necessary (LM)
- Clean water (NGO)
- Improve water quality (NGO)

I. Other

Algae/Odors

- Reduce algae problems at Sodus Bay (LR)
- Solve the problem of algae growth and accumulation (LR, LG)
- Fish (dead) creating foul smell (LR)
- To get rid of blue green algae (LM)

Alternative Energy

- No wind turbines on the lakes (SG)
- Distribute the message that wind turbines are a threat to the Great Lakes (LR)
- We are activists highly opposing offshore and terrestrial wind factories (LR)
- Phase down fossil fuels and nukes – replace with renewable, clean energy (LR)

Dredging

- Dredging of harbors (LG)
- Clean it up – dredging the outlet so water can come and go in the bay and it is not blocked (LR)
- Dredging Sandy Pond Channel for businesses, safety for boaters (LG)

- Permanent channels (LM)

Funding

- Provide communities with financial and technical support to upgrade wastewater treatment facilities to reduce nutrients and sewage overflows to waterbodies in watershed (NGO)
- Participation in grant funded programs, programs with leadership – due to limited funds and manpower (LG)

Infrastructure

- Develop plans for sewage overflows (O)
- Freshwater/wastewater infrastructure (NGO)
- Sewage treatment (LR)
- Public sewers in watershed and bay (LM)
- Less combined sewer overflow (LR)

Miscellaneous

- More funding for digesters on factory farms (LR, LM)
- I would like to see flow restored to the west branch of 12 Mile Creek which was cut off by the power project and the reservoir which was built for it (LR, LM)
- I am not originally from this area and had no idea that Eighteenmile Creek was so bad and don't even know where it is in this area (LR)
- Control cormorants (LR)
- Erosion (LR)
- Growing so heavy there's no more basin/estuary. I think it is a shame. Could it be cleaned up or is it too late/too low a priority (LR)
- Not too sure of current status of the lake being a out-of-town student, but would love to learn more (O)

4. What are some of the challenges facing your community based on its location in the watershed?

A. Habitat Restoration and Land Conservation

- The sand is gone and nature does not seem to be bringing it back (LR)
- Controlling cormorant populations (LR)
- Saving ash trees (LR)
- Making the use of effective, riparian vegetable buffers acceptable to use by farmers and municipalities (NGO)
- Stop degrading water quality and habitat so we can begin to improve it (NGO)
- Loss of meadow marsh and increase in cattail proliferation (LR)
- The protection of the natural barriers (Sodus Bay bar, aka Crescent Beach) that form and protect the natural habitats that the tributaries and embayments offer (LR)
- DEC salmon stocks – need more!! (LR)

B. Invasive and Nuisance Species Management

- Keeping out invasive species – zebra mussels, non native fish, non native plants and insects (LR)
- Continuing damage from current and new invasive species (NGO)
- Invasive species (NGO)
- Invasive species – they system has already been impacted what does the future hold (NGO)
- Invasive species – Asian carp, hydrilla, Asian clams (O)

C. Lake Level and Shoreline Management

- To control land erosion from the lake's continuous impounding storms. Take a closer look at the shoreline. We are losing several feet of soil each year. (LR)
- The concerns about possible changing lake levels (LG)
- Loss of money from sport fishing due to low water – will be worse under BV7 (LG)
- Reduced property values due to high water – will be worse under BV7 (LG)
- Maintain proper lake levels, water access for boaters (LR)
- Water level, phosphorus, silt, nutrient loading (NGO)
- Water level, new growth not seen in 20 years (LR, NGO)
- Low water levels restrict boating opportunities (LR)
- High water levels cause significant property damage (LR)
- Silt, weeds, low water/high water (LR, NGO)
- Management of a large piece of shoreline (LR, LM, LG)
- Excessive dominance of human uses in shoreline areas (NGO)
- Water levels (NGO)
- Lake levels (LR)

D. Outreach, Education and Involvement

- A general lack of community ownership of lake and water features (LG)
- Very limited public awareness (LR)
- Involvement – community in some cases are removed from issues – not used for drinking, swimming, recreating (O)
- Lake Ontario is downstream “out of sight, out of mind” (LG)
- Not all people are aware of the geographic location of the Genesee River watershed, their location within the watershed and the connection to Lake Ontario (LG)
- The county is a large region, mobilization of a working group maybe a challenge because the diffused nature (LG)
- Increase general knowledge of public as to the benefits and values of functioning stream and wetland habitats (NGO)
- Somewhat of a lack of interest on the part of our residents because our Town lies on the perimeter of the Oatka Creek watershed (LM)
- Local governments find it difficult to communicate, share knowledge and coordinate actions from larger perspective (NGO)
- Fragmentation of organizations interested in/responsible for the watershed (O)
- Most citizens have little to no knowledge of the current conditions and past/natural conditions (NGO)
- Public education (NGO)
- Biggest challenge is what appears to be uncontrolled growth and land use change with seemingly little effort to protect waterbodies in Webster that drain to the lake (LR, LG)
- Lack of education about the ecosystem (LR, LM, LG)
- Education for better understanding and need to prevent the devastation of the water (LR)
- Education on invasive species and nutrient loading (LG)
- Education and small size of community and rural nature to the communities surrounding the lake (LR)

E. Planning – Community and Watershed

- No experts to take the lead at the town level (LG)
- Lack of a focal point to regional water quality issues (NGO)
- This lake needs better ecologically based management (NGO)

F. Pollution – Point or Nonpoint Source

- Soil and water pollution from factory farms (LR, LM)
- Pollution of the shoreline is also a problem. There has been a marked increase in seaweed over the past 15 years. How much of that has to do with fertilizer runoff? (LR)
- Better toxic waste disposal areas (more convenient) (LR)

G. Recreation and Tourism

- Keeping it clean for swimming and eating fish (LR)
- Safe recreational use (LR)

H. Water Quality and Connectedness

- No matter what we do to improve water quality, we are still at the mercy of what comes into the system from the Niagara River (LG)
- Decreased water quality in streams from non-point sources. The effects of this decreased water quality on organisms that come in contact with the water (LG)
- Clean water in pond (LG)
- Maintaining a high level of water quality while also supporting existing land use (LG)
- Scattered focus south of Rt 104 for Lake Ontario (LG)
- Problems originate away from Wayne County and flow through to the lake (LG)
- Lake Ontario is the last one in line so everything from Superior, Erie, etc flows into our lake so we need to start from the beginning and clean up the whole system (WAL, LM)
- We can clean up Lake Ontario and its watershed but if the other lakes don't do the same it won't work (LR)
- Safe drinking water (LR)
- Better public awareness that tap water should be filtered before drinking and cooking especially pertinent to pregnant women and children (LR)

I. Other

Algae and Weed Growth

- Excessive algae blooms at near shore areas (LG)
- Weed and plant growth that reduce the oxygen content in the water (LR)
- Near shore algae – cladophora – quaggas are contributing to blue green algal in Sodus Bay (LR)
- Algae blooms (LR)
- Bad – weed control (LR)
- Access point for weed (aquatic plant) harvesting (LR)

Alternative Energy

- Onshore and offshore wind power development (NGO)

- Struggles related to the alternative energy development process (LG)
- Convincing people that wind factories are harmful (LR)
- Getting NYS officials to recognize Huron (Ontario?) and its waterfront as a national treasure and stop entertaining corporate lobbyists and foreign interests who want offshore turbines (LR)
- Power plant preventing access to waterfront, Port Authority limits access for public to waterfront, extending trail system around Lake Ontario for bike/pedestrian trails – like Ontario Provincial Park (LR, LM, LG)
- No fracking since it releases more lead and no fracking waste through municipal water treatment disposal (LR)

Development and Infrastructure

- Poor Housing (LR)
- Housing development (LG)
- Raw sewage overflow during storm (LR)
- Sewage leakage from septic from homes around lakeside (LR)
- No sewage treatment available in the Town of Henderson (LR)
- Sewage (LR)
- Agriculture and human waste management (LR)
- No public sewers (LM)
- Preserving viewshed while encouraging waterfront development (LR, LM, LG)
- Maximizing waterfront uses while developing housing and recreation (LR, LM, LG)
- Developers wanting to develop large water based development (LR, LM, LG)

Dredging

- Dredge Irondequoit Bay outlet (sand bar) (LR)
- Sandbar at channel outlet to Lake Ontario (LR, NGO)
- Irondequoit Bay channel dredging (LR)
- Channels are not dredged enough (LR)
- We are experiencing pressure to give up our water system which may result in the loss of the well field land to development (LM)
- Channel closing...loss of business, fishing, boating, decrease in property assessments (LG)
- Increase flow into and out of Sodus Bay (LR)
- No permanent channel for bay (LM)

Erosion

- High water created soil erosion “lake bank” (LR, LM)
- Lakefront erosion (LR)
- Certainly erosion and pollution (LR)
- Silt (LR, NGO)
- Cliff erosion (severe) and shoreline erosion (LG)
- Sediment plumes from Genesee River turbidity (LG)
- Pollution from phosphorus loading and bacteria from stormwater runoff/waste water treatment plant at bathing beaches (LG)
- Erosion - silting at harbors, dredging permits and DEC communication and collaboration (LR)
- Erosion (LR)
- Stopping erosion and flooding (LR)

- Our cliff is eroding at Derby Hill Bird Observatory, but that was to be expected (NGO)

Finances and Funding

- Low income (LR)
- Lack of funding to provide proper sewage systems for small communities along the lakeshore (LG)
- Lack of funding to properly maintain our harbors (LR)
- Lack of funds to improve our harbors (Wilson) through dredging (LR, LM)
- Wilson is a small, rural community that depends on the lake for summer tourism. Money to protect the shoreline is a problem (LR)
- No money to address water quality issues (LG)
- Could always use more money (ex. Oak Orchard Water Protection Alliance needs to take the next step and create a watershed management plan) (LG)
- Money for testing and planning (O)
- Finding funding to assist municipalities with wastewater treatment plants improvements and local ordinances (NGO)
- Declines in state and federal funding for basic restoration on shoreline, even with GLRI (NGO)
- Funding to pay for these activities (O)
- Challenges facing upstate communities in general are mostly rooted in poor economic times and low budgets. Towns and villages are hard-pressed to run their business, let alone take on recreation, habitat, erosion types of projects that would benefit their rivers and streams (SG)
- Money (LR)
- Money – development and drivers for property taxes often outweigh good natural resource management (NGO)
- Funding (LM)
- Need state and federal grant funding to implement projects to reduce external nutrient loading (NGO)
- Funding for projects (SG)

Regulation

- Local governments not able to encourage shoreline protection because of state and federal regulations (LR)
- NY Ag and Markets will block almost everything (LR, LM)
- Willingness of DEC and local authorities to implement change and enforce regulations (O)
- Constant reductions in NYS DEC staff levels (NGO)
- Land use law by local municipality (LG)

Miscellaneous

- High poverty rate that has bigger concerns than that of the Ontario watershed (LR)
- Assessment decrease due to coastal erosion (LG)
- Coming expansion of the dairy industry (O)
- Pressure to expand dairy production in NYS (NGO)
- Need to be able to expand economy and still protect water quality (i.e. Lake Ontario can be a great draw for business due to water availability and we need to be able to handle that growth wisely but not prevent it) (NGO)
- Apathy (LR)
- Politics (LR)
- Overcrowding of camps near many of the nicer areas (LR)

- Climate change – really unknown (NGO)
- Problems created over a long time and changes and improvements will take long time (LG)
- The easy, cheap fixes have occurred (LG)
- Environmental impact (LG)
- Understanding the nature of a dynamic system, natural processes change and shift and yet we continue to try to hold things in a stable state – often with engineered solutions (NGO)
- DEC and Soil and Water Conservation District cooperation and action (LR)
- During high lake levels bar between lake and beach is breached causing damage (LM)
- People who don't understand complexities of water management and expect "silver bullets" (LR)
- Steep slopes (NGO)
- Boaters and anglers and industrial uses balancing needs (LR, LM, LG)
- Being a student, I am not sure the answer to this question but would love to learn more from residents and other informed individuals (O)
- Acknowledging that Canada has an impact and responsibility as well (LR)

5. What are some of the opportunities for your community based on its location in the Lake Ontario watershed?

A. Habitat Restoration and Land Conservation

- Potential to attract more property owners if they know they can protect their property (LR)
- Our biggest natural asset is Lake Ontario. Because Ontario is the end of the Great Lakes water flow it collects garbage from every other lake. Simply cleaning up the beach area would greatly increase the lake's value. (LR)
- We are adjacent to Monroe County – part of our efforts may be to join forces with Monroe, as appropriate (LG)
- Need to maintain agricultural area and look ahead effects of climate change (NGO)
- Alewife numbers are down – opportunity to restore native species (NGO)
- Restrict development in sensitive areas (LR, LG)
- Communities have abundant natural resources and opportunities to capitalize. Both communities on the lake and in places like Adams, Rodman, Watertown, and Williamstown – communities on the Tug Hill are great stewards of the land. (LR)
- The Province of Ontario with foresight developed a wonderful very well advertised provincial park preserving their dunes on the Isle of Quinte, Bay of Quinte. Our dunes are such a unique asset and we seemed to be missing the "boat" (LR)
- Streambank restoration (LR)
- Net pen stocking (LR)
- Inventory amphibians as with bird studies Canada (LR)
- Migratory bird inventory (LR)

B. Invasive and Nuisance Species Management

- Monitoring various parameters in Lakeview Wildlife Management area. That is native versus non native species (LR)
- Manage aquatic plants (LR)
- Aquatic invasive program (LR)

C. Lake Level and Shoreline Management

- Lake level concern has local municipality working together on Lake Ontario issues (LG)

D. Outreach, Education and Involvement

- Involve Soil and Water people, FLOWPA (O)
- Involve public high school earth science students (LR)
- New group of stakeholders in the area which are interested in focusing on lake level problem (Lake Ontario Development Association) (LG)
- We are a large community; we may have access to a number of skilled, interested people (LG)
- Work with farmers and home owners in the watershed to reduce some of the problems (NGO)
- Great Lakes are receiving attention and concern by public (NGO)
- To collaborate with neighboring towns to drive and support initiatives (LR, LM)
- There is a great newspaper (Democrat and Chronicle) that COULD inform the public if only they knew. Citizens do live close and like to be informed of what is really going on. (NGO)
- SUNY Brockport and SUNY ESF are close. There are nice facilities to hold citizen meetings. (NGO)
- Educate lake shore owners about the benefits of BV7 (NGO)
- Leveraging the pent up energy in all of the organizations working on water quality to move watershed restoration forward (NGO)
- Watershed watch groups/participation (LG)
- Watershed Education Collaborative (LG)
- Local education (LR, LM, LG)
- Educate the public (LR)
- Increased educational and enforcement options if funding is available (NGO)
- Better understanding of wildlife needs by the general public (NGO)
- Education/planning (LG)
- Technology that can keep residents informed and provide solutions for some of the challenges (NGO)
- Providing examples of how water quality can be protected/conserved and hopefully improved (LG)
- To come together as empowered community members to work together for common good and unity. Our efforts and intention to improve water quality and resource management for future generations (LR)
- Awareness – more support (SG)

E. Planning – Community and Watershed

- 35 miles of shoreline – local municipalities are in a place to improve water quality with zoning (LG)
- Smart growth policies (NGO)

F. Recreation and Tourism

- Develop launch sites and opportunities for fishing and recreation areas – More sites are needed. Take care of launch sites already built for boat launch and channels to the lake – dredge the harbors on a regular basis. (LR)
- We have one major sport fishing and boating harbor developed (east branch of 12 mile creek) and one underdeveloped (west branch) that would be perfect for boats under 25 feet (LR, LM)
- Could continue to build on the fishery to drive even more tourism (LG)

- Fishing – Oatka Creek – trout stream benefits from high quality groundwater input from limestone bedrock and karst geology. (NGO)
- Recreational boating/canoeing (LR, NGO)
- Recreational boating (LR, NGO)
- The Village (of Webster) believes our water could be used for many purposes. Revenue would allow the well field land to remain valuable open space. The Village would like to investigate using the well field for some limited public recreation (LM)
- More boating access (launching areas) (LR)
- With a healthy lake and watershed, everyone wins. Fishing and hunting improve, boating is more enjoyable, swimming and water sports are better (LR)
- More / lower cost at pump out facilities (free?) (LR)
- Develop recreational facilities (LR)
- We live on Lake Ontario and enjoy swimming, boating and fishing (LR)
- Recreation (LG)
- Tourism (LG)
- Recreational fishing (LR)
- We have an opportunity to attract tourists to the area for fishing, boating and sightseeing (LR)
- Great place on Lake Ontario for large charter boats to come to IF opening to lake is dredged – increase to all businesses at lake area (LG)
- Well, I wonder if we could “develop” some streams/creeks into canoeing/kayaking venues of quality by damming up said streams somewhere near their outlet to the lake or one of the feeder rivers. Try Sandy Creek, or South Sandy, Bear Creek etc. and many other possible. I don’t know of consequences (LR)
- Better use of Chimney Bluffs State Park (LR)
- Keeping tourism alive (LR)
- To plan for and provide improved public (non-riparian) access to Lake Ontario and its tributaries (embayments) (LR)
- Safe recreational activities with non-toxic water (LR)
- Fishing and other forms of recreation (NGO)
- The lake is our backyard “playground” (LR)
- I think that the location in the Lake Ontario watershed allows residents to partake in various recreational activities and that may serve as an advantage to the community (O)
- Tourism only since fish are mercury toxic and commercial fishing is not permitted (LR)
- Oswego Harbor trail extension to University – bike/pedestrian trails (LR, LM, LG)
- Oswego Beach in the City limits (LR, LM, LG)
- Restore commercial fishery – fish market in Oswego Harbor like Helsinki, Finland with farmer’s market (LR, LM, LG)

G. Water Quality and Connectedness

- Opportunities to clean up local streams and waterbodies to improve water quality (LG)
- Macroinvertebrate monitoring in Sandy Creeks (LR)
- Water quantity for Lake Ontario (NGO)
- Good water supply for Henderson’s water supply (LR)
- Safe, fresh potable water (LR)

- Could be improved for water quality and economic advantage (LM)
- Water – we have lots of it (NGO)

H. Other

Alternative Energy

- Large opportunities for alternative energy production – wind, solar, biomass (LG)
- Geothermal and wind for power generation attracting industries that utilize these (LR)
- Water located wind generation (LR, LM, LG)

Economic Development

- Leverage yogurt expansion to focus attention on watershed needs generally (NGO)
- Expansion of dairy production in our area (yogurt) (NGO)

Funding

- Funding needed for erosion control and environmental cleanup (LG)
- A small financial contribution and the opportunity to keep our Town involved as much as possible (LM)
- Get funding (federal) for clean up (LR)
- Grants (LR)

Miscellaneous

- Beauty; rural (LR)
- Climate enhanced by lake as to temp; no early frosts (LR)
- We need to stop compartmentalizing problems; treat the entire system as an entire entity. (LG)
- Lovely areas along lake shore and river (O)
- Harbor dredging will help restore sport fishing and boating (Wilson) (LG)
- Waterfront housing development – we have 50 acres of unused lake front (NYSEG) (LR, LM)
- Providing emergency services – like boating accidents – use of rescue boat (LR, NGO)
- Great area for residents also people like living on or near the lake (NGO)
- Need sewage treatment facility (LR)
- Major polluter (LR)
- About 85% forested watershed (NGO)
- Beautiful area (LM)
- Best place (LM)
- Enhanced property values – aesthetics (LR)
- Numerous (O)

Additional Comments:

50+ years ago the Niagara power project and seaway project created the same type high water problems we face today. Money was provided for shore line armor. Today there is none, up until a few years ago FEMA and SBA collaborated with mitigation money for this. None is available now; this would be a great way to help property owners. (LR, LM)

Education should also be a real concern. Workshops like today's have a high value – however, they reach a very small population. Earth science is a New York State regent's requirement. What materials (speakers, websites, and films) are available for teachers to use? How are these materials promoted for teacher use? (LR)

Canal water and use needs to be coordinated – used for recreation and crop irrigation, power generation. Testing results along canal? Plans for removing/overflow and point sources? (O)

Orleans County has 3 lakes and many streams and rivers. There is no place allowed/delegated for swimming (O)

Johnson Creek is also a major tourism draw for its fishing. Currently the salmon are running. This needs to be protected. Is Johnson Creek an Area of Concern? (LG)

My chief concern at the time I joined the (Oatka Creek) watershed committee was the potential for flooding in the eastern portion of our Town. As time passed, I became more appreciative for the need to protect the watershed for a host of reasons – I guess you could say I am an environmentalist to a degree. (LM)

I believe that the most important plan of action is to educate the public on the history of our lakes. They are the most important fresh waterbodies in the entire world. (NGO)

I don't know how we can adequately discuss lake/river/bay restoration without talking about BV7. It is arguably the biggest variable affecting this system. You have another opportunity to get our input here (LR)

Would like town/village boards to take initiatives to protect and preserve the lake water quality for future generations (LR)

More education. The general public is not really aware of the issues on the lake. We are all stakeholders regardless of whether we live on the shoreline or not. (LR, LG)

As a society we need to recognize that human desires should not dominate resource management decisions. A broader view will have both economic/biodiversity/wildlife watching and ecological benefits. All beaches are not for swimming. Some are for shorebirds (NGO)

I worry about my grandchildren swimming and eating fish (LR)

I live on Lake Ontario and in the past have seen a lot of household garbage wash up on our shore (LR)

The scenic, natural, recreational, historic, cultural, and agricultural resources of the 7-county Lake Ontario region create critical tourism and economic engines for New York State. These resources are promoted as the foundation for unique only-on-the-Great-Lakes-Seaway-Trail experiences on the National Scenic Byway that parallels not only Lake Ontario, but the St. Lawrence River, Niagara River and Lake Erie in New York and Pennsylvania. (LR)

Nice job by the presenting group (SG)

Western NY needs to become the 51st state – our interests are being plundered by downstate (LR)

I live on Honeoye Lake in the Genesee Watershed. What can/should/should not we do? (LR)

Greater lead time for sessions during the summer season would have been better (LR)

We need to acknowledge the local/global/collective impacts on resource health and work together (LR)

At one time Sodus Point had over 150 fishing charter boats. Then the DEC moved stocking numbers to other ports (LR)

Quaggas have contributed to nearshore nuisance algae (LR)

DEC needs to manage for all people not just environmentalists (LR)

I'm glad for this opportunity but sorry to see that the audience isn't larger. I hope more people attended the other workshops (NGO)

This letter was received by K. LaManche after the meeting at the Wallington Fire Department. It has not been edited and is included in its entirety for the record.

September 29, 2012

Hello Kristy LaManche, Mary Penney, Jennifer Baker, and Don Zelazny,

I attended the presentation you did today in Wallington and since time didn't permit attendees to make their comments - I wanted to email you some thoughts on protection for Lake Ontario and the Great Lakes that maybe haven't been considered.

I have read the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Action Plan and I'm disturbed by what I read such as:

- page 5 - *Study after study shows the health of the lakes is in jeopardy –*
- page 7 - *In the past, their fragile nature was not recognized and the lakes were mistreated for economic gain, placing the ecosystem under tremendous stress from our activities*
- page 7 - *The Great Lakes face a number of serious challenges. The most significant of these include toxic substances, invasive species, nonpoint source pollution and near shore impacts*
- page 13 - *Though a national treasure of magnificent grandeur, we know the Great Lakes are still vulnerable to misuse and exploitation*
- pages 31 - *A multitude of threats affect the health of Great Lakes habitats and wildlife. Habitat destruction and degradation due to development*
- page 27 - *Sediment is a significant nonpoint pollution problem facing our lakes, rivers and streams*
- page 40 - *Study after study, however, shows a Great Lakes in peril*

Sadly – the GLRI Action Plan omits one of the greatest threats ever to our beautiful Great Lakes – **the action plan should oppose industrialization of the Great Lakes by offshore wind turbines.**

Lake Ontario and the bottomlands underwater to the Canadian border in the center of the lake - are owned by NYS and its people and the state generally controls what happens in US Great Lakes waters offshore from NYS. If wind turbines were placed in the Great Lakes off NYS – many agencies in addition to NYS would be involved.

You may not be aware that Ontario, Canada in Feb 2011 placed a moratorium on ALL offshore wind development in Ontario's Great Lakes waters, saying there's too little evidence on how turbines affect people's health. In Canada the moratorium affects 4 Great Lakes **and is welcomed.**

The Obama Administration in March 2012, proposed offshore [wind power](#) with a new [Great Lakes wind power initiative](#) that joins federal agencies with Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, and Pennsylvania in a regional development plan for installing offshore wind turbines in the Great Lakes – this is terrible! Governors from these states including Andrew Cuomo signed Obama's [Memorandum Of Understanding](#) that supports industrializing & exploiting all the Great Lakes with wind turbines yet the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Action Plan says on page 9 has this quote - “[When running for president, Barack Obama issued a campaign promise to protect and restore the Great Lakes.](#)” Well if Obama was sincere about protecting the Great Lakes

he would never have created a Memorandum of Understanding to encourage wind development on the Great Lakes.

Low quality, volatile, expensive, intermittent electricity generated by a Lake Ontario offshore wind factory won't directly serve any adjacent lake shore community – electricity will instead go onto the grid for distribution to mainly downstate New Yorkers while we riparians suffer the consequences. Upstate NY has all the electricity it needs.

You might be interested to know that virtually all Lake Erie and Lake Ontario county governments in NYS, except Cayuga County, have passed resolutions against offshore wind factories. This happened as a result of the NY Power Authority trying to promote wind turbines on Lakes Ontario and Erie. A public outcry happened all along the lake and last year NYPA ended it's promoting this unfortunate project after spending millions of NYPA customer's money on the failed project. NYPA forced out their CEO/President, Richard Kessel, at about the same time for the good of NYPA.

By allowing offshore wind development in the Great Lakes – this industrial calamity is completely devoid of any zoning regulations for the protection of the lakes or for the protection of nearby residents and their community. The neighboring onshore public are mere witnesses to a free-for-all crap shoot to the detriment of those unfortunate to own once desirable lake shore property now near an unwanted wind factory with terrible consequences. And this is all blessed by your federal & New York State government with jobs as the enticing carrot. Offshore wind factories get a priceless free pass while those living nearby are victimized!

The offshore wind factory may be completely owned and operated by greed stricken foreigners or absentee offshore landlords! What concern would these foreigners or absentee landlords have on the negative impacts offshore wind may have on the Great Lakes? Virtually none as they don't work here, live here or play here. They are conveniently disconnected from all the harm their greedy project will infect.

Each of these environmental issues is likely understated - here are some of the issues that will harm the Great Lakes if wind factories are allowed to populate the Great Lakes:

- Each turbine is expected to contain approximately 200+ gallons of operational fluids. The near shore transformer platform is expected to contain approximately 40,000 gallons of mineral oil for regulating the temperature of the oil-cooled transformers. The bearing and gear lubricants can be toxic to flora and fauna, and could cause an environmental concern if released into the environment.
- Glycol (used in the cooling system) is water-soluble and would be rapidly diluted if spilled, but could be potentially toxic to ecological communities if ingested in a high enough concentration.
- If a spill were to occur, local ecological communities will definitely be affected.
- Noise generated by the massive turbine rotors that is not only a nuisance but also a health hazard, causing loss of sleep and other health problems. The blade whooshing noise, induced electromagnetic fields and low frequency noise and related vibrations are transmitted through the water and will affect marine life too. As turbines age, parts & assemblies loosen up – the noise generated from the turbines will become louder and louder. Who would ever spend the time or money to repair them? And noise travels much farther over water than land. If noise from offshore turbines bothers nearby residents could you possibly be naive enough to think that the problem would ever be corrected to your satisfaction? It won't be corrected and you will have to accept the noise will be there for the life of the project and likely get worse as the turbines age.

- Think about noise from maintenance crews arriving and departing from turbines via helicopter. Newer more powerful offshore turbines are now designed with landing pads built onto the nacelles for worker drop off & pickup from helicopters.
- An offshore wind project will affect fishing and other marine life in negative ways. Turbines are not artificial reefs for marine life like sunken subways cars, buses or ships because of the noise, vibrations, stray electricity and electromagnetic fields they generate. (Environmental risks See Page 29 of the National Offshore Wind Strategy report Feb 2011)
- There will be an avian & bat slaughter - OUR LAKE IS IN THE MIGRATORY PATH OF RAPTORS, GEESE AND OER BIRDS, WITH MASSIVE TURBINE BLADE TIPS SPINNING AT SPEEDS UP TO 200 MPH, THE POTENTIAL DEVASTATION CANNOT BE DISPUTED. Avian fatalities from direct effects include blade strikes, barotrauma, and loss of avian habitat and “displacement”. There is no better example of this than Canada’s Wolfe Island located where the St. Lawrence River begins at eastern Lake Ontario at Cape Vincent. There exists substantial data on the bird and bat kill from turbines on Wolfe Island. In 2010, turbines killed 2327 bats and 1207 birds were killed including 21 raptors. Mitigation consists of continuing to study the problem – the meantime. Any bird or bat kill from offshore turbines would be difficult to tally, as the carcasses would be simply washed away by the currents. And just recently, assessments on Wolfe Island and nearby Simcoe Island in eastern Lake Ontario in Canada - have been lowered for homes near the wind factory.
- Turbines collapse - Two terrestrial turbines in NYS have collapsed recently - one at Altona, NY in Clinton Co and another in Fenner, NY in Madison County. Blade failure and nacelle fires are other safety concerns – check out the numerous spectacular photos of burning turbines on the Internet. How could a turbine fire possibly be fought if it’s in a lake? How do you clean up a collapsed turbine in the lake in winter?
- Lightning strikes hitting turbines are common – resulting in fires & other expensive apparatus damage as well as the potential for personal injury.
- Offshore turbine project construction will cause toxic lakebed silt and debris that has lain dormant for decades, to be churned up and washed onto the shore creating major cleanup and other problems for property owners for which there is no compensation.
- Sediment displacement from monopile construction and placement could contaminate municipal drinking water, as the Great Lakes are the world’s largest supplier of drinking water. The Great Lakes and their connecting channels form the largest fresh surface water system on earth and we are putting this at risk for the sake of expensive intermittent electrical power we don’t need
- Construction may also prevent normal use of the lake for up to 2 years due to this sediment displacement. Trenching for miles of transmission cables (typically placed 5’ below lakebed) and turbine foundations and offshore substations would also cause incredible sediment displacement. Beaches could be closed and the filth could affect boating and fishing. And as horrible as this all sounds for the Great Lakes – the process actually happens not once but TWICE – the second time during decommissioning – when the turbines are removed at end of life cycle.
- Turbine rotor blades are cleaned from a helicopter with cleaning solvents. Cleaning turbines by helicopter dumps cleaning solutions directly into the lake.
- Towers will soon rust, become stained and show evidence of oil and fluid drippings and aging – just like an old junk car.
- Any offshore wind turbine project will NOT reduce CO2 in the atmosphere, as fossil fuel backup power is constantly needed due to the intermittency of wind.
- Ice (and wind) in the lake during winter, especially Lake Erie that completely freezes from north to south, could cause the turbines assemblies (450’ towers + 150’ monopiles) to collapse. Maintenance vessels wouldn’t even be able to leave the frozen harbor they’re moored in to handle problems during winter. Offshore wind factories have never been tried anywhere in freshwater in the US. How would

they endure the recent hurricane Irene? Why should we take this risk for low quality, expensive intermittent power?

The Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Action Plan mentions none of this all of which threatens Great Lakes. And I wonder how many of you know about wind turbines need powerful magnets for their generators. You should explore how wind turbine generator magnets are manufactured in China from rare earth materials and how their manufacturing processes are creating enormous pollution problems in northern China in a city called Baotou – this is so sickening to learn about but we have no time now to educate you about this horrible situation! Please check the Internet for more info about this.

I have not elaborated on the many non-environmental issues surrounding populating the Great Lakes with wind factories but there are many other compelling issues such as human health, viewscape, noise, property values, etc.

To allow just one offshore wind project to taint the Great Lakes will encourage this folly to multiply until the lakes and their shorelines are infiltrated with thousands of these behemoths for the rest of our lives.

Is electric generated by wind low-cost – NO – you pay double or triple or more for offshore wind generated electric over conventional generated electric. Most people boosting wind energy projects are those who have a financial interest or something tangible or monetary to gain. Wind is not about preventing global warming, reducing CO2 in the air, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, cheaper energy, reliable energy – wind energy is about greed & money and nothing else.

Wind faces an insurmountable issue - intermittency

The current obsession with wind power and the renewables revolution is reckless and impetuous and those willing to accept this junk science and think wind energy will deliver us from global warming, or an excessive CO2 footprint or provide dependable, affordable, reliable quality electric power - haven't realized the motive behind this wind absurdity – the motive is greed and MONEY for those involved and nothing else. Wind is trading one environmental sin for another. Without massive taxpayer funded subsidies the wind game wouldn't exist. Investing public money in the offshore wind folly misdirects funding that would be better invested in more promising energy technologies. It is time Americans woke up to the half-truths, exaggerations and outright lies propagated by the corrupt wind industry for their own self-serving benefit. After getting by the mouth watering appeal & opportunity rhetoric – the offshore energy sideshow fails to live up to its hype and will actually help drive America into fuel poverty. The rude intrusive butchering of the seascape is 60% taxpayer subsidized for an environmental disruption that doesn't work over 70% of the time! We don't need to rape, spoil and sacrifice the Great Lakes and ruin the beautiful waterscape with a steel forest of 450' tall lightening rods – a project that has a lifespan of a mere 15 to 20 years. Who is foolish enough to accept this?

Time is the enemy of wind developers. As more politicians, business leaders and the general public learn about the half-truths and exaggerations generated by the self serving behavior of wind advocates - they realize that offshore wind is nothing more than an assault on drinking water, natural resources, property values, the environment, water recreation, health and people's quality of life.

Here is my main message – I hope the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, Lake Ontario Watershed Protection Alliance, FL-LOWPA, NYSDEC, Sea Grant and all Lake Ontario Watershed Basin Forum stakeholders should agree with me on the potential harm offshore wind in the Great Lakes can bring, particularly gross environmental harm, and take a position strongly opposed wind energy in the Great Lakes. Make this an action item and share the opinions contained in this letter with Ores before the Great Lakes, including Ontario, become victim to aggressive, harmful exploitation resulting from wind development.

Here is a quote from Lisa P. Jackson, Chair of GLRI Task Force & U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator:

We're committed a new standard of care that will leave the Great Lakes better for the next generation.

I will end with this beautiful quote from Henry David Thoreau; [American](#) author, [poet](#), [abolitionist](#), [naturalist](#), & [tax resister](#):

“A lake is the landscape's most beautiful and expressive feature. It is earth's eye; looking into which the beholder measures the depth of his own nature.”

Thank you.

Best regards,

Al Isselhard

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LAMP Priorities Scoring Exercise

Workshop participants were asked to list project ideas that addressed or were consistent with any of the LaMP Priorities, as discussed by the NYS DEC staff. Responses from the participants have been reported exactly as they were written and have been grouped into themes so that decision makers can easily identify potential projects and opportunities for collaboration.

LaMP Priority	Lyndonville	York	Webster	Henderson	Sodus	Oswego	TOTAL
Restore the Quality of Nearshore Waters	73	16	67	52	66	23	297
Conserve Critical Lands & Waters	70	17	57	49	45	27	265
Reduce the Impact of Aquatic Invasive Species	63	10	60	39	60	12	244
Restoring Native Fish Species and Communities	60	12	53	28	33	16	202
Restoring Connections & Natural Hydrology	46	11	43	27	25	12	164

1. Lowering of pollution

a. Agricultural, industrial, forestry, etc. BMP-related:

- **Waste digesters for communities and factory farm waste in semi-rural areas (LR)**
- **Soil stabilization projects-keep the dirt on the land (LG)**
- **Increase BMP in the watershed, decrease pollutants entering the watershed, decrease soil erosion (LG)**
- Coordinate pollution prevention response to dairy herd expansion to prevent watershed degradation (NGO)
- Require SPDES-permitted sources in phosphorus-impaired watershed to monitor for phosphorus loading (NGO)
- **Continue cleanup efforts on Black River (SG)**
- **Divergence of runoff from farmland (LR)**
- **Projects to reduce nutrients coming from lower Lake Ontario watershed (NGO)**
- **Water pollution-more monitoring (SG)**
- **Test water quality near oil and coal fired electric generating plants (mercury and PCBs) track pollutants (LM)**
- **Better availability of toxic waste disposal facilities (LR)**

b. Septic-related

- State-level legislation to require homeowner septic system inspection and maintenance (NGO)
- **Village (Henderson) sewage control (LR)**
- **Sewage treatment (LR)**
- **Reduction of nutrient input by replacing septic with municipal sewer-especially around embayments (NG)**

2. Shoreline management (erosion control)

- **Make it easier (funds) to reinforce the shoreline (LR)**
- In one shoreline reach (Sodus?) work with community to develop common approach for shoreline management (NGO)

3. Lake level management

- **Do not raise and lower the lake-consider who pays taxes to support you programs (LR)**
- A more natural flow plan for Lake Ontario will help with many of these issues. Approve BV7 and help add a voice for the environment (LR)

- Investigate and evaluate BV7 vs. individual wetland management alternatives. Essentially a cost/benefit analysis of the viable alternatives (NGO)
 - Keep lake levels low and keep out offshore wind turbines (LR)
4. Outreach and education
- Teach it in schools and interest small youth organizations so a more aware population grows (LR)
 - Increase public education: the connection between the Genesee River and Lake Ontario. People will protect what they know and appreciate (LG)
 - Education in schools (LR)
 - Outreach & Education particularly on permitting necessary to manage aquatic plants (DIS)
 - Pollution prevention education (LG)
 - Stewardship programs (O)
 - Educate the public on invasive species and how they change the ecosystem (O)
 - Workdays with communities for invasive species removal (NGO)
5. Invasive and Nuisance Species Management
- Hydrilla control in Tonawanda Creek before it gets in the Niagara River and Lake Ontario (LG)
 - Eliminate cattails and other invasives (NGO)
 - I have seen in Sodus Bay they were mowing the weeds. Is this an option? (LR)
 - Pilot project: aquatic plant management shoreline Ann Lee Dr, Town of Huron (NGO)
 - Policy that protects the Great Lakes from invasive species (NGO)
 - Stricter ballast water regulations (O)
6. Community, watershed, management, etc. planning
- Money for Oak Orchard Watershed Protection Alliance to develop a watershed management plan (LG)
 - Start with management of the land work towards recovery and restoration (LG)
 - The overall LaMP goals are admirable but the devil is in the details. More analysis on species/guide restoration and management of native species (NGO)
 - I believe LaMP and GLRI support for local shoreline and streamside comprehensive planning processes will help local municipalities and citizens understand how they relate to and impact Lake Ontario water quality (LG)
7. Evaluation, inventory and monitoring projects
- Species monitoring: macroinvertebrates in North and South Sandy Creek (Jefferson County); waterfowl and amphibian monitoring; bird studies in Canada; monitoring of bat populations (LR)
 - Evaluate lake herring spawning sites in Irondequoit Bay (NGO)
 - Investigate correlation between algal blooms/migrant shorebird use and shorebird community status/health (NGO)
 - Compilation of information obtained when monitoring of migratory bird data from lakeshore areas to assess areas that should be closed to further development (NGO)
 - Restoration of common tern populations to traditional nest sites (NGO)
 - Monitor closely any projects-industry, agricultural- that impact the lake ecology (LR)
8. Recreation
- Can we do something to increase recreation? (LG)
 - Improve access on Black River (SG)
 - Create recreational corridors along Lake Ontario waterfront (LM)
9. Water quality and connectedness
- Help identify problem areas-water sampling (NGO)

- Assess impacts of dams and decide what to do about them (NGO)
- Assess quality of water (i.e. phosphorus, algal blooms, etc) (NGO)
- Dredging for Microcystis and cyanobacteria/embayments (NGO)
- Cyanobacteria and Microcystis in sediment (DIS)

10. Habitat Restoration/land conservation

- Restore wetlands (NGO)
- Restoration of the ponds/wetlands in Greece, NY (NGO)
- Protect land in watershed of Braddock Bay (NGO)

11. Other:

- Information sharing (NG)
- Apply for more grant funding(LM)
- Impact of offshore wind factories on Great Lakes (LM)
- The LaMP needs to include embayments (DIS)
- Restore fisheries to first American conditions (LM)
- Keep up the work that is being started(LG)
- I just don't know enough to do this ranking fully I'm not even sure about my 1st and 2nd priorities. Sorry, one of my personal strengths is always knowing when I don't know enough (LR)

Additional Comments:

We continually hear about restoration of the ecosystem but I have yet to hear a clear goal that we are attempting to achieve. (LR)

Stewardship suggestions: if you ask for volunteers, follow through and use them. (LR)

This (scoring/ranking of priorities) is difficult since each one of these priorities is really important. (NGO)

This person scored *Reduce AIS* 4th as their 4th lowest priority with the following note: rate of AIS coming into the lake via the Seaway seems to be reduced, but big concern about the carp and species like Hydrilla. (NGO)

I own approximately 1/3 mile of Stony Creek (Jefferson County) and am very concerned with watershed pollution of Lake Ontario from ag., sewage, etc. (LR)

Humans need to be treated as part of the ecosystem NOT the dominant organisms in management decisions. There are times when we (needs vs. desires) require meeting the needs of other organisms first. (NGO)

LaMP Priority D (Restore native fish communities and native fish species) would be #1 (lowest scoring priority) if there was a more balanced approach to salmon management and the economic benefits theme to local economies. (NGO)

Thank you/ we need more discussion maybe webinars? (NGO)

Lake level issue is premature. (DIS)

All (LaMP Priorities) interrelated-must be addressed as economically feasible. (LR)

**Lake Ontario Watershed Basin Forum Workshop Series:
Communities Visioning for a Healthy Lake Ontario**

AGENDA

1. Introductions
2. AOC/RAP Updates (Lyndonville and Webster meetings, only)
3. Community Visioning Survey
4. DEC Presentation: *The Lakewide Action and Management Plan (LAMP)*
5. LAMP Priority Ranking Exercise
6. Summary of Visioning Session/Audience Dialogue
7. Summary of Priority Ranking Exercise/Audience Dialogue
8. General Comments from Audience
9. Workshop Adjourned

Funding for this event is being provided by the Niagara County Soil and Water Conservation District through a grant obtained from the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative.

Speaker Biographies

Ms. Jennifer Baker

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Ms. Baker is an Environmental Program Specialist with DEC's Great Lakes Restoration Initiative team. She is the New York State representative to the Lake Ontario LAMP Workgroup and works out of the DEC's Watertown office on LAMP and AOC projects.

Mr. Victor DiGiacomo

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Mr. DiGiacomo is employed by Niagara County Soil & Water Conservation District and serves as the Remedial Action Plan (RAP) Coordinator for the Eighteenmile Creek, the facilitating chairman of the Eighteenmile Creek Remedial Advisory Committee, chairman of the Niagara County Water Quality Committee, and Executive Committee member of the Finger Lakes – Lake Ontario Watershed Protection Alliance.

Ms. Shannon Dougherty

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Ms. Dougherty is the Great Lakes Watershed Coordinator at the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) with responsibility for leading implementation of New York State's Great Lakes Action Agenda, advancing ecosystem-based management initiatives, and integrating climate change adaptation strategies into NYSDEC's Great Lakes efforts.

Ms. Kristy LaManche

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Ms. LaManche is the Program Coordinator for the Finger Lakes – Lake Ontario Watershed Protection Alliance (FOLLOWPA). FOLLOWPA is an alliance of 25 Counties, located within the Finger Lakes – Lake Ontario drainage basin, focused on the protection and enhancement of water quality in New York.

Ms. Mary Penney

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Ms. Penney is New York Sea Grant's Great Lakes Coastal Community Development Specialist. Using a community-driven needs assessment survey approach, she identifies and responds to priority issues of decision-makers for NY's Great Lakes.

Mr. Don Zelazny

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Mr. Zelazny is the Great Lakes Programs Coordinator for New York's Department of Environmental Conservation. His specific responsibilities include representing New York State on the binational lakewide management committees for Lake Erie, Lake Ontario and the Niagara River Toxics Management Plan, coordinating the New York Great Lakes Action Agenda and the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, and administering the New York Great Lakes Protection Fund grants program.

Eighteenmile Creek Area of Concern (AOC)
Niagara County, New York
Remedial Action Plan Update

▪ **Location**

The Eighteenmile Creek “impact” AOC, located in Niagara County, NY, includes Olcott Harbor at the mouth of the creek and extends upstream to the farthest point at which backwater conditions exist during Lake Ontario’s highest monthly average lake level (just downstream of Burt Dam). Upstream of the Burt Dam, the watershed is considered the “source” to the “impact” AOC.

▪ **Why is Eighteenmile Creek an AOC?**

Eighteenmile Creek was designated as an AOC because of water quality and bottom sediment problems associated with past industrial and municipal discharge practices, the disposal of waste and the use of pesticides. Over the years, numerous contaminants have been identified in creek sediments which have a detrimental effect to the AOC and Lake Ontario. These contaminants include but are not limited to; Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs); Mercury; Dioxins and Furans; Dieldrin; Mirex; DDT; Lead; and Copper.

▪ **Beneficial Use Impairments (BUI)**

The RAP process has identified five (5) of the fourteen (14) GLWQA beneficial uses as impaired for the creek. Impaired beneficial uses for Eighteenmile Creek include:

1. **Restrictions on Fish & Wildlife Consumption**
2. **Degradation of Benthos**
3. **Restriction on Dredging Activities**
4. **Degradation of Fish and Wildlife Populations**
5. **Bird or Animal Deformities/Reproduction Problems**

▪ **Delisting Targets**

Since 2008, delisting targets have been in place to help assess progress towards the de-listing or re-designation of individual Beneficial Use Impairments. The delisting targets may be modified over time as the local community and RAC gain increased knowledge pertaining to the exact nature of an impairment and the practical opportunities available to resolve the problems.

▪ **Recent Activity**

A number of successful habitat restoration projects have already been completed within the AOC. These projects were successful because of the working partnership created between local stakeholders, private industry and federal, state and local government. Partnerships have increased the potential to fund these habitat projects, as well as provide for a comprehensive array of technical assistance from agency experts.

The Eighteenmile Creek AOC has had tremendous success in utilizing eligible funding streams and program authorities relevant to AOC restoration. No one program will achieve a delisting for an AOC, rather a combination of programs and partners need to be used. Various project agreements have been signed with USACE Buffalo District, utilizing a number of their authorities to deliver products like a: Soil Water Assessment Tool (SWAT) Model; State of the Basin Report; On-Line Pollutant Generator Mapping Database and; BUI Delisting Strategy. Other recent projects include:

1. **Legacy Act contract signed with USEPA GLNPO. 7/24/2008.**
2. **NYSEDC continues exhaustive investigation of Eighteenmile Creek Corridor Site. 2009-2011**
3. **NCSWCD awarded \$200,000 for projects to protect water quality in the watershed. 2010**
4. **NCSWCD awarded funds to complete Eighteenmile Creek Stress Stream Analysis. 2010**
5. **NCSWCD awarded funds to promote watershed awareness and water quality issues. 2010**
6. **Trophic Trace Food Web Model project completed by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. 2011**
7. **Legacy Act project completed and Remedial Investigation document submitted. 2011**
8. **Eighteenmile Creek listed on National Priorities List. 2012**
9. **Powdered Activated Carbon Pilot Project. 2012**
10. **Benthic Community Analysis. 2012**
11. **Fish Contaminant Analysis. 2012**



EIGHTEENMILE CREEK AREA OF CONCERN (AOC)

GREAT LAKES AREA OF CONCERN FACT SHEET - EIGHTEENMILE CREEK



Eighteenmile Creek AOC

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What is an Area of Concern (AOC)?

Great Lakes Areas of Concern (AOCs) are severely degraded geographic areas within the Great Lakes Basin. They are defined by the United States - Canada Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement as "geographic areas that fail to meet the general or specific objectives of the agreement where such failure has caused or is likely to cause impairment of beneficial use of the area's ability to support aquatic life." The U.S. and Canadian governments have identified 43 such areas; 26 in U.S. waters, 17 in Canadian waters.

Why is Eighteenmile Creek an AOC?

Eighteenmile Creek was designated as an AOC because of water quality and bottom sediment problems associated with past industrial and municipal discharge practices, the disposal of waste and the use of pesticides. Over the years, numerous contaminants have been identified in creek sediments which have a detrimental effect to the AOC and Lake Ontario. These contaminants include but are not limited to; Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs); Mercury; Dioxins and Furans; Dieldrin; Mirex; DDT; Lead; and Copper.

Where is the Eighteenmile Creek AOC?

The Eighteenmile Creek AOC is located in the Town of Newfane, Niagara County, in western New York State. The AOC includes Olcott Harbor at the mouth of the creek and extends upstream to the farthest point at which backwater conditions exist during Lake Ontario's highest monthly average lake level. This point is located just downstream of the Burt Dam, approximately 1.5 miles south of Olcott Harbor.

Eighteenmile Creek Beneficial Use Impairments

Through the Remedial Action Planning (RAP) process the Eighteenmile Creek Remedial Advisory Committee (RAC) has identified several of the 14 priority beneficial uses set forth by the International Joint Commission as being impaired. Confirmed beneficial use impairments in the AOC include:

Restrictions on Fish & Wildlife Consumption

Degradation of Benthos

Restriction on Dredging Activities

Degradation of Fish and Wildlife Populations

Bird or Animal Deformities/Reproduction Problems

Delisting Targets

Since 2008, delisting targets have been in place to help assess progress towards the de-listing or re-designation of individual Beneficial Use Impairments. The delisting targets may be modified over time as the local community and RAC gain increased knowledge pertaining to the exact nature of an impairment and the practical opportunities available to resolve the problems.

Where can I learn more about Eighteenmile Creek?

The Eighteenmile Creek AOC has a dedicated website which includes general information, current news and a vast data repository of over 100 documents.

WWW.EIGHTEENMILERAP.COM

Rochester Embayment Area of Concern

Remedial Action Plan Summary - 2012

- Stage I RAP – Completed by Monroe County Planning Department in 1993 under Contract with NYSDEC
- Stage II RAP – Completed by Monroe County Health Department in 1997.
- Addenda completed in 1999, 2002
- USEPA website updated with Great Lakes Commission in 2006
- Final modifications to Delisting Criteria 2009 (with Ecology and Environment, Inc.)
- Stage III- ongoing
 - * Drinking Water Taste and Odor: BUI Removed November 2010
 - * Added Costs to Agriculture and Industry: BUI Removed August 2011
- Current BUI removal efforts are focused on:
 - * Fish and Wildlife Consumption - lakewide issue
 - * Eutrophication- upstream sources in Genesee River, NYSDEC has requested we wait on this
 - * Fish tumors- SUNY study says not impacted, draft in final AOC review

Projects recently completed or ongoing in the Rochester Embayment AOC or areas tributary under GLRI:

- USACE/MC algae project summer 2011 Ontario Beach- currently looking for implementation funds
- USGS Beach projects
 - 2010, 2011: Partnered to collect pertinent data to develop Virtual Beach models for Ontario Beach and Durand Beach
 - 2012: Side by side test and comparison with MCDPH “logic based” model
 - Objective: greater accuracy, better sensitivity and specificity
- USGS has installed near real time chemical sensing units and is sampling at the Ford Street station in conjunction with NYSDEC and USEPA.
- 2012 , 2013: USGS will be conducting Zooplankton and Phytoplankton study, possibly Benthic Macroinvertebrates in Sediments in lower river
- United States Fish and Wildlife Service Study of Emerging Contaminants of Concern- Great Lakes wide, but involves Genesee River. Also sampled in this effort were Irondequoit Bay and Long Pond
- 2012: USF+WS evaluation of quantity and quality of AOC wetlands for Habitat evaluation
- NYSDOH cooperative projects
 - Sanitary Survey project for Durand Watershed
 - Rapid methods of detection project
- Great Lakes Legacy Act project in the Genesee River in 2011
 - Elevated levels of Silver and Cadmium
 - Indications of elevated Dioxins
 - Some concern over PCB levels in Sediment
 - Quandary- Contaminants are not elevated enough to merit a Legacy Act project, but are too contaminated to allow open lake disposal

- GLRI Funded Project by U of R Medical Center to look at Contaminants of Concern in Body Fluids of Sturgeon, complements the USGS BRD restoration project

Other efforts

- Watershed monitoring funded by NRCS. Also in discussion is a project to monitor the BMP effectiveness, currently submitted to GLNPO.
- CEI TMDL work in Black Creek
- NRCS BMP work in upper watershed
- GLC erosion and sedimentation grants
- FLOWPA GLRI project – BMP implementation

Lake Ontario Management Framework: *The Lakewide Action and Management Plan (LAMP)*



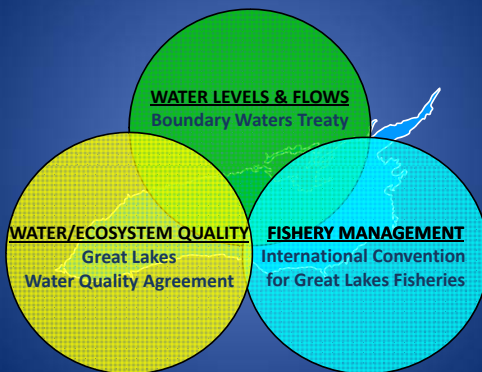
A Presentation to the Lake Ontario LAMP
Public Forum Series - 2012

Goals of this Presentation

- Understand the Lake Ontario Lakewide Action and Management Plan (LAMP) and its goals
- Understand how LAMP implementation can move forward in NY's Lake Ontario watersheds
- **What can we do together to make it happen?**

2

Ecosystem Management Across Borders



Water Levels and Flows

- Boundary Waters Treaty
- IJC's International St. Lawrence River Control Board
- Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Basin Sustainable Water Resources Agreement/Compact
- **It's mostly Mother Nature!**



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Fishery Management

International Convention for Great Lakes Fisheries, 1955

- Coordinates research and recommends actions to maximize fish populations
- Works to eradicate sea lamprey populations
- Created the Great Lakes Fishery Commission & Lake Committees
- **Joint Strategic Plan for Management of Great Lakes Fisheries**
 - Lake Ontario Committee (LOC)
 - Lake Ontario Fish Community Objectives
 - Lake Ontario Environmental Objectives

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Water/Ecosystem Quality



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What is the Lake Ontario LAMP?

- **Lakewide Action and Management Plan**
 - **What:** A bi-national plan to protect and restore Lake Ontario
 - **Why:** Fulfill the goals of the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement
 - **Where:** Open lake, nearshore, tributaries, and watersheds
 - **How:** Ecosystem approach
- **Separate from Remedial Action Plans**
 - RAPs address problems in Areas of Concern
 - LAMP provides oversight to Remedial Action Plans



Who is Involved in the Lake Ontario LAMP?

- **Management:**
 - **Federal:** EPA, Environment Canada
 - **State/Provincial:** DEC, Ontario Ministry of the Environment
- **Workgroup/Technical Advisory:**
 - NYDOH, OMNR, USFWS, DFO, USGS, NRCS, Forest Service, NOAA, and ACOE
- **Local:**
 - FL-LOWPA, Soil & Water Conservation Districts, St. Lawrence River Watershed Partnership, and many others...



Goals of the Lake Ontario LAMP

- Support self-reproducing **diverse biological communities**
- **Contaminants** will not limit people's use of the Lake Ontario basin and will not cause health problems for plants and animals
- People will practice **responsible stewardship** in the Lake Ontario basin



Objectives of the Lake Ontario LAMP

- Free of contaminants affecting human health
- Support diverse, self-sustaining aquatic communities
- Sustain water, coastal wetland & upland habitats
- Communities embrace environmental ethics & sustainable care



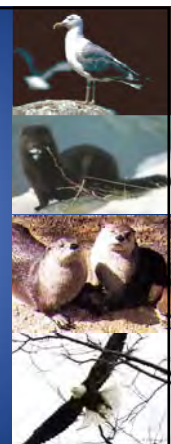
Lakewide Beneficial Use Impairments

1. Restrictions on **Fish and Wildlife Consumption**
2. Degradation of **Wildlife Populations**
3. Bird or Animal **Deformities or Reproductive Problems**
4. Loss of Fish and Wildlife **Habitat**
5. Degradation of **Benthos**
6. Degradation of **Phytoplankton Populations**
7. Degradation of **Fish Populations**



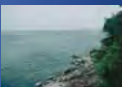
Indicators of the Lake Ontario LAMP

- **Critical Pollutant Indicators**
 - Concentrations in water, fish & gull eggs
- **Lower Foodweb Indicators**
 - Nutrients, zooplankton, prey fish
- **Upper Foodweb Indicators**
 - Populations: Bald Eagle, Lake Trout, Herring Gulls, Mink, Otter
- **Coastal Wetland Indicators**
 - Periodicity of low lake level events, percent meadow marsh cover, change in total wetland surface area.



Why is the LAMP Important to ALL of us?

- **Binational** planning and management mechanism
- Large-scale **ecosystem-based plan** uniquely focused on lake waters
- Considers **human uses and benefits** of lakes: fisheries, clean water for human use and recreation
- Federal **funding** opportunities for local and regional actions
- Provide **public updates** on lake conditions and includes opportunity for public input



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What are the LO LAMP's "Hot Issues"?

- Degradation of lower food chain / loss of prey fish communities
- Loss of biodiversity (e.g. coastal wetlands)
- Fish consumption restrictions
- Nearshore algal blooms
- Invasive species; and
- Restoration of native species



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Key LAMP Actions

- **Pollutant source trackdown & remediation**
 - Priority toxics, nutrients & pathogens
- **Binational Biodiversity Conservation Strategy**
 - Benthic, coastal, wetland & tributary habitats
- **Restoring native fish populations**
 - Atlantic salmon, Lake trout, American eel, Lake sturgeon
- **Coordinated science & monitoring**
 - Harmful algal blooms, AIS, emerging chemicals
- **Public understanding & stewardship**
 - Primary/secondary education, college research, shoreline cleanups, Trees-for-Tribs, etc.

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The LaMP = Ecosystem Approach



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LAMP Implementation in New York's Lake Ontario Watersheds

- **What is needed:**
 - Greater Stewardship of Lake Ontario
 - Coordinated Science, Research, and Monitoring
 - Identification of Project Needs by Focus Area and Geographic Area
 - Other ideas...?

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Questions?



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Reference Slides

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New GLWQA Annexes: What they mean to Lake Ontario

The Updated GLWQA:

- Expands focus that considers new challenges not envisioned in the existing Agreement, such as emerging chemicals, invasive species, and climate change impacts.
- Places greater attention on the nearshore zone, the area most heavily used by people.
- Expands the roles of states, including tribal partners, municipalities, and others.
- Emphasizes pollution prevention activities and lake-specific problems.
- Increased accountability of federal governments.

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New GLWQA Annexes: Important Changes

- **Chemicals of mutual concern**
 - expands list of chemicals
- **Nutrients**
 - updates phosphorus targets
- **Discharges from vessels**
 - includes ballast water, grey water, etc.
- **Aquatic invasive species**
- **Habitat restoration for native species**
- **Climate change impacts**

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Access the NEW Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement at:

<http://www.epa.gov/glnpo/glwqa/index.html>

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New York's Approach

Great Lakes Action Agenda:

- Integrates binational, national, and NY-specific plans and strategies
- Highlights 10 cross-cutting goals to restore, protect, and conserve NYS's Great Lakes Basin
- Draft action plan to coordinate stakeholders, leverage resources, and maximize efforts
- Utilizes EBM/ watershed approach



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Programs that Support the LAMP

- **NYSDEC Projects**
 - Be Green in the Great Lakes lawn care education, Xenobiotics in Fish, Lake Trout/Sturgeon restoration, coldwater stocking programs, Black Creek phosphorus TMDL, etc.
- **NYSDEC Programs**
 - RIBS water quality monitoring, air toxics monitoring, hazardous algal blooms response activities, PRISMs, etc.
- **Partner Initiatives**
 - Sanitary surveys, watershed planning, waterfront revitalization programs, agricultural environmental management practices, binational biodiversity strategy, etc.

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Participant List

Name		Postal Address	City	Zip	Email Address	Meeting Attended
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Maxine	Appleby		Sodus Pt		maxine@maxineappleby.com	9/29 Wallington
Jack	Archie	4820B Sturbridge Ln	Lockport	14094		9/24 Lyndonville
Kevin	Bamerick	12 Endora Dr	Baldwinsville	13027	bamerick4@aol.com	9/29 Oswego
Jennifer	Bansbach				jenniferbansbach@yahoo.com	9/24 Lyndonville
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Al	Webster	36 Lake Rd	Webster	14580	vinyldoc@frontiernet.net	9/26	Webster
Brian	Wohnsiedler	21168 NYS Route 232	Watertown	13601	bwohnsiedler@centralny.twcbc.com	9/27	Henderson

Meeting Announcements and Publicity



September 10, 2012

Dear Lake Ontario Stakeholder,

On behalf of the Finger Lakes – Lake Ontario Watershed Protection Alliance (FOLLOWPA), New York Sea Grant (NYSG) and the Niagara County Soil and Water Conservation District (District), we are writing to cordially invite you to attend one of six workshops to be held from September 24 to 29, 2012.

In 2010, the District received a grant from the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative for the Lake Ontario Education and Outreach Project. The objectives of the project include:

1. Developing a Lake Ontario basin-wide public education and awareness program focused on providing the general public with a sound understanding of the complex problems facing Lake Ontario and the Areas of Concern; providing the Lake Ontario Lakewide Management Plan (LaMP) and Remedial Action Plan (RAP) partners with the tools necessary to engage the public; and educating a sub-set of youth in the basin. This portion of the project is currently underway and is being led by the District.
2. Developing a public participation and involvement initiative to provide the public with an opportunity to submit input on the condition of the lake and its priority tributaries. The District has contracted with FOLLOWPA for this portion of the project, in order to utilize FOLLOWPA's extensive network of local, state and federal partners.

To help accomplish the second objective listed above, FOLLOWPA and NYSG are sponsoring a series of workshops to solicit local viewpoints on the health of the Lake Ontario watershed. At each workshop, there will be a brief overview of the LaMP and RAPs, presented by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. Participants will then help determine a list of new and existing priorities; in addition to identifying further assistance needed for their community to more fully engage in the protection and responsible use of Lake Ontario.

September 24, 2012 ~ Lyndonville Fire Department, 148 N. Main Street, Lyndonville, NY from 5 to 7 pm
September 25, 2012 ~ Town of York Municipal Building, 2668 Main Street, Piffard, NY from 6 to 8 pm
September 26, 2012 ~ Liberty Lodge, 850 Maple Drive, Webster, NY from 5 to 7 pm
September 27, 2012 ~ Henderson Fire Department, 8939 NY 178, Henderson, NY from 5 to 7 pm
September 29, 2012 ~ Wallington Fire Department, 7863 Ridge Road, Wallington, NY from 10 am to Noon
September 29, 2012 ~ SUNY Oswego Campus Center Room 201, Oswego, NY from 2 to 4 pm

A good representation of stakeholders is needed for these workshops to be a success. We hope that you or one of your colleagues can participate. Questions may be forwarded to FOLLOWPA's Program Coordinator, Kristy LaManche, at klamanche@twcny.rr.com or (315) 592-9663. Light refreshments will be served at all of the meetings and prizes will be awarded to the person with the greatest knowledge of Lake Ontario trivia.

Sincerely,

Kristy LaManche
FOLLOWPA Program Coordinator

PRESS RELEASE: September 11, 2012

Contacts:

Mary Penney, New York Sea Grant, 315-312-3042

Kristy LaManche, FLOWPA, 315-592-9663

Public Invited to Lake Ontario Visioning Workshops September 24-29;
Lyndonville, Piffard, Webster, Henderson, Sodus and Oswego Hosting Sessions

Citizens living along Lake Ontario and its tributaries are being invited to provide input at a series of six Lake Ontario Basin Communities Visioning for a Healthy Lake workshops September 24-29.

New York Sea Grant, the Finger Lakes – Lake Ontario Watershed Protection Alliance (FLOWPA), and the Niagara County Soil and Water Conservation District are holding the workshops in Lyndonville, Piffard, Webster, Henderson, Sodus, and Oswego to provide information on issues related to Lake Ontario and its priority tributaries, including the Genesee and Oswego Rivers, and to gather input from the public on lake basin conditions and priorities for a healthy lake system.

“This important series of workshops calls on citizens of the Lake Ontario watershed to provide input on the current status of the watershed and to identify priorities, barriers and potential strategies for removing those barriers for a healthy coastal ecosystem,” says co-organizer New York Sea Grant Coastal Community Development Specialist Mary Penney.

“Participants will help identify the assistance they need for their communities to more fully engage in the protection and responsible use of Lake Ontario,” says co-organizer FLOWPA Program Coordinator Kristy LaManche.

The Lake Ontario Basin Communities Visioning for a Healthy Lake Workshops schedule is:

- September 24, 2012: Lyndonville, Fire Department, 148 N. Main Street, 5-7pm
- September 25, 2012: Piffard, Town of York Office, 2668 Main St, 6-8pm
- September 26, 2012: Webster, Liberty Lodge, 850 Maple Drive, 5-7pm
- September 27, 2012: Henderson, Fire Department, 8939 NY Rt 178, 5-7pm
- September 29, 2012: Sodus, Wallington Fire Department, 7863 Ridge Rd, 10am-12pm
- September 29, 2012: Oswego, SUNY Oswego Campus Center Room 201, 2-4pm.

Workshop discussion will include review of the current Bi-National Lake Ontario Lakewide Management Plan and Lake Ontario Area of Concern Remedial Action Plans.

Workshop participants are expected to include local elected officials and planning boards, county agencies and water quality coordinating committees; watershed, lake and outdoor recreation associations; public agency representatives, and private citizens and business owners.

Proceedings of the September workshops' series on the current condition of the Lake Ontario Watershed Basin, stakeholders' concerns, and the resources and funding sources needed for implementation of priority projects and planning initiatives will be shared with local, State and federal decision-makers, and posted online at www.nyseagrant.org and www.fllowpa.org.

The free workshops are funded in part by Great Lakes Restoration Initiative grant for the Lake Ontario Education and Outreach Project. For more information, contact New York Sea Grant at 315-312-3042 or FLOWPA at 315-592-9663. #

More Info:

The Bi-National Lake Ontario Lake Ontario Lakewide Management Plan (LaMP) includes representatives of the U.S. and Canadian federal governments, New York State, the province of Ontario, and diverse stakeholders organizations. Learn more at <http://epa.gov/greatlakes/ontario.html>.

Areas of Concern:

- Designated by International Joint Commission to concentrate available resources to clean up the most polluted areas in the Great Lakes.
- U.S. and Canadian entities are cooperating to ensure Remedial Action Plans (RAP) are developed and implemented for each Area of Concern (AOC).
- New York State has six AOCs: Buffalo River, Eighteen Mile Creek, Rochester Embayment, Oswego River/Harbor (delisted in 2006), Niagara River, St. Lawrence River at Massena, NY.

Development Authority's Free Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day, 20th Anniversary Land Fill Celebration and Annual Open House

When: Saturday, September 15, 2012
Where: Solid Waste Management Facility, 23400 NYS Rt 177, Rodman, NY
Time: 10:00 am to 2:00 pm

Hazardous Waste Collection is open to all residents of Jefferson, Lewis and St. Lawrence Counties
and is

Sponsored by the Development Authority of the North Country, Jefferson County, and NYS
Department of Environmental Conservation

- Free Household Hazardous Waste & Electronic Equipment Collection
- Fun Activities for the Kids
- Environmental Displays & Presentations
- Bus Tours
- Nature Walks
- Live Birds of Prey
- NYS Zoo at Thompson Park Exhibit

More information about the Open House and the Household Hazardous Waste Collection day can be
found on our website at: <http://www.tughill.org/proj/solid-waste-management-facility-open-house/>.

Lake Ontario Visioning Workshops Announced

Citizens living along Lake Ontario and its tributaries are being invited to provide input at a series of six Lake Ontario Basin Communities Visioning for a Healthy Lake workshops September 24-29. The Finger Lakes – Lake Ontario Watershed Protection Alliance (FLOWPA) and New York Sea Grant are holding the workshops in Lyndonville, Piffard, Webster, Henderson, Sodus, and Oswego to provide information on issues related to Lake Ontario and its priority tributaries, including the Genesee and Oswego Rivers, and to gather input from the public on lake basin conditions and priorities for a healthy lake system.

Workshop discussion will include review of the current Bi-National Lake Ontario Lakewide Management Plan and Lake Ontario Area of Concern Remedial Action Plans. The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation will present its Great Lakes Basin Action Agenda and the Agenda's 13 priorities will frame discussions and small group work sessions.

- September 24, 2012: Lyndonville, Fire Department, 148 N. Main Street, 5-7 pm
- September 25, 2012: Piffard, Town of York Office, 2668 Main St, 6-8 pm
- September 26, 2012: Webster, Liberty Lodge, 850 Maple Drive, 5-7 pm
- **September 27, 2012: Henderson, Fire Department, 8939 NY Rt 178, 5-7 pm**
- September 29, 2012: Sodus, Wallington Fire Department, 7863 Ridge Road, 10 am - noon
- **September 29, 2012: Oswego, SUNY Oswego Campus Center Room 201, 2-4 pm**

The free workshops are funded in part a Great Lakes Restoration Initiative grant, obtained by the Niagara County Soil and Water Conservation District, for the Lake Ontario Education and Outreach Project. For more information, visit www.flowpa.org. Come test your knowledge of Lake Ontario – prizes will be awarded. Light refreshments will be served.

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Public Invited to Lake Ontario Visioning Workshops September 29; Lyndonville, Piffard, Webster, Henderson, Sodus and Oswego. Hosting Sessions Citizens living along Lake Ontario and its tributaries are being invited to provide input at a series of six Lake Ontario Communities Visioning for a Healthy Lake workshops September 29. New York Sea Grant, the Finger Lakes – Lake Ontario Watershed Protection Alliance (FOLLOWPA), and the Niagara County Soil and Water Conservation

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PRESS RELEASE: September 18, 2012

Contacts:

Mary Penney, New York Sea Grant, 315-312-3042

Kristy LaManche, FLOWPA, 315-592-9663

Lake Ontario Visioning Workshop in Piffard September 25 to Address Issues and Opportunities

On September 25, from 6pm to 8pm, the Town of York will host one of six Lake Ontario Basin Communities Visioning for a Healthy Lake workshops at the York Town offices in Piffard. New York Sea Grant, the Finger Lakes – Lake Ontario Watershed Protection Alliance (FLOWPA), and the Niagara County Soil and Water Conservation District are offering this workshop in the headwaters of the Genesee River – part of the Lake Ontario watershed - for residents of Livingston, Wyoming, Genesee and Allegany counties.

The headwaters of the Genesee River drain into one of Lake Ontario's federally-designated Areas of Concern – the Rochester Embayments. This workshop is an opportunity for residents to learn how activities in the upper watershed affect the lower watershed, to become better stewards of the River and the Lake, and to take steps to protect the natural resources of the local area, along the River, and the Lake.

The free workshops are funded in part by Great Lakes Restoration Initiative grant for the Lake Ontario Education and Outreach Project.

For more information, contact New York Sea Grant at 315-312-3042 or FLOWPA at 315-592-9663. #

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Coastal Community Development Program - Press Release

Lyndonville, Piffard, Webster, Henderson, Sodus and Oswego Sessions

Contacts:

Mary Penney, New York Sea Grant, E: mp357@cornell.edu, P: 315-592-9663

Kristy LaManche, Finger Lakes – Lake Ontario Watershed Protection Alliance

P: 315-592-9663

Oswego, NY, September 11, 2012 - Citizens living along Lake Ontario and its tributaries are being invited to provide input at a series of six Lake Ontario Basin Communities Visioning for a Healthy Lake Ontario Workshops from September 24-29.

New York Sea Grant, the Finger Lakes – Lake Ontario Watershed Protection Alliance (FLLWPA), Niagara County Soil and Water Conservation District are holding the workshops in Lyndonville, Piffard, Webster, Henderson, Sodus, and Oswego to provide information on issues related to Lake Ontario and its priorities including the Genesee and Oswego Rivers, and to gather input from the public on lake basin priorities for a healthy lake system.

"This important series of workshops calls on citizens of the Lake Ontario watershed to provide input on the current status of the watershed and to identify priorities, barriers and potential strategies for removing threats to the healthy coastal ecosystem," says co-organizer New York Sea Grant Coastal Community Development Program Coordinator Mary Penney.

"Participants will help identify the assistance they need for their communities to more fully engage in the sustainable and responsible use of Lake Ontario," says co-organizer FLLWPA Program Coordinator Kristy LaManche.

The Lake Ontario Basin Communities Visioning for a Healthy Lake Ontario Workshops schedule is:

- September 24, 2012: Lyndonville, Fire Department, 148 N. Main Street, 5-7pm
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Workshop discussion will include review of the current Bi-National Lake Ontario Lakewide Manage Lake Ontario Area of Concern Remedial Action Plans.

Workshop participants are expected to include local elected officials and planning boards, county a watershed, lake and outdoor recreation associations; public agency representatives, and private citiz

Proceedings of the September workshops' series on the current condition of the Lake Ontario V resources and funding sources needed for implementation of priority projects and planning initia decision-makers, and posted online at www.nyseagrant.org/ccd and www.fllowpa.org.

The free workshops are funded in part by Great Lakes Restoration Initiative grant for the Lake C information, contact New York Sea Grant at 315-312-3042 or FLOWPA at 315-592-9663.

More Info:

The Bi-National Lake Ontario Lake Ontario Lakewide Management Plan (LaMP) includes rep governments, New York State, the province of Ontario, and diverse stakeholders organizations. Lear

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Public Invited to Lake Ontario Visioning Workshops – Oswego County Today

September 13th, 2012

OSWEGO, NY – Citizens living along Lake Ontario and its tributaries are being invited to provide input at a series of six Lake Ontario Basin Communities Visioning for a Healthy Lake workshops September 24-29.

New York Sea Grant, the Finger Lakes – Lake Ontario Watershed Protection Alliance (FOLLOWPA), and the Niagara County Soil and Water Conservation District are holding the workshops in Lyndonville, Piffard, Webster, Henderson, Sodus, and Oswego to provide information on issues related to Lake Ontario and its priority tributaries, including the Genesee and Oswego rivers, and to gather input from the public on lake basin conditions and priorities for a healthy lake system.

via [Public Invited to Lake Ontario Visioning Workshops | Oswego County Today](#).

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Public Invited to Lake Ontario Visioning Workshops

Posted on **September 13, 2012** by **Contributor**

OSWEGO, NY – Citizens living along Lake Ontario and its tributaries are being invited to provide input at a series of six Lake Ontario Basin Communities Visioning for a Healthy Lake workshops September 24-29.

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Workshop participants are expected to include local elected officials and planning boards, county agencies and water quality coordinating committees, watershed, lake and outdoor recreation associations, public agency representatives, and private citizens and business owners.

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The free workshops are funded in part by Great Lakes Restoration Initiative grant for the Lake Ontario Education and Outreach Project. For more information, contact New York Sea Grant at 315-312-3042 or FLLOWPA at 315-592-9563.

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Cop Logs: Sheriff's Office 10/01/2012

From the files of OCSO

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Weather Notebook For October 1, 2012

Mild temps ahead for rest of this week.

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Holiday Craft Show Set Oct. 13

A holiday craft show will be held October 13 from 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. in Hastings at the Parish VFW #8823, at 13 County Route 45, Hastings.

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Backstreet Books To Host Book Signing With Local Author Kline

Ever felt unappreciated or underpaid at your job? Local author Tracy L. Kinne understands your plight and shares her feelings on the subject in her book, "On Sale: Employers Get Good Workers Dirt Cheap."

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Lake Ontario visioning workshop in Oswego Sunday

Posted: Wednesday, September 26, 2012 4:00 am

Citizens living along Lake Ontario and its tributaries are being invited to provide input at a series of six Lake Ontario Basin Communities Visioning for a Healthy Lake workshops this week.

New York Sea Grant, the Finger Lakes — Lake Ontario Watershed Protection Alliance (FOLLOWPA), and the Niagara County Soil and Water Conservation District are holding the workshops in Lyndonville, Piffard, Webster, Henderson, Sodus and Oswego to provide information on issues related to Lake Ontario and its priority tributaries, including the Genesee and Oswego rivers, and to gather input from the public on lake basin conditions and priorities for a healthy lake system.

Monday October 01, 2012
[The Buffalo News.com \(/\)](http://www.buffalonews.com/)

Sports

Outdoors calendar for Sept. 23

Updated: September 23, 2012, 12:21 AM Published: September 23, 2012, 12:21 AM

Meetings

. Lake Ontario Visioning Workshop Meetings: Lyndonville Fire Dept., 148 N. Main St., 5-7 p.m., Monday; Town of York Office, 2668 Main St., Piffard, 6-8 p.m., Tuesday; and Liberty Lodge, 850 Maple St., Webster, 5-7 p.m., Wednesday.

. WNY Chapter of Trout Unlimited, 3210 Genesee St., Cheektowaga, fly tying at 6 p.m., meeting at 7:30 p.m., Tuesday. DEC biologist James Markham will discuss "Lake Erie Cold-Water Fisheries Issues." Call 695-1003.

. Genesee County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs, Batavia Rod & Gun Club, 7:30 p.m., Tuesday. Call (585) 472-1343.

Archery

. Tri-County Kingdom Archers Fall 3-D Shoot, Delevan/Arcade, Saturday, open to all ages and skill levels, courses for compound, traditional and others. Call Ben Heckathorn (474-5703).

Shooting sports

. WNY Outdoor Pistol League, Clarence Club at Ten-X Shooting Club, 853 Ransom Rd., Lancaster, 8 a.m., Sept. 30. Call Bob Guyder (695-1725).

. Boston Valley Conservation Society 10-Week Pistol League, Zimmerman Rd., begins Thursday, with shooting rounds at 6, 7 and 8 p.m. Call 337-3555.

. North Forest Rod & Gun Club Ladies Hoot 'N Hoot Third Annual Women Conquering Outdoor Adventures, 6257 Old Niagara Rd., Lockport, 8:30 a.m.-6 p.m., Saturday. For more information and details, call 439-1464.

Certification classes

Hunter

. Niagara Gun Range, 3355 Niagara Falls Blvd., North Tonawanda 6-10 p.m., Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. Call 693-4000.

. Canaseraga Conservation Club, American Legion, 83 Main St., 6:30-9:30 p.m., Monday and Oct. 1 and 3, and 9 a.m.-noon, Oct. 6. Call (607) 545-8948 or (607) 545-8664 evenings.

. Portville Conservation Club, Butternut Brook Rd., 6-9:30 p.m., Thursday and Friday and 8 a.m.-3 p.m., Saturday. Call 307-7222 (noon-5 p.m.).

. East Aurora Fish & Game Club, 9 a.m.-done, Saturday and Sept. 30. Call 652-0229.

. North Forest Rod & Gun Club, 6257 Old Niagara Rd., Lockport, 5:30-9:30 p.m., Oct. 8, 10 and 11. Call 778-9935 or 433-4189 (5-9 p.m.).

. Allied Sportsmen's Club Home Study Course, 12847 Clinton St., Alden, 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m., Oct. 13. For study material, call 474-0460 (Monday-Friday, 6:30-9:30 p.m.).

Archery

. Hamburg Rod & Gun Club, Hickox Rd., 6-10 p.m., Monday and Tuesday. Register at first class.

. Wheatfield Community Center, 2790 Church St., 5:30-9:30 p.m., Monday and Tuesday. Call 694-9414 (10 a.m.-10 p.m.)

. Evans Rod & Gun Club, Cain Rd., 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Saturday or 8 a.m.-done, Oct. 6. Register at the Evans Town Hall at 549-8787 (8 a.m.-4 p.m.).

. Scio Rod & Gun Club, 3978 Vandermark Rd., 5:40-9:15 p.m., Oct. 1 and 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Oct. 6. Call (585) 268-7322.




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Oswego hosts seminar on keeping Lake Ontario healthy

Published: Sunday, September 23, 2012, 6:13 AM



(<http://connect.syracuse.com/user/dgroom/index.html>)

By Debra J. Groom, The Post-Standard

(<http://connect.syracuse.com/user/dgroom/posts.html>)

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(http://blog.syracuse.com/news/print.html?entry=/2012/09/oswego_hosts_seminar_on_keepin.html)

Oswego, NY -- Oswego will host one of a series of Lake Ontario Visioning for a Healthy Lake workshops this month.

Citizens living along Lake Ontario and its tributaries are invited to provide input at one of the workshops. The Oswego event is from 2 to 4 p.m. Sept. 29 at the State University College at Oswego Campus Center Room 201.

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September 29 Lake Ontario Visioning Workshop in Sodus to Address Local Interests

Posted by Kara Lynn Dunn



Algal bloom on Sodus Bay.

Sodus, NY; September 28, 2012 --

Tomorrow's (Saturday, September 29) 10am -12pm Lake Ontario Basin Communities Visioning for a Healthy Lake workshop at the Wallington Fire Department in Sodus, NY, is an opportunity for citizens to share their interests and concerns for local resources, including water quality, habitat, and recreational resources, and to learn how to become better stewards of the Lake and its watershed.

New York Sea Grant, the Finger Lakes – Lake Ontario Watershed Protection Alliance

(FLOWPA), and the Niagara County Soil and Water Conservation District are offering this workshop for residents in the Lake Ontario watershed community, Wayne and Cayuga counties, and surrounding area.

The free workshop is funded in part by Great Lakes Restoration Initiative grant for the Lake Ontario Education and Outreach Project.

For more information, contact New York Sea Grant at 315-312-3042 or FLOWPA at 315-592-9663. #



September 25, 2012

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Lake issues raised at forum (<http://niagara-gazette.com/local/x240469140/Lake-issues-raised-at-forum>)

By Jim Krencik**Niagara Gazette (<http://niagara-gazette.com>)**

Niagara Gazette — LYNDONVILLE — A group of residents and civic leaders brought their concerns about the vitality of the waterways and communities that surround Lake Ontario to what is the first in a series of lake visioning workshops Monday in Lyndonville.

The Lake Ontario Watershed Basin Forum Workshop Series are part of an education and outreach project led by the Niagara County Soil & Water Department.

According to Victor DiGiacomo, remedial action plan coordinator for the Eighteenmile Creek, the workshops will provide state and local agencies with a clear view of what lakeside landowners feel are the major issues surrounding the lake.

"We're trying to get a general idea of what they are thinking, it's been a while since we had a snapshot," said DiGiacomo, who presented the RAP for the Lockport-Newfane creek, which is one of six areas of concern along the lake.

On Monday, leaders from the state DEC and the Finger Lakes-Lake Ontario Watershed Protection Alliance received enough concerns and ideas to fill out their study with five workshops to go.

Water officials sounded the alarm for sorely-needed dredging projects in both Wilson and Carlton. Orleans County Sportfishing Coordinator Mike Waterhouse said that the tourism hit would be significant if an untapped \$8 billion fund for dredging projects isn't used.

Lakeside residents said state and federal agencies need to protect shoreline properties from devastating erosion. Kenneth Hoffman, a member of the Wilson Planning Board, said that more, well less actually, can be done to allow residents to make smart repairs.

"Anything for property owners on the shorelines to make repairs, it's time for another action to protect the shores," Hoffman said. "This isn't a problem with the DEC, but we need less obstruction and more funding."

Zelazny said the message has been heard clearly through the public forums on the International Joint Commissions' proposal for greater variance in lake levels.

"We're trying to identify all the shoreline structures. If people are making improvements to armor their shore, we want it to be using the best practices," Zelazny said.

Overall, LaManche said that attendees' biggest concern was waterfront protection. "It's the resounding theme," she told the group.

In many cases, the call was for lakeside issues to be considered as a whole. Waterhouse said the IJC's plan will have an effect on un-dredged harbors.

Niagara County Legislature David Godfrey brought up the potential for toxic contamination from Porter landfill leaking into the Fourmile and Sixmile creeks, and eventually the lake.

"To me that's a lot more serious ... there could be airborne and lake radiation," Godfrey said. "There seems to be a disconnect, but there is a connection."

DiGiacomo said that the Niagara River, the Eighteenmile Creek and the other areas of concern designated in New York's Lake Ontario watersheds are severally degraded, the "hottest toxic hotspots."

"The creek has been a concern since the 1980s, the pollution there predated our current laws and practices," he explained.

Contact reporter Jim Krencik at 798-1400, ext. 6327.



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Niagara Gazette 310 Niagara Street Niagara Falls, NY 14302

Post-Workshop Public Comment

Kristy LaManche

From: Suku Menon [sukumenonmea@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, September 26, 2012 12:25 PM
To: klamanche@twcny.rr.com
Subject: Towns adjacent to Lake Ontario

How can we get the Towns surrounding Lake Ontario to put in their Comprehensive Plan requirements to preserve and enhance the quality of Lake Ontario water body and implement the requirements? We need to pay attention to the impact of the Development of land on water quality. We need to pay attention to the impact of the actions of citizens on the lake water quality. Lake Ontario near shore pollution is evident, causing beach closings and adverse effects on fishing and tourism. If we do not address this problem at the root we won't be in position to leave a legacy of clean water for our future generation.
Thanking you for the opportunity to make my comments.

Regards,
Suku Menon - Residing in Webster for 38 years
701 Shanlee Drive
Webster, NY

Kristy LaManche

From: Donald Zelazny [dezelazn@gw.dec.state.ny.us]
Sent: Monday, October 01, 2012 12:47 PM
To: 'Mary Penney'; Jennifer Baker; Shannon Dougherty; Victor Digiacomio; Kristy LaManche
Cc: Ben Sears
Subject: Re: Attendance Sheet for LOWBF

Kristy - A very fine job!!

As part of your final deliverable to EPA, whatever it may be, I suggest including a recommendation that all these people be added to the LO LAMP mailing list and that they all receive a copy of the latest "UPDATE 2012"

DZ

>>> "Kristy LaManche" <klamanche@twcny.rr.com> 10/1/2012 12:28 PM >>>

Here it is. I haven't tested the email addresses yet, but let me know if any of them don't work and I'll double check the entry.

Kristy LaManche

Finger Lakes - Lake Ontario Watershed Protection Alliance
(FOLLOWPA)
Program Coordinator
3481 South Street Road
Marcellus, New York 13108
(315) 673-7148

Kristy LaManche

From: MUnderhill@co.livingston.ny.us
Sent: Monday, October 01, 2012 12:20 PM
To: klamanche@twcny.rr.com
Cc: aellis@co.livingston.ny.us; hferrero@co.livingston.ny.us
Subject: G/FLRPC Blueways Trails Analysis

Kristy,

After some discussion here is the office following the meeting last week, Angela thought that you might find this report of interest, considering the emphasis on the Genesee River.

Genesee-Finger Lakes Regional Blueways Trails Analysis: <http://www.gflrpc.org/blueways.htm>

Thanks,

Mary Underhill
Planning Assistant
Livingston County Planning Department
6 Court Street - Room 305
Geneseo, NY 14454
Phone: (585) 243-7550
Fax: (585) 243-7566

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