

2018 LAKE OSCAWANA DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

Newsletter
2018 Vol. 2

Lake Oscawana Management Advisory Commission

Kathleen McLaughlin (Chair), Jeff Coren, Steven David, Judy Dronzek, Ellen Friedman,
John Lafata, Alan Paley, Ex Officio: Sam Oliverio, Town Supervisor, Town Board Liaison: Jackie Annabi

Visit the LOMAC website for more information about our Lake:
<http://www.putnamvalley.com/LOMAC>

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HEALTH OF THE LAKE

Our lake is the only one in the region that did not have an outbreak of toxic blue-green algae. All other lakes had beaches closed including Mahopac, Lake Peekskill and Roaring Brook. We should be proud of effective lake management. Congratulations to all who were involved over the past 15 years.

Results of lake monitoring 2017 done by NorthEast Aquatic Research (NEAR).

Good News: Clarity, bottom phosphorous loading, total nitrogen loading, blue-green algae were all significantly better in 2017 and have made our lake **splendid** the past year.

Bad News: Oxygen depletion in the bottom of the lake occurred early (May), and was higher than optimal: The goal is to be below 6.5 m. South end of lake has unacceptably high nutrient loading from the stream.

STOP INVASIVE SPECIES

www.dec.ny.gov

LAKE MAHOPAC HAS ZEBRA MUSSELS.

LAKE PEEKSKILL HAS CHINESE SNAILS.

**WE DON'T WANT AQUATIC
HITCHHIKERS IN OUR LAKE!**

Lake Oscawana district has an educational program called CLEAN DRAIN DRY. It applies to all boats being launched in the lake or removed from the lake. This program has been endorsed for all lakes in New York State by the DEC.

- **Clean** off lake debris from all boats, trailers, canoes, kayaks and paddleboards.
- **Drain** all water from wells and bilge.
- **Dry** your boat for **5** days in the air or steam wash at 140 degrees fahrenheit.

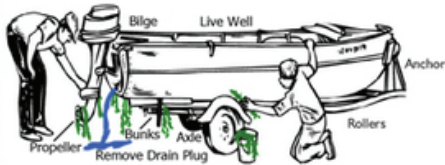
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PROTECT YOUR WATERS!

Prevent the Spread of Invasive Species

Invasive Plants and Animals Can Impact Boating, Fishing, Swimming and the Environment

REMOVE any visible mud, plants, fish or animals before transporting equipment.



ELIMINATE water from equipment before transporting.

CLEAN & DRY anything that comes into contact with water (boats, trailers, waders, equipment, dogs, etc.).

NEVER release plants, fish or animals into a body of water unless they came out of that body of water.



**STOP AQUATIC
HITCHHIKERS!**
www.ProtectYourWaters.net

For further information scan this QR
code with a smartphone, or visit:
www.dec.ny.gov/animals/48221.html



NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
625 BROADWAY, ALBANY, NY 12233-4753
www.dec.ny.gov

CARP UPDATE:

Carp have been spotted in the lake, look healthy, about 18"-2ft in size.

Weed study in 2017 (1.5 yrs after carp introduction) shows no impact on littoral weed growth to date.

Harvester continues to be active.



Grass Carp

Photo by Robert Manculuso

LOVE YOUR LAKE

Sponsored by LOMAC

CLEAN, DRAIN, DRY your boat before you put in the lake and after you take out of the lake.

EDUCATE BOATERS using pamphlets distributed to launching sites and dock rights residents.

BE A LAKE STEWARD Teach your neighbors and visitors how to stop invasive species. Report any new aquatic species you find.



Snow on the Lake

Photo by Robert (Mack) Manculuso

WATERSHED LOADING OF NUTRIENTS:

2017 study indicates that in the spring and in some shallow water areas, the phosphorus levels are high pointing to ground water run off (previous studies showed that phosphorous loading in our lake came predominantly from the bottom's organic matter). The same is true of nitrogen loading.

Data from 2018-2019 will evaluate how effective the catch basin filters are, how effective the biofilter on West shore is, how much loading comes from open drain runoff.

Consultations with environmental professionals will develop plans to deal with south end stream.

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FUTURE PLANS:

Lake and Watershed Management Plan (in accordance with NYS DEC), due in early 2019, will focus future action plan.

Continue to maintain catch basin filters to absorb nutrients in 93 locations around the lake but strategically locate the phosphate filters.

Remediate Stream #4.

Address storm water runoff into lake to decrease watershed loading of the lake.

Apply for state grants to accomplish these goals.

**LO residents may receive a grant from
the County Health Department
if you live within 250 feet from the lake**

If you live 250 feet from the lake and
need repair of your septic system, you can
receive up to \$10,000 (50% match of the cost).

You will receive a letter from the
health department if you are eligible.

**LAKE OSCAWANA DISTRICT MEETING
NOVEMBER 10, 2018 AT TOWN HALL 10:30 AM:
COME HEAR OUR SCIENTISTS (NEAR)
DISCUSS LAKE'S HEALTH AND
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IT'S
CONTINUING BEAUTY.**

www.putnamvalley.com/LOMAC

Lake Oscawana

Management Advisory Commission

Putnam Valley Town Hall
265 Oscawana Lake Road
Putnam Valley, NY 10579



NOR'EASTER MARCH 2018:

*Picture of flooded peninsula, downed trees.
We remember our hard 9 days and the loss of a life.
Photo by Ellen Friedman*