



Community Conference

December 4th, 2023

OUR MISSION

To advocate for the health of Cayuga Lake and its watershed in a changing world.



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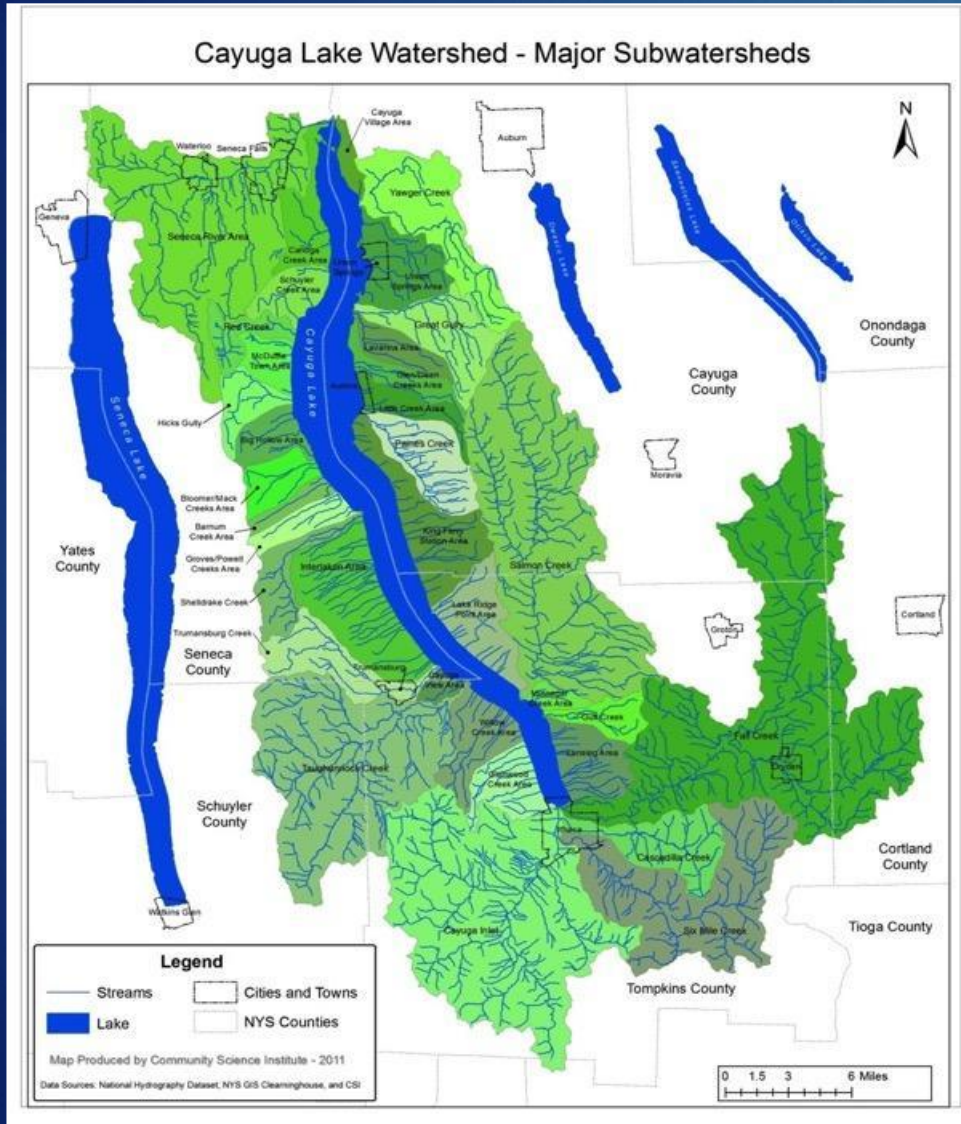
A Network of individuals, institutions, and communities united in the protection of our region's water resources for people and nature.

OUR WORK

EDUCATION * ENGAGEMENT * ADVOCACY

Cayuga Lake Watershed Network

"It takes a Network to protect a watershed!"



WHO WE ARE: STAFF



Liz Kreitinger
Steward/Executive Director
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Molly Newman
Program Associate
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Cayuga Lake Watershed Network

"It takes a Network to protect a watershed!"



WHO WE ARE: VOLUNTEERS, MEMBERS (including businesses & organizations!)



& ENGAGED COMMUNITY

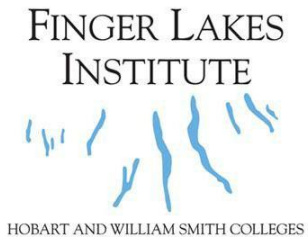
Cayuga Lake Watershed Network

"It takes a Network to protect a watershed!"



PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

**State, county, and municipal governments,
Soil & Water Conservation Districts, AND MORE!**



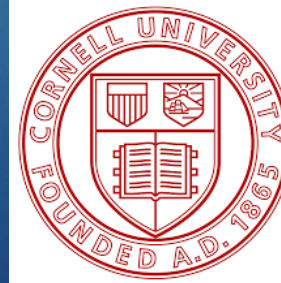
**Department of
Environmental
Conservation**



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**

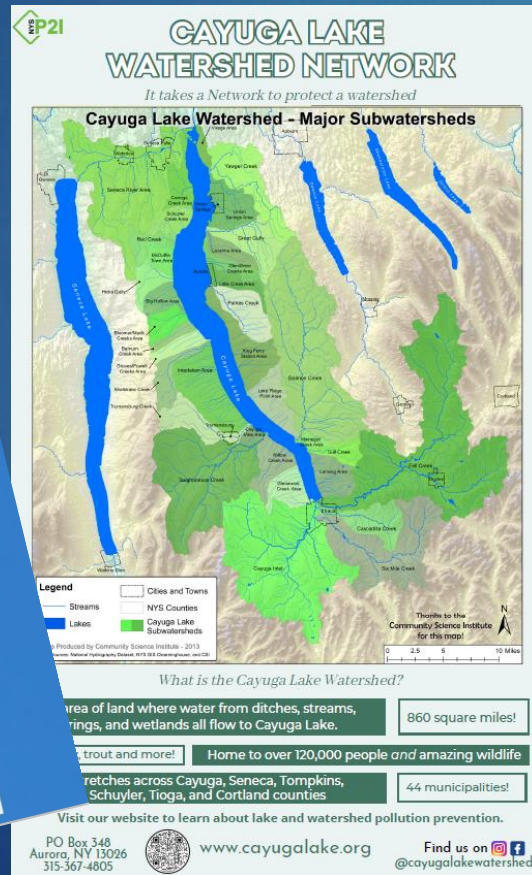


**FINGER LAKES
REGIONAL
WATERSHED ALLIANCE**



EDUCATION & ENGAGEMENT

Partnerships for pollution prevention at home & school



EDUCATION & ENGAGEMENT

LITTER CLEAN UPS



2023: 13 groups, 150+ participants, thousands of pounds of trash!

Join us in 2024!



Ithaca Rotary



Discover Cayuga Lake & friends

EDUCATION & ENGAGEMENT

LAKE FRIENDLY LIVING



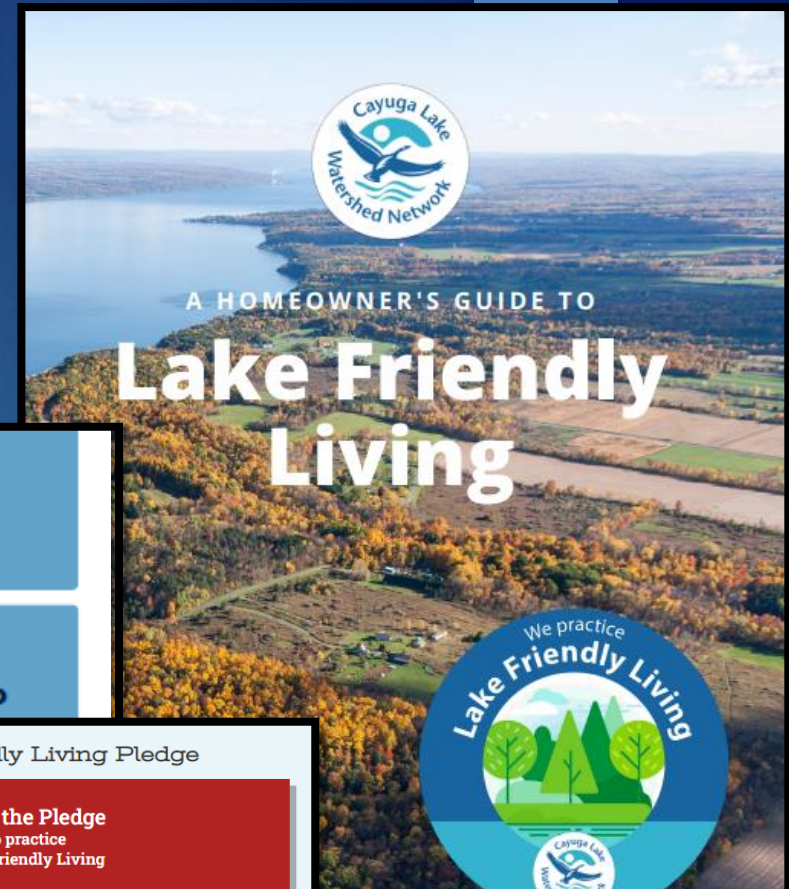
Map created by Finger Lakes Land Trust

The Lake Friendly Living Coalition of the Finger Lakes
With a commitment to protecting the health of our lakes, the coalition works together to educate watershed residents in homes and businesses to engage lake friendly practices.



EDUCATION & ENGAGEMENT

LAKE FRIENDLY LIVING



JUN	INSPECT YOUR SEPTIC Septic systems should be inspected frequently to mitigate risks of nutrient run-off into our lakes. Contact your county for information on inspections and schedule an inspection.
JUL	SWAP INCENDIARY FLARES FOR LED Traditional flares contain harmful chemicals that pollute our soil and waterways. Switch to LED Flares to light up your summer holidays the Lake Friendly way!
AUG	USE WATER WISELY Planting drought-resistant plants, using a rain barrel to collect water, and turning off your hose or sprinkler at the coolest times of day are a few ways to conserve water.
SEP	TEST YOUR SOIL AND FERTILIZE ONLY IF NEEDED Cornell Cooperative Ext. volunteers will test your soil for as little as \$2 to determine if you really need fertilizer. Fall is a great time to fertilize naturally with yard compost.
OCT	COMPOST OR BAG YOUR LEAF LITTER Minimize debris in stormwater drains by utilizing your municipalities yard waste services in spring and fall. Mulch your leaves into natural compost for your garden.

Lake Friendly Living Pledge

Take the Pledge
 to practice
 Lake Friendly Living

I KNOW that my choices can affect the water quality of Cayuga Lake.

I PLEDGE to incorporate Lake Friendly Living best practices into my home activities to reduce impact on the Lake and Watershed.

I WILL adopt best practices that help eliminate pollutants and minimize runoff.

- ☒ I will make informed lawn care decisions
- ☒ I will use phosphorus free fertilizer applied properly
- ☒ I will maintain my septic system
- ☒ I will reduce household hazardous wastes and dispose of prescription drugs properly
- ☒ I will maintain my vehicles, watercraft, and recreational vehicles
- ☒ I will work to develop a plan to reduce erosion and capture runoff
- ☒ I will use water wisely.

I CARE about water quality in the Cayuga Lake Watershed and will Take the Pledge!



EDUCATION & ENGAGEMENT

Lake Monitoring Volunteers Needed!

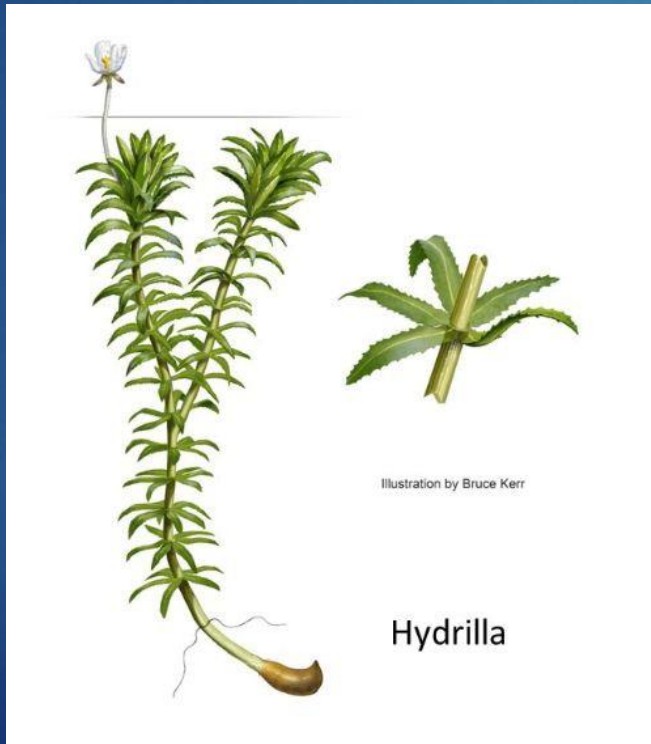
Shoreline Harmful Algal Blooms →
with the Community Science Institute

Cayuga Lake Water Quality
for the Citizen's Statewide
Lake Assessment Program
near **Taughannock Park**



EDUCATION & ENGAGEMENT

Invasive Hydrilla *A lake wide-issue*



HYDRILLA IN CAYUGA LAKE

2023 Annual Updates and Panel Discussion

December 18th, 12:00-2:00 PM, LIVE Online by Zoom

Join to learn and ask questions about Hydrilla, the challenges it presents to Cayuga Lake, and current management strategies.

Presenters:

Sam Beck-Andersen, Associate Director of Invasive Species Programs and Coordinator of Finger Lakes PRISM

Richard Ruby, Biologist at US Army Corps of Engineers

Cathy McGlynn, Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator - NYS Dept of Environmental Conservation

HOSTED BY THE CAYUGA LAKE WATERSHED NETWORK



ADVOCACY ACTION

-Letter to Gov. Hochul requesting Cargill's Cayuga Salt Mine be subject to a complete EIS including public participation, 11/23

- Response to DEC Request for Comments on the NYS Solid Waste Management Plan, 6/23
- Support for the Birds and Bees Protection Act, 5/23
- Joint CWIO Letter to the DEC for completion of the Cayuga lake Clean Water Plan "TMDL" for total phosphorus, 4/23
- Support of USEPA prioritizing CCRs as a national enforcement priority, 3/23
- Statement in Support of the Cayuga Co. proposed Watershed Rules and Regulations for Owasco Lake, 3/23



Ashley Stagnari
CLWN HABs & Climate
Change
Communication Intern



Dr. Meredith Holgerson
Assistant Prof.
Dept. of Ecology & Evolutionary
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Cornell University



Dr. Nicole Fernandez
Assistant Prof.
Dept. of Earth &
Atmospheric Science
Cornell University



Rebecca Minas, MIEAust, CPEng
Project Manager
Barton & Loguidice

with introduction by
Roxy Johnston, City of Ithaca
Watershed Coordinator



Emerging Watershed Leaders Award

Established 2013



2023 Emerging Watershed Leaders Award

Eden C. Lewis

"People sometimes mistake my passion as a lack of experience...but they are wrong. Your voice, my voice, our voices need to be heard."

EDEN LEWIS 2022

Youth Outreach Intern



“During her time at IHS, Eden displayed exemplary leadership as a climate action champion. Without Eden, the IHS Climate Action Expo would not have been possible”

-Armin Heurich, School Librarian and Green Outdoor Adventure Team Faculty Advisor, Ithaca High School

ITHACA HIGH SCHOOL



CLIMATE ACTION EXPO



What does
a sustainable
future look
like?

THANK YOU!
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LEARN
JOIN
GIVE





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