

REQUESTING YOUR SUPPORT

2016 Annual Appeal



May 2016

Dear Friend,

We finally have some warm weather to enjoy. This also means activity is going to pick up rapidly in our watershed. Thanks to the generous support of our members and friends, our Annual Appeal campaign has become a tremendous success in supporting our mission to protect Canandaigua Lake. Because of the support of donors like you, in 2015 CLWA was able to fund:

- The continuation of the Watercraft Steward program at two boat launches on the lake (14,000 boats checked for aquatic invasive species!)
- A habitat restoration project near Sucker Brook in the Old Brookside development
- The next phase of the Natural Capital Study, which has the capability to value the ecological services provided by open land, forests, and wetlands in the watershed and express their value in monetary terms.
- A contribution to FLCC towards the purchase of advanced testing equipment that will be used for monthly sampling and monitoring of the Lake from 350 miles of tributaries.

This year, CLWA has more community projects that will enhance the beauty, enjoyment, and environmental health of the lake and its watershed. Once again, we are asking you to assist us in these endeavors. The projects we hope you will support in 2016:

- **Buffer Strip Initiative** Tests conducted on all the main tributaries that flow into Canandaigua Lake show that, during rainfall events, harmful contaminants, nutrients and sediments are having a very negative impact on the ecological balance and water quality of the lake. CLWA is working with the community on an initiative to install buffer strips of trees, bushes and grasses along tributaries and the shoreline to improve and protect the quality of water flowing into the lake.
- **Support Finger Lakes Land Trust Land Purchases** Preserving natural lands in the watershed serves the water quality goals of the Watershed Association as well as the habitat protection goals of the Land Trust. CLWA will assist FLLT in acquiring lands and easements on properties with the greatest potential for water quality protection.
- **Improvements to Sucker Brook** CLWA will invest in projects that improve the condition of Sucker Brook, including stabilizing its banks, restoring lost wetlands, moderating flows, and removing pollutants.
- **Meet Scientific Research Needs for Emerging Issues such as blue-green algae, lake foam, plastic micro-beads, invasive species, etc.** Scientific testing often provides the only effective answers to complex problems.
- **Information/Tracking and Treating Hemlock Woolly Adelgid** Tracking the progress of this pest, informing the public about the threat, and assisting with biological control measures developed at Cornell will be the thrust of this project's expenditures.
- **Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Program** CLWA and its partners have established a multifaceted AIS program to prevent the further spread of AIS in Canandaigua Lake through rigorous watercraft checks, and strategically placed signage and disposal stations at 15 locations around the lake. Though much work has been done, the AIS program has become an important mainstay project for Canandaigua Lake.

We are asking for your support—above and beyond what your membership dues already help us accomplish. Please join with us in expanding our efforts to preserve, protect, and promote the Canandaigua Lake watershed.

As always, we thank you for your continued support!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom Zimmerman".

Tom Zimmerman, President
Canandaigua Lake Watershed Association