

Network

It takes a Network to protect a watershed.

News



Climate change, adaptation & resilience Six Mile Creek and the Restful Mind

by Hilary Lambert, Steward

On November 8-9 2013, the Cayuga Lake Watershed Network held a two-day conference in the Six Mile Creek watershed, titled "Six Mile Creek, Climate Change, and Us." The Network's Steward Hilary Lambert, local leaders, and staffers Ann Baughman and Melanie Welch of Freshwater Future, Inc., presented activities and information about climate resilience and adaptation.

Information and introspection: Seeking balance

Via indoor and outdoor sessions, presenters worked with attendees to accept the reality of climate change and take steps in developing adaptive and resilient responses for themselves and their communities. Based in Petoskey MI, Freshwater Future Inc. provides funding and expertise to Great Lakes Basin watershed groups to solve these challenges, and can be reached locally via Lambert at steward@cayugalake.org. Their website is <http://www.freshwaterfuture.org/>. Other local co-sponsors were Sustainable Tompkins Inc., and the Cayuga Lake Intermunicipal Organization.

By the close of the conference on Saturday



Call to action: Turn the page to find out what they found along Six Mile Creek, and how you can help!

afternoon, participants had got a start on thinking adaptively and resiliently, enjoyed themselves, imbibed and eaten local food and drink—and confronted a new, climate change-driven invasive pest on the quiet banks of Six Mile Creek.

Reception featured local food and drink

A reception on Friday night included a fabulous wine tasting by the nearby Six Mile Creek Winery, a local ciders

tasting, and the local Snow Creamery's amazing 'Snowvolone' and 'Fetish' cheeses (served on the venerable Etna Crackerman's crackers). Visiting speakers Ann and Melanie were presented with bags of local "fractivist" Gimme! Coffee, and grains grown in the Six Mile Creek watershed at Cayuga Pure Organics. Water from the Six Mile Creek watershed supports a rising number of local

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**Year-End/
New Years
Resolution
Donations**

DONATE BUTTON on the front page of the website www.cayugalake.org or via mail, check made out to CLWN to POB 348 Aurora NY 13026

Climate change, adaptation & resilience

Six Mile Creek and the Restful Mind *continued from cover*



Mark Whitmore holds a HWA-infested bough of hemlock with the trees and creek behind him. The good news is that this tree and others can be saved, and you can help.

agricultural businesses, in addition to providing water for the City of Ithaca and recreation for us all.

A “walk&talk” along the creek

On Saturday morning, two dozen people met at the Mulholland Wildflower Preserve on Giles St. in Ithaca, for a “walk&talk” along the creek. Our walking talkers included watershed coordinator and water plant staffer Roxy Johnston who spoke about Six Mile Creek as the water supply for the City of Ithaca, with updates on the new water plant project; and Cornell’s Department of Natural Resources Professor Mark Whitmore, who spoke about the looming threat to watershed health from the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (HWA), a tiny pest that sucks the life out of hemlocks

over several years if not treated quickly.

Aided by warming winters, the HWA has moved north quickly in recent years, first spotted in the Cayuga Lake watershed in 2008. “It’s not a matter of if, but when it will be found here,” intoned Mark. After a twenty-minute walk upstream with the group, he found it—characteristic tiny white egg-cluster ovals coated the undersides of lower boughs on several creekside hemlocks. If untreated, the hemlocks will die and open up Six Mile Creek to erosion, increased sediment, and warmer waters—not to mention the loss of their beauty and shade. The HWA has been very destructive across the South, defoliating large areas of Tennessee’s Smoky Mountains, and moving north into the Delaware Water Gap and beyond.

Call to Action: Volunteers needed to help survey Six Mile Creek for HWA

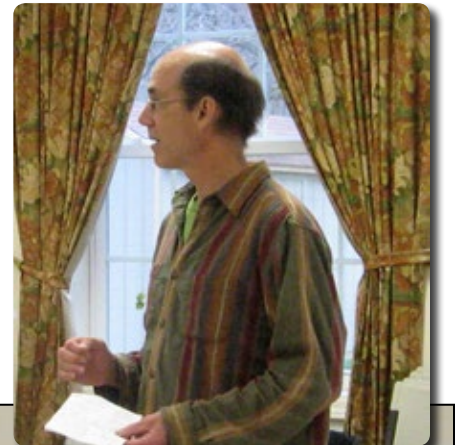
Fortunately, Mark and other experts have developed an effective response and treatment program, a great example of adaptive resilience to climate change. Roxy Johnston has asked Lambert to recruit volunteers to work with the City and Mark’s task force to survey and map hemlock health in the Six Mile Creek

watershed toward preparing a HWA response plan. Please get in touch if you’d like to help. For more information about where the HWA is found locally, go to the Cornell Plantations website <http://www.cornellplantations.org/> and click on the ‘preservation’ link.

A restful mind

Back at the Brooktondale Community Center on Saturday afternoon, attendees took part in a moving and quiet series of activities focused on helping each deal with climate change fears and grief, *continued on page 9*

Tai chi instructor John Burger limbered up the group with poetry, during our fall conference.



Flanked by participants, Judith Pierpont led a workshop for those seeking restful minds in the face of climate change fears and frackivism burnout, at our fall conference.

Cayuga Lake Watershed Network

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The Cayuga Lake Watershed Network thanks Freshwater Future Inc for their support of our climate change work; and Leigh Dezelan of Dezelan Design and Pioneer Printing of Lodi for newsletter production excellence.

Smart Steps for Clean Water: Household Energy Use

With the end of our glorious Finger Lakes fall, attention turns to indoor living. That shift in focus provides opportunity to review how day-to-day practices and living habitats significantly influence our water resources and what you can do to minimize those effects. First up, we will consider home energy use.

Environmental impacts of fossil fuel-based energy production, which accounts for more than two-thirds of NY energy use, include air emissions, cooling water discharges, solid waste generation including fly ash, and land use impacts both at the source of fuel and production site. Economic impacts of residential energy use are huge. According to the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) residential energy use in the state cost more than \$18 billion in 2011. The US Energy Information Administration reports that, even though New York ranks 50th in energy consumption per capita, it ranks second only to Hawaii in terms of energy costs per capita. Annual expenditures of \$2,000-\$2,500 or more per household are common. Clearly, even modest improvements in efficiency can add up fast.

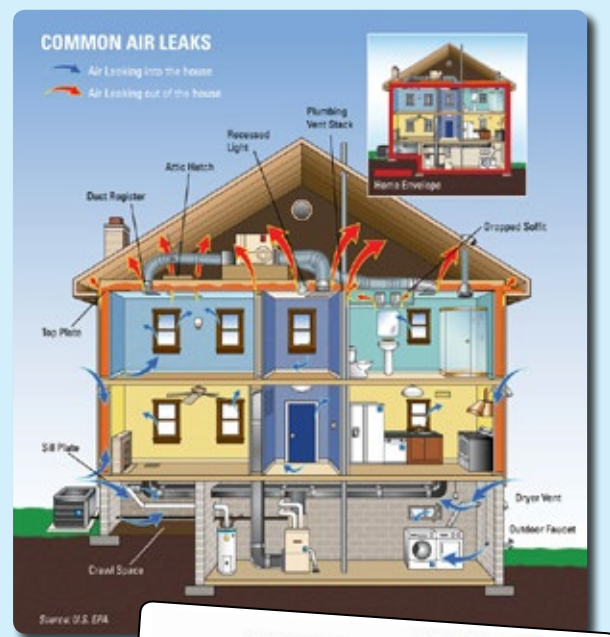
There are many great resources on home energy cost reduction. The list that follows will get you started.

- **Service Your Heating and Cooling Systems Annually**—and regularly replace air filters.
- **Turn Down your Thermostat and Still Stay Warm!** A programmable thermostat can be set to automatically turn down the heat each night then turn the heat on again to warm the house before you get up. Add to your savings by turning down the heat a few degrees and increasing the humidity; your home will feel just as warm. Together these can save up to \$600 a year in energy costs.
- **Turn Down Your Water Heater to 120 Degrees**—and turn it off before leaving home for four or more days. It can account for up to 1/3 of a home's heating costs! Many dishwashers will heat the water if it needs to be hotter.

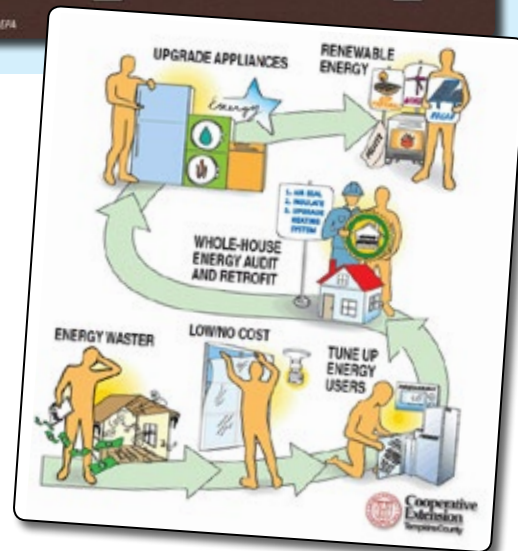
The complexity of watershed protection issues can make it feel that an individual can hardly make a difference.

Quite the contrary! There are many straightforward actions that can be taken to contribute to protecting our exceptional water resources. In this series of articles, we replay and expand upon actions that were presented in our 2006 publication “Smart Steps for Clean Water” available in full at: <http://www.cayugalake.org/files/all/smrstps06.pdf>

MICHAEL DUTTWEILER,
CLWN BOARD MEMBER



- **Check the Insulation** in your attic, exterior and basement walls, ceilings, floors, and crawl spaces.
- **Check for Air Leaks** around your walls, ceilings, windows, doors, light and plumbing fixtures, switches, and electrical outlets
- **Check for Open Fireplace Dampers** which can draft your warmed air right up the chimney.
- **Replace Your Most Frequently Used Light Bulbs** with compact fluorescents or LED bulbs and study your family's lighting needs and look for ways to use controls—like sensors, dimmers, or timers—to reduce lighting use.
- **Air Dry Dishes** instead of using your dishwasher's drying cycle.
- **Turn Things Off When You are Not in the Room** such as lights, TVs, entertainment systems, and your computer and monitor.
- **Fully Turn off Home Electronics**—Plug home electronics, such as TVs and DVD players, into power strips; turn the power strips off when the equipment is not in use—TVs, DVDs and other devices in standby mode still use several watts of power.
- **Take Short Showers** instead of baths and use low-flow showerheads for



For full-sized, interactive versions of these helpful graphics, please go to the Tompkins County Cornell Cooperative Extension website at www.ccetompkins.org and click on 'Energy' at the top of the page, then scroll down to 'Energy Saving House' and click to learn more. Also, click on 'Homeowners and Renters' on the Energy page and follow links to the 'Energy Efficient Path.'

additional energy savings.

- **Wash Only Full Loads** of dishes and clothes.
- **Check That Windows and Doors are Closed** when heating or cooling your home.
- **Look for the ENERGY STAR® Label** on light bulbs, home appliances, electronics, and other products. ➤

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Good food, good music, good wine, good cause Sunset Dinner on Cayuga 2013

Hilary Lambert, Steward

On the mellow autumn evening of October 12, our third Sunset Dinner on Cayuga was enjoyed by all in the beautiful dining hall at Wells College on Cayuga Lake's east shore in the picturesque village of Aurora. "Sunset" is a dinner-dance fundraiser for the Network, helping us stay in touch with old and new friends, who took part in the evening's offerings of delicious food, local wines, silent auction, music, dancing, and award presentations.

Two awards were presented during the evening, one to a well-established leader in protecting the Cayuga Lake watershed, and one to an emerging watershed leader.

The David A. Morehouse Award

The David A. Morehouse Award was established by the Network a decade ago to honor the memory of David Morehouse, long-time Cayuga county resident and protector of the lake. Claire and Randy Morehouse reminisced fondly about their late husband and father's stubborn, energetic drive to protect our beautiful lake.

The 2013 Morehouse Award recipient is Steve Penningroth and the Community Science Institute that he founded and leads. This Ithaca-based nonprofit offers water quality monitoring training, data collection and lab analysis for local residents concerned about water issues in their creeks and along the lake.

Supported by a certified water quality laboratory, Penningroth and CSI have established long-running data collection efforts along seven Cayuga Lake creeks and the lakeshore. In addition to this Great Lakes Basin focus, CSI is helping Upper Susquehanna River residents in establishing a pre-fracking water quality data base in headwaters streams, and is also providing pre-fracking residential water well testing across New York State.

Steve's visionary approach and inclusive style have been effective in creating a clean-water army of well-informed, technically competent volunteers. The decade-long data collection project provides invaluable information for many water-related challenges in the Cayuga Lake watershed and surrounding areas. The Community Science Institute online: <http://www.communityscience.org>.

The Emerging Watershed Leader Award

New this year, the Emerging Watershed Leader Award has been created by the Network to honor a young person who shows great promise in the future management and protection of our

incomparable Cayuga Lake and creeks. A sustainable future for our lake requires that young people start working toward it now, and get ready to take (or grab!) the reins from us older folks.

The inaugural 2013 Emerging Watershed Leader Award was presented to Ashley Benning, a 2013 graduate of Wells College with a degree in environmental science. For several years, Ashley has been a student intern and staff person for the Network and has what it takes to lead the way forward.

Ashley combines a scholarly scientific mind with graphic design and communication skills, and has helped edit and write newsletter articles, maintain our membership data, organize

and run events, develop our Facebook page; and has contributed greatly to our new website, not least in the creation of a special resources page about the lake and watershed for kids: <http://www.cayugalake.org/clwn-for-kids.html>

Thank You to Event Organizers

The Cayuga Lake Watershed Network extends grateful thanks to the members of the Sunset Dinner on Cayuga organizing committee,

Gunilla Anderson, Sally Ezra, Arlene Chase, Laurie Hultberg, Joey Valez, Ed Harwood, Sally Harwood, and Suzanne Logue.

The success of the 2013 Sunset Dinner on Cayuga was due entirely to their smart and savvy teamwork over several months. From raffle sales to table centerpieces, a sumptuous silent auction and Six Mile Creek Winery wines on every table, they oversaw every detail, and we owe them a deep debt of gratitude.

Thanks also to Nancy Arquette, Rupert Robbins and the staff of Wells Dining/Skillet and Embers catering, and to the classy band BackTalk, who rounded out our happy lakeside evening with classic rock and roll. ♪



The lively Sunset Dinner on Cayuga scene in the beautiful Wells College dining hall.



ED HARWOOD



BRENDEN BROADWELL

Ashley Benning, recipient of the inaugural 2013 Emerging Watershed Leaders Award, presented during Sunset Dinner on Cayuga.

From left, Morehouse awardee Steve Penningroth, CLWN leaders Deb Grantham and Hilary Lambert; Claire and Randy Morehouse.



From left: Awardee Steve Penningroth, CLWN leaders Deb Grantham and Hilary Lambert; Claire and Randy Morehouse.

ED HARWOOD

A challenging and wonderful event on September 14 Yes We Can (Canoe Cayuga)!

John Mawdsley and Sharon Mier

CanYou Canoe Cayuga? The answer is yes we can!

On the high seas of Cayuga Lake.

On Saturday September the 14th, over 100 participants paddled their way down all or part of Cayuga Lake. The cool weather, waves and wind made it a significant challenge. During the post-event party at Ithaca's Cass Park, paddlers spoke of being tired but enjoying the challenge—and loving the food catered by Kendra's, and fabulous live music from Purple Valley.

One participant, tackling the full 35 miles, asked for the number 86. On talking to him we discovered that the number was special to him as it was his age! He was the oldest entrant. A friend of his said that *"I train with him regularly and we cover 10 miles on a local river near Harrisburg, PA. He did the event circling Manhattan earlier this year. He is amazing."* We echo that!

Jay and Louise Shapiro travelled up from central New Jersey, having seen a poster for the event on an earlier trip to Ithaca. Jay said *"My wife was the inspiration for us taking on this challenge from Sheldrake Winery. She is the power behind our strong finish."*

Tim Willsallen was the only one to row the whole length and was the first to finish. He is very experienced and a keen racer. However, he said, *"I entered for the pleasure of being in an event that was not a race. It was not my aim to be first but my boat is faster than most kayaks, especially with the wind behind me."*

For the second annual CanYou Canoe Cayuga event held that chilly September Saturday, the Cayuga Lake Watershed Network more than doubled the numbers paddling the full 35 miles of Cayuga Lake as well as increasing the overall number of participants travelling down a portion of the lake. Along with local kayakers and canoeists and paddle boarders were paddlers from New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Massachusetts and far corners of New York State. Some participants started at Sheldrake Winery and others at Taughannock State Park. All converged on the finish line at Ithaca's Treman Marine Park and the buffet dinner and music in Cass Park, and on Patricia Haines' memorably beautiful, vast and tasty Lake Cake.



After the first 11 miles of CYCC —a cute selfie by Paul Wiech with Julie Palmer Carmalt.



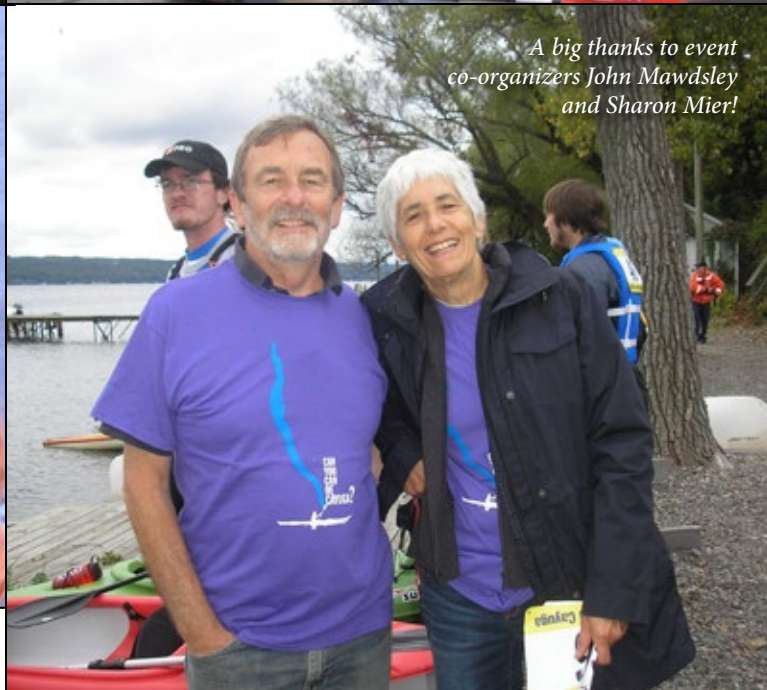
The reward for CYCC participants at Ithaca's Cass Park: food by Kendra, music by Purple Valley and sunshine to warm tired muscles.



Getting the boats wet at Deans Cove.



Still smiling!



A big thanks to event co-organizers John Mawdsley and Sharon Mier!

Sponsorship for the event was provided by Cayuga Medical Center for the first time, with further support from the Tompkins Tourism Board, Tompkins Trust Company and two local kayak, canoe and paddleboard rentals, Puddledockers on Ithaca's Cayuga Inlet and Paddles-N-More in Lansing at Myers Park.

Safety boats were on hand to keep a close watch on paddlers as they made their way down the lake. We were delighted with support from many communities around the lake in their help with this effort, including the Romulus and Aurora Fire Departments providing boats and trained crew, the Coast Guard Auxiliary, the Sheriffs of Seneca and Tompkins Counties, and residents from the north and south ends of the lake. Student volunteers from Cornell's new Biology Service Leaders program, coordinated by Aaron Bhole and Sarah Ohnigian, helped manage the paddler rest stops and launching, and are eager to return in 2014 as assistants and participants. 🐾



Jen and John Burger arrive at the finish with a great message: 'Watersheds are for loving' and 'We're all in the same boat!'

For more photos, please see this event on our Facebook page and on our website www.cayugalake.org under "Events." If you are stirred by this great adventure and would like to help with it in future, please contact steward@cayugalake.org to be placed on our volunteers list!

The Town of Enfield Launches Aquifer Study

Risa Sokolsky and Nancy Spero, Enfield residents

The Town of Enfield is currently participating in a county-wide aquifer study led by the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). This critical, in-depth look at our local water resources is an essential tool in monitoring, managing and protecting this precious resource for all who live here and depend upon it; humans, fauna and flora alike.

Enfield has an abundance of natural features including wetlands and streams. The spectacular gorges and glens, hanging cliffs, and breathtaking waterfalls located within Robert H. Treman State Park are all part of Enfield, and all but the southwestern corner of the Town is located within the Cayuga Lake watershed. Our water flows north into the Taughannock Creek watershed, the Cayuga Inlet watershed, and southward to the Susquehanna River Basin's Cayuta Creek watershed.

What's an "aquifer study"?

The U.S. Geological Survey maps the local aquifer to determine the sources, quantity, quality, and location of the water resources in the aquifer, as well as its susceptibility to contamination. Completing such an investigation takes several years. The study's objectives are to help the Town and County define the geometry (width, depth and layering) of the aquifer within their area and other geologic and hydrologic aspects such as recharge areas to the aquifer, water quality, type of aquifer (confined or unconfined), and current and potential water use from the aquifer. In one case a 3-dimensional computer model was developed which shows the time it takes for water to replenish pumping wells.

Having this critical information about the aquifer system allows the county and towns to make well-informed decisions on how best to manage and protect our vital water resources. In some cases the studies have determined critical recharge areas that should be protected and additional sources of groundwater not yet discovered. The program has been very successful in

other participating Tompkins County towns (including Dryden, Virgil, Caroline, Danby), and the cooperative nature of the

program has allowed close relationships to be developed between the USGS, town, and county as they all work together toward a common goal.

The challenge: finding funds to support this research

As you may know, the town of Enfield has very limited economic resources. Our property tax base is the smallest in the county, and because many homes and roads were severely damaged in the flooding last August, our already limited financial resources were further diminished.

There is no municipal water supply in Enfield, so every resident still gets their water from a well. Contamination of any kind—or serious diminishment of flow—would be a catastrophe for the residents. Yet it's impossible to effectively protect an aquifer whose location, quality and boundaries are not yet clearly defined.

We are reaching out to the greater community for financial support to complete this 6-year study so we can all help responsibly manage and

protect our currently bountiful and uncontaminated freshwater resources.

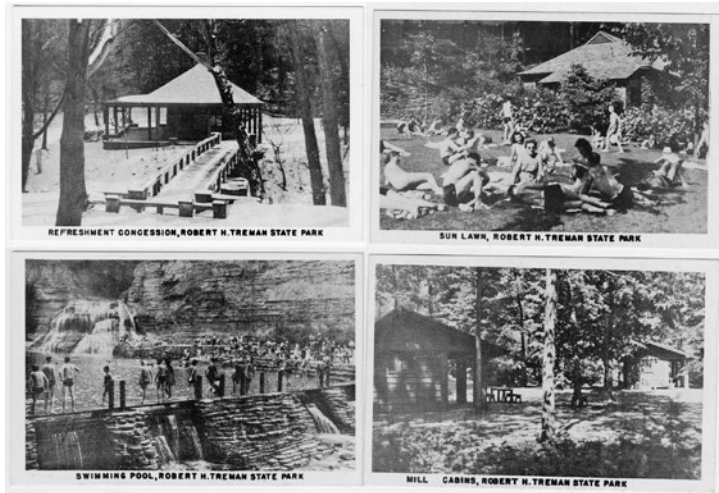
The cost of the study is \$258,000. The USGS will pay for 30% and Tompkins County will cover another 35%, leaving Enfield's share at 35% of the total cost, or approximately \$90,000.

Thus far the Aquifer Study Fundraising Group has raised a little over \$6,000 from area residents. The Town of Enfield was awarded 2 grants for \$5,000 each (one from the Soil and Water



Lucifer Falls, Enfield Creek, in Robert H. Treman State Park. This picture is worth a thousand words about why Enfield needs an aquifer study, to protect its water resources for everyone to enjoy.

Vintage postcards of the fun to be had in the clear cool waters of Enfield Creek, Robert H. Treman State Park. Thanks to Bill Hecht for these images.



BRAYTON AUDUBON EASTERN HALL

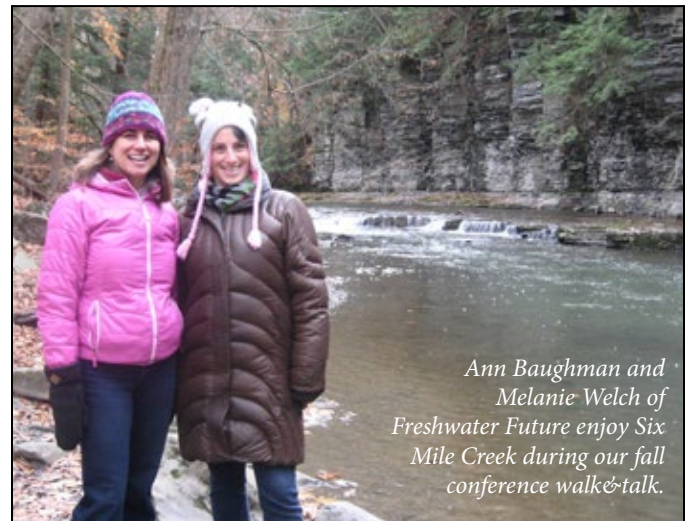
***The public has
benefitted from
the clean abundant
water from the
Town of Enfield's
highlands
for a long time.***

Conservation District and the other from the Community Foundation of Tompkins County). So far the Town has been able to contribute \$7,000 from the budget, and has also budgeted another \$10,000 for the project in 2014. This leaves the community with \$57,000 needed to complete the study.

We are reaching out to people who care deeply about protecting our rich natural environment and who understand that our future depends on abundant clean water, to help support the completion of this critical effort. All contributions are tax deductible. New ideas for grants and fundraisers are welcome, as well! Currently, a Tompkins County resident has offered a \$1,000 matching grant for year-end donations to our Aquifer Study Fund, a great way to make donations go further. Please contact Nancy Spero at nspero@lightlink.com for donation information. For questions regarding the Aquifer Study or the Aquifer Study Fund, send an email query to enfield.aquifer@gmail.com. Thank you for your support of this critical effort! ➤

Climate change, adaptation & resilience Six Mile Creek and the Restful Mind

continued from page 2



*Ann Baughman and
Melanie Welch of
Freshwater Future enjoy Six
Mile Creek during our fall
conference walk&talk.*

and fractivist burnout. Judy Pierpont helped us write, talk and interact about what we fear most about climate change, and to begin to understand that we must work toward having a "restful mind" (the memorable phrase of Cornell anthropologist Hirokazu Miazaki) to be able to deal with the many concurrent environmental and societal crises in an adaptively resilient manner. John Burger led us through a relaxing and centering tai chi session to get us back in touch with ourselves and the natural world we inhabit. As he says, "If we carry our preoccupations into the woods, we'll never have any woody thoughts."

Thanks to Ann Baughman and Melanie Welch for helping the group sum up the two day event and focus on resilient, adaptive steps for ourselves and our communities. If you are interested in learning more about this conference and possible next steps, please get in touch! ➤

Tony Ingraham's "Walk in the Park" local cable TV show offers two episodes about Mark Whitmore and Roxy Johnston's walk&talk presentations. Go online to <http://ithacafingerlakes.com/> and scroll down to click on and watch episode 61, "Gorge Tree Killer" and episode 62, "Six Mile Creek, Trees and Water." Stay a while to enjoy Tony's long-running local series with its beautiful area photography and commentary.

Smart Steps for Clean Water: Household Energy Use *continued from page 3*

SOURCES:

- Cayuga Lake Watershed Network "Smart Steps for Clean Water" <http://www.cayugalake.org/files/all/smrtstps06.pdf>
- US Dept. of Energy "Tips on Saving Money and Energy in the Home" http://energy.gov/sites/prod/files/2013/06/f2/energy_savers.pdf
- Cornell Cooperative Extension of Tompkins County, Energy Resources <http://ccetompkins.org/energy>

'Breakfast around the lake' kick-off in Seneca Falls Year-End Hydrilla Hunter Recognition & Report

Echoing an event held in Ithaca last month, a Hydrilla Hunter volunteer recognition and public update took place December 10 in the delightful setting of Seneca Falls' Gould Hotel (previously the Clarence). The Network's members, supporters, hydrilla hunters and public agency staff were invited to attend this first free "Breakfast Around the Lake" event, and fourteen stalwart folks showed up on a cold snowy morning to hear presentations by the Network's Hilary Lambert, and Sharon Anderson of the Tompkins County Cornell Cooperative Extension staff. Both are members of the Hydrilla Task Force, Cayuga Lake Watershed.

Guests filled their plates and cups and settled back to hear Lambert speak about the value of having many trained volunteers around the lake who know what hydrilla looks like and how to report it. She spoke about Lansing resident Dave Heck, who tirelessly spent the summer of 2013 making sure that visitors and residents along the southeast shoreline of the lake know what hydrilla is—one of the world's worst invasive aquatic plants; why it needs to be eradicated (by experts!)—so that it does not engulf the lake's shoreline and shallow north and south end with dense mats of tangled plants; and how to report it—at www.stophydrilla.org.

Across the lake, along the southwestern shoreline, John Abel has enlisted members of the West Shore Homeowners Association (WSHA) to patrol their lakefront properties, boats and docks regularly for any sign of hydrilla encroachment. The Floating Classroom provided several late-summer free public trainings onboard their boat, the M.V. Haendel, to train new hydrilla hunters to be on the lookout. So far, it appears that the local hydrilla survives and thrives even in colder weather, so the hunting season runs from late July (when it appears near the surface of the lake and creeks) into November.

Lambert called on the north end hydrilla hunters present at the breakfast to consider becoming "heroes" like Dave, and to work with groups like the WSHA along their town's shorelines in 2014. With the escape of some hydrilla plant fragments from Ithaca's Fall Creek into the lake during the heavy rains this past August, it is almost certain that hydrilla will be showing up further north in the lake.

Jim Malyj, District Manager of the Seneca County Soil & Water Conservation District, attended the breakfast event. He said that finding hydrilla at the north end of the lake would greatly complicate the district's regular summer aquatic plant control (weed harvesting) program, so it is better to find and remove the plant before it takes over. Also present was Bruce Natale, Cayuga County Environmental Engineer, who reported that aquatic

plant collection boxes have been built and placed at marinas and boat launch areas around the county, making it easy for boaters to discard plants from boats and trailers. He added that Cayuga County recently passed a local law making it unlawful for anyone to transport an invasive species to or from county waterways, joining Tompkins County which passed a similar law last year.

Sharon Anderson provided a review of the 2013 hydrilla eradication program, stating that, since 2011, the chemicals used in the Cayuga Inlet have been highly effective in eliminating both the massive hydrilla infestation first found that year, and reducing the number of tubers in the Inlet's sediments that spawn

the fast-growing, aggressive plants. Monitoring of weed growth and impacts on other species and water quality monitoring are carried out continuously each season, to ensure both that drinking water and recreational uses are not affected, and that the chemicals are at high enough levels to kill off the hydrilla and tubers.

Anderson reported that the Task Force's Hydrilla Management Plan has mapped out hydrilla eradication over a several-year period, with active management to at least 2020. She said that while eradication is expensive in terms of chemicals, the cost of doing

nothing would be far greater, and showed photos and maps of Florida and other areas in the US where eradication was begun too late to be effective, so that hydrilla management today costs up to \$30 million per year in Florida alone, to mow boat lanes and clear marina areas, and to make chemical treatments that only temporarily push back the relentless heavy growth of hydrilla statewide. We do not want that in New York State!

And, Sharon stressed, volunteers are key: please contact steward@cayugalake.org if you can commit to helping next summer. We can send materials to get you started over the winter, and next summer there will be opportunities to help build aquatic plant collection boxes for marinas, patrol the shoreline on foot and in your kayaks, watch for hydrilla when boating and swimming, get Floating Classroom trainings, and share what you have learned with your neighbors along the lake. 🐾

For more information about hydrilla, how to report a possible sighting, read the reports about each season's monitoring results, and to read about the chemicals used, go to the www.StopHydrilla.org website maintained by Sharon Anderson and support staff at the Tompkins County Cornell Cooperative Extension office. Watch for several Breakfast Around the Lake events for our members in 2014—we are seeking sponsors, topics, and sites with good eats—let us know if you want a "Breakfast" in your community.



Sharon Anderson talks about hydrilla eradication to a breakfast audience of Network members and local leaders at The Gould Hotel in Seneca Falls.



Onboard the MV Haendel in late summer 2013, members of the public were trained to identify hydrilla, and helped with shoreline and lake surveys using the rake toss method to collect aquatic plant samples for analysis. The Floating Classroom will be offering these trainings and research sessions again in 2014.



Please donate to support our work in 2014!

Your active participation in volunteer efforts such as fracking meetings and hearings, stream clean ups, and monitoring aquatic weed threats to Cayuga Lake demonstrates the love we share for our lake and creeks.

MAIL: Fill out the information below, select a donation level, and mail the form with your check to
Cayuga Lake Watershed Network, P.O. Box 348, Aurora, NY 13026

PAYPAL: Join or donate via your PayPal/credit card online at www.cayugalake.org.

AS A MEMBER, you'll receive regular issues of *Network News*, information about upcoming events, trainings and volunteer opportunities, and the satisfaction of knowing that you are supporting a local organization that is making a real difference.

- ☐ I am joining the Cayuga Lake Watershed Network with the enclosed contribution.
- ☐ I am renewing my membership with the enclosed contribution.
- ☐ Please accept the enclosed donation to support lake and watershed protection.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____ May we add you to our listserv? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Please Select the Support Level You Prefer:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="radio"/> \$500 Watershed Benefactor | <input type="radio"/> \$250 Lake Sponsor |
| <input type="radio"/> \$100 Headwater Donor | <input type="radio"/> \$50 Farm/Small Business |
| <input type="radio"/> \$50 Organization or Agency | <input type="radio"/> \$35 Family |
| <input type="radio"/> \$25 Individual | <input type="radio"/> \$10 Student/Senior |
| <input type="radio"/> Other _____ | |



Your Contributions to the Cayuga Lake Watershed Network are Tax Deductible.

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.



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Upcoming & Updates for 2014

Hydrilla Hunter Hero! Our 2013 hydrilla hero is Lansing resident Dave Heck, who repeatedly went door-to-door and boat-to-boat along the Lansing shoreline to make sure that homeowners and vacationers and boaters all know what hydrilla looks like and how to report it. We'll feature his efforts in the first 2014 newsletter—and we call on lakeside town residents around the lake to consider becoming a hydrilla hunter hero in 2014. We provide the training (minimal) and support—you work with your town's shoreline users to educate them about hydrilla (and other invasives, if you are ready!). Interested? Send an email: steward@cayugalake.org.

Embrace the Lake 2014: Would your community, church, school, scout group like to do a creek or lakefront cleanup in the spring? Let us know now if you are interested—we provide bags, gloves and snacks, and can help advise on good cleanup locations: steward@cayugalake.org !

Volunteers sought: to help with our new “breakfasts around the lake” get-togethers, CanYou Canoe Cayuga, Hemlock Woolly Adelgid surveying in Six Mile Creek, Hydrilla i.d. training and lake patrols, helping with north and south end community conferences, representing the Network with a display at outdoor events: steward@cayugalake.org

Network committee work: Our committees are overseen by our Board of Directors, and could use your talents and experience. We are especially seeking fundraising and financial expertise (who isn't!): steward@cayugalake.org

Would you prefer to have your *Network News* delivered as an email attachment (pdf)? It may take us a few months to set this up, but let us know if that is your preferred method of delivery: steward@cayugalake.org

Thank you: We now have a strong newsletter advisory committee to help get the *Network News* out in a timely fashion at a high level of excellence. Thank you to Michael Duttweiler, John Mawdsley and Niamh O'Leary for stepping up!

March 31, 7:00 pm, Save the Date! Bill Foster of the Floating Classroom and Hilary Lambert, Network Steward, will be giving a public presentation about Cayuga Lake in a community event sponsored by the Tompkins County League of Women Voters. It will probably be held at the Tompkins County Public Library on Green Street in Ithaca. Keep an eye out for details.