

Cayuga County Water Quality Management Agency



2023 Year End Report

**Approved by the Cayuga County Water Quality Management Agency
on February 1, 2024**

The Cayuga County Water Quality Management Agency's Mission

The Cayuga County Water Quality Management Agency (WQMA) was created by County Legislative Resolution #445-90 to serve the Cayuga County Legislature in meeting its responsibilities in the management and protection of the County's water resources.

The WQMA advises the Cayuga County Legislature on matters related to water resource management and planning. The WQMA is charged with identifying problems, proposing priorities, and promoting the coordination of activities in the management and protection of the County's water resources. More specifically, the Agency is charged with:

1. Creating and maintaining a comprehensive planning and implementation program for water quality management in Cayuga County.
2. Coordinating the responsibilities of agencies and watershed associations with interest in water quality management in Cayuga County.
3. Providing greater public input into the process of water quality management and related programs.
4. Providing an effective public education program to develop public understanding and support for water quality management in Cayuga County.

2023 Cayuga County Water Quality Management Agency Membership

Chair: Seth Jensen

Vice-Chair: Doug Dello Stritto

Cayuga County Legislature's Environmental Advisors:

Director of Cayuga County Planning and Economic Development

Director of Cayuga County Environmental Health

Director of Cayuga County Parks and Trails

Director of Cayuga County Soil and Water Conservation District

Cayuga County Cooperative Extension Executive Director

Cayuga County Solid Waste Management Program Administrator

Stephen Lynch

Eileen O'Connor/Ani Fish

Doug Dello Stritto

Doug Kierst

Dan Welch

Evan Tuthill

Non-County, Local Officials

Town of Owasco

City of Auburn

Cayuga County Association of Town Supervisors

Cayuga County Association of Villages

Edward Wagner

Seth Jensen

Gary Mutchler

Vacant

Representatives from Waterbody Associations in Cayuga County

Cayuga Lake Intermunicipal Organization

Central New York Waterways, Inc.

Duck Lake Association

Lake Como Association

Little Sodus Bay Betterment Association

Owasco Watershed Lake Association

Skaneateles Lake Association Inc.

Keith Batman

Carl Wieszalis

Dale Powell

Pat Mooney

Gary Clark

Ann Robson

Patty Orr

Partners

Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board

Finger Lakes Institute at Hobart and William Smith Colleges

Finger Lakes Partnership for Invasive Species Management

NYSDEC Finger Lakes Water Hub

NYSDEC Great Lakes Program

Owasco Lake Watershed Management Council

Partners for Healthy Watersheds

The Nature Conservancy

Staff Support

Michele Wunderlich, Cayuga County Planning and Economic Development, Associate Planner,
mwunderlich@cayugacounty.us, 315-253-1107, <http://cayugacountywater.org>

CAYUGA COUNTY WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT AGENCY 2023 YEAR END REPORT**COMMUNICATION AND OUTREACH WORKING GROUP**

PRIORITY: Celebrate the positive water quality activities occurring in Cayuga County.

ACTION: The celebration of positive initiatives will be the focus of communication pieces (see next priority) generated by the committee - WQMA Communication and Outreach Working Group

PRIORITY: Provide timely information regarding water news, agency activities, and pollution prevention.

ACTION: Prepare and send out quarterly newsletters, (March, June, Sept, and Dec) the purpose of which will be to highlight water quality initiatives, watershed resiliency and response, work of member and partner agencies, and upcoming or current classes (i.e. Erosion and Sediment Control Training) or programs (such as hydroseeding availability, or Hazardous Waste Disposal opportunities). Audience will include County Legislators, municipal elected officials, municipal clerks, and planning boards as well as WQMA partners and members- WQMA Communication and Outreach Working Group

- *All newsletters sent to the WQMA email list, Cayuga County Legislators, Town and Village clerks, Mayors and Supervisors, City of Auburn Mayor and clerk, and town and village planning board members*
- *Special Spring Electronics Event Information Water News sent out on March 10, 2023*
- *First WQMA newsletter was sent out March 28, 2023 and articles included:*
 - *“Clean up after your pet for cleaner water”*
 - *“Electronics Collection Event”*
 - *“Bob Brower Scientific Symposium”*
 - *“Promoting Lake Friendly Lawns within the Owasco Lake Watershed”*
 - *“Get to Know Different Water Quality Indicators with Community Science Institute's Fact Sheets”*
 - *“Perspectives on the Word Sustainability”*
- *Special Volunteer Opportunities Newsletter was sent out May 22, 2023 and articles included:*
 - *“Cayuga Lake HABs Harriers”*
 - *“Finger Lakes Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management, Finger Lakes Institute and Hobart and William Smith Colleges”*
 - *“Trail Survey Program”*
 - *“Macrophyte Survey Program”*

- *“Guided Paddle Through the Unique Plant Community at the North End of Cayuga Lake”*
- *Second WQMA newsletter was sent out June 29, 2023 and articles included:*
 - *“Cayuga County WQMA YouTube Channel”*
 - *“Free Tree or Shrub for Earth Day!”*
 - *“2023 Tire Round-Up Event”*
 - *“Cayuga Lake Watershed Network to Celebrate 25 Years of Watershed Education, Engagement, and Advocacy & Spring Community Conference Report”*
 - *“Congratulations Tom Casella: Recipient of the 2023 James C. White Memorial Prize for Service to Cayuga Lake and Beyond”*
 - *“iMapInvasives App Training and Invasive Species Walk”*
 - *“OWLA 35th Anniversary”*
 - *“Sterling Wolcott IWAP”*
 - *“Student Conservation at Owasco Lake Watershed Preserve”*
 - *“Rain Gardens and the Draft Stormwater Design Manual”*
- *Third WQMA newsletter link was sent out September 26, 2023 and articles included:*
 - *“Cayuga County WQMA Visits Fair Haven and Sterling”*
 - *“Watershed Inspection Division Takes on New Inspector”*
 - *“Cayuga Lake Watershed Network Update”*
 - *“The Cayuga Lake Watershed Network Celebrated 25 Years of Watershed Stewardship”*
 - *“Cayuga Lake Watershed Partners & Elected Representatives Cruise”*
 - *“Updates from the Cayuga Lake Hydrilla Task Force”*
 - *“September Harmful Algal Bloom Spike on Cayuga”*
- *Fourth WQMA newsletter link was sent out December 19, 2023 and articles included:*
 - *“Christmas Tree Recycling – Cayuga County Trade-A-Tree Program”*
 - *“Cayuga County Solid Waste Management Report”*
 - *“The Skaneateles Lake Association Has It Covered”*
 - *“Cayuga Lake Watershed Intermunicipal Organization (CWIO) Project Requests”*
 - *“New CWIO Watershed Manager”*
 - *“Preparing for a Watershed-Friendly Winter”*
 - *“CNY Waterways Association Community Meeting Overview”*
 - *“Introduction to Three Land Conservation Tools: Conservation Easements, Purchase of Development Rights, and Transfer of Development Rights”*

ACTION: Prepare blog posts at least monthly focusing on educating the public regarding a wide variety of water quality news and topics. These blogs will be posted on the website and links published on Facebook and Twitter- Planning Department

- ***Blogs published on WQMA website:***
 - *“The Water Bulletin” January 31, 2023*
 - *“Cayuga County WQMA 2022 Year End Report and 2023 Work Plan” March 8, 2023*
 - *“Helping Our Hemlocks: An Update on Research and Actions to Protect Hemlocks in Skaneateles” March 30, 2023*
 - *“Grant Tips” May 18, 2023*
 - *“Visit Our New YouTube Channel” June 28, 2023*
 - *“iMapInvasives Training and Invasive Species Walk” June 30, 2023*
 - *“Septic System Survey Open Now” July 27, 2023*
 - *“Cayuga County WQMA Visits Fair Haven and Sterling” September 26, 2023*
 - *“Water Quality Data Jam” October 25, 2023*
 - *“Hydrilla in Cayuga Lake” November 29, 2023*
 - *“Trade-A-Tree” December 26, 2023*

ACTION: Provide assistance to other working groups to fulfill their actions – WQMA Working Groups

- ***Nutrient and Sediment Working Group***
 - *Articles in the January 5, 2023 WQMA Water News: “Homeowners Lawn Care Water Quality Almanac,” “Updated Groundwater Protection Guidelines for Water from the Cornell University Nutrient Management Spear Program” and “Soil and Water analysis available through CCE”*
 - *Articles in the first WQMA Newsletter sent out March 28, 2023: “Clean up after your pet for cleaner water” and “Promoting Lake Friendly Lawns within the Owasco Lake Watershed”*
 - *Article in second WQMA Newsletter sent out June 29, 2023: “Rain Gardens and the Draft Stormwater Design Manual”*
- ***Invasive Species Working Group***
 - *June 2, 2023 Eco Talk Article in The Citizen: “How you can help stop invasive species in Cayuga County” by Michele Wunderlich*
 - *Article in second WQMA Newsletter sent out June 29, 2023: “iMapInvasives App Training and Invasive Species Walk”*
 - *Article in third WQMA Newsletter sent out September 26, 2023: “Updates from the Cayuga Lake Hydrilla Task Force”*
 - *Articles in fourth WQMA Newsletter sent out December 19, 2023: “Skaneateles Lake Association has it covered” and “CNY Waterways Association Community Meeting News: Invasive Species Management”*

ACTION: Promote and distribute the WQMA residential guidelines to the public as well as provide to all the County watershed groups for use by that group- WQMA Communication and Outreach Working Group.

- *Adam Effler promoted the guidelines at the December OLWMC meeting and emailed them to the OLWMC directors requesting that their municipalities provide these guidelines on their websites*

PRIORITY: Update website resources with current and scientific information and promote the WQMA as the source of factual water quality information in Cayuga County

ACTION: Distribute WQMA promotional items at meetings and public events-WQMA

- *Educational items were provided at in person WQMA meetings*

ACTION: Review and update the WQMA website - WQMA Communication and Outreach Working Group

- *The Cayuga County Planning Department routinely reviews and updates the WQMA website*
- *Committee formed to review and update website*

ACTION: Work to improve the resource section of the WQMA website to include more research reports and water resource protection information, as well as presentations from partner lake associations – WQMA Communication and Outreach Working Group

- *Presentations added to the WQMA website:*
 - *Kirsten Workman's presentation "How much manure? Using CNMP tools to make manure application recommendations in NYS" from the April 2023 WQMA meeting*
 - *Grascen Shidemantle's presentation "Partnering with communities to monitor water quality in Cayuga County" from the May 2023 WQMA meeting*
- *Created and posted presentations on the Cayuga County WQMA YouTube Channel (<https://www.youtube.com/@CayugaCountyWQMA>):*
 - *Grascen Shidemantle's presentation "Community Science Institute Partnering with communities to monitor water quality in Cayuga County" from the May 2023 WQMA meeting*
 - *Kate Black and Greg Hutnik's presentation "Project Development, Grant Management, and Funding Opportunities" from the April 2023 Cayuga Lake Watershed Intermunicipal Organization meeting*

ACTION: Gather informational documents on the WQMA website that can be used as Welcome Packages for new homeowners regarding how to minimize their nutrient impact – WQMA Communication and Outreach Working Group

- *Some information is provided, and this work will continue into 2024*

ACTION: Promote members and partners as speakers on water quality issues to community groups – WQMA Communication and Outreach Working Group

- *Worked with the Cayuga Lake Watershed Intermunicipal Organization to create a speaker list. This can be provided upon request.*

ACTION: Create a stock photo page on the WQMA website. – WQMA Communication and Outreach Working Group

- *Photos collected*



September Newsletter

INVASIVE SPECIES WORKING GROUP

The priority species that the Cayuga County WQMA Invasive Species Working Group concentrated on were those invasive species that have the potential to negatively impact Cayuga County and its watersheds whether terrestrial (e.g., Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (HWA)) or aquatic (e.g., hydrilla).

PRIORITY: Survey invasive species in Cayuga County

ACTION: The Working Group will work with partners to survey for priority species within Cayuga County.

- *Worked with the Finger Lakes Institute/Finger Lakes Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management (PRISM) on surveying for priority species such as hydrilla and other invasive species*
- *Promoted the surveying for hemlock woolly adelgid by the Owasco Watershed Lake Association (OWLA) and the Skaneateles Lake Association, Inc.*
- *Promoted the Finger Lakes Institute/Finger Lakes PRISM hemlock woolly adelgid survey for 2022 and 2023*
- *Promoted the Trail Survey Program and Macrophyte Survey Program of the Finger Lakes PRISM, Finger Lakes Institute and Hobart and William Smith Colleges*
- *The Owasco Lake Watershed Management Council welcomed students from the Moravia High School to the Fillmore Nature Preserve to explore iNaturalist and inventory species, as part of their Moravia Gives Back Day*

ACTION: The Working Group will work with partners to survey areas suspected of having a new invasive species population.

- *Michele Wunderlich reported an unconfirmed population of summer snowflakes in the Town of Fleming to iMapInvasives. This population was discovered by Kris Scholl of the Cayuga County Health Department*
- *Members participated in the NYS Tick Blitz 2023 which was looking for two invasive ticks, Asian Longhorn tick and Lone Star tick. None were found on the Auburn-Fleming trail.*
- *Members assisted in the identification of phragmites along the shoreline of a property in the Poplar Beach area of Owasco and provided control/removal options*



Summer Snowflake

ACTION: The Working Group will conduct Asian clam diving inventory surveys in Owasco Lake to try to determine where the adult population is surviving and then discuss the possible effectiveness of control methods.

- *The working group took a year off of surveying the Asian clam population in Owasco Lake*

ACTION: The Working Group will solicit reports of partners doing surveillance and monitoring.

- *Distributed the Finger Lakes PRISM’s “HWA Survey Update: Workshop News” to the WQMA email list on March 15, 2023*
- *Special Volunteer Opportunities Newsletter was sent out May 22, 2023 and it included:*
 - *Articles on the Trail Survey Program and Macrophyte Survey Program of the Finger Lakes PRISM, Finger Lakes Institute and Hobart and William Smith Colleges*
 - *An article “Guided Paddle Through the Unique Plant Community at the North End of Cayuga Lake”*
- *Article in the second WQMA Newsletter sent out June 29, 2023: “iMapInvasives App Training and Invasive Species Walk”*



Macrophyte sample

PRIORITY: Education, training and public participation

ACTION: The Working Group will share educational information on priority species of concern to the public on the WQMA website, newsletter, and social media accounts and through other media such as radio and newspapers.

- *Provided educational information on invasive species to the WQMA Facebook and Twitter accounts*
- *Blogs published on WQMA website:*
 - *“Helping Our Hemlocks: An Update on Research and Actions to Protect Hemlocks in Skaneateles” March 30, 2023*
 - *“iMapInvasives Training and Invasive Species Walk” June 30, 2023*
 - *“Hydrilla in Cayuga Lake” November 29, 2023*

ACTION: The Working Group will work with partners to prepare and publish two or more articles per year on invasive species.

- *Eco Talk article in The Citizen: “The latest on the spotted lanternfly in New York” by Judy Wright published on January 5, 2023*

- *Eco Talk article in The Citizen: “Spotted lanternfly response requires 'soldiers' for the environment” by Ryan Staychock published on May 18, 2023*
- *Eco Talk article in The Citizen: “How you can help stop invasive species in Cayuga County” by Michele Wunderlich published on June 2, 2023*
- *Eco Talk article in The Citizen: “Hydrilla monitoring in Cayuga Lake, and how you can help” by Michele Wunderlich and Liz Kreitinger published on July 21, 2023*

ACTION: The Working Group will provide and support training programs and/or information on priority species including, but not limited to, meetings such as WQMA meetings, Owasco Lake Watershed Management Council meetings, Bob Brower Scientific Symposium, Conservation Field Days, Lake Friendly Living Coalition events and other public venues.

- *The WQMA co-sponsored and promoted the “Bob Brower Scientific Symposium in ‘Plain English”*
- *Promoted New York State Invasive Species Awareness Week, Lake Friendly Living Coalition events and the Finger Lakes PRISM Fall Partner Meeting*
- *Advertised Cornell Cooperative Extension of Onondaga County’s program “Helping Our Hemlocks: An Update on Research and Actions to Protect Hemlocks in Skaneateles” that was held on February 22, 2023*

ACTION: The Working Group will provide a training or control event as part of New York State Invasive Species Week.

- *Michele Wunderlich’s “iMapInvasives App Training and Invasive Species Walk” that was going to be held as part of New York State Invasive Species Awareness week was canceled due to issues with the iMapInvasives app and smoke. Two people who signed up for the training were provided with the training at a different time.*



Yellow Iris at Owasco Flats

ACTION: The Working Group will promote activities sponsored by the WQMA and its members and partners, including, but not limited to, the Bob Brower Scientific Symposium, invasive species workshops, Lake Friendly Living Coalition events and watershed steward events on the WQMA website and social media accounts.

- *The WQMA promoted activities by email, on Facebook and on Twitter*
- *The WQMA co-sponsored and promoted the “Bob Brower Scientific Symposium in ‘Plain English”*

- *Promoted New York State Invasive Species Awareness Week, Lake Friendly Living Coalition events and the Finger Lakes PRISM Fall Partner Meeting*

PRIORITY: Invasive species prevention, control and management

ACTION: The Working Group will support existing invasive species prevention, control and management programs including the County’s aquatic harvesting program, Finger Lakes Institute/PRISMs’ volunteer programs, Hydrilla in Cayuga Lake program, Eurasian Watermilfoil program in Skaneateles Lake, Montezuma Alliance for the Restoration of Species and Habitat program, Hemlock Woolly Adelgid programs through OWLA, Finger Lakes Institute/Finger Lakes PRISM, Skaneateles Lake Association and others, boat steward programs including the Skaneateles Lake Boat Launch Steward program, Lake Friendly Living Coalition programs and will assist as able in other control programs.

- *Members participated in the Finger Lakes Institute/PRISM Steering Committee*
 - *Article in the third WQMA Newsletter sent out September 26, 2023: “Cayuga Lake Watershed Network Update: “Updates from the Cayuga Lake Hydrilla Task Force”*
 - *Articles in the fourth WQMA Newsletter sent out December 19, 2023: “The Skaneateles Lake Association Has It Covered: Invasive Plant Control Program Continues to Protect Lake” and “CNY Waterways Association Community Meeting Overview: Invasive Species Management”*
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- *Promoted the Finger Lakes Institute/Finger Lakes PRISM macrophyte survey and trail survey programs. This included an article in the WQMA Special Volunteer Opportunities Newsletter sent out May 22, 2023.*
 - *Promoted the hemlock woolly adelgid survey programs of the Finger Lakes Institute/Finger Lakes PRISM, OWLA and Skaneateles Lake Association, Inc.*
 - *Updated the Cayuga County hydrilla webpage with new information and the sampling results from the public drinking water and herbicide treatment areas in Cayuga Lake in Aurora*
 - *Promoted the 2023 Cayuga Lake Hydrilla Task Force Updates meeting*
 - *Promoted the water chestnut pulls in the Finger Lakes region organized by the Finger Lakes Institute/Finger Lakes PRISM*

- *Members assisted with a water chestnut pull held at Cross Lake*
- *Members were in discussion with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation on how to handle the water chestnut infestation of Nine Mile Creek*

ACTION: The Working Group will work with partners such as the Finger Lakes Institute/PRISM, the Skaneateles Lake Boat Launch Steward program and others on increasing invasive species education to boaters and recreationists.

- *Finger Lakes PRISM and Skaneateles Boat Launch Stewards provide education to boaters and recreationists at boat launches in Cayuga County*



Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (white fuzzy mass)

NUTRIENT AND SEDIMENT WORKING GROUP

PRIORITY: Septic Systems

ACTION: Find homeowners interested in participating in a pilot evaluation of phosphorus removal technologies that are not yet on the market– Cayuga County Health Department, The Nature Conservancy

- *The Nature Conservancy and Cayuga County Health Department tried but were unsuccessful in finding a funding source for pilot phosphorus removal technology projects beyond the Camp Y-Owasco installation*

ACTION: Work with SUNY Stony Brook University Center for Clean Water Technology in reviewing current technology and working with Cayuga County Health Department to determine which technologies may be a good match for Cayuga County- Cayuga County Health Department

- *The Cayuga County Health Department is working with SUNY Stony Brook to look at who may want to install new phosphorus removal technologies*
 - *The Cayuga County Health Department and a SUNY Stony Brook researcher gave a presentation to Lake Como residents on the program. Interested residents have signed up to have soil samples collected to see if they would be a good candidate for the program*
 - *SUNY Stony Brook tried to install monitoring wells around Lake Como but were unsuccessful due to the rocky soils. They will be looking for a new area to study in 2024*

ACTION: Continue to work with Cayuga County Health Department, The Nature Conservancy and Cayuga County Soil and Water Conservation District with the septic system at the Y-Camp and provide a presentation to the WQMA– Cayuga County Health Department, The Nature Conservancy, Cayuga County Soil and Water Conservation District

- *The nitrogen-treating system at Camp Y-Owasco was up and running this summer. An interpretive sign and fencing have been installed (see photo). There will be no monitoring of the system in 2023. It remains available for testing phosphorus-treating media once media have been vetted by the SUNY Stony Brook Center for Clean Water Technology.*



ACTION: Provide a presentation to the Cayuga County WQMA on the Cayuga County Health Department Septic System program – Cayuga County Health Department

- ***Due to scheduling issues, this was not conducted in 2023. This will be conducted in 2024.***

PRIORITY: Stormwater

ACTION: Promote and publicize the effective use of green infrastructure such as permeable pavement, rain gardens and rain barrels– City of Auburn, Cayuga County Department of Planning and Economic Development, OLWMC, Cayuga County Soil and Water Conservation District

- ***Lake Friendly Living Awareness Month Projects and Programs:***
 - ***Webinar “Interrupting Runoff with a Rain Garden.” Ryan Staychock of CCE presented on what rain gardens are and how they protect water quality, along with presenting other foundational information to help plan your rain garden. Kim Mills, OWLA presented on his rain garden experiences and how to budget for native plantings. Recording is available on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rb7PBaTq1ss>***
 - ***Emerson Park Rain Garden Expansion Project: OWLA and the OLWMC partnered with Cayuga County Parks and Trails to expand the rain garden at Emerson Park***



Rain Garden at Emerson Park

- ***City of Auburn installed water quality protection signs for the Owasco Flats area at Rockefeller Road and SE on Owasco***
- ***Cayuga County Parks and Trails is working on a project to install 1000 foot markers on the shoreline along the Owasco Inlet for navigation and safety***

ACTION: Provide information and/or presentations to the Association of Towns, Association of Villages and Association of Town Highway Superintendents on erosion and sediment control practices during municipal projects– Cayuga County Soil and Water Conservation District, Cornell Cooperative Extension of Cayuga County

- *Cayuga County Soil and Water Conservation District personnel attended the Highway Association meetings and provided information on a periodic basis*

ACTION: Inventory condition of culverts discharging into municipal ditches or streams – Owasco Lake Watershed Management Council, Cayuga County Soil and Water Conservation District

- *Cayuga County Soil and Water Conservation District continued efforts to implement the North Atlantic Aquatic Connectivity Collaborative (NAACC) compliant database. They finished the Owasco Lake watershed, Skaneateles Lake watershed and Sterling Creek watershed. They have grant funds to do this in portions of Lake Ontario/Little Sodus Bay Watershed and the remainder of the Cayuga Lake Watershed. They will be looking at other areas to target next.*
- *The Cayuga County Soil and Water Conservation District is applied for funding for stream assessments of Dutch Hollow Brook, Veness Brook and Sucker Brook. This was not funded.*

ACTION: Provide a presentation to the Cayuga County WQMA on the Cayuga County Soil and Water Conservation District's and City of Auburn's work on culvert inventories and mapping of outfalls- City of Auburn, Cayuga County Soil and Water Conservation District

- *Val Horning from the Cayuga County Soil and Water Conservation District will present in 2024*

ACTION: Provide the Communication and Outreach Working Group with communication pieces on resiliency and flooding and the resources available to assist property owners in addressing them – WQMA Nutrient and Sediment Working Group

- *NYS Canal Corp representative presented to the Cayuga County Legislature in November*

ACTION: Provide the Communication and Outreach Working Group with communication pieces to encourage landowners to install erosion and sediment control and waterfront protection-Skaneateles Lake Association

- *No action taken*

ACTION: Update the brochures created by the Owasco Lake Watershed Inspection and Protection Division for other watersheds (Owasco Lake New Homeowner Packet, Owasco Lake Rain Garden Brochure, Owasco Lake Stormwater Brochure, and Owasco Lake Green Infrastructure Brochure) and provide to the Communications and Outreach Committee to place on the WQMA website -WQMA Nutrient and Sediment Working Group

- *No action taken*

ACTION: Educate municipal planning board members regarding the importance of including sedimentation and erosion control considerations in site plan review – Cayuga County Planning Department, Cayuga County Soil and Water Conservation District, Cornell Cooperative Extension of Cayuga County, Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board

- *No action taken*

ACTION: Purchase, install and evaluate stormwater catch basin filters – City of Auburn

- *This was discussed by the City of Auburn but concerns about keeping up with maintenance stopped the purchase of stormwater catch basin filters*

PRIORITY: Pet Waste

ACTION: Provide the Communication and Outreach Working Group with communication pieces on the importance of properly disposing of pet waste - Cornell Cooperative Extension of Cayuga County, Lake Associations

- *Article in first WQMA Newsletter sent March 28, 2023: “Clean up after your pet for cleaner water”*

PRIORITY: Lawn Care

ACTION: Provide the Communication and Outreach Working Group with communication pieces on proper lawn fertilizing, how to get soil tested and appropriate ways to manage lawn waste – Cornell Cooperative Extension of Cayuga County, Owasco Watershed Lake Association, Lake Associations

- *Articles in January 5, 2023 WQMA Water News: “Homeowners Lawn Care Water Quality Almanac,” “Updated Groundwater Protection Guidelines for Water from the Cornell University Nutrient Management Spear Program” and “Soil and Water analysis is available through CCE”*
- *Article in second WQMA Newsletter sent out March 15, 2023: “Promoting Lake Friendly Lawns within the Owasco Lake Watershed”*
- *Article in third WQMA Newsletter sent out June 29, 2023: “Rain Gardens and the Draft Stormwater Design Manual”*

ACTION: Encourage homeowners to install and/or maintain buffers along streams and lakeshores - Cornell Cooperative Extension of Cayuga County, Lake Associations

- *No action taken*

PRIORITY: Agriculture

ACTION: Recognize agricultural operations that have implemented best management practices (BMPs) and promote them through the WQMA Communications and Outreach Working Group – Cayuga County Soil and Water Conservation District, Partners for Healthy Watersheds, Owasco Lake Watershed Management Council, Cornell Cooperative Extension of Cayuga County

- *No action taken*

ACTION: Review the Manure Management Guidelines, update if needed, and then promote them through the WQMA Communications and Outreach Working Group – Partners for Healthy Watersheds, Cayuga County Soil and Water Conservation District, Cornell Cooperative Extension of Cayuga County

- *No action taken*

ACTION: Cayuga County Soil and Water Conservation District will provide an annual report on conservation programs at a WQMA meeting– Cayuga County Soil and Water Conservation District

- *Doug Kierst provided this annual report to the WQMA and provided updates on their work at WQMA meetings*

PRIORITY: All Areas

ACTION: Promote land acquisition and conservation easements for preservation purposes – Owasco Lake Watershed Management Council, The Nature Conservancy, Finger Lakes Land Trust

- *Fillmore Nature Preserve property transferred from The Nature Conservancy to the OLWMC*
- *The Nature Conservancy aims to close on the final two properties under their WQIP grant, one in the town of Venice and one in the town of Locke*
- *The Nature Conservancy is in the process of transferring a property adjacent to Fillmore Glen State Park to the Park*
- *The Nature Conservancy planted 2,000 trees in upland and riparian areas of their property in the Owasco Flats*

ACTION: Request a representative from NYS Canal Corporation provide a presentation on lake levels and flooding - WQMA Nutrient and Sediment Working Group

- *NYS Canal Corp representative presented at the November Legislature meeting*