

The Lake Reporter



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CLWA's Position on Hydraulic Fracturing

On September 19, 2011, the Board of Directors of the Canandaigua Lake Watershed Association unanimously passed a resolution to oppose the method of obtaining natural gas known as hydraulic fracturing in the Canandaigua Lake watershed located in the counties of Ontario and Yates in upstate New York.

Canandaigua Lake supplies drinking water to over 60,000 residents (up to 15 million gallons per day worth \$6 million per year), is the main economic driver of the area's tourist economy (\$177 million in 2008), is heavily used for recreation (more than \$10 million per year) and contributes over \$1 billion in value to the watershed's real property values.

The Canandaigua Lake Watershed Association is a not-for-profit watershed-wide membership organization whose parent organization was formed in 1953 and currently has 1300 members. The organization's mission has remained unchanged for 58 years:

The Canandaigua Lake Watershed Association works to protect the water quality and overall environment of the Canandaigua

Lake watershed through public policy and educational programs that are grounded in scientific research and analysis.

Staying true to its Mission, the CLWA Board has analyzed the existing scientific research relating to hydraulic fracturing to determine its potential impact on the water quality and environment of the watershed. The conclusion of the Board is that, at present, this method of gas extraction poses a very real threat to the water quality of Canandaigua Lake, the economic vitality of the businesses in the area, and the quality of life of the watershed's residents.

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Minutes of Annual Meeting of the Canandaigua Lake Watershed Association at Steamboat Landing Restaurant, Canandaigua 20 August 2011

By Edith Davey

President Lynn Thurston conducted the business meeting. Officers elected for 2011-2012 were:

- President: Brenda Keith
- President -elect: Jack Dailey
- Treasurer: Frank Kerwin
- Past-President: Lynn Thurston

Katrina Busch was nominated and approved as a new Board Member.

Frank Kerwin reported on the financial stability of the CLWA: assets summarized as \$136,727. Appropriate reports were available for examination.

The program was a panel of elected officials of watershed municipalities who addressed issues and topics of interest in their particular jurisdiction.

- Samuel Casella, Supervisor, Town of Canandaigua
- Ellen Polimeni, Mayor, City of Canandaigua
- Daniel Marshall, Supervisor, Town of South Bristol
- Richard Calabrese, Supervisor, Town of Gorham

The following topics were highlighted:

Gorham:
Soil Erosion control planning, steep slopes law, limitation of impervious surface in proximity to the lake, zoning changes,

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From the Chair

By Brenda Keith

Greetings to all,

It is my pleasure to be a member of the Canandaigua Lake Watershed Association and to serve the organization and its membership.

As an organization dedicated to meeting the critical needs and educational opportunities of our watershed area, we continue to utilize scientific research and thoughtful evaluations of present and future potential actions within the Canandaigua Lake watershed, and to provide information to CLWA members and the public through pro-active efforts to preserve, protect and promote the watershed. It is our belief that a healthy land equals clean water (for all).

A major issue now under review in New York State is high-volume hydraulic fracturing and the environmental impact the horizontal drilling process will have throughout the Finger Lakes watersheds. The documents and reports issued by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation can be accessed at www.dec.ny.gov.

It is imperative that we each become informed regarding hydraulic fracturing and what it will mean to our environment and our current economic health within the watershed. Comments will be accepted by the DEC until December 12th. A public hearing is scheduled to be held on November 16, 2011 at the Dansville Middle School Auditorium, 31 Clara Barton St., Dansville, NY 14437, from 1 to 4 p.m. and from 6 to 9 p.m.

Comments can be submitted online at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/energy/76838.html>.

We know that the watersheds of New York City and the City of Syracuse (including Skanaeteles Lake) are protected from the high-volume hydraulic fracturing horizontal drilling through more stringent regulations. Shouldn't all Finger Lakes watersheds be afforded this protection for their water supplies?

Take a few minutes to read the additional articles in this newsletter. If you have specific questions or comments regarding the efforts of the Canandaigua Lake Watershed Association or wish to become involved as a member volunteer, please let us know.

Sincere regards,
Brenda C. Keith, President
Canandaigua Lake Watershed Association

Make the Lake an Issue

We urge our members to continue to make the care and protection of Canandaigua Lake and its watershed an issue at the local, State and federal levels. Candidates for election often state that they favor protection of our natural resources.

Question them. Ask for specifics. Find out what they propose. CLWA's annual meeting in August featured a panel of local elected officials who gave an excellent summary of past actions and ongoing issues facing the lake and watershed.

As the political season approaches (and these days it seems continuous) question the candidates about what they will do to protect our precious land and water. Promote the idea that care of the lake requires care for the watershed area. Keep the care of the lake up in the political consciousness. **CLWA**

Membership Campaign

The Watershed Association's membership year is now the calendar year. Previous membership years beginning/ending at other times have caused us bookkeeping problems. Our current membership year ends December 31, 2011.

Most of you who receive this newsletter have paid annual dues for 2011. In the very near future you will receive a letter of solicitation from our Membership Committee inviting you to make a donation for 2012.

Remember how important the health and beauty of Canandaigua Lake is to you and your family. Please consider an upgrade to your membership level. **CLWA**

CANANDAIGUA LAKE WATERSHED ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Brenda Keith	President
Lynn Thurston	Past-President
Jack Dailey	President-Elect
Frank Kerwin	Treasurer
Thomas Harradine	Secretary
Stephen Lewandowski	Consultant
Edith Davey	Technical Assistant
Bob Brancato, Ted Carman, Marty DeVinney, John Fayko, Katrina Busch, Wade Sarkis, Rod Smith, Tom Zimmerman	

Watershed Education Program: Nadia Harvieux, Sharon Radak

Please contact us at:

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The Lake Reporter is published quarterly and distributed free to members and supporters. We invite submissions. Please send them via e-mail to stachu14512@yahoo.com or to PO Box 323, Canandaigua, NY 14424.

Letters to the Editor

Dear CLWA members,

As many of you know, I was not able to attend this summer's Annual Meeting. What an honor it was to learn about receiving the Bud Rohrer Stewardship Award! I extend my thanks and appreciation for being selected for this award, it means a great deal to me.

Like all of you, Canandaigua Lake is near and dear to my heart. As a kid, I grew up spending much of my time, literally, in the lake, and as an adult, moved back to Canandaigua with my husband so our kids could have that experience as well. I feel so fortunate that my boys are living the life I have always wished for them, fishing, swimming and enjoying the magical beauty of Canandaigua Lake, experiences that will no doubt profoundly shape their lives further into the future than even I can imagine.

So many of you share this passion for Canandaigua Lake. I truly enjoy working with our Board and active members on projects that help raise awareness about the importance of protecting Canandaigua Lake and its surrounding watershed. I am especially grateful to our CLWA members for their generous support of the Watershed Education Program—the program could not be a success without all of you!

Together, we've created a much stronger watershed community that we can all be proud of, for generations to come.

With heartfelt thanks,
Nadia Harvieux

Protect the Finger Lakes

To the editor:

Thousands of acres have been leased to natural gas companies in the Finger Lakes, including the Canandaigua Lake watershed, for natural gas extraction. As many of the members know, Hydraulic Fracturing (hydrofracking) uses intense pressure to force toxic chemicals mixed with water and sand into the ground to break up the shale. The gas companies cannot control where the rock fractures and the gas, chemicals, and water intermingle. The gas companies refuse to disclose the identity of all the chemicals they use, claiming such information is a trade secret (proprietary).

Since hydrofracking is occurring in other states, researchers have been able to do chemical analysis of samples taken from sites. Testing reveals a mix of over 500 chemicals. One chemical is Triethylene Glycol, which is an anti-freeze, and it is used for the entire life of the well. The known effects of this chemical on humans are testicular toxicity, malformation

of the embryo, bone marrow depression and hemolysis (destruction of red blood cells). Google Dr. Theo Colborn & pollution from hydrofracking and you'll read about the environmental and health hazards from hydrofracking in more detail than I can put into this small space. People, pets and farm animals are falling ill from polluted water and air. Many people who have leased their land have had to sign non-disclosure agreements, but many are speaking out so others won't have to suffer from the same mistakes.

In addition to environmental and health impacts, the industry of hydrofracking sacrifices all other rural economic activities: recreation, agriculture, tourism, retirement living, and habitat preservation. In addition to the air and water pollution, there is 24/7 noise and light pollution. There will be heavy truck transportation of hydrofracking chemicals to the drilling sites and produced waste water from the sites, which will create wear and tear on our roads and bridges.

Realistically, human error cannot be completely eliminated, and a road accident could allow those toxins into the ground-water and lake. Millions of gallons of water are needed for hydrofracking, and half of that comes back as produced waste water contaminated with heavy metals, radiation, and sludgy salt water brine. More of this waste is being produced than can be properly processed and disposed of.

The NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation (DEC) recently issued a Supplemental Generic Environmental Impact Statement. (Sept. 2011 SGEIS) www.dec.ny.gov/energy/75370.html). The DEC is accepting public comment as it relates to their 1000+ page document until Dec.12, 2011. Now is the time to mobilize to protect the watershed in your city, town or village. Connect with others in your community who want to ban hydrofracking in the Finger Lakes and get help writing your letter to the DEC. Write and call your local legislators and Governor Cuomo and let them know that clean water and air are more valuable commodities than natural gas. We will not get a second chance.

Jo-Ann R. O'Brien
Town of Canandaigua

A Gift

William and Anne Buckingham have made a gift to the Canandaigua Lake Watershed Association to

celebrate

the marriage of their daughter Cathy and Harry Voss.

We thank them and add our best wishes.

CLWA's Position on Hydraulic Fracturing

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CLWA's analysis identified numerous factors of the industrial process and governmental oversight of hydraulic fracturing that need to be improved and/or corrected in order to reasonably assure Canandaigua Lake watershed's water quality and environmental integrity. Generally, these include:

INSUFFICIENT SAFETY STATUS OF THE INDUSTRIAL PROCESS

- Hydraulic fracturing has contaminated drinking water sources. Contrary to the industry's claim, there is a documented instance of contamination and many more probable instances that have been settled out of court with a settlement condition that the terms not be made public (NY Times 5-13-11).

- A majority of waste treatment plants cannot filter out chemicals used in the "fracking" process, which are contained in the millions of gallons of wastewater generated by each well. None of the wastewater treatment plants can filter out the radioactivity that contaminates some of the fracking wastewater. The New York City and Syracuse water supply watersheds have been exempted from hydraulic fracture drilling, because their water supplies are not filtered, but the facts prove that this is not a valid reason for their preferential treatment.

- There is currently no known remediation process to return Canandaigua Lake's water to potable status should an accident occur. A review of the economic value, described above, generated by the high quality of Canandaigua Lake's water will demonstrate the considerable economic loss the area would suffer and the severe hardship inflicted on the residents if a safe supply of drinking water was no longer available to them.

INSUFFICIENT REGULATORY/OVERSIGHT PROCESS

- There is currently no comprehensive regulatory/oversight plan for the hydraulic fracturing industry in New York State. The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation does not have sufficient staff to oversee widespread use of the hydraulic fracturing process, neither site preparation, nor drilling, nor monitoring the thousands of trucks hauling millions of gallons of industrial wastewater to destinations that are currently incapable of adequately treating it.

- Even if the application and license fees for drilling permits were sufficient to hire and train adequate staff to oversee the many hydraulic fracturing operations, lag time between commencement of drilling and the establishment of adequate oversight could be disastrous.

- The adequacy of any governmental oversight plan developed under time constraints, especially one purporting to oversee complex technical activities by wealthy, powerful corporations, must be carefully reviewed before drilling can

be permitted. One has only to analyze the Indian Point Emergency Evacuation Plan to understand how perfunctory governmental review of corporate plans to protect the health and safety of its citizens can be.

The Canandaigua Lake Watershed Association sincerely believes that it has exercised due diligence in deciding to oppose the use of hydraulic fracturing in the Canandaigua Lake watershed. Its members understand the economic factors for the upstate area and the national energy supply implications for the country. However, it is the Board's reasoned opinion that the risk of potentially tragic outcomes for Canandaigua Lake and its watershed greatly outweigh the considerable benefits at this time.

The Canandaigua Lake Watershed Association urges our local and statewide leaders to consider its position before making any public policy decisions regarding the permitting of hydraulic fracturing in the Canandaigua Lake watershed.

Canandaigua Lake watershed through public policy and educational programs that are grounded in scientific research and analysis. **CLWA**

Hydrofracking Update

In September 2011, NY State's Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) released their revised recommendations on hydraulic fracturing, or hydrofracking, which includes:

- Banning High-Volume Fracturing in NYC and Syracuse Watersheds
- Drilling Banned Within All Primary Aquifers and on State-Owned Land Including State Forest and Wildlife Management Areas
- Drilling Permitted on Other Private Land with Rigorous and Effective Protections
- Advisory Panel on Implementation to Be Appointed

The DEC's public comment period on the 2011 draft Supplement Generic Environmental Impact Statement ends December 12, 2011. By law, no permits may be issued until the public comments are reviewed and considered and the final Supplement Generic Environmental Impact Statement is released.

How can you help?

To learn more about the DEC's new recommendations on hydrofracking and electronic submission of comments using the DEC's web-base comment form, please visit the DEC website at: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/energy/75370.html>

Ontario County Sheriff - Marine & Recreation Division Summer 2011 Report: May - September

By Lt. William Gallagher

- Handled 288 navigation-related complaints
- Patrolled daily Canandaigua and Honeoye Lakes
- Enforced Lake Advisory due to high water levels in May
- Removed debris from Canandaigua Lake, including trees, logs, utility poles, docks on many occasions
- Recovered two docks floating loose in Canandaigua Lake
- Recovered several jet skis and boats, rescued a dog in the lake
- Assisted 47 disabled boats on Canandaigua Lake (including the Canandaigua Lady) and towed 25 to shore
- Terminated 2 voyages- no PDF
- Responded to 2 boat fires and 3 calls of overturned boats with people in water
- Inspected 758 vessels
- Issued warnings to 101 boaters for excessive speed, no PDF, no horn, no fire extinguisher, too close to shore, etc.
- Issued 6 citations for unregistered boat and tubing after sunset
- Investigated 3 boating crashes with injuries
- Assisted with 2 drowning/recovery operations
- Responded to 8 afterhours calls for emergencies
- Assisted with placement of buoy lines at Vine Valley Beach
- Assisted DEC with fisherman checks, OC Sheriff's Office Dive Team, Canandaigua Fire Department with boat engine fire
- Patrolled the Annual Trout Derby in June
- Assisted with Swim Across the Lake Event in August and Finger Lakes Triathlon
- Provided patrols at EVM on 10 days during May
- Assisted with warrants, executed 8 warrants in May
- Conducted Boater Safety Training Class as Marcus Whitman for 22 students and for 38 students at the Sheriff's Office
- Assisted with fireworks shows in July
- Serviced and made repairs on 2 patrol boats on Canandaigua Lake and 1 on Honeoye
- Patrolled Ontario Beach Park, Butler Road Park Deep Run Park, Pelican Point, Squaw Island, Holiday Harbor, Woodville, Grimes Glen, Onanda Park, City Pier, Kershaw Park, Yacht Club Cove, Gannett Hill County Park, Crystal Beach Park, Vine Valley, Bristol Harbor and Co. Rd. 12 Scenic Overlook, German Brothers Marina, Ontario Beach Park, Sutton and Seager Marinas, etc..

NYS Representatives Canandaigua Lake Watershed

Senate

*Senator Michael F. Nozzolio, 54th NYS Senate District, 119 Fall St., Seneca Falls, NY 13148 (315) 568-9816 (Towns of Farmington, Manchester)

Senator Thomas O'Mara, 53rd NYS Senate District, 105 E. Steuben St., Bath, NY 14810 (607) 776-3201 (Towns of Middlesex, Italy, Potter)

Senator Patrick Gallivan, 59th NYS Senate District, 143 N. Main St., Warsaw, NY 14569 (585) 786-5048 (Towns of Hopewell, Gorham, Canandaigua, Bristol, S. Bristol, and Naples, City of Canandaigua)

Assembly

Assemblyman Philip Palmesano, 136th NYS Assembly District, 105 E. Steuben St., Bath, NY 14810 (607) 776-9691 (Towns of Middlesex and Italy)

Assemblyman Sean Hanna, 130th NYS Assembly District, 3045 E. Henrietta Rd., Henrietta, NY 14467, (585) 334-5210 (Towns of Farmington, Bristol, S. Bristol and Naples, Village of Naples)

Assemblyman Brian M. Kolb, 129th NYS Assembly District, 607 W. Washington St., Suite 2, Geneva, NY 14456 (315) 781-2030 (Towns of Hopewell, Gorham, Canandaigua, City of Canandaigua)

*Does not represent the watershed per se but sometimes takes an interest

Minutes of Annual Meeting of the Canandaigua Lake Watershed Association

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updates of the Comprehensive Plan and preservation of 300 acres of open space land.

South Bristol:

Steep slope regulations requiring more oversight of construction in proximity to the Lake and to tributaries, Docks and Moorings Law. Appreciation was expressed to Maria Rudzinsky (County Planning) and Kevin Olvany (Watershed Council) for their contributions to the Docks and Moorings Law formulation.

City of Canandaigua:

Planning for rain garden infrastructure, replacing gas pipes beneath sidewalks and streets and replacement of trees, reduced winter road salting in area and quantity, labeling storm drains, Planned Unit Development requirements for more stringent environmental components, reduced use of herbicides and pesticides on city right of ways.

Town of Canandaigua:

Collaborative efforts with the Watershed Council, Comprehensive plan update, Purchase of Development Rights to the Wyffels farm, Agricultural Environmental Management in the Town, farmland protection.

Other areas of concern included intense rainstorms causing soil erosion and high water damage, funding for PDRs and other projects. Hydrofracking for horizontal gas well drilling received great attention from at-large members attending.

Lynn Thurston summarized CLWA's accomplishments during the past year, using many elements of the powerpoint show, "Our Environment is our Economy," assembled by the Marketing Committee, especially Katrina Busch, which included:

- contributions to water quality testing
- the Secchi disk "Take a Dip" program
- contributions to mapping onsite wastewater treatment systems in the watershed
- contributions to the Land Trust for preservation of three natural areas
- lobbying for the Phosphorus Reduction Bill
- participation and leadership in the Regional Association of Finger Lakes Watersheds
- supported Steep Slope and Docks and Moorings Regulation creation
- provided three scholarships for FLCC students' Field Camp
- received Canandaigua City Schools Friend of Education Award for the Watershed Education Program
- engaged in community outreach: hydrofracking symposium, presentations to civic groups

Steve Lewandowski, CLWA Consultant, presented the Watershed Steward Award to Robert Sands, representing Constellation Brands, to acknowledge their donation of valuable watershed land to the Finger Lakes Land Trust.

Brenda Keith and members of the Bud Rohrer family presented the Rohrer Stewardship Award to Nadia Harvieux (accepted by her mother, Oksana Fuller) in acknowledgment of her volunteer contributions to CLWA and her development of the Watershed Education Program active in the three school districts of the watershed. The Rohrer Stewardship Award is named in honor of "Bud" Rohrer and that family's history of care for Canandaigua Lake.

Members were asked to note their own areas of concern and leave these as written notes for the Board of Directors to help direct future attention and action of CLWA. **CLWA**

CLWA COMMITTEES 2011-2012

Development- Ted Carman, Jack Dailey, Wade Sarkis, Rod Smith

Events- Bob Brancato, Mark Case, Dick DeMallie

*Executive- Brenda Keith, Jack Dailey, Frank Kerwin, Tom Harradine, Lynn Thurston

Docks and Moorings- Jack Dailey, Marty DeVinney

Education- Brenda Keith, Nadia Harvieux

*Finance- Wade Sarkis, Frank Kerwin, Rod Smith, Brenda Keith

Marketing- Katrina Busch, Bob McCarthy, Meg Ewing, Wendy Dunster

Membership- Tom Harradine, Bob Brancato, Don Sheive, Frank Kerwin, John Fayko

*Nominating- John Fayko, Tom Harradine, Bob Brancato, Frank Kerwin

Partnership- Lynn Thurston, Bob Brancato

Water Quality- Marty DeVinney, Bob Brancato

*=required by Bylaws

VOLUNTEERS ARE WELCOME ON CLWA COMMITTEES. CALL STEVE AT 394-5030 TO VOLUNTEER TO SERVE.

School is Back in Session! Local Students Learning About the Canandaigua Lake Watershed

By Nadia Harvieux

Field Days

Teachers and students headed back to the classroom this fall, and CLWA's watershed educators were right there with them. To kick off the fifth year of the program, educator Sharon Radak led watershed-focused activities at the 27th annual Conservation Field Days held at Camp Bristol Hills. Students learned about aquatic insects and their sensitivity to water pollution as they 'became' different insects in an imaginary stream environment and kept track of insect population changes in response to increased pollution. "It is such a fun activity for the kids," shared Sharon "because kids learn the impacts of pollution on living organisms so quickly."

Naples Creek

September also brought Maureen Russell's 7th grade science students from Naples down to Naples Creek for a fifth year of water quality monitoring. CLWA educator Nadia Harvieux explained "students learned about aquatic insects and their sensitivity to pollution in the classroom then headed to the creek armed with their sampling nets and magnifiers to see what aquatic insects they could identify." Students discovered that Naples Creek was home to a high number of caddisflies, mayflies and stoneflies, species that cannot tolerate pollution. Based on their monitoring of aquatic insect populations, Naples students confirmed that Naples Creek continues to be good quality water. **CLWA**



7th grade students at Naples Creek



Sharon Radak and students at Conservation Field Days



Students test Naples Creek water for macroinvertebrates

Lake Levels

By Stephen Lewandowski

Canandaigua Lake cruised most of the late summer at levels about half a foot lower than the recommended level. A dry, hot July evaporated a lot of lake water which was not replenished by rainfall or runoff.

September rains have brought Canandaigua Lake's level back to the summer levels and above, despite attempts to lower the lake to fall and winter levels. At the moment, Canandaigua Lake is at 688.05 feet, about 2 inches above the fall level prescribed by the Guide Curve. **CLWA**

Valuing and Protecting Our Natural Capital

By Kevin Olvany,
Watershed Program Manager Canandaigua Lake Watershed Council

Residents, both full time and seasonal, consider the lake to be one of our greatest assets. Numerous municipal surveys have documented that the issue that receives the highest priority is protecting the water quality of Canandaigua Lake.

We know the public supports protecting Canandaigua Lake and its surrounding watershed. The question from a watershed management perspective is: what are the most effective ways to protect the lake?

As outlined in the Canandaigua Lake Watershed Plan and various Finger Lakes Land Trust publications, one of the most effective ways to maintain a high quality lake is to protect and restore the land that drains into the lake. Protecting and restoring natural areas provides substantial beneficial services to individuals and the overall community within and beyond the watershed boundaries. The land areas that provide these services are called Natural Capital.

The services our "Natural Capital" provides include:

- higher quality water,
- reduced flooding,
- reduced water plant filtration costs,
- increased biodiversity and habitat quality,
- quality fisheries by protecting the natural near shore littoral zone for habitat
- increased recreational value,
- increased tourism,
- increased assessed value of shoreline properties
- lower tax rates,
- increased aesthetic value,
- overall improvement in the quality of life.


Based on this list that drives our economic and social well-being, it is obvious our natural capital contributes greatly to the overall quality of life. If the watershed ecosystem remains in good health, then we can expect a high rate of return from the Natural Capital that is provided. People truly do come here for our unique area and there will be a high demand for these services as long as the natural capital is protected and enhanced.

The Watershed Association and the municipalities through the Canandaigua Lake Watershed Council developed a partnership agreement to complete the first phase of a two phase process that would identify, rank and value the natural capital in the Canandaigua Lake watershed.

We have completed the first phase of this project by conducting extensive literature research on the different methods to identify and rank natural capital along with

developing the methodologies that we will use in our watershed to identify, rank and value our natural capital. The second phase of the project will be to collect the remaining data sets needed based on the selected methodologies and to complete the methodologies that we have identified.

Land categories that typically provide higher natural capital value include wetlands, forested areas and areas along streams. However, there is a wide spectrum of quality within these categories. Through the efforts of Dr. Bruce Gilman we will be able to further identify the higher quality wetlands, forests and riparian areas. In addition we will also consider factors such as the types of soil that can influence erosion and runoff, the percentage of slope along with the proximity to water in the overall ranking of areas that provide the greatest natural capital.

Our methodologies include an overall ranking of these areas along with adapting monetary value calculation methodologies to our natural capital. The ultimate goal of this study is to provide our municipalities, land trusts and other decision makers a high quality resource that documents and ranks our natural capital so that we can make better decisions on how best to protect the lifeblood of our region—Canandaigua Lake and surrounding watershed. 

You've Enjoyed the Lake - Now Consider a Gift That Continues Giving...

Make a contribution to acknowledge or commemorate a friend or family member. We will print acknowledgements and memorials in *The Lake Reporter*.

Consider including the Canandaigua Lake Watershed Association, Inc. in your will or estate plan. Provide for the future of Canandaigua Lake by making a new will, modifying your existing will, or by including the Canandaigua Lake Watershed Association, Inc. in your evocable trust. Consult with your attorney or financial planner. Here is some sample language for an unrestricted bequest for general purposes: "I hereby give, devise and bequeath to the Canandaigua Lake Watershed Association, Inc., a nonprofit corporation in New York State, for its general purposes _____ dollars, or _____ percent, or all the rest, residue, and remainder of my estate."

Our official name is the Canandaigua Lake Watershed Association, Inc., and this name should be used on all legal documents. Gifts to the Canandaigua Lake Watershed Association, Inc. qualify as charitable contributions to a 501(c)3 organization for federal income, estate and gift tax purposes.

Municipal Response to the April 2011 Storm Events

By Kevin Olvany,
Watershed Program Manager Canandaigua Lake Watershed Council

After a beautiful summer, the storms of April 26/27, 2011 may seem like a distant memory. However, the work of the local, county and state highway departments to fix the public roads and infrastructure damaged during these storms and to try to mitigate against future damages continues at a sustained pace. Major types of damage included:

- severe road bank erosion,
- partial road collapse,
- major debris deposited on public roads,
- debris jams near streams
- stream bank erosion along public infrastructure areas such as municipal buildings,
- culverts severely damaged
- plugged culverts that caused flooding

Fixing these areas is not only critical to protecting our public infrastructure, it is also critical to reducing the amount of sediment and other contaminants that would enter the lake during storm events.

Shortly after these storms the whole watershed area was part of a much broader geographic area that received federal and state disaster declarations. Our Ontario and Yates County Emergency Management Offices did a great job of coordinating the documentation to obtain this disaster declaration. Since this declaration, the respective highway departments and other town officials have been working with FEMA to document the extent of the damage and develop cost estimates to fix these areas and get them back to pre-disaster condition. Where appropriate, we have been able to get additional money to improve these areas beyond pre-disaster so the same thing doesn't happen during the next major rainfall.

It is important to remember that all this is happening during the respective highway departments' busy general maintenance and construction season. It has been a tough summer for our highway departments. They deserve our praise and if you see your local highway superintendent- give him a hug!

CLWA

New Invasive - Quagga Mussel

FLCC Conservation Department Professor, Dr. Bruce Gilman, reports that a study of Dressedid mussel populations in Canandaigua Lake is complete. The results? Analysis of the eighteen bottom dredge samples taken from Canandaigua Lake this summer show that Quagga mussels now make up 97% of all Dressedid mussels established in the lake, far surpassing the population of the now-familiar Zebra mussel.

How has the Quagga mussel been able to overtake the Zebra mussel so quickly? The Quagga mussel can live on both hard and soft substrate, can survive in much deeper water and also can withstand greater temperature differences than the Zebra mussel. When you head to the lake, look for this new inhabitant that is more rounded and lighter in color than the Zebra mussel (see photo below), sure to become a familiar sight as Bruce Gilman shared "Zebra mussels are being outcompeted!"

CLWA

How can I help?

When transporting boats, be sure to empty bilge pump and rinse hull at a rinse station.

When fishing, never transport water from one lake to another.

ZEBRA MUSSEL



QUAGGA MUSSEL



A Community's Needs Meet a Community's Opportunity

By Robert McCarthy

Cheshire.

It's a hamlet, a crossroads stretched a little to the north and south, on NY State Route 21 between Canandaigua and Naples. To most folks in Cheshire, it's not just a state highway; it's a "Main Street."

Generations of locals, some now gone, attended the school-house that now houses a general store and an antique shop and offers modern gas pumps.

There's an empty historic building right in the center of Cheshire, a building with a great history and an even greater future. It was built as a theater in 1874. The Civil War was not ten years' past. Cheshire's Main Street was then a well-travelled wagon trail. It was sloppy with mud when it rained and dusty when it dried out. The road connected Canandaigua to the north with Naples to the South. Cheshire residents, then mostly farmers, were growing huge crops of grains, fruits and vegetables, carting them to the steamboat landings on the west side of Canandaigua Lake, for transport to the north end of the lake, then for loading on the railroad, and then on to New York City and other points east and south.

The Johnson family (Cheshire grocers) saw the need and opportunity for a gathering place for Cheshire area families, a place where they could meet and find entertainment and relaxation. They built a meeting hall and stage to house their newly-formed Cheshire Amusement Company. Folks from miles around came by horse-drawn wagon or carriage to watch local and traveling dramatic and musical productions and to gather for community social events, games and meals. It later continued these functions and more, when it was owned by, and known as, "The Grange." It housed Cheshire social events for most of a century before it passed into private hands, ceased to be the hub of community activity, and gradually fell into disrepair and near abandonment, turning a treasure into an eyesore and creating a candidate for demolition. The Cheshire Meeting Hall Project is focused on a remarkable opportunity to once again meet these community needs, identified so long ago, in a single undertaking.



A well-established and energetic not-for-profit corporation, the Cheshire Community Action Team (CCAT) purchased this building in 2009 with a grant from the Empire State Development Corporation. The building was virtually unchanged since it was built in 1874, and CCAT is committed to putting it back to work. This building will be refurbished, brought into compliance with modern code require-

ments, and will again become the heart of Cheshire's community recreation, entertainment, and community activity. The stage will come alive with musical and performing artists, and local theater will have a new home. The youth of our community will have a place to study and play after school; diverse local organizations will have a new home for meetings and activities. Cheshire will become home once again to the unique and handsome social center that for so many years defined Cheshire's, and the areas, strong sense of community.

Almost as soon as the building was purchased in 2009, CCAT set out to protect the building from further deterioration. Volunteers from throughout the area descended on the building to help the seller empty out the accumulation of many years' stored antiques and lumber. The leaking roof was replaced. Architects were hired to assess the building's needs. The costs of repair, refurbishing, and bringing the building into compliance with applicable codes have been defined. Floor plans have been developed for a ground floor consisting of the Grand Hall, the stage, and entry vestibule. The lower level has been designed to house attractive meeting rooms and a new kitchen and rest rooms. A capital campaign has been launched to raise the \$500,000 which will make this building an attractive and fully functional community entertainment and activity center.

A team of volunteers is active seeking contributions from individuals and businesses. To date, the project has received contributions of supplies and equipment totaling \$130,000 and pledges of \$20,000. A project supervisor has been brought on board and recently led community volunteers in the restoration of the façade of the building, the first phase of the project. There is much to do and much community support sought. **CLWA**

To become a volunteer, a contributor and / or to receive our email newsletter contact Fred & Nancy Goodnow 394-0783 - fgood125@rochester.rr.com

Take A Dip for Canandaigua Lake Water Clarity Monitoring Program 2011

By Nadia Harvieux

CLWA's "Take a Dip for Canandaigua Lake" water clarity monitoring program had a successful second year. Nine volunteers headed out on Canandaigua Lake with their Secchi disks to take weekly water clarity readings from July through September.

The results? Based on 59 samples taken between July 8 and September 25, the average water clarity was 5.2 meters compared to 6.0 meters in 2010. The 2011 drop in overall water clarity may be attributable to sediments and nutrients washed into the lake by heavy rains in May and June. Volunteer monitors also noted a significant decrease in water clarity in late August and early September, the result of a seasonal algae bloom confirmed by FLCC Conservation professor, Dr. Bruce Gilman and Watershed Manager, Kevin Olvany.

The greatest clarity average of 5.57 meters was recorded by the Sarkis Family off Black Point, and the least clear average of 4.85 and 4.5 were recorded by Greg Russell and Robert McCarthy, respectively at a site off the Canandaigua Water Treatment Plant.

Volunteers for CLWA's "Take a Dip for Canandaigua Lake" water clarity monitoring program participated in a training led by Dr. Bruce Gilman in early July. Participants learned how to properly take water clarity readings using the Secchi disk and also learned about factors that can influence water clarity in Canandaigua Lake.

Many thanks to our 2011 volunteer monitors:

Carol Carmien-Hartnett

Nadia Harvieux

Scott Hill

Saralinda Hooker

Tony Imperato

Bob McCarthy


Greg Russell

Peter Sarkis

Don Sheive

and

volunteer program coordinator, Carol Benner.

Interested in becoming a water clarity monitoring volunteer? Look for a notice in the Spring 2012 issue of the Lake Reporter calling for volunteers or contact the CLWA office at 394-5030. 



Dr. Bruce Gilman explains proper technique for using the Secchi disk.



Volunteer Peter Sarkis practicing with the Secchi Disk as Carol Carmien-Hartnett looks on.

Canandaigua Lake Watershed Association
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Be a Friend of Canandaigua Lake

The Canandaigua Lake Watershed Association has a strong base of supporters and a significant history of Protecting Canandaigua Lake and its watershed. Because of numerous and complex challenges, we need YOUR support.

Please return this form (or a copy of it) with your contribution. Remember your contribution is TAX DEDUCTIBLE.

Your 2012 membership benefits include a quarterly newsletter, committee participation and reports, special alerts on crucial issues, invitations to events and the Annual Meeting, but most important, you will know you're doing YOUR PART to protect this precious resource.

Yes, please process my 2012 tax-deductible membership in the Canandaigua Lake Watershed Association.

- \$25 **Supporter** (student rate)
 \$35 **Guardian**
 \$100 **Lake Leader** (your gift at this level helps to pay for water testing)
 \$250 **Watershed Steward** (says it all)
 \$1000 **Benefactor** (your gift at this level supports our education program)

Name _____

Principal Address _____

I own property in the watershed town of _____

Email address _____

Principal phone number _____ Alternate phone number _____

Please mail this membership form and your check to:
CLWA, P O Box 323, Canandaigua, NY 14424