# CAYUGA LAKE WATERSHED Network to It takes a Network to protect a watershed.

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## Quick Fixes and the Sustainable Long Haul: Hemlock Woolly Adelgid, Hydrilla and Our Watershed

by Hilary Lambert, Steward

In the winter 2011 issue of Network News, our lead article stressed the need to work toward a sustainable energy future for the Finger Lakes, in the face of a rapidly warming climate. The choices we make and paths that we follow in the near future will determine the long-term fate of the clean and plentiful water our region (and the Great Lakes) is presently known for.

ur Board of Directors' actions and our programs increasingly stress the interdependence of clean water and energy choices. The Network's 2011 Strategic Plan includes the goal of "supporting new and ongoing successful collaborative projects with short and long-term impacts on maintaining and improving the lake, its tributary creeks, and the watershed," by "helping communities prepare for climate change impacts." Further, in May of this year, the Board voted to approve a "Position Statement on Hydraulic Fracturing," stating that "



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Lakeshore landowner Judy Abrams shows hemlock boughs infested with HWA; note the cool creek below, that benefits from hemlock shade and steep bank stabilization.

Statement on Hydraulic Fracturing," stating that "We oppose the continuation of hydraulic fracturing and urge immediate emphasis on an energy policy that promotes conservation and renewable energy sources" (see page 3 for full text).

Early symptoms of climate change are extreme weather events and the movement of species into regions where they previously could not survive. The invasive species presently bedeviling Cayuga Inlet in Ithaca, *Hydrilla verticillata*, is from temperate latitudes similar to ours in Korea, and survives well in northern climates: it is not a true climate change opportunist. However, part of the Hydrilla Task Force's initial response strategy was the hope that a cold winter would kill off plants established in shallow waters. Instead, the mild (or "missing") winter of 2011-12 helped hydrilla survive and prosper. As with the Asian Clam infestation in Owasco Lake to the east, this apparently "new normal" weather benefits the spread of these aquatic invasive species.

## Thank You to the Helen Thomas Howland Foundation for Hydrilla Public Education Support!

ur heartfelt thanks go to the Helen Thomas Howland Foundation and the Community Foundation of Tompkins County, for providing us with a \$5000 grant in support of "Community Education for Protecting Cayuga Lake from Hydrilla."

We need to stay well ahead of the hydrilla infestation to prevent its spread throughout the Cayuga Lake watershed and elsewhere. A big part of successful control and eventual eradication is by training local residents to recognize hydrilla and to report it to experts who can promptly evaluate and remove it when necessary. This grant will support us in providing free public training workshops around the lake during the summer and autumn months of 2012.

### You Can Help!

### Hydrilla Outreach and Education Tasks Need Funding

As noted above, the Network has been fortunate to receive funding in support of our hydrilla public education efforts as part of the Hydrilla Task Force of the Cayuga Lake Watershed. However, other necessary monitoring and public education components of the 5 - 7 year eradication plan are under- or un-funded due to funding delays in Albany. The Friends of the Hydrilla Task Force has been organized to supplement present available public funding with private donations. Led by Don Smith of the West Shore Homeowners Association, lakeshore residents Ken Zeserson, Judy Abrams and CLWN steward Hilary Lambert, this small group is seeking business and individual donations for monitoring, a marina and boat launch program, and public education and engagement. Some examples include: Website url payment; laminated sheets of hydrilla for identification use; printing of brochures; building of weed disposal boxes at marinas; Floating Classroom citizen monitoring cruise costs.

For a full list of items needing support, contact Don Smith dsmith@marketing-consultant.com. To donate, send checks made out to Cayuga Lake Watershed Network, POB 348 Aurora NY 13026. Write "for hydrilla eradication" on check's memo line. You will receive a thank-you letter in return for this much-needed tax-deductible gift.

While herbicides are the present first line of defense to protect Cayuga Inlet and the lake from a takeover by hydrilla, to be effective long-term this management strategy must be supplemented by vigorous public education and continual monitoring. Thank you!

# CanYou Canoe Cayuga?

## Saturday • September 8th, 2012

**Come paddle Cayuga Lake in our first annual CanYou Canoe Cayuga event!** Join us in a canoe, kayak, outrigger, or paddle board, on your own or as part of a relay team. You can do the whole length or start at one of several intermediate starting points.

We will be serving refreshments along the way, and ending the day with a party of food, drinks, and live music at Cass Park! For more information and to register for the event, visit www.cayugalake.org or "like" the Cayuga Lake Watershed Network on Facebook! \$35 per person registration fee.

Start I (35miles):	C
Start 2 (24 miles):	D
Start 3 (18 miles):	S
Start 4 (8 miles):	Т
FINISH:	C

You will be required to check in at each starting point on route where refreshments will be served.



### Cayuga Lake Watershed Network

OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday and Thursday I 0am - 5pm And by Appointment STAFF: Hilary Lambert, Steward – steward@cayugalake.org Ashley Benning, Volunteer Staff

The Cayuga Lake Watershed Network thanks Westhill Graphics of Ithaca and Pioneer Printing of Lodi for their support and excellence.

## **CLWN Board Approves Position Statement** on Hydraulic Fracturing

Following approval of our new "Position Statement on Hydraulic Fracturing" in May by the Cayuga Lake Watershed Network's Board of Directors, Board members Mark Witmer and Michael Dineen sent a copy of the statement to Governor Andrew Cuomo and other New York State leaders.

Their cover letter called on Cuomo to be "the governor who tries something different by decisively spurning the siren's call of shale gas and amplifying the development of alternative energy sources and energy conservation measures, thereby reducing our consumption of fossil fuels and promoting the development of a strong, truly sustainable, way of life."

Dineen and Witmer live in the communities of Ovid (Seneca County) and Caroline (Tompkins County) respectively, and are deeply concerned about negative impacts of proposed gas drilling and fracking activities on our lands, waters, air quality, economy and way of life. They asserted in their letter to Cuomo that "it is in the long-term interest of our state to both preserve the quality of its fresh water resources and to break our dependence on fossil fuels. You are in a unique position to take a leadership role in this effort."

Dineen, Witmer and the other Cayuga Lake Watershed Network Board members worked hard to shape a position statement focused beyond fossil fuels to a sustainable, clean water future for Cayuga Lake and the rest of New York State. Copies were mailed to Cuomo and others to make sure this positive message is heard and understood. The full text of the position statement follows.

"A thing is right when it tends to preserve the integrity, stability and beauty of the biotic community. It is wrong when it tends otherwise." —ALDO LEOPOLD, A SAND COUNTY ALMANAC

The Cayuga Lake Watershed Network is a grassroots organization founded in 1998 to provide a central organization for the protection of Cayuga Lake and the 37 major creeks in its 870-square mile watershed, which spans 44 municipalities and extends into 7 counties. Cayuga Lake, 38 miles long and 435 feet deep, is at the center of New York State's majestic Finger Lakes, which drain to Lake Ontario. These local water bodies define our region, providing clean water that supports the life, economy, and lifestyles of our region. All of our residents depend on the lake, its creeks, and groundwater resources for clean drinking water, as do our vibrant agrarian livelihoods.

Wineries, vineyards, orchards, vegetable and grain farmers, dairy farmers, breweries, cheesemakers and creameries are among the flourishing producer enterprises of our region. Farms maintain 30% of the land in Tompkins County, contributing more than \$100 million annually to our local economy and maintaining a crucial element of our diverse, natural landscape that entices visitors and new residents, alike. Tourism generates on the order of \$156 million annually, producing more jobs per investment dollar than heavy industry. And unlike shale gas industrialization, tourism builds amenities that enhance the local quality of life, as well as fostering local economic activity<sup>1</sup>.

The Cayuga Lake Watershed Network's Strategic Plan supports projects with communities, organizations, and businesses that maintain and improve the quality of Cayuga Lake, its tributary creeks, and the watershed as a whole. Our mission is *to identify key threats to Cayuga Lake and its watershed, and advocate for solutions that support a healthy environment and vibrant communities.* 

## Position of the Cayuga Lake Watershed Network on Hydraulic Fracturing

In hydraulic fracturing we have identified a key threat to the Cayuga Lake Watershed. A growing body of science indicates that shale gas extraction would contaminate our fresh waters, pollute our air, negatively impact sustainable livelihoods and our local economy, and aggravate climate change. Development of shale gas would also forestall the growth of the renewable energy sector that offers to bolster our economic vitality and curtail greenhouse gas emissions. We oppose the continuation of hydraulic fracturing and urge immediate emphasis on an energy policy that promotes conservation and renewable energy sources.

### **Key Findings**

**Impacts on Water:** Thousands of cases of pollution of ground and surface waters with hydraulic fracturing chemicals and methane have been reported<sup>1-4</sup>. Two recent studies have confirmed contamination of underground water by hydraulic fracturing<sup>2,3</sup>. Alarmingly, one of these found systematic contamination of water wells within 1 km of active Marcellus gas wells with shale methane, averaging 17-times the levels of more distant wells<sup>3</sup>. Contamination of fresh waters has occurred in all phases of shale gas mining, from blowouts, to underground contamination, to leaking wastewater pits, to tanker truck accidents<sup>1</sup>.

Based on 2005-2009 gas lease data and a "build-out analysis" of cumulative impacts of mining Marcellus shale gas, Tompkins County would expect the development of 2100 Marcellus gas wells that would result in 16,800 tons/year of sediment runoff, 336 leaking wells, and 42 incidents of

### Quick Fixes and the Sustainable Long Haul continued from cover

For information about the excellent long-term eradication program developed by the Hydrilla Task Force of the Cayuga Lake Watershed, information about possible impacts of herbicide use, and "everything" hydrilla: http://www.StopHydrilla.org. To sign up as a Hydrilla Hunter, contact: ambismb@gmail.com.

Another aggressive invasive – this one attacking the hemlocks in our gorges—is the aphid-like Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (*Adelges tsugae*, aka HWA). A true climate change opportunist, HWA has been making its way north for decades with terrible destructive force, sucking the life out of majestic old hemlock stands in the southern mountains and valleys, and turning the hemlock stands in New Jersey's wilder places and Pennsylvania's uplands into brown skeletons (maps: http://na.fs.fed.us/fhp/hwa/maps/ distribution.shtm).

Cornell's Mark Whitmore is a forest ecologist and

nationally-recognized expert on HWA, which first appeared in the Finger Lakes area of New York State in 2008. He has been mapping its spread and advising on limiting its immediate impacts, and is also concerned about the Emerald Ash Borer's potential for ecosystem destruction/transformation, in this period of rapid climate change.

Why is HWA a problem? Most obviously, it destroys one of our most beautiful, evocative trees. In ecosystem terms, hemlocks are a keystone species for our cool creeks and their biodiversity. If hemlocks die, creeks will be exposed to the sun I was horrified that all the hemlocks on my property were infected with HWA and relieved to learn from Mark Whitmore that even trees near death can recover if treated properly. Because the insecticide is an imicloprid product I weighed the consequences: untreated, badly infected trees last a year or two; less affected trees live up to 4 years. If my 200 hemlocks die, my beautiful gorge would be denuded, and the cliffside and driveway would erode. The insecticide is toxic to bees, but is painted on trunks and absorbed. This treatment plus slow release pellets later protects trees up to 7 years, and by then there may be natural control methods. On Mark's advice, I hired White Oak Nursery in Geneva. The cost of saving 200 hemlocks is less than the cost of removing two large dead trees.

Lakeshore landowner Judy Abrams' response:

and warm up, and steep shale banks will erode and collapse, altering creek habitat and sending warmer, turbid waters to Cayuga Lake.

In 2009, HWA was found on hemlocks in Cornell University's Cascadilla Gorge and around Beebe Lake. In response, a collaborative project, involving Cornell Plantations, Cornell's Department of Natural Resources and Mark Whitmore, was organized to track and where possible mitigate HWA impacts. A trained group of citizenstewards carry out regular monitoring for the spread of HWA in Six Mile Creek, Edwards Lake Cliffs, Fall Creek, Fisher Old Growth, Lick Brook, Steep Hollow, and Coy Glen. This local effort is part of a larger project, led by Whitmore, to meet the challenge of invasives by increasing stakeholder knowledge and involvement. That means you! Learn more and get involved via the Cornell Plantations invasive species web pages: http://www.cornellplantations. org/our-gardens/natural-areas/invasive

The non-winter of 2011-12 may be responsible for a sudden leap of HWA along Cayuga Lake's western shoreline. In 2011, the infestation was mapped as individual infested trees and small stands, in the Glenwood Pines area along the southwestern Cayuga Lake shoreline. Not so any longer.

In early July 2012, Judy Abrams noticed something wrong with a big hemlock that holds down the banks of a steep shaley creek on her lakeshore property, several miles north of the Glenwood area. She learned that the tree was infested with HWA, and soon realized that all of her estimated 200 hemlocks are infested or will be soon. Judy called neighbors to the south, toward Glenwood – they have it too. A quick check revealed that it is present in hemlocks on all their properties.

As with hydrilla, the immediate, short-term management options for HWA include insecticides – infested hemlock trees can be protected individually with chemical insecticides. Cultural practices can also slow impacts; biological control agents are under study (Fact Sheet, *Early Detection of the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (Adelges tsugae) in Small Northeastern Hemlock (Tsuga canadensis) Woodlots*,

www.ForestConnect.info).

Here we arrive at the question of the sustainable long haul mentioned in the title. Herbicides and pesticides applied over several years will

have adverse impacts on Cayuga Inlet, and on our gorges and their creeks. The potential for homeowner misuse of currently registered soil drench pesticides and subsequent environmental contamination (proximity of streams) is great. Professional applications pose far fewer risks and can help save the local genotypes of hemlocks. However, maintaining the current habitats with pesticides is untenable for the long run. We've got to continue to develop biocontrol and tree resistance. Experts like Whitmore and the Hydrilla Task Force know this; monitoring of impacts from treatment programs is standard (although underfunded, in the case of hydrilla).

So, what about the sustainable long haul? In a situation of rapid climate change, when do we let the hemlocks go? Long-term, can we really prevent the takeover of our lakes *continued on page 7* 

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ground water contamination<sup>1,6</sup>. Each well would use 5 million gallons of water amended with 167 tons of chemicals per hydraulic fracturing event<sup>1</sup>. Many of the 750 chemicals identified in hydraulic fracturing fluids can damage organs, disrupt hormone systems and reproductive cycles, cause cancer, induce developmental defects, and cause death<sup>6-9</sup>. And a recent analysis of case studies provides compelling evidence that water contamination from gas drilling has caused such illnesses and death in livestock and humans7. The U.S. Geological Survey has noted that ubiquitous faults not recognized by the NYSDEC would provide conduits between fractured shale and underground waters5. Neither the gas industry nor New York State has the capacity to properly cleanse or dispose of this toxic wastewater<sup>1</sup>. These facts, as well as the exemption of the gas industry from Federal environmental safeguards, lead us to suspect that hydraulic fracturing of deep shale formations presents a pervasive hazard to underground and surface waters.

**Economic Impacts:** The Cayuga Lake Watershed is distinctive in its natural beauty and economic vitality, with striking natural features, healthy urban centers, several renowned academic institutions, and productive rural landscapes<sup>1</sup>. Although gas development would bring gas industry jobs, associated services, and royalties for struggling landowners, it would also harm our existing agriculture and tourism trades because it requires heavy industrial activity across the landscape. There has been insufficient attention to these impacts by gas drilling

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#### Local Impacts of Shale Gas Development on Waters:

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- 2 DiGiulio, D.C., R. T. Wilkin, C. Miller, and G. Oberley. 2011. Investigation of groundwater contamination near Pavillion, Wyoming. U. S. Env. Protection Agency draft report. http://www.epa.gov/region8/ superfund/wy/pavillion/)
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#### Health Impacts:

- 6 Bishop, R. 2011. Chemical and biological risk assessment for natural gas extraction in New York. http://63.134.196.109/documents/Risk AssessmentNaturalGasExtraction.pdf
- 7 Bamberger, M. and R.E. Oswald. 2012. Impacts of gas drilling on human and animal health. New Solutions, 51-77. http://www.damascuscitizensforsustainability.org/wpcontent/uploads/2012/03/Bamberger\_Oswald\_NS22\_in\_press.pdf
- Colborn, T.; Kwiatkowski, C.; Schultz, K., and M. Bachran. 2011. Natural gas operations from a public health perspective. Human & Ecological Risk Assessment 17:1039-1056 (doi: 10.1080/10807039.2011.605662).

advocates. Studies from other parts of the country have shown that regions subjected to "boom-and-bust" energy extraction have suffered economically in the long term when compared to regions not experiencing extractive mining activity<sup>10</sup>. And even the direct economic benefits to landowners and municipalities are often disappointing because shale plays are turning out to be far less productive than projected by the gas industry<sup>11</sup>.

Effects on Global Climate and Hydrology: Because natural gas burns cleaner than coal it has been heavily promoted as a "bridge fuel" to our renewable energy future. If shale gas presented a real opportunity to effectively address climate change we would need to give it serious consideration. But full-cycle analyses (including fugitive emissions of methane during mining and transportation) of greenhouse gas impacts of different fossil fuels indicate that shale gas produces more warming than coal<sup>12</sup>. And recent field measurements from a Colorado gas field indicate that methane leakage is even greater than previously estimated<sup>13</sup>. Human society is now estimated to combust about 100,000 years of plant growth annually, fueling the increasing carbon dioxide levels in Earth's atmosphere1. Climate scientists have concluded that we are beyond the safe level of atmospheric carbon dioxide and that immediate action is required to avoid irreversible "tipping points" within the next couple decades that will lead to a drastically altered global climate<sup>14</sup>. Climate change has already altered regional hydrological cycles and this would amplify with further warming<sup>15</sup>.  $\uparrow$ 

9 Finkel, M. and A. Law. 2011. The rush to drill for natural gas: A public health cautionary tale. American Journal of Public Health 101:784-785. http://www.psehealthyenergy.org/The\_Rush\_to\_Drill\_for\_Natural\_Gas \_\_A\_Public\_Health\_Cautionary\_Tale

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## When Dreams Collide Waste Transfer Station Proposed in Enfield Creek Headwaters

by Linda Callahan

In this crowded world, it is increasingly easy to impinge on the rights and freedoms of others. Complications arise when domestic well water supplies and watershed protection enter the picture. We are seeing these conflicts over gas drilling and fracking activities; this dispute is over water protection and peaceful rural living versus industrial development.

Not far from the Connecticut Hill Wildlife Management area in Newfield lies a small residential neighborhood just off of Millard Hill Road, encompassing Bishop, Douglas, and Fishkill Roads.

Residents include born-and-raised Newfielders, as well as many new arrivals, drawn to the area by the lure of country life and the promise of a peaceful place to raise children, animals, orchards, and vegetables.

What these Newfield residents did not bargain for was, first, the creation of Alternative Waste Services (AWS), a trash company located at 71 Bishop Rd, and recently, the owner's decision to expand his facility into a solid waste transfer station. Projected to be in operation six days a week, the facility would be a holding station for trash and garbage trucked in from Tompkins and three adjacent counties. Municipal

waste, construction and demolition debris, wood, concrete, metal - it will all sit and wait for more and bigger trucks to come in, pick it up, and take it to the Seneca Meadows landfill at the north end of Seneca Lake.

The property has already been substantially altered from wetlands and fields into industry-ready pads built from fill trucked in by owner Bob Mente. How can an industry locate itself in a peaceful residential neighborhood? Newfield is one of several towns in Tompkins County without zoning.

What does this proposed facility mean for its neighbors? In addition to 19 round trips per day of 8 ton trucks bringing garbage to the site, there would be 7 round trips per day of 22 ton trucks taking garbage north to Seneca Meadows. That's 26 big, wide, heavy trucks per day on narrow two-lane country roads lined with homes.

Concerned Newfielders want this stopped. Cayuga Lake Watershed Network's steward Hilary Lambert is concerned because Fishkill Creek lies downhill from the proposed site. Fishkill feeds into Enfield Creek, which feeds Lucifer Falls in Treman State Park, and, eventually, its waters end up in Cayuga Lake. Now, I can't say that I'm an expert on watersheds, but I do know that maintaining their health is crucial to a region's ecology.

![](_page_5_Picture_11.jpeg)

*On the left (west), Bishop Road and proposed site of waste transfer station. Nearby headwaters creeks drain through Treman State Park to Cayuga Lake.* 

All of us up here in the Newfield hills live on well water. Many are shallow dug wells and many are drilled. A serious dry spell can mean a dry well. When you aren't on municipal water, you pay a lot of attention to how much rain you're getting, and, we haven't had much rain recently in Newfield. If you garden, you know that right now the soil is dry as a bone and that dryness goes deep. The small creeks are drying up and the larger ones have much less water flow. Any excess water use becomes problematic for all of us who share water for our wells.

AWS owner Mente has three ponds in his present trash kingdom, which he claims are constantly full, even in dry conditions. He says he will use this water to keep his facility clean and sparkling. He says his ponds will never dry up despite using who knows how many thousands of gallons of water each week. His management consultant EnSol says that a mere 50 gallons of water will be used per day by the proposed expanded operation.

This seems to be a gross understatement, considering that the tipping floor and the trucks have to be cleaned several times a week, and 50 gallons fills a bathtub! If AWS puts additional pressure on the water table, what happens to the surrounding wells that residents rely on for their drinking water? We don't have water reserves. Should AWS be allowed to deplete the water table from which all surrounding homes draw their water? It's pretty much guaranteed to happen if this proposal goes forward.

At its April 2011 meeting, the Newfield Town Board agreed to enter into a water study by the United States Geological Survey that "would provide a good understanding of the aquifers that so many of us draw our well water from. The resultant study would help towns make good management decisions. Water information is needed to maintain a safe drinking water supply, to know how much water is available for future development, and to maintain aquatic ecosystems" (http://www.ithaca.com/ news/newfield/article\_eefb6cc2-6b70-11e0-81d8-001cc4c03286.html). It might be a good idea for that study to be completed before "future development" negatively impacts the aquifer here.

Several Southern Tier counties are on a list of counties where Governor Cuomo is apparently edging toward allowing fracking in the near future. Two of them, Tioga and Chemung, are in the proposed service area for the AWS waste transfer facility. According to a public presentation by Mente and EnSol, the proposed Bishop Rd. facility would not accept hazardous waste, industrial waste, liquids, etc. I really want to be the kind of person who believes that everyone is scrupulous and that no one in either of these counties would try to ship fracking waste to the Bishop Rd. transfer facility for eventual disposal at Seneca Meadows, one of four solid waste disposal facilities in NY that already accepts waste from the fracking going on in PA. But what guarantees are in place to prevent these wastes from being trucked through our neighborhood, and hosed off the tipping floor into our well water and creeks?

Hello, tourists swimming in Treman Park! That beautiful waterfall had an interesting journey from its headwaters, and who knows what has made its way into your lovely vacation experience. Hello, people whose wells are downstream from the facility. There is a potentially harmful cocktail in your water that your Brita filter might not be able to catch.

This is a ridiculous site for a waste transfer facility.

Linda Callahan lives on Bishop Road in Newfield and is a member of Citizens to Protect Newfield, contactable via citizensprotectnewfield@gmail.com. Her blog: http:// no-to-waste-transfer-facility.blogspot.com/

### Quick Fixes and the Sustainable Long Haul

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by green mats of suffocating hydrilla, and impacts from other invasives steadily wending their way into warming places? Beyond the next few years, can we realistically expect to keep our cool creeks and clear waters?

A 2011 study reports that, by 2100, "global climate change will modify plant communities covering almost half of Earth's land surface and will drive the conversion of nearly 40 percent of land-based ecosystems from one major ecological community type—such as forest, grassland or tundra-toward another." The study further states that the rapidity of change "will disrupt the ecological balance between interdependent and often endangered plant and animal species, reduce biodiversity and adversely affect Earth's water, energy, carbon and other element cycles" (NASA/Jet Propulsion Laboratory 2011, December 18. Climate change may bring big ecosystem shifts, NASA says. ScienceDaily; Jon C. Bergengren, Duane E. Waliser, Yuk L. Yung. Ecological sensitivity: a biospheric view of climate change. Climatic Change, 2011; 107 (3-4): 433 DOI:10.1007/s10584-011-0065-1).

This is not good news for the future of our favorite places, plants, animals, and water resources. We can ignore this freight train coming at us; we can say "It won't happen until after I'm gone" – or we can begin to think and plan ahead in a meaningful way, that can lead to an increasingly different, eventually transformed – but healthy, sustainable – landscape and life for our descendants.

Locally, the Tompkins County Climate Protection Initiative (http://www.tccpi.org/) is already looking ahead. Their mission: "We are committed to helping Tompkins County achieve a dynamic economy, healthy environment, and resilient community through a focus on energy efficiency and renewable energy." Their programs need everyone's support to reduce greenhouse gas emissions locally, the results to serve as a template for other local communities. As with banning fracking one town at a time (www.cedclaw.org), perhaps we can slow this freight train down, one locale at a time.

To find out more about climate change, looming impacts, and what can be done, consult these sources:

- http://environment.yale.edu/climate/about/ Yale
  Project on Climate Change Communication;
- http://climateaccess.org The network for those engaging the public in the transformation to low-carbon, resilient communities;
- http://climatecentral.org Climate central: why climate change matters.

Let's keep talking, thinking, and being creative. The quick fixes are good for what ails us right now; the sustainable long haul is necessary for what comes after us.

## **THANK YOU...** for Responding to Our Annual Appeal & Other Membership Information!

To make our membership communications more coherent, we sent our annual fundraising appeal letter to members and supporters during May and June. In early August we will send an annual membership renewal request to all who have not yet renewed for 2012.

Thanks to many of you for your GENEROUS response to the appeal!

Please give what you can. We depend on your support for a large part of our programming, publications and events, in addition to grants from the Howland Foundation, Park Foundation, Freshwater Future, Cornell University and other sources. The Network's paid staff positions include the Steward/Executive Director and Summer Staff Intern, both part-time. Their efforts are supplemented by a hard-working Board of Directors and member volunteers.

Information about Board member nominees for election at our August 15 Annual Meeting will be shared via our listserv and included with your membership renewal information. Please consider joining us at our Annual Meeting and picnic on that date – check our website and Facebook page for details nearer the date.

Over the next few months, we will be seeking your input in updating our website www.cayugalake.org. Thanks to Park Foundation support, a modern enhanced website will soon enable us to offer you the issues, information and links needed for effective protection of our lake and watershed.

**The Mission...** The Cayuga Lake Watershed Network identifies key threats to Cayuga Lake and its watershed, and it advocates for solutions that support a healthy environment and vibrant communities.

![](_page_7_Picture_9.jpeg)

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