

## Starve The Algae! Save The Lake!

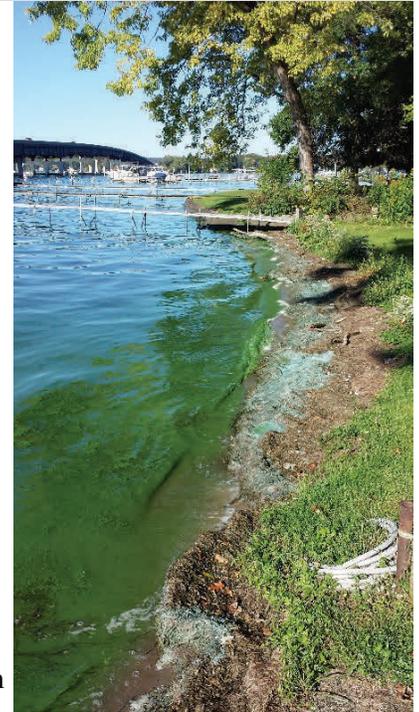
### *Starving Lake Algae Starts With Your Yard*

There is a growing epidemic of harmful algae blooms, or HABs, in lakes across the United States, and Chautauqua Lake is no exception. In addition to being disruptive to recreational activities such as swimming, boating and fishing, blue-green algae (cyanobacteria) can pose a significant health risk to lake users and neighbors. These blooms can also have a negative impact on local tourism and economies.

Earlier this year, CWC launched an initiative, its *Starve the Algae! Save the Lake!* program, to help combat these blooms in Chautauqua Lake. The program aims to reduce and prevent nutrients and sediment from entering Chautauqua Lake and its tributaries by working with area landowners to implement better land management practices. (These same nutrients and sediments are also contributing factors in the excessive aquatic plant growth in the lake.)

More specifically, CWC is identifying lakeshore and tributary sites where lawns and crops are being cultivated to the top of the bank, and where cattle and pastures are contributing to pollution, and contacting those landowners to explore options to stop the pollution. CWC is also seeking conservation easements or full ownership of stream corridors and lakeshore buffer zones as a means to permanently restore and protect these sites from incompatible, pollution-generating land uses.

Even if you are not a shoreline property owner, how you maintain and manage your property can still have an impact on harmful algae blooms in the lake, even if your yard is located miles away from the lake itself. To find out how you as an individual can help reduce and prevent these blooms, turn to Page 9.



*Algae bloom on Chautauqua Lake (CWC photo)*



*(photo by Jonathan Townsend)*

## CWC Expands Its Preserve System

Two generous landowners recently donated more than 20 acres to CWC! The first, a half-acre of wetlands in the Town of Chautauqua at the tip of Whitney Point donated by Wendy Jo Culver, expands the Prendergast Creek Wetland Preserve and conserves an additional 250 feet of ecologically-valuable lakeshore wetland. CWC now owns both banks of the former (southerly) channel of Prendergast Creek.

The second donation (21 acres), from Dennis J. Galucki and Barbara D. Mierzwa, is on Sea Lion Drive, just east of Mayville close to where Big Inlet Creek enters Chautauqua Lake. This property is almost entirely wetland, with large areas of open water and a small wetland stream on site as well. The Galucki wetlands at Chautauqua Lake's Big Inlet range from a hemlock swamp to marshy areas, and based on a recent preliminary botanical inventory, the property has a healthy plant community. And, given the froggy chorus that erupted when our lands manager and preserve foreman recently explored the site, it is clearly of great importance to local amphibians as well. It is Mr. Galucki's intent for CWC to create unique educational opportunities at this site, so look for future improvements on this property as part of our *Gateways to Nature* initiative, which has been generously funded by the Cummins Foundation, with help from volunteers from the Cummins Jamestown Engine Plant.



# CHAUTAUQUA WATERSHED CONSERVANCY

413 North Main Street  
Jamestown, NY 14701  
716.664.2166

info@chautauquawatershed.org  
www.chautauquawatershed.org

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**Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization with a mission to preserve and enhance the water quality, scenic beauty and ecological health of the lakes, streams, wetlands and watersheds of the Chautauqua region.**

Member of



## Message From The Executive Director

### CWC is Investing in Permanent Actions to Address Lake Challenges

The scenic and bountiful waterways, forests and fields of the Chautauqua region are what make it a special place to live and visit. Healthy waterways in particular are an essential component of the region's economy and quality of life. No one wants to live on or drive to a lake and find it unusable! Chautauqua Lake's current algae and plant problems and controversies stem from historical and continuing lake-damaging land use practices in its watershed. Harmful algae blooms and heavy exotic, invasive plant growth are symptoms of an over-exploited, unprotected lake.



*John Jablonski III*

The Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy was established in 1990 with the mission to preserve and enhance the water quality, scenic beauty and ecological health of the lakes, streams and watersheds of this region. The CWC has taken a preventive approach to protecting and enhancing Chautauqua Lake and the other lakes and waterways of our region. To date, working with willing landowners, CWC has conserved over 1,000 acres of forests, wetlands and fields county-wide. CWC's conservation programs are based on the scientific principle that healthy, natural landscapes provide clean water for healthy lakes, streams and ground waters. CWC's approaches to conservation

***“No one wants to live on or drive to a lake and find it unusable!”***

and lake management that it has advocated for have not changed over the last 28 years. What has changed is that other organizations and agencies have come to implement more and more of the policies and actions

CWC has championed all along. CWC has long advocated for watershed land conservation as an essential tool for lake water quality protection. Public and private water suppliers around the globe are implementing watershed forest, stream corridor and wetland protection to deliver pure water and minimize water treatment costs.

Research shows that urbanization of watersheds leads to more flooding and property damage, declining water quality and detrimental changes to aquatic communities of stream life and gamefish. Trout waters turn into carp waters. Muskellunge can no longer reproduce. The spawning areas of gamefish are smothered in mud. Lakes become filled with invasive plants such as milfoil that thrive on degraded, excessively-sedimented fertile lake bottoms. Over-fertilized lakes fill with harmful algae blooms. Herbicides are an essential tool for eradicating newly introduced exotic invasive plant species, but they are a stop-gap measure for controlling long-established invasive species. Installing best management practices as part of development can reduce but not stem the decline in water quality associated with the urbanization of watersheds. “Smart growth,” conserving key landscape features, must be the norm and not the exception if we are to slow the decline of our lakes. *(continued next page)*

(continued from page 2) CWC is pursuing the conservation and restoration of naturally-vegetated buffers along our lake tributaries and lake shorelines to intercept nutrients before they reach our waters and fertilize our lakes. CWC is also pursuing the acquisition of conservation easements and full acquisition of buffer areas to stop incompatible land uses from polluting our streams and causing soil erosion, fueling excessive plant and algae growth in our lakes. We are working with landowners to stop maintaining lawns, cropland and pasture along the banks of our tributary streams and lakes – and to acquire legal ownership of these waterfront sites to ensure that incompatible uses cannot be restarted anytime in the future.

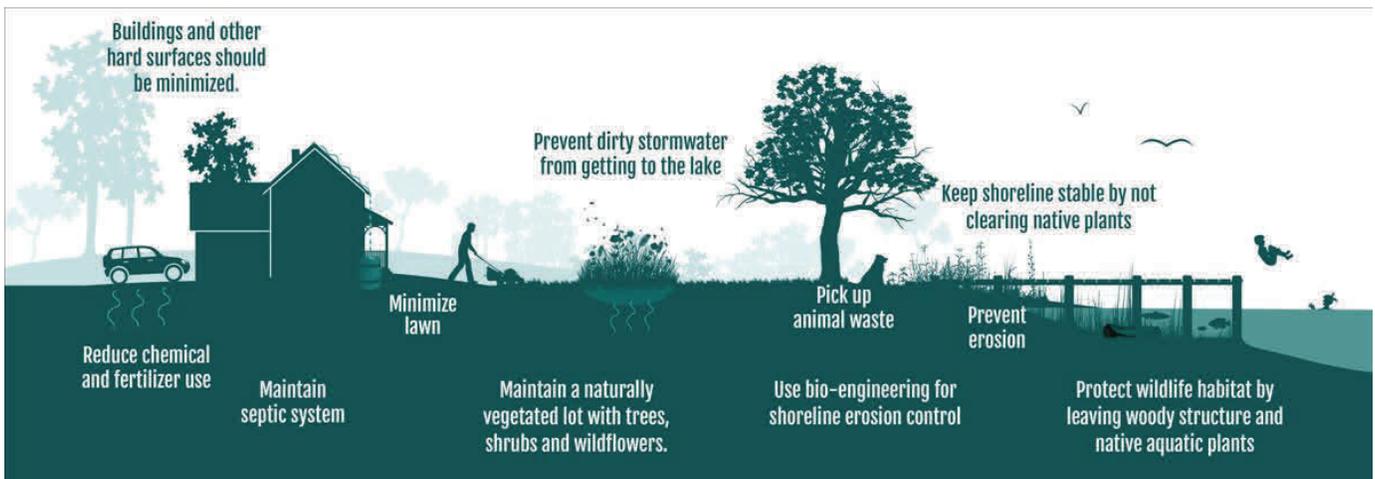


*CWC is targeting sites with nutrient and erosion problems to restore and permanently protect their water quality through ownership or conservation easements. (CWC photo)*

How important is this? CWC has been acquiring sites for conservation for 23 years. Last year, New York State added a land acquisition public drinking water source protection grant program to its Water Quality Improvement Program. And now in 2018, the State Department of Agriculture and Markets is rolling out a waterfront buffer conservation easement purchase program for Soil & Water Conservation Districts to implement with landowners, municipalities and land trusts statewide. The State of New York is now strongly advocating these types of initiatives through its Chautauqua Lake Harmful Algae Blooms Action Plan – the same type of initiatives that CWC has been working to implement since its inception!

The CWC is working collaboratively with the Chautauqua County Soil & Water Conservation District, Chautauqua County, Chautauqua Lake and Watershed Management Alliance, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Cassadaga Lakes Association, Ducks Unlimited and other partners to develop and implement stream corridor conservation projects to permanently move cattle and crop cultivation away from streams and to permanently protect and enhance tributary streams, wetlands and forests. CWC is continuing to assist lakefront and streamside owners with landscaping technical assistance in these efforts. CWC is presently a partner in developing and implementing projects on several Chautauqua Lake tributaries (Goose, Prendergast, Cheney, Dutch Hollow, etc.) and Cassadaga Lakes with other agencies. These projects will reduce future loading of sediments, nutrients and other pollutants to these waterways, addressing harmful algae blooms and excessive plant growth over the long haul in these lakes.

We encourage streamside, lakeshore and wetland owners to consider implementing permanent conservation projects on their properties. We hope that you will find it meaningful to generously invest your charitable giving in these preventive and restorative initiatives. CWC invites visionary donors to help us make big conservation projects happen on Chautauqua, Cassadaga and Lake Erie tributaries. Please contact any CWC director or staffer for more information on how to give of your time and resources in these efforts!



*There are many conservation practices that will help improve the health of your streams and lakes. (graphic by Missaukee Conservation District)*

## Message From The President



**Lyle Hajdu**

2018 is an exciting time for CWC directors, staff and you – the esteemed members of our team!

CWC continues to build new partnerships with landowners, communities and organizations with common goals of healthy lakes, clean waters and healthy fish and wildlife habitats. We're collaborating with the Chautauqua Lake & Watershed Management Alliance, Chautauqua County and the Chautauqua County Soil & Water Conservation District on several stream erosion control projects and CWC's *Starve the Algae! Save the Lake!* watershed education/pollution prevention program.

Last year, the Cummins Foundation helped to fund our *Gateways to Nature* initiative, a project aimed at increasing awareness of and access to our 1,000 acres of public nature preserves. Since its launch, Cummins employees have contributed hundreds of volunteer hours toward this program, and the results in the field are very visible and enjoyable! We're partnering with the Cassadaga Lakes Association and Cassadaga community on conserving 77 acres of beautiful forest and wetlands to establish the Cassadaga Lakes Nature Park for conservation and recreation. We're also partnering with Ducks Unlimited on a wetlands restoration project, which will greatly benefit waterfowl in the Cassadaga Valley, and are meeting with landowners to explore additional projects in the region. CWC also continues to provide its Lake Curriculum Program to elementary students in the Jamestown and Southwestern Central School Districts.

Internally, we are producing management plans for all of our preserves as they are established and have 17 volunteer preserve stewards helping to monitor, manage and protect our preserves. Grant awards and major donations are funding capacity building to strengthen CWC's communications and fundraising activities. We welcome Jennifer Nesbitt to our staff to apply her talents to these activities! We also welcome Robert Wooler to our board of directors!

We value your commitment to the success of these conservation activities and thank you for your investment in this work! We have several upcoming events and tours this summer and fall and hope you will join us at one or more of them. We'd love to speak with you in person and learn more about your interests in and concerns for our watershed as well as gain insight into what your conservation aspirations for CWC might be.

Have a safe and enjoyable summer on the beautiful lands and waters of our region!

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## Meet Our New Development Coordinator



**Jennifer Nesbitt,**  
**CWC Development Coordinator**

The CWC has welcomed its newest staff member, Development Coordinator Jennifer Nesbitt. Jennifer and her husband purchased a small cottage in Bemus Point six years ago to fulfill their dream of owning a vacation home on a lake. Jennifer, her husband and their three girls moved into the cottage "temporarily" as they planned to relocate from Columbus, Ohio, to northwestern Pennsylvania to be closer to family. They were so enamored with lake life and the Bemus Point community that they decided to make the area their permanent home. They purchased a full-time home overlooking the lake in 2015. Jennifer spends as much time as possible outdoors with her family, boating, swimming and wakeboarding on the lake; camping and hiking; and, most recently, learning to ski.

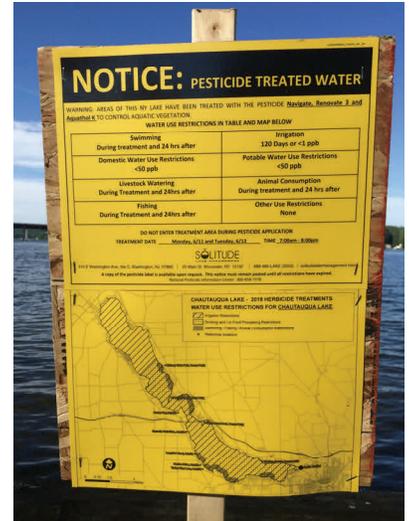
Jennifer is a native of Meadville, Pennsylvania, and a proud alumna of Penn State University. She has spent the majority of her career as a journalist, working to cover local communities and nonprofit organizations like the CWC. She most recently has worked as a marketing consultant and copywriter. As development coordinator, Jennifer will focus on building relationships with the CWC's supporters and on expanding awareness of the CWC's mission, events and achievements through marketing and public relations.

# Limited Herbicide Treatment Completed on Chautauqua Lake

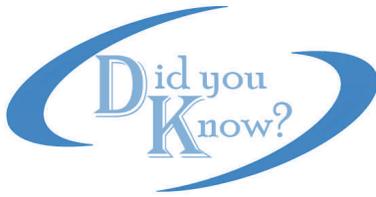
Last winter and spring, regulatory authorities completed environmental reviews and permitting for a proposed herbicide application on 900 acres of Chautauqua Lake. The CWC actively participated in all available opportunities for public review and comment on the proposal, including meeting with New York State Department of Environmental Conservation decision-makers, submitting written comments and speaking at public meetings. CWC clearly expressed concerns about the impacts that herbicides would have on fish habitat, rare plants and animals, human health, wetlands, drinking water and other potential unintended consequences. We collaborated on this with lake residents, lake users, fishermen, sportsmen, local scientists and environmental organizations to voice our concerns.

With this input, the NYSDEC limited the application of herbicides in Chautauqua Lake to less than 10% of the 900 acres requested, and application of the herbicides commenced on June 11, 2018. The permitted herbicides included Navigate (active ingredient: 2,4-D), Renovate 3 (active ingredient: Triclopyr) and Aquathol K (active ingredient: Endothall). No official post-application report is available yet, but according to an article that was published in the June 28, 2018 edition of *The Post Journal*, “A total of 81 acres was treated in 5 areas along the shoreline at Sunset/Warner Bay and Bemus Bay in the Town of Ellery, the shoreline of the Town of Busti and shorelines of Bly Bay and Sunrise Cove in the Town of North Harmony.”

CWC believes that herbicides are an appropriate tool for the control of invasive, non-native terrestrial and aquatic plants under certain circumstances, such as for eradicating new infestations of invasive aquatic plants where other means, such as mechanical harvesting, hand harvesting or benthic (lake bottom) barriers, are not feasible.



*A temporary sign posted on the shoreline of Chautauqua Lake in June 2018 warns lake users of a recent herbicide treatment. (photo by Claire Quadri)*



*Did you know that just one pound of phosphorus can produce 1,100 pounds of algae in the lake?!*

## Help Stop Aquatic Invaders!

Help stop the spread of invasive aquatic species to Chautauqua Lake! Invasive aquatic species are non-native plants, animals and/or other organisms which, when introduced into a new ecosystem, can threaten the biodiversity, functions and human use of that new ecosystem. They can also adversely affect human health and local economies. You can help prevent the introduction of these aquatic “invaders” by not transporting water, animals or plants from one body of water to another by performing the following tasks each time you leave a body of water:



- **DRAIN** water from all equipment (boats, motors, trailers, bilges, live wells, bait containers, etc.)
- **REMOVE** any mud or plant/animal material from all equipment, including fishing poles/tackles
- **DISCARD** any removed materials in a trash receptacle away from the lake
- **DISPOSE** of unused/unwanted bait in a trash receptacle away from the lake
- **RINSE** boats and other equipment with tap water (preferably hot and/or high pressure), or
- **DRY** for at least 5 days before using in another body of water
- **DON'T RELEASE** plants, fish/bait, animals or water into a body of water unless they originally came out of that body of water

## WQIP Program Update

Additional progress has been made on the \$1.4 million Water Quality Improvement Project (WQIP) program grants to stabilize streambanks and limit erosion on Chautauqua Lake tributary streams. These projects are a combined effort of Chautauqua County, the Chautauqua Lake and Watershed Management Alliance, the Chautauqua County Soil & Water Conservation District and the CWC. The purpose of the WQIP program is to improve the water quality of Chautauqua Lake and its tributaries by limiting soil erosion and intercepting nutrient loading caused by streambank and channel instability. This group of WQIPs includes seven priority sections of six of Chautauqua Lake's tributary streams: Prendergast Creek, Upper Bemus Creek, Lower Bemus Creek, Dutch Hollow Creek, West (Branch) Dutch Hollow Creek, Ball Creek and Goose Creek. In prior issues of *The 'Shed Sheet*, we described the completion of the Prendergast Creek and Upper/Lower Bemus Creek projects. The status of the remaining projects is summarized below:

**Ball Creek** In November 2017, construction of streambank protection structures and stream channel improvements was completed for Ball Creek. This project is especially meaningful to the CWC, as the improvements were made on a section of our Ball Creek Preserve. The eroding streambank was re-graded and protected with over 760 tons of large stone. An engineered rock riffle was also installed in the stream channel. This structure helps stabilize the slope of the stream channel and allows for increased agitation of the water resulting in more oxygen content for insects, fish and other organisms. Additionally, about 500 willow and dogwood cuttings were planted along the newly improved stream bank. This vegetation will provide root structure to hold soils in place as well as overhead branches and leaves to shade and cool the stream water. Areas that were disturbed by heavy equipment during construction were also re-graded and seeded. Invasive species mitigation was then initiated in June and additional native species planting/seeding is planned for later this year. The CWC will continue to maintain the property after the completion of the WQIP-funded improvements.



**Ball Creek**



**Dutch Hollow Creek**

**Dutch Hollow/West (Branch) Dutch Hollow Creek** At the end of March 2018, prospective contractors toured the Dutch Hollow and West (Branch) Dutch Hollow Creek WQIP project locations in order to prepare their construction bids. The County received and opened multiple bids for the projects in mid-April and awarded the work soon after. The project on the West (Branch) Dutch Hollow Creek upstream tributary will include channel, bank and floodplain grading and construction of multiple engineered structures for grade control and bank protection within an approximately 850-foot-long reach. The project on a downstream section of Dutch Hollow Creek will improve and stabilize about 1,100 feet of stream corridor through a combination of grade stabilization structures, including in-stream rock riffle structures and channel

and bank grading. Additionally, at both sites, streambanks will be protected with stone and plantings of willow and native vegetation. Construction of these projects began in June and is currently underway.

**Goose Creek** At the Goose Creek site, large stone riprap was delivered and staged at the site in late 2017 in anticipation of construction in the summer of 2018. Contracts and permits are in place and construction began in mid-July. Goose Creek improvements will include re-grading of the streambank and placement of large stone riprap to protect the toe of the bank. In addition, willow or other native vegetation will be planted to stabilize the improved streambank to establish a buffer from overland pollutant flow and create additional shaded habitat.



**Goose Creek**

*All photos by Claire Quadri. Funding for these projects was provided in part by the Environmental Protection Fund as administered by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. Chautauqua County, through a share of its Occupancy Tax Program and reallocated Chautauqua Lake Management Commission (CLMC) capital funds, provided the local match funds for these projects..*

# Chautauqua Lake One of Twelve Selected for Statewide Harmful Algae Bloom Action Plan

Harmful Algae Blooms (or HABs) are plaguing lakes across New York State. In response, the State has allocated up to \$65 million for efforts to aggressively combat HABs and help protect drinking water quality and the upstate economy.

In March, NYS held summit meetings for 12 lakes selected for the preparation of Harmful Algae Bloom Action Plans with input from panels for each lake. CWC Executive Director John Jablonski III and Chautauqua Lake Association Executive Director Douglas Conroe were among those who served on the panel for Chautauqua Lake. The Chautauqua County Soil & Water Conservation District, County Planning & Economic Development Department, County Health Department, County Legislature, Chautauqua Lake & Watershed Management Alliance, Chautauqua Lake Partnership, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation and NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets were also represented on the panel for Chautauqua Lake. Excess nutrients (including phosphorus and nitrogen), intense spring and summer rainstorms, hot and calm summer weather, climate change, lake shape and lake orientation are viewed as important factors promoting algae blooms in Chautauqua Lake and other New York lakes. Decades of excess phosphorus discharge to Chautauqua Lake from farm, human and food processing wastewater has accumulated in the Lake's sediments. Summer release of this legacy phosphorus stored in sediments is estimated to be an important contributor to recurring severe algae blooms in Chautauqua Lake.

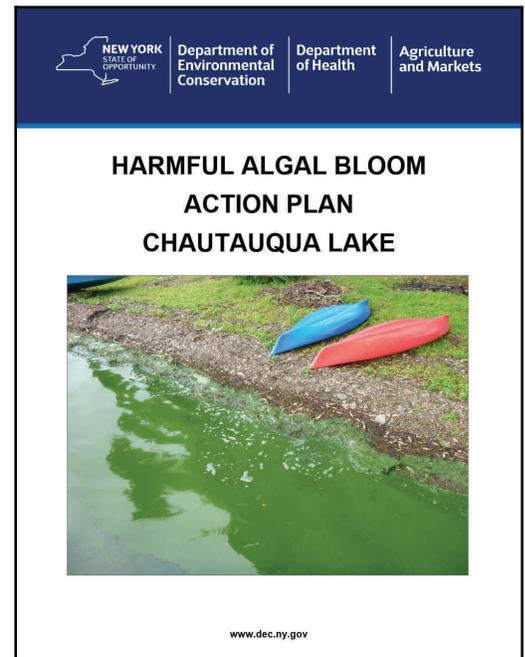
The Plan for Chautauqua Lake was completed in May and, according to the Executive Summary of the Plan, Chautauqua Lake exhibits several factors that make it susceptible to HABs:

- ◆ Elevated phosphorus concentrations from sources such as waste-water treatment plants, septic systems and fertilizer runoff from farms and yards;
- ◆ Internal loading of phosphorus from in-lake sediments;
- ◆ Nonpoint source sediment and nutrient inputs contributed from the watershed (e.g., agricultural lands, forests, ditches and streambank erosion) and;
- ◆ Stormwater runoff and failing septic systems.

Other factors likely contributing to the uptick in HABs include higher temperatures, increased precipitation and invasive species. With input from national and local experts, the State's Water Quality Rapid Response Team identified a suite of priority actions to address HABs in Chautauqua Lake including the following:

- ◆ Build the capacity of county agencies and local nonprofits to implement Best Management Practice (BMP) work on croplands and non-agricultural lands, increase education/outreach, perform site inspections for municipalities, acquire conservation easements on sensitive sites and BMP-installed sites and conduct upland water management projects on public and private lands;
- ◆ Implement the South & Center Chautauqua Lake Sewer District expansion project and roadside ditch program;
- ◆ Complete a landscape assessment to identify nutrient sources and recommend BMPs to minimize the level of nutrient export;
- ◆ Purchase and deploy an additional sampling buoy and conduct additional tributary sub-watershed and in-lake monitoring to help determine the stresses that lead to HABs; and
- ◆ Complete studies on the application of nutrient inactivants\* and evaluate the potential efficacy of adding additional treatment to public water systems.

*\*chemicals that combine with and settle phosphorus out of the water column or that bind phosphorus in the sediment to render it unavailable to phytoplankton (algae) living in the waters of the lake.*



*NYS's HABs Action Plan for Chautauqua Lake, completed in May, can be found at [www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/113733.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/113733.html).*

## CWC Grants News

### *CWC Receives Two Grants for its Starve the Algae! Save the Lake! Program & County Contract to Provide Technical and Educational Services*

CWC was recently awarded two grants in support of its *Starve the Algae! Save the Lake!* program and tributary stream pilot sampling program. The Chautauqua Lake & Watershed Management Alliance awarded \$50,000 from the Ralph C. Sheldon Foundation to the Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy to deliver these initiatives. This adds to the \$9,000 that CWC was awarded in March from the Chautauqua Region Community Foundation for the *Starve the Algae! Save the Lake!* Program. CWC has also entered into a contract with Chautauqua County, funded from the Occupancy Tax Grants for Lakes and Waterways, to provide \$10,000 in pollution prevention, technical assistance and watershed education services in lake watersheds county-wide.

CWC, itself and with partner agencies, will engage landowners and municipalities to reduce fertilizer use, conserve and repair key landscape features and take other actions with objectives to substantially reduce nutrient and sediment loading to Chautauqua Lake, resulting in improved water clarity and usability as measured by fewer beach closures and improvements in water quality parameters such as transparency, phosphorus and nitrogen compounds, measures of algal productivity (chlorophyll) and bacteria concentrations. CWC is implementing the following:

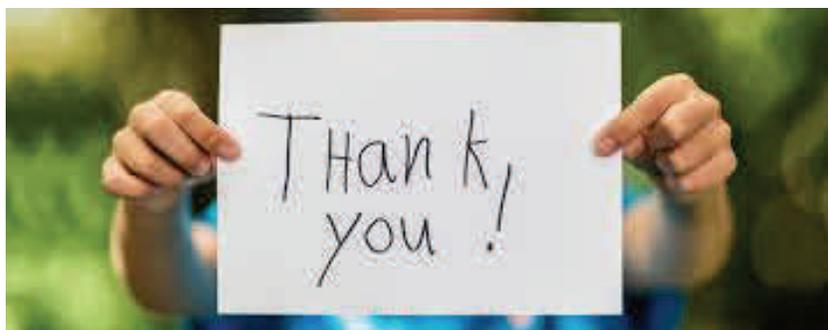
- 1) Engaging landowners and neighborhood associations to avoid the use of fertilizers or limit fertilizer use to one fall application and to permanently grow natural lakeshore and streamside vegetative buffers to intercept septic pollution and runoff pollution before it reaches tributaries or the lake;
- 2) Engaging and providing technical assistance to lake municipalities to adopt and enforce effective stormwater and erosion control laws and pursue drainage system conservation and retrofitting to reduce future nutrient and sediment loading to the lake;
- 3) Identifying opportunities and working with partners to facilitate funding to assist landowners to construct bioswales, rain gardens and other stormwater volume and water quality filtration facilities;
- 4) Holding/participating in a series of educational presentations and tours to inform the public on lake and watershed pollution and ecological responses and relationships and best management practices to arrest nutrient and sediment pollution;
- 5) Making presentations to municipal boards (including information on model stormwater laws to reduce public infrastructure costs) and community social-civic organizations; and
- 6) Engaging landowners to undertake erosion control on tributaries and shorelines with CWC and partners.

These activities are strongly supported by the NYS Harmful Algae Bloom Action Plan for Chautauqua Lake.

### *CWC Awarded NYSCPP Capacity & Excellence Grant*

The CWC has been awarded a \$13,000 Capacity & Excellence Grant from the New York State Conservation Partnership Program (NYSCPP) and New York's Environmental Protection Fund for the CWC Fundraising Plan Development and Training Program. The NYSCPP is administered by the Land Trust Alliance in coordination with the State Department of Environmental Conservation. This project includes producing a 3-year fundraising plan and board/staff training to implement the plan to financially strengthen the CWC to increase the funding for its pollution prevention, lands and waters enhancement and habitat conservation programs.

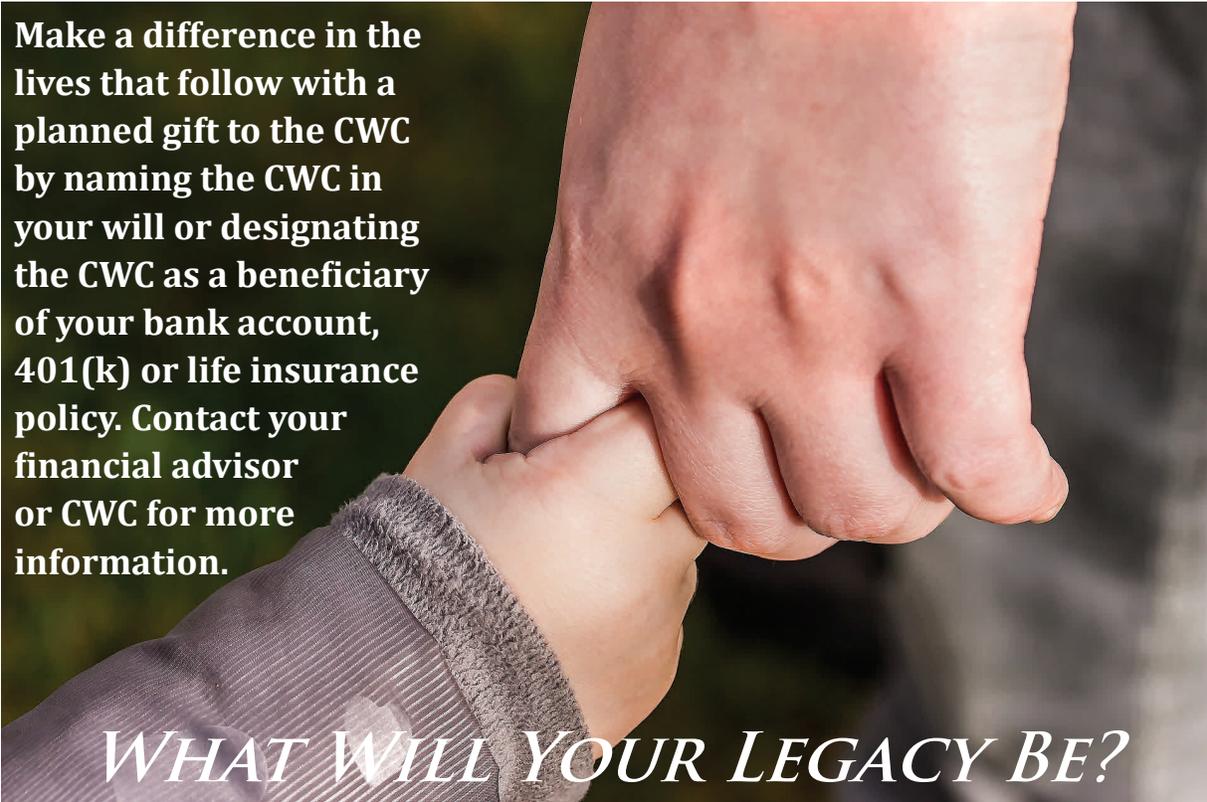
**CWC thanks each of these funders for their recognition and support of CWC's mission and vision for cleaner waters through conservation!**



## Starve The Algae! Save The Lake! *(continued from front page)*

Individually, there are many things that you can do to help combat HABs in Chautauqua Lake:

- ◆ **Don't Bag It – Mulch It!** When you bag and dispose of grass clippings, you rob your lawn of nutrients. Using a mulching mower deposits lawn clippings in place and provides free natural fertilizer, improved soils and natural water retention to help keep your lawn green during droughts.
- ◆ **Mow High & Mow Often!** Setting your mower blade to a minimum of 3 inches or higher will help your turf shade and out-compete weeds as well as grow deeper, stronger roots. Taller grass makes for healthier turf!
- ◆ **Don't Mow . . . Let It Grow!** Un-mowed buffers between your yard and the closest stream, lake, roadway ditch or drain can intercept and filter out sediment and nutrients, preventing them from entering waterways.
- ◆ **Go Native!** Native plants have stronger/deeper root systems than turf grass. Trees and shrubs are more effective than lawns in holding shorelines and streambanks in place. As an extra bonus, native plants attract birds, butterflies and other species!
- ◆ **Go Wild!** Allow corners, edges and patches of your yard to grow wild. Leave dead trees and tree trunks if they are not endangering structures or vehicles – they provide food and habitat for birds like woodpeckers and chickadees. Install slightly raised beds planted with native plants, trees and shrubs on the downslope of your property to help trap storm water and nutrients.
- ◆ **Aerate!** Core aerate your lawn this summer. Core aeration with an application of a mulch or humus and soil or sand mixture can help your soil absorb air and water for healthier turf. This is especially important for the heavy glacial soils common across our region. Capturing rainfall to water the roots of your turf is good for the lake also!
- ◆ **Fall Fertilize!** Or, better yet, not at all! The nutrients that are found in lawn fertilizers can make their way to our lakes and streams and contribute to weed growth and algae blooms, so it's important to avoid regular chemical fertilizer treatments. If you do fertilize your lawn, please have it tested first to see exactly which nutrients it needs. Also, apply fertilizer only in the fall to promote healthy turf root growth, rather than in the spring or summer when it can promote weed growth in your lawn and algae and aquatic plant growth in our waterways.



**Make a difference in the lives that follow with a planned gift to the CWC by naming the CWC in your will or designating the CWC as a beneficiary of your bank account, 401(k) or life insurance policy. Contact your financial advisor or CWC for more information.**

*WHAT WILL YOUR LEGACY BE?*

## 7th Annual "Score One For The Lake!" Golf Tournament A Success!



For the 7th year in a row, CWC was the beneficiary of the Chautauqua Golf Club's annual Pro-Am Golf Tournament. The tournament, held on June 25th, was presented by **Snug Harbor Marina & Service Center** and featured Western New York PGA professionals paired with amateurs in a team competition. A total of 104 golfers participated in the event. This year's net proceeds will be used toward CWC's ongoing preventive and restorative efforts to improve lake and watershed conditions.

Congratulations to this year's winning team! The winning team, pictured at left, included PGA Professional Dwayne Randall (from Peek'n Peak Resort in Clymer, NY) and his team members, Lyndon Smith, Casey Neuman and Alan Wexler (photo by Terri & Kristin Johnson). Thank you to all of our tournament sponsors, players and volunteers for making this a successful fundraising event!

## Thank You To Our 2018 Pro-Am Charity Golf Tournament Sponsors!

### PRESENTING SPONSORS

(\$5,000+)

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CWC Board of Directors

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(\$1,000 - \$1,499)

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Webb's Captain's Table Restaurant  
Dr. Jeanne Wiebenga

*Thank you*

# Chautauqua Lake Wastewater Treatment & Sewer Extension Updates

Since our last newsletter, there has been much activity in the ongoing efforts to improve wastewater treatment and extend public sewers to the remaining un-sewered shore lands around Chautauqua Lake:

- ◆ Chautauqua County is pushing forward with the first of two phases to complete public sewers on the west side of Chautauqua Lake. The South & Center Chautauqua Lake Sewer Districts (SCCLSD) have been extended from the area of Sunrise Cove/Ashville BOCES up through the hamlet of Stow. \$5 million of New York State funding has been secured, along with hardship financing, for the design and construction of the collection and transmission system. The districts are applying for an additional \$3 million in State funding to bring the user fees within the State Comptroller affordability guidelines before the project will proceed and have been encouraged by State officials' confidence of success. Lending even more support for this State funding is the recently issued "Harmful Algal Bloom Action Plan for Chautauqua Lake," which ranks this as a "Priority 1 Project." We expect to hear the good news about the award by the end of this year.
- ◆ NYSDEC finalized an updated SPDES Permit for the SCCLSD wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) in Celoron. The revised permit includes effluent limit modifications on total residual chlorine and Ammonia (as Nitrogen). These limit modifications required the submittal of an approvable engineering report in March 2018. This report was completed and has been approved by NYSDEC.
- ◆ Construction started in November 2017 on the North Chautauqua Lake Sewer District WWTP located in Mayville, NY. Construction includes the addition of tertiary filtration, chemical addition system, ultra-violet light disinfection system, a pumping station and a new mechanical bar screen. The plant is anticipated to be substantially complete by August 2018 with final completion on schedule for September 2018. This project will allow the facility to meet reduced phosphorus and chlorine effluent limits to Chautauqua Lake.
- ◆ The Town of Chautauqua went to bid in May 2018 for their project to decommission the existing WWTP located at the Chautauqua Lake Estates. The bids are currently being reviewed by the NYSDEC for approval, and construction is expected to commence in September. This project will include a pumping station and approximately 4-mile long force main to convey existing flows to the North Chautauqua Lake Sewer District WWTP for treatment. This project will result in one less WWTP discharging to Chautauqua Lake and allow the Town to pursue public sewer extension along the northeast side of Chautauqua Lake currently on septic systems.



**YES! I want to help conserve the lakes, streams, wetlands and watersheds of the Chautauqua region!**

Name/s: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Seasonal Address (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_ Dates: \_\_\_\_\_

Seasonal Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Leader \$2,500+     Partner \$1,000 - \$2,499     Supporter \$500 - \$999

Contributor \$200 - \$499     Steward \$50 - \$199     Other \$20- \$49

My check is enclosed (made out to CWC)     Please charge \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to my Visa/MC/American Express/Discover:

\_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

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*Please remit with your contribution to the Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy, 413 North Main Street, Jamestown, NY, 14701 or donate online via PayPal at [www.chautauquawatershed.org](http://www.chautauquawatershed.org).*



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### SAVE RESOURCES!

Get *The 'Shed Sheet*  
electronically - email us at  
[info@chautauquawatershed.org](mailto:info@chautauquawatershed.org).

## Upcoming Events



Visit the CWC Facebook page  
or website for more details!

### **Thursday, August 16th - 7:00 PM**

Conservation Conversation on Lake & Watershed Management,  
Stedman Corners Coffee Roasters, Lakewood

### **Wednesday, August 22nd - 6:00 PM**

CWC / CLA Chautauqua Lake Ecological Tour & Fundraiser  
on the Chautauqua Belle, departing from Midway State Park

### **Thursday, August 30th - 6:30 PM**

Lake Buffer & Rain Garden Walking Tour, led by Jane Conroe  
Palestine Park, Chautauqua Institution

### **Saturday, September 15th - 9:45 AM**

8th Annual Paddles Across the Lakes  
Cassadaga Lakes, DEC Boat Launch, Dale Drive, Cassadaga

### **Saturday, October 6th - 10:30 AM**

Fall Foliage Walk - David & Margaret Naetzker Preserve

## Stay Connected!

Follow us on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Pinterest,  
and Instagram, and sign up to receive our e-news at  
[www.chautauquawatershed.org](http://www.chautauquawatershed.org)!

