

◆ Cayuga Lake Watershed Manager - June Report




Smokey skies seen over Cayuga Lake from Frontenac Park in Union Springs. Photos taken by Cayuga Lake Watershed Manager, Erin Norris.

Executive Summary

Erin Norris, Watershed Manager, stepped down from the position on June 16, 2023. A note: Thank you, everyone, for this brilliant opportunity to learn the in's and out's of watershed management in the Cayuga Lake Watershed. There is so much I have learned that I will carry on to my future endeavors. Most importantly, thank you for the valued relationships we've built over these months. Improving water quality in Cayuga Lake is not something one entity can achieve on their own, it is a compelling goal which will take time and significant collaboration. Thank you for everything you do in your communities, and I hope to see you around the lake sometime in the future!

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 has developed a draft design which shall be presented to the project team sometime at the end of June or in July. The Watershed Manager submitted the quarterly report and supporting documentation to the Town for review and submission at the end of the quarter.

* [Ulysses Ditch Project](#)

After reviewing feedback regarding possible funding sources, possible BMP solutions, the Watershed Manager has outlined possible funding avenues and met with the Town of Ulysses and other project partners in June to discuss next steps. This project is a priority candidate for the 2024 CFA.

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

The Project Advisory Committee (PAC) will have their first meeting on June 21st. This project is led by Ian Smith (SWIO Watershed Steward) in conjunction with Seneca County SWCD.

* [Village of Cayuga Shoreline Mitigation](#)

The project team met and additional site visits will be conducted by Cayuga County SWCD in the coming weeks to prepare the project for submission as part of the 2023 CFA under a WQIP grant proposal by Cayuga County SWCD.

* [Additionally...](#)

The Watershed Manager has been preparing documents and organizing things for the new Watershed Manager in order to get them set up to hit the ground running. This also includes holding several partner meetings to finalize the status and path forward of the 2019 LWRP prioritized projects list.



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Trainings

- US EPA Watershed Academy Training Certification (continuing)
- Hudson R. Estuary Breakfast Webinar Series: WQIP grants
- Our Owasco Complex Conversations Capacity Building Webinar
- SLPWA: Spotted Lantern Fly in the Finger Lakes

Meetings & Outreach

- Cayuga County WQMA
- Meetings with Tompkins SWCD, Seneca SWCD and Cayuga SWCD regarding 2023 CFA projects and possible 2024 CFA projects
- Project development check-ins with municipal partners
- Cayuga Hydrilla Task Force public Zoom meeting
- CWIO TAC (monthly) and Executive Committee (weekly) meetings
- Meeting with NYS DEC, CSI, CLWN and Cayuga Lake Monitoring partnership regarding possible work on data visualization
- CSI, FLI, CLWN - watershed collaboration opportunities (Cayuga Lake Watershed Appreciation Week) planning - slotted for end of July.
- Monthly Ditch Coordination Meeting, WRI and watershed partners

Look Ahead

The Watershed Manager has left files and plans with CWIO Executive Committee and Finger Lakes Institute in order to allow for a smooth transition and beginning for the new Watershed Manager.