



September 2024

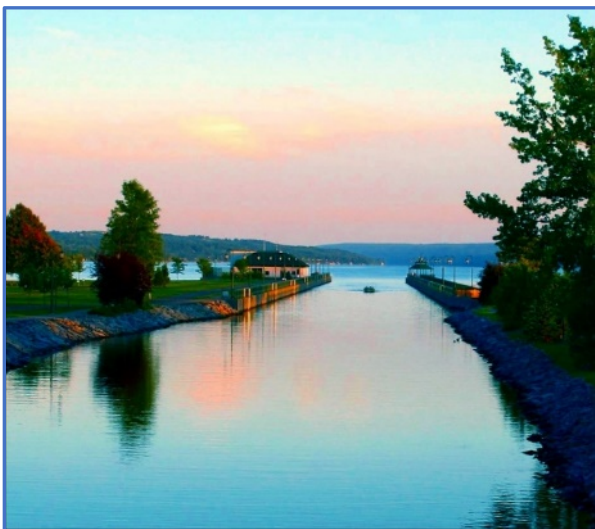
### **New ADA-Compliant Kayak Launch Constructed in the Village of Union Springs**

**By Kari Terwilliger, Director, Cayuga County Department of Planning and Economic Development**

The Village of Union Springs, the Cayuga Lake Scenic Byway, and the Cayuga County Department of Planning & Economic Development invited the community to a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new ADA-compliant kayak launch at Frontenac Park in September. The kayak launch was constructed with funding provided by the New York State Department of State (DOS) Local Waterfront Revitalization Program (LWRP) under Title 11 of the Environmental Protection Fund.

The installation of this state-of-the-art kayak launch marks a significant milestone in enhancing accessibility for all residents and visitors. As the premier boat and paddlecraft launch site on Cayuga Lake, Frontenac Park now offers improved access for individuals of all abilities to enjoy the lake's recreational opportunities. This new launch is one of the few ADA-compliant options along the 87-mile Blueway trail around Cayuga Lake, setting a new standard for inclusivity in the region.

The DOS LWRP program provided \$63,045 in funding for the project, as well as \$146,245 for the Cayuga Lake Blueway Trail plan development and Phase 1 improvements. Union Springs, in partnership with the Villages of Aurora and Cayuga, also received a \$10 million Downtown Revitalization Initiative award this year from DOS.



### **No-Cost Action Plans for Protecting Drinking Water**

**By Aaron McKeon, Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board**

For villages, hamlets, and even residential subdivisions with small water systems, resources for water quality analysis and planning can be hard to come by. That's where the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's Drinking Water Source Protection Program (DWSP2) comes in. It offers **no-cost** technical support to municipalities to evaluate existing conditions and to take action to improve and protect their public water sources and surrounding environment.

Communities accepted into the program will work with technical assistance (TA) providers to develop and initiate implementation of

their unique DWSP2 plan. DWSP2 is open to all community [public drinking water supplies](#) in New York. The program is designed for:

- Small, medium, and large public water supplies
- Rural and urban communities
- Public drinking water supplies that do not have updated source water maps
- Municipalities that have:
  - Groundwater, surface water or both
  - Limited staff capacity
  - A source within or outside their administrative boundary

The DWSP2 planning process takes a year, on average, with the end result being a plan of action that is tied to specific outcomes for water quality. DWSP2 plans give municipalities a complete source water protection plan, centered on implementation actions to protect their community's drinking water sources. This plan will act as a roadmap that includes:

- Methods to address targeted potential contaminant sources
- Cost analysis for all identified implementation projects
- Potential funding sources that can aid with project costs
- Project partners that can support implementation
- Project timing and schedule



Municipalities in Cayuga, Cortland, Oswego, Madison, and Onondaga Counties can work with the Central New York Regional Planning Board on ways to implement DWSP2 plans, such as through trainings, public education, and projects. If you would like to work with a TA provider, please fill out the DEC's Interest Form, available online at: <https://forms.office.com/g/pnZvXs24zW>. If you have any questions, reach out to the DWSP2 Team at [source.water@dec.ny.gov](mailto:source.water@dec.ny.gov).

To learn more about why your municipality should participate in DWSP2, read the DEC's DWSP2 Guide for Municipalities, available online at: <https://dec.ny.gov/environmental-protection/water/water-quality/dwsp2/guide-for-municipalities>.

### **Cayuga Lake Watershed Network's Community Conference**

**Liz Kreitinger, Steward/Executive Director, Cayuga Lake Watershed Network**

Thank you to all friends of CLWN who attended our Community Conference on June 20th at the Canoga Volunteer Fire Department! We had a fantastic turnout with over 70 people! It was wonderful reconnecting with longtime supporters and new attendees eager to learn more about the Cayuga Lake Watershed.

The conference began with buzzing discussion as partner organizations set up booths around the open space. After brief introductory remarks by Steward Kreitinger, our four guest speakers provided updates on behalf of their organization and fielded questions from the audience. As always, the crowd had many important questions which we wish there had been more time for! We are continuing to consider how to organize these events to facilitate deeper discussion - one of the most valuable benefits of community programs.

Our first guest presenter was Anthony Prestigiaco, Supervisor of the NYS DEC Finger Lakes Watershed Hub who presented "Cayuga Lake Water Quality, Harmful Algal Blooms, and Watershed Progress". He highlighted long-term trends in Cayuga Lake total phosphorus levels, which has not experienced significant change since the 1990s while chlorophyll-a, and measure of algal abundance, has increased slightly since that time - consistent with statewide patterns.

Prestigiacomo’s talk noted interagency collaborations, the NYHABs tracking program as well as funding which has been directed to Cayuga Lake Watershed for water quality projects - over 40 projects between 2013 and 2022 for phosphorus reduction and more than \$14 million in funding for projects ranging from cover crops to land acquisition to septic pump out assistance.

Dr. Grascen Shidemantle, Executive Director of the Community Science Institute shared insights from 6 Years of Local Volunteer Monitoring for Harmful Algal Blooms on Cayuga. Also, new this year, they are working with the community to begin documenting “clump HABs”. Little is known about clump HABs, so CSI is working with volunteers to begin a new investigation into their composition and patterns in our lake. Shidemantle emphasized the importance of volunteers in CSI programs and encouraged others to join.

Max Heitner from the Finger Lakes Land Trust provided some exciting updates about land conservation in our watershed. FLLT oversees 50 different preserves around Cayuga Lake. In May, Bell Station was finally transferred to the DEC and is now Cayuga Shores Wildlife Management Area, and in June, the FLLT Sim Jennings Preserve at Cayuga Cliffs opened to the public. Heitner concluded by emphasizing FLLT’s 5-Point Water Initiative, which includes investments in restoration activities and partnerships with watershed and lake organizations like CLWN.

Town of Fayette Supervisor Jeff Trout and Erin Peruzzini, District Manager of the Seneca County Soil and Water Conservation District concluded the program highlighting water quality protection projects in Seneca County. Investments in water quality are ongoing, including progress on a major sanitary sewer project that would move many lakeshore residents from septic to public sewer in the towns of Fayette and Varick. Peruzzini provided an overview of their boots-on-the-ground program work with municipal and private landowners, farms and public education. To conclude the conference, Erin Peruzzini was recognized by CLWN staff and Board Members with the James C. White Memorial Prize.

Conference slides can be found online at [www.cayugalake.org/resources/conference-presentations/](http://www.cayugalake.org/resources/conference-presentations/).

### **DEC Announces EPA-Approved Pollution Prevention Plan for Cayuga Lake Watershed**

The following article is reprinted with permission from NYS DEC. Original PR can be found at this website: <https://dec.ny.gov/news/press-releases/2024/9/dec-announces-epa-approved-pollution-prevention-plan-for-cayuga-lake-watershed>

#### *Finalization of ‘Total Maximum Daily Load’ for Phosphorus Will Improve Water Quality and Assist Region in Addressing Watershed Threats*

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Interim Commissioner Sean Mahar announced the finalization of a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency-approved nutrient pollution reduction “budget” to help restore the water quality of Cayuga Lake’s southern end for recreation and help protect drinking water. The Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for the lake provides a detailed analysis of phosphorus pollutant sources, recommends a 30 percent reduction of phosphorus from the watershed to meet the lake’s water quality standards, and will be used by stakeholders throughout the entire watershed to improve water quality.

“DEC is committed to protecting Cayuga Lake by safeguarding water quality, restoring ecosystem health, and bolstering community resilience against pollutants that can damage long-term water quality,” Interim Commissioner Mahar said. “Thanks to the cooperation of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, this pollution budget will help guide strategies to significantly reduce phosphorus loads, curtail harmful algal blooms, and will be instrumental in safeguarding the long-term health of the entire Cayuga Lake watershed.”

“The new phosphorus limit will help ensure that Cayuga Lake remains an asset for the communities along its shores and a major attraction for tourists wanting to take in the beauty of the iconic Finger Lakes,” EPA Regional Administrator Lisa F. Garcia said. “By working together with New York State, we’re tackling pollution at its source and setting up long-term solutions to keep the lake clean and healthy.”

The TMDL incorporates years of scientific research, modeling exercises, and analyses that will focus ongoing nutrient reduction strategies in the watershed, effectively and efficiently. DEC took a whole watershed approach to develop the TMDL to restore the impaired southern end of the lake and to protect other areas. This allows stakeholders to actively use the TMDL throughout the entire watershed to improve Cayuga Lake’s water quality. The TMDL is posted on DEC’s [Clean Water Plans](#) webpage along with the response to public comments and supporting documentation.

Adding to the [Harmful Algal Bloom Action Plan Initiative for Cayuga Lake](#) (PDF), the TMDL provides a detailed analysis of phosphorus sources and accordingly recommends phosphorus load reduction strategies for the entire watershed. In addition, because the TMDL was developed for the entire Cayuga Lake watershed, municipalities and other stakeholders outside of the impaired southern end segment can utilize the TMDL when applying for [Water Quality Improvement Project grants](#). Already, DEC awarded nearly \$56 million the WQIP program since 2013 to improve water quality or habitat, promote flood risk reduction, restoration, and enhanced flood and climate resiliency, or protect a drinking water source in the eastern Finger lakes.

The TMDL recommends a 30 percent reduction in phosphorus loading from the whole watershed to meet the TMDL’s targets. Nonpoint source sectors, including runoff from agricultural and developed lands, forest and onsite septic systems, contribute more than 90 percent of the phosphorus to the lake. Point source contributions from wastewater treatment facilities and other facilities permitted to discharge water to the lake are relatively small (approximately 10 percent). Concurrent with TMDL development, two wastewater facilities are being modified to include phosphorus concentration limits to reduce their impacts on the lake.

Nonpoint source implementation components include watershed best management practices focused on the agricultural sector, which was found to be the largest contributor of phosphorus to the lake, and general conservation efforts such as erosion control, fertilizer phosphorous laws that impact developed areas, forestry stewardship, and repair of failing on-site septic systems. The TMDL includes expanded resources for stakeholders to prioritize and implement cost-effective mitigation practices, provides reasonable assurances that the TMDL’s targets can be met, and includes a lake monitoring plan to collect and assess water quality improvements over time. Best management projects funded and implemented through State-funded programs will continue to be compiled and tracked to evaluate TMDL progress in the Cayuga Lake watershed.

Additionally, phosphorus load reductions will be annually estimated for comparison with the TMDL reduction targets by DEC’s Finger Lakes Watershed Program. DEC will also evaluate Cayuga Lake water quality data to assess lake water quality against water quality standards and TMDL targets.

**State Agriculture Commissioner Richard A. Ball said,** “We are committed to doing all we can to preserve our natural resources and ensure water quality in the Finger Lakes and across New York. This new guidance builds on the Department’s initiatives and programs that are designed to further agricultural best management practices to protect our waterways. We look forward to doubling down on our efforts and working with our Soil and Water Conservation Districts to implement agricultural practices to meet these new goals to preserve Cayuga Lake for generations to come.”

**New York State Senator Lea Webb said,** “I am appreciative to the Department of Environmental Conservation for their dedication in supporting the EPA-approved pollution prevention plan for the Cayuga Lake watershed. This initiative is a critical step in restoring the water quality of Cayuga Lake’s southern end, making it safer for recreation and protecting the

drinking water for our communities. By addressing phosphorus pollutant sources with the Total Maximum Daily Load plan, we're ensuring a healthier future for Cayuga Lake and everyone in our community who depends on it."

**New York State Senator Rachel May said,** "Many people in Central New York are invested in their lakes for various reasons, whether they live on the lakeshore, drink the water, enjoy tourism or recreation, or own farmland in the watershed. That's why the DEC's announcement for pollution prevention to improve Cayuga Lake's water quality is welcomed news. We must address the mounting pressures our lakes and other waters face in a rapidly changing global climate and take action to protect them for the benefit of all."

**Chairman Seneca County Board of Supervisors Michael Enslow said,** "We applaud New York State's continued commitment to improving water quality in Cayuga Lake. The significant progress made, including the reduction of 39,000 pounds of phosphorus annually, highlights the effectiveness of collaborative efforts and strategic investments. Continued support and funding will further bolster these efforts and drive continued improvements in the Cayuga Lake watersheds,"

**Tompkins County Legislature Chairman Dan Klein said,** "Cayuga Lake is literally the center of Tompkins County. The health of the lake is linked to the health of Tompkins County, and we enthusiastically welcome all efforts to protect Cayuga Lake."

**City of Ithaca Mayor Robert Cantelmo said,** "The City of Ithaca has long valued its role as a leader in environmental stewardship in the wastewater treatment industry, recognizing the ecological and cultural importance of Cayuga Lake for our community. Constructing a tertiary phosphorus plant in 2004, we have had the ability to meet anticipated TMDL needs since that time. We appreciate our partnership with New York State and look forward to continuing to work together to protect this vital natural resource."

The plan builds upon actions New York State is already taking on Cayuga Lake to reduce phosphorus. New York's nation-leading actions in water quality improvements include collaborating with agricultural partners and investing in infrastructure upgrades and new technology, a commitment particularly strong around Cayuga Lake. DEC, the Department of Agriculture and Markets, local Soil and Water Conservation Districts, and other stakeholders are making continued progress in the Cayuga watershed. It is estimated that phosphorus loading reductions of 39,000 pounds of phosphorus per year are achieved with current levels of implementation through various grant programs over the past decade. Continued work and recent additional investments in the [Eastern Finger Lakes Coalition](#) and [Governor Kathy Hochul's recent announcement of \\$42 million in funding](#) to the eastern Finger Lakes region as part of the Governor's 2024 State of the State commitment will be used to further the implementation of the Cayuga Lake TMDL.

### **New York's Commitment to Water Quality**

New York State continues to increase its nation-leading investments in water infrastructure, including more than \$2.2 billion in financial assistance from EFC for local water infrastructure projects in State Fiscal Year 2024 alone. With \$500 million allocated for clean water infrastructure in the 2024-2025 enacted State Budget announced by Governor Hochul, New York will have invested a total of \$5.5 billion in water infrastructure between 2017 and this year. In addition, the \$4.2 billion Environmental Bond Act is helping State agencies, local governments, and partners access funding to protect water quality, help communities adapt to climate change, improve resiliency, and create green jobs. Bond Act funding will support new and expanded projects across the state to safeguard drinking water sources, reduce pollution, and protect communities and natural resources from climate change.

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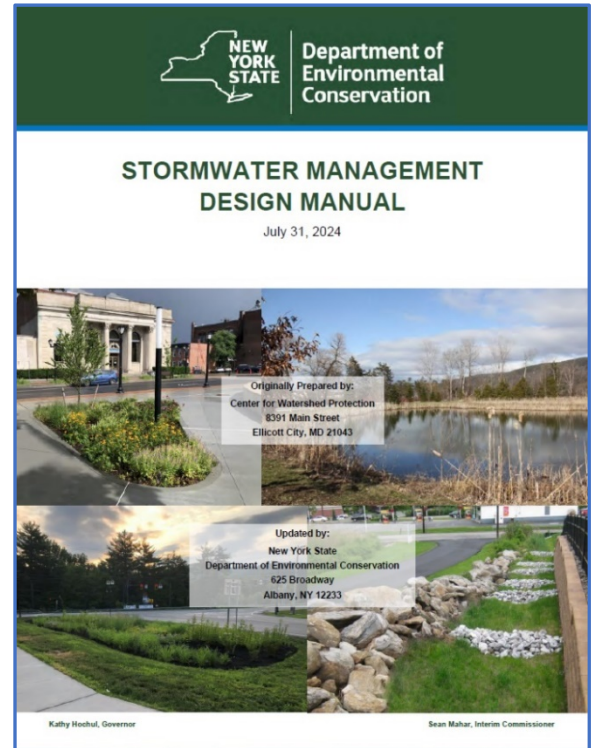
## **New July 31, 2024 Stormwater Design Manual Replaces Draft Manual from 2022**

**By Ryan Staychock, Cornell Cooperative Extension Environmental/Natural Resources Educator**

In the June 2023 WQMA newsletter I summarized the form and function of rain gardens according to the New York State Draft Stormwater Design Manual dated May 2022.

On July 31, 2024 the NYS DEC released the updated 2024 Design Manual. You may find reviewing the New York State Stormwater Management Design Manual is a helpful resource when reviewing site plans or other projects important in a watershed. There are 13 chapters in the 2024 Design Manual. For example, there are chapters dedicated to: Stormwater Management Planning, Runoff Reduction Techniques (such as rain gardens); Standard Stormwater Management Practices; Addressing Stormwater Pollutants of Concern; and Urban Stormwater Management.

The article below is reprinted with permission from the NYS DEC. To access the original press release associated with the Design Manual follow [this link](#), or click here <https://dec.ny.gov/news/environmental-notice-bulletin/2024-07-31/statewide-availability-of-the-new-york-state-stormwater-management-design-manual-july-31-2024-2024-design-manual>



### **Statewide - Availability of the New York State Stormwater Management Design Manual, July 31, 2024 (2024 Design Manual)**

**Public Notice. This notice announces the availability of the issued New York State Stormwater Management Design Manual, July 31, 2024 (2024 Design Manual)**

#### **Background and Applicability:**

The currently effective Construction General Permit for Stormwater Discharges from Construction Activity, GP-0-20-001, references the 2015 Design Manual. Draft GP-0-25-001, simultaneously publicly noticed today, references the 2024 Design Manual. A draft of the 2024 Design Manual was publicly noticed on October 19, 2022, and the comment period closed on December 18, 2022.

Designers are encouraged to begin using the 2024 Design Manual prior to issuance of GP-0-25-001. Designs completed in conformance with the 2024 Design Manual may indicate on the eNOI (Q23), for GP-0-20-001, that the design conforms with the 2015 Design Manual.

#### **Document:**

The [2024 Design Manual](#) can be found on the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's (NYS DEC) webpage: <https://dec.ny.gov/environmental-protection/water/water-quality/stormwater/construction-stormwater-toolbox>

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## **Lead Inspector Reflects on Owasco Lake Watershed Management**

**By: Jesse Lloyd, Lead Watershed Inspector for the Owasco Lake Watershed Inspection and Protection Division**

In the cool dawn of the watershed, you might find me casting a line into the lake's depths, or perhaps wandering through the tangles of the Owasco Inlet, observing the silent drama of nature unfolding. There's a truth there that you can't find in the day to day of modern life. It's a space where time seems to stand still and, if only for the morning, I can be present in the moment, forgetting about work, bills and a seemingly unending list of chores.

My name is Jesse Lloyd. I am the new Lead Inspector for the Owasco Lake Watershed Management Council (OLWMC). Finding myself in this new position, I've asked myself, why exactly is protecting the Owasco Lake watershed important to me.

Located in heart of the Finger Lakes Region of New York, Owasco Lake is a serene and vital water body that supplies drinking water to thousands of residents, supports local wildlife, and provides many recreational opportunities. Yet, as an important natural resource, Owasco Lake's health is not an isolated concern; it's the result of a collective effort to preserve the watershed that feeds it.



I have lived in the Owasco Lake watershed for nearly 30 years. I have countless memories stomping around the creeks, boating in the lake and having adventures in the hills. The health of the watershed is inextricably tied to these memories. A healthy watershed is not just about the presence of fish in the creek today; it's about the assurance that such fish will continue to thrive in the future. For an angler, the excitement of a fish on the end of one's line is a powerful reminder of the ecosystem's vitality. If the watershed is kept healthy, future generations can also experience such joy. Similarly, safe drinking water from the lake is essential for our well-being. It's not merely a convenience but a critical aspect of our health and quality of life. Knowing that the water we rely on daily is clean and secure offers peace of mind and shows the importance of our collective efforts

towards preserving this resource. Likewise, watershed forest and wetland conservation are a testament to our human understanding of the need to protect ecosystem services and, for accessible conservation areas, provide recreational alternatives void of environmental concerns. For example, hiking in the Fillmore Glen or the OLWMC's Fillmore Nature Preserve provides not only exercise, but also, the opportunity to observe seasonal changes and to witness firsthand the impact of our environmental stewardship.

During my first month as an Owasco Lake Watershed Inspector, the scale of my responsibilities has felt somewhat modest when considered at a site-specific scale; each site I've inspected, each minor issue addressed, seems like a small piece of a bigger puzzle. From checking erosion control measures to trying to bring neighbors together to ensure compliance with regulations, each task appears relatively minor on its own. However, there is an interconnectedness that has shifted my perspective. The small-scale inspections and interactions with the residents, when combined, play a big role in building agency within the watershed community towards watershed stewardship. Moreover, while individual actions may seem minor, their collective effect is substantial. Perhaps most inspiring, it the overwhelming extent to which land owners are supportive of our efforts to protect Owasco Lake. I'm excited to keep adding small wins to the large list the Owasco Lake Watershed Management Council has put together.



As with other lakes in the Finger Lakes Region, Owasco Lake faces environmental challenges including pollution, invasive species and climate change. Nevertheless, with careful management and community efforts, we can help protect and preserve this vital resource. Local organizations and enthusiasts are working tirelessly to keep Owasco Lake clean and healthy. Promoting lake friendly practices for reducing runoff and managing land use, and continued water quality monitoring, are essential to the long term protection of this national treasure!

### **Challenges & Progress in Water Quality – an uneasy coexistence for agriculture in our watersheds**

**By Kirsten Workman, Nutrient Management & Environmental Sustainability Specialist, Cornell CALS**

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Working on water quality issues and solutions in the Finger Lakes region has been a bit stressful lately. Disagreements surrounding proposed watershed rules and regulations, a newly released TMDL for Cayuga Lake, and a surge in late summer and early fall algae blooms all make for a little bit of heart burn for all of us.

Most of the Finger Lakes watersheds' primary land use is farmland. We enjoy this working landscape for the beauty, utility, habitat, recreation and food it provides us all. However, this also means that agriculture is typically a significant source of phosphorus loading into our lakes. Farmers and their technical service providers do not take that responsibility lightly. Agriculture in New York has engaged in ongoing and significant efforts for decades to protect water quality for this very reason.

Phosphorus runoff and algae are complex problems and as such, have complex solutions. Climate change that drives increased precipitation and storm intensities makes all of our work seem harder - whether you operate a water treatment plant, a county agency, a local business or a farm. Farmers are solution-minded folks and when they implement a change, they want to see results...now. No one is more frustrated than farmers when they see all their hard work to protect water quality potentially unrealized in the presence of algae blooms in their own watersheds.

It is important, however, to recognize that amid these challenges is also a lot of success. Since the passage of the federal Clean Water Act and New York's Environmental Conservation Law in 1972, we have seen huge progress when it comes to agricultural water quality best management practices. New York has one of the most robust environmental management programs for agriculture in the country. Not only do we benefit from the resources and technical expertise of the USDA's Natural Resource Conservation Service, Cornell Cooperative Extension and local Soil & Water Conservation District staff, but we also have the NY Ag & Market's Agricultural Environmental Management program that provides a framework for on the ground implementation of practices and funding to support it. Additionally, NY's Department of Environmental Conservation works hard to ensure compliance with our water quality laws and permits. Research done with Cornell's Nutrient Management Spear program shows that work is paying off. There has been a noticeable reduction of P balances for New York dairy farms. Farmers who conducted Nutrient Mass Balance assessments reduced their P balances per hundredweight (cwt) of milk from 0.11 lbs of P/cwt in 2005-2007 to 0.07 lbs of P/cwt in 2017-2019. This shows tremendous improvement in P use efficiency while the P balance per acre stayed below the feasible balance of 12 lbs P established for New York<sup>1</sup>. And a recent statewide analysis of 2017 P balances for harvested cropland in NY, shows a balance of 9 lbs of P/ acre<sup>2</sup>. These are just two examples of how we quantify whether P management is in balance with farm production and environmental protection.

The recently released *Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for Phosphorus in Cayuga Lake* lays out the sources of phosphorus loading and targeted reductions. It also quantifies some of the reductions in loading we have already



accomplished since the calculation of those loading numbers which were based on 2013 conditions. The TMDL targets a 30% reduction in P loading to the lake, which will certainly require continued work. However, it estimates that we have already gotten a third of the way there with projects that were implemented between 2013 and 2022<sup>3</sup>. This accounting didn't have estimated reductions for all projects and only included those projects and practices funded through NY's Ag Nonpoint Source and Water Quality Implementation programs. It did not include projects funded through USDA's Natural Resource Conservation Service or the vast efforts that farmers invested in without state or federal funding. Even so, agricultural projects accounted for 58% of the individual projects and 97% of the estimated reductions achieved between 2013 and 2022. These projects reflect many of the practices farmers utilize to protect water quality by improving soil health, reducing erosion and nutrient runoff including:

- Cover Crops
- Planting of permanent pastures
- Reduce tillage
- Prescribed grazing
- Exclude grazing livestock from waterways
- Manure management practices to incorporate manure
- Vineyard and orchard erosion and pesticide management
- Nutrient management planning
- Waste storage systems to collect manure during inclement weather and enable farms to better implement sound nutrient management
- Capturing leachate from feed storage areas and milkinghouse wastewater
- Nutrient recovery systems
- Riparian buffers
- Livestock heavy use area protection



*Manure injection (using a toolbar like the one pictured above) allows farmers to protect manure nutrients from runoff and allows for minimal soil disturbance. (photo: Partners for Healthy Watersheds)*

And farmers aren't done! They continue to work with federal, state and local programs and on their own to implement the best practices that make sense for the watershed and their farms. They know there's more work to do and are actively pursuing all the tools in our collective toolbox. The key will be keeping all the tools available and adjusting as we learn to use new ones. But they are up for the continued challenge – as clean water is a key tenant of a successful and sustainable farm.

So while water quality protection is challenging and complex, New York farmers and their service providers have their sleeves rolled up and are ready to keep working alongside all of us to continuously improve and realize success.

<sup>1</sup> O. Gober, et al. Farmers Produce More Milk with Less Phosphorus and Nitrogen! What's Cropping Up Blog, Cornell Field Crops (14 Jun 2024). <https://blogs.cornell.edu/whatscroppingup/2022/06/14/farmers-produce-more-milk-with-less-phosphorus-and-nitrogen/>

<sup>2</sup> O. Godber, et al. New York state, regional and county level nitrogen and phosphorus balances for harvested cropland. What's Cropping Up Blog, Cornell Field Crops (30 Jul 2024). <https://blogs.cornell.edu/whatscroppingup/2024/07/30/new-york-state-regional-and-county-level-nitrogen-and-phosphorus-balances-for-harvested-cropland/>

<sup>3</sup> Table of Implementation Progress in the Cayuga Lake watershed from 2013-2022 (post Cayuga Lake Modeling and TMDL development), *Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for Phosphorus in Cayuga Lake*, p. 60 (2024). [https://dec.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2024-08/tmdl\\_phos\\_cayuga.pdf](https://dec.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2024-08/tmdl_phos_cayuga.pdf)



*Corn planted into a previous cover crop without any tillage near Cayuga Lake. This allows the farm to have a living plant protecting their soil 365 days a year and never disrupts soil structure to protect it from erosion. (photo: K. Workman)*

## **Cayuga County WQMA**

For more information about the Cayuga County Water Quality Management Agency, check out our website at [www.cayugacountywater.org](http://www.cayugacountywater.org).

The Cayuga County WQMA is also on social media. For up-to-date information on water quality issues and events, please friend us on Facebook at: <https://facebook.com/CayugaCoWQMA>

The Cayuga County WQMA YouTube channel is <https://www.youtube.com/@CayugaCountyWQMA>.

The Cayuga County WQMA is looking for story ideas for its webpage and its newsletter. If you have something you would like to share, please email us at [wqma@cayugacounty.us](mailto:wqma@cayugacounty.us).



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