

Cayuga Lake Watershed Manager - May Report



Sediment Plumes photo by Christopher Ray, Ithaca, NY, via Instagram, image dated April 8, 2023 (left), Ulysses Ditch photo by Erin Norris, May 17, 2023.

Executive Summary

This period saw the announcement of the 2023 Consolidated Funding Application. The Watershed Manager also continued project discussions with several partners looking at the CFA as well as ahead to future grant opportunities. There were also several conferences this month including the Finger Lakes PRISM Partner meeting and the CLWN Community Conference which provided excellent networking opportunities. In downtime, the Watershed Manager continued research on roadside ditch BMPs and green infrastructure.



Above: CLWN Community Conference, photo by Erin Norris, May 18, 2023.



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Projects

* [Town of Ithaca - Six Mile Creek Sediment Reduction \(DEC-NPS Planning Grant\)](#)

Barton & Loguidice is working on the draft engineering design. The project team is meeting in early June to review the draft design and provide comments ahead of a final report being developed later in the summer after additional feedback from the Town.

* [Ulysses Ditch Project](#)

After reviewing feedback regarding possible funding sources, the Watershed Manager has outlined possible funding avenues and project options with plans to submit the options to the project team in June.

* [Seneca-Cayuga Road Drainage Assessment \(DOS-LWRP\)](#)

Project team met in the field to further refine the assessment methodology. Outreach conducted to the Project Advisory Committee (PAC) and a planned meeting is set for late June.

* [Village of Cayuga Shoreline Mitigation](#)

The project team has received feedback from Cayuga SWCD and is reviewing CFA funding options.

[Additionally...](#)

* The Cornell MPA students submitted their final project report which will be available on CWIO's website. The Watershed Manager continues to track projects in the Village of Union Springs (stream stabilization/mitigation) and Tompkins County (stream stabilization/flood mitigation), Village of Interlaken (flood mitigation, DWSP2), as well as supporting a Cayuga Lake Watershed Appreciation Week with partner groups around the watershed.

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Trainings

- US EPA Watershed Academy Training Certification (continuing)
- Hudson R. Estuary Breakfast Webinar Series: DWSP2
- US EPA ORD Small Drinking Water Systems and HABs
- CLWN Community Conference
- CSLAP in the Finger Lakes (CLWN)
- UW Madison, Current Webinar Series: Phosphorus Management
- Flooding, Flood Insurance and FEMA: Living with Water in Ithaca, Cornell U
- CCE/CLWN Benefits of Rain Gardens

Meetings & Outreach

- Cayuga County WQMA, Seneca County WQCC, Tompkins County WRC
- Project development check-ins with partners
- Cayuga Hydrilla Task Force meeting
- Finger Lakes PRISM Partner Meeting
- CWIO EPPOC, TAC (monthly) and Executive Committee (weekly) meetings
- RCAP Solutions - collaboration opportunities in the watershed
- CSI, FLI, CLWN - watershed collaboration opportunities (Cayuga Lake Watershed Appreciation Week) planning.
- Monthly Ditch Coordination Meeting, WRI and watershed partners
- Site visit with Village of Cayuga Mayor and Senator Rachel May

Look Ahead

Continue planning and preparation process for CFA. Continue grant funding research and development and anticipate future projects. Build-on and expand relationships and further develop watershed partnerships.