



Droplets

Our Mission: To preserve the health, beauty and welfare of our lake, not only today, but for future generations.

Volume II—Number 2

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Prez' Perspective

So why do weeds exist? I know each of us has asked ourselves this question as the bogs of summer float by. Some weeds are good for a lake environment, especially ones that favor fish spawning. Swimmers don't like them because the weeds tickle us. And boaters are certainly not happy about the weeds congesting the propellers and water cooled motor systems.

Weeds can choke any garden area, if they are not monitored. Invasive weed species are especially fast growers that can choke an area much quicker. Like any plant, the invasive weeds take advantage of an environment that helps them propagate. Can anyone think of a more pleasant environment for a weed to grow in and then plentiful water, fertile silt and bright sunshine? That's why they grow along the side of the road where rainwater lingers and the lawnmower blades come rarely. The other place is the bottom of our lake.

So we live in balance. We let some of the weeds grow so fish have spawning grounds. But we try to control the weeds in areas where they become overwhelming.

This is the vision of OLPA. We do limited harvesting, subsidized by our county DEC, to trim weeds in areas where the volume has gotten to the point where access is poor. This would include the Narrows at the north end the lake. But we also assist homeowners with selective matting in front of their docks to help with access to their boat cradles and docks as well as to clear swimming areas for cooling off on those hot summer days.

OLPA is presently active in providing stewards at the boat launches around the lake to better educate those using our lake on the dangers of the invasive species. We are working to

coordinate with Finger Lakes Institute to provide these stewards at entry points on the lake. The DEC has new regulations which will define the process for inspecting and disposing of invasive hitchhikers, (See page 2).

We all need to be educated stewards of the lake! All of us will be working to protect our valued resource. OLPA is here to assist with the stewardship process making our lake safer, cleaner and clear of invasive species.



DUMPSTER DAY!!



Saturday, May 30th

8am to 5pm

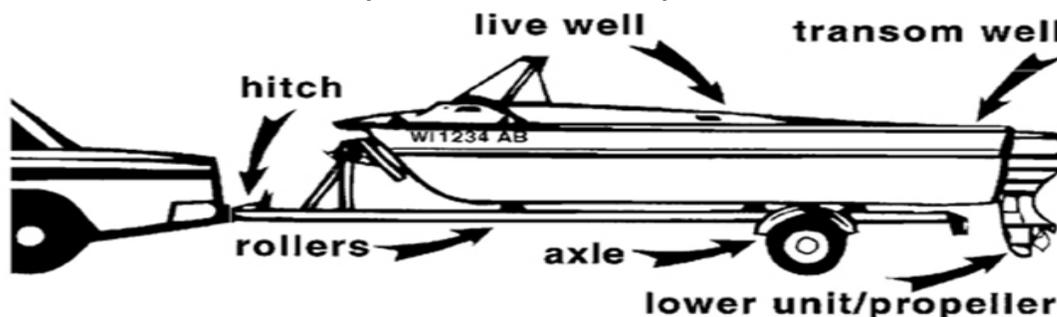
**Dumpsters will be at R.J. Frost, Co
2388 Otisco Valley Rd.**

CLEAN, DRAIN AND DRY!!!

Be your own best boat steward!

Follow the **new** Invasive Species Regulations

Start today the habit of watercraft inspection to prevent or at least slow the spread of unwanted plants and aquatic life in Otisco Lake. Recreational boating can introduce new populations of invaders and change the ecology of lakes. By boat owners and users learning how to inspect their vessels, trailers and gear to remove and properly dispose of aquatic hitchhikers, they provide one of the first lines of defense against the damage of aquatic invasive species.



**For more information, view YouTube video:
NYSG's Watercraft Inspection How-To Video**

Link to video & updates at oticolakepreservation.org

Event Schedule

- May 30th—Dumpster Day I—R.J. Frost, Co.—8:00am
- June 3rd—OLPA Meeting—Otisco Town Hall—6pm
- July 1st—OLPA Meeting—Community Center—6pm
- July 20th—DEC Water Chestnut Pull—9:30am
- July 25th—Watershed Shuffle—Otisco Lake Park—9am
- August 5th—OLPA Meeting—Otisco Fire House—6pm
- August 22nd—Dumpster Day II—Otisco Lake Park—8:30am
- September 2nd—OLPA Meeting—TBD—6pm

**Join us for discussion, education and planning to
protect the present & future health of our lake!!**