

The Grapevine

Newsletter of the HONEOYE VALLEY ASSOCIATION

VOL. 26

Summer 2012

Honeoye Valley Association Annual Meeting

The Honeoye Valley Association will be hosting an annual informational meeting on Saturday July 14th 2012 at 9:00 A.M. at the United Church of Christ, Main Street Honeoye. As your lake watchdog we will have brief presentations from Edith Davies, on Healthy Lawns and Healthy Lake, John Berry on Issues with Rainwater Infiltration into public sewers, and update you on what HVA has accomplished this past year. We are excited to have this opportunity to hear from professionals on what can be done to preserve this beautiful place.

We need your support and input for the health of our great natural asset, Honeoye Lake. As in the past there have been concerns about invasive species and about blue-green algae. Please join us for an informative hour. There will be an opportunity to join or renew your membership.

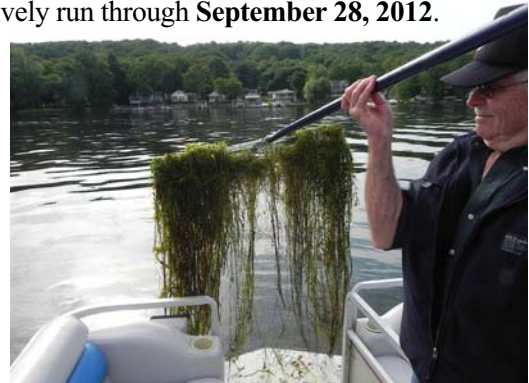
New Weed Harvester to Begin Operation

Based on a 2010 survey of Honeoye Lake property owners, the Towns of Richmond and Canadice and Ontario County committed to continue the **Aquatic Vegetation Management Program (AVMP)** and invest in new equipment. The new 2012 harvester is scheduled to be delivered the week of June 18th. Training staff and testing the machine will commence on the lake thereafter. The new harvester has a 30% larger cutting width (11 feet) and cuts to a depth of 6' 9". It can carry a 15,000 lb load, meaning fewer trips to shore to offload plant material. A new conveyor and larger dump truck for transporting plant material offsite will also be used. These equipment upgrades should result in more efficient operations. The harvester will be docked at the start of the season at the

public boat launch on the southeast side of the lake, as in past years. Longtime operators Randy DePew and John Miller are returning. Due to the larger size of the harvester, homeowners should be aware that there will be no harvesting between docks, but cuts toward shore will be made, where possible. The normal operating procedure of harvesting the entire perimeter during the first few weeks will be employed and after these first few weeks the harvester will concentrate its effort on regions of the lake with the highest vegetative density.

To assist property owners with concerns about near shore plant growth, weed fragments, and the status of harvesting operations during the season, the county will be posting information on the county's recently updated website. The Honeoye Valley Association's website (hvaweb.org) will include a link to the county website. You will be able to access this information beginning at the end of June at: <http://www.co.ontario.ny.us/honeoyelake> or <http://www.hvaweb.org/>. In addition, Ontario County's website will soon have an "alert" function which will give you the option to subscribe to receive AVMP updates by email. **PLEASE NOTE: The revised Ontario County web site has just been launched and kinks are being worked out. Check for 2012 AVMP information on or about June 25.** The new Honeoye Lake AVMP Program Manager for Ontario County is Senior Planner Betsy Landre, email (betsy.landre@co.ontario.ny.us). If you are not an Internet user, you may contact her directly by phone during business hours at (585) 396-4458.

Subject to delivery of the new harvester, harvesting is scheduled to begin during the week of **June 25** and tentatively run through **September 28, 2012**.



About Your HVA...

The Honeoye Valley Association is a not-for-profit volunteer organization that works in a variety of ways to protect and preserve the environmental quality of the Honeoye Lake watershed.

To become a member (and receive this newsletter regularly), send \$20 to the HVA, PO Box 165, Honeoye, NY 14471.

To contribute articles, letters or opinions for this newsletter, send them to the above address.

Visit us on our website at www.hvaweb.org.

The HVA Board of Directors meets at 7 p.m. on the second Wednesday of the month, March through November. We meet at the United Church of Christ on Main Street. All meetings are open.

The HVA Board of Directors:

Hugh Turner	367-3522
Frank Powell	367-2927
Kay Luther	229-2315
Helen Johnson	229-2273
Terry Gronwall	367-3000
Jack Starke	367-2079
Don Bennett	229-2003
Dick Stoddard	229-2455
Don Cook	367-9293
Tom Young	367-8086
Ed Jackson	229-1090
Amrut Patel	671-1484

PEST ALERT

Armyworms Invade Parts of New York

New York State Agriculture Commissioner Darrel J. Aubertine today warned crop growers of the presence of armyworms in several parts of New York State, including western and northern New York counties. The Department has received numerous reports from farmers and the New York State Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Program have verified that true armyworms have severely impacted parts of New York State, especially in western New York counties. Additional reports

have established the presence of armyworms in Northern New York, the Finger Lakes and Eastern New York.

New York's last significant infestation was in 2008 and prior to that 2001. By some accounts, this year's infestation is surpassing those experiences. The moth overwinters in the South and in some years, flies up to New York laying eggs that hatch into worm-like caterpillars. It is a migratory pest and the unusual spring weather may be responsible, at least in part, for this infestation.

Homeowners and farmers are encouraged to watch grass and corn fields for signs of infestation. Close monitoring is important if this pest is found. According to New York State IPM Livestock & Field Crops IPM Coordinator, Keith Waldron, a second generation can be expected and may result in further damage in July.

Armyworms got their name because they can move in a mass, marching in lines from one destroyed field to their next feeding ground. They have been found in New York in small grains, corn, mixed stands of alfalfa, turf grass, grass and hay fields, but have been known to also infest various vegetables, fruits, legumes, and weeds, including beans, cabbage, cucumbers, lettuce, onions and peas.

In their early stages, armyworm larvae appear smooth, cylindrical in shape and are pale green to brownish. Mature larvae are smooth and marked with two orange, white-bordered strips on each side. True armyworm ranges in size from 1/8 inch to 1.5 inches long and overwinter as partly grown larvae.

Preferring to feed at night, armyworms devour succulent foliage. By feeding on leaves and occasionally stems, they can severely damage seedling stands. Because they feed at night, armyworms may inflict much injury before they are detected. Having exhausted a current food supply, the worms migrate as an "army" to new host plants. Fields adjacent to or harboring lush grass are most commonly attacked.

Parasites, various diseases, insect predators, and birds usually keep armyworms under control

except after cold, wet springs. When practical, cultural methods, such as disking large areas, can help reduce future armyworm populations by exposing the pupae to natural enemies and hot weather. However, since armyworm moths are strong fliers, most areas will be subject to constant reinfestation.

Armyworms are easily controlled chemically when buildup occurs, but to be consistent with State law, it is important that both the armyworm pest and the specific crop be labeled on the insecticide before using the product. Monitoring is important prior to spraying as treatment should be sought only when pest levels would cause economic damage.

For more information regarding armyworms in New York and how to detect or combat them, contact your local Cornell Cooperative Extension agent (www.cce.cornell.edu).

Proposed Erosion Control Recommendation

Honeoye Lake is owned by New York State and is available for use by all citizens for recreation. The lake is managed by several NYS departments including: Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), Department of Parks Recreation and Historic Development (NYSPRHD), Department of State (NYSDOS), and Office of General Services (NYSOGS). The towns of Canadice and Richmond in whose boundaries the lake resides, are also important partners in managing the lake and are usually the first to hear complaints regarding the lake. Several other resources important to lake management are Ontario County Soil and Water Conservation District (OCSWCD), Ontario County Planning Department (OCPD), Finger Lakes Community College (FLCC), the Honeoye Lake Watershed Task Force (HLWTF), which is a cooperative association of the towns (Richmond, Canadice, Bristol, South Bristol, and Naples) in the watershed, and the Honeoye Valley Association (HVA), which is an association of lakefront and watershed residents interested in the lakes well-being.

With limited resources, the state tries to develop partnerships with local communities to assist in managing the lake. To accomplish this objective the NYSDOS offers grants to allow local municipalities to participate in this cooperative management approach. These grants require the local municipalities to provide in-kind service for 50% of the value of the grant, with the State providing the other 50% in cash. The HLWTF received a grant in 2005 that allowed completion a Watershed Management Plan (WMP) in 2007. The WMP summarizes the available scientific technical data that underlies the physical and biological forces that underlie the reaction of the lake to environmental conditions. Using sound scientific principles the WMP identified 73 individual action items to prevent any further degradation and hopefully improvement in lake water quality. The highest priority action items were aimed at Honeoye Lake's biggest problem of high levels of nutrients, which contribute to excessive algae and vegetative growth that is detrimental to recreational pursuits. Erosion was identified as the major source of nutrients that flow into the lake particularly during severe storms.

As a follow-up to the WMP grant, in 2008 the HLWTF received another NYSDOS grant to determine if measures could be found to reduce erosion, and hence nutrient flow into the lake. The effort on this grant has just been completed, with recommendations for several projects that will reduce nutrient input to the lake. Since nearly half of the inflow into the lake is from the Inlet at the south end of the lake, all of the projects included in the recommendation are in the area south of the lake. Another advantage of projects in this location is they occur on state land, making landowner permission easier to obtain. The centerpiece of the recommendation is the creation of a 100 acre waterfowl impoundment. This impoundment will collect all water flowing from the southern portion of the watershed and allow nutrient laden sediment to settle out in the impoundment prior to flowing into the lake. The impoundment is designed to allow periodic maintenance to remove the built-up sediment, to assure its continued effectiveness. This impoundment will also attract wildlife adding to the recreational value of the NYS-DEC DEC Wildlife Management Area on which the impoundment will be located.

Con't. on p. 4

Con't. from p. 3 Erosion

Another recommendation that is part of the grant is the installation of small debris basins and settling ponds located on six tributary crossings on CR 36 and East Lake Road south of the lake. The debris basins are located uphill of the road just before road culverts. These debris basins will collect large debris, such as rocks that are carried down the tributaries during storm events. Collecting this large debris will minimize blockage of the culverts. Just downstream from the debris basins on the opposite side of the road quarter acre settling ponds will be constructed to allow finer sediment to settle out, reducing the flow of nutrients into the wildlife impoundment. The debris basins and settling ponds will be periodically cleaned out by the highway departments to assure their continued effectiveness. These two types of structures will act as a one-two punch by collecting as much of the nutrient laden sediments from the tributaries in the settling ponds as possible, and then collecting as much of the remainder in the wildlife impoundment. These debris basins and settling ponds located on tributaries are relatively inexpensive to construct, and if the six that would be initially constructed as part of a grant project prove effective, highway departments could construct similar structures on other tributaries around the lake.

Meetings have been held with the NYSDEC, Ontario County, and the Town of Richmond, on whose land these projects reside, and they have enthusiastically supported the proposal and will provide some level of in-kind service required by any grant obtained from the State. Ducks Unlimited have also been contacted and are expected to support the project.

This second grant, whose recommendation was describe above, was solely for the purpose of developing a recommendation and did not include any funds for construction. In the hopes of implementing the recommendation the HLWTF will be applying for another grant from NYSDOS to implement these projects. This newest grant application is due by July 16, 2012. Generally it takes about six months after grant application before the State announces which applicants have been awarded a grant and another 6-12

before grant contracts are developed that would allow construction to begin.

This process, which started with the WMP grant and followed up with other grants, is a promising approach to help manage Honeoye Lake with assistance from many governmental agencies and volunteer organizations.

Honeoye Chamber of Commerce Events

JUNE, JULY and AUGUST 2012

WHAT: Olde Village Market - An open air market with organic and non-organic locally grown produce, honey, maple syrup, berries, flowers, plants, grass fed beef, locally roasted coffee, breakfast... Local artisans, live music jam, trash to treasures sale and BBQ's.

WHEN: Saturday mornings from 8 AM – 1 PM

WHERE: Richmond Town Gazebo, Main Street Honeoye

Call Audrey Carrier for details or vendor space 585-721-5169. Download applications at

www.honeoyelakechamber.org or contact us at info@honeoyelakechamber.org

SEPTEMBER 2012

WHAT: 3rd Annual Beer, Brats and Winetizers Tour Sponsored by Honeoye Chamber and Honeoye Rotary

WHEN: Saturday, September 15, 2012. 2 PM departure

WHERE: Mill Creek Café to Hazlitt Winery, Inspire Moore Winery, Roots Café, Brown Hound Bistro and Arbor Hill. Subject to change

Call Audrey Carrier 585-721-5169 for reservations and more information.

OCTOBER 2012

WHAT: Annual Gourds and Pumpkinfest and Harvest Dinner

WHEN: Saturday, October 13, 2012. Family activities begin at 8 AM and go throughout the day.

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Your 2012-2013 HVA Membership Renewal

dinner and music at 5:30 PM WHERE: Location to be determined TOPIC: A celebration of our history of agriculture in Richmond and a harvest dinner with community awards.

Call Audrey Carrier 585-721-5169 or Raymond's 585-229-5400 for reservations

NOVEMBER 2012

WHAT: Women In Business Dinner

WHEN: Wednesday, November 7, 2012 at 5:30 PM

WHERE: Raymond's Valley Inn (Corner of CR 37 and Route 20A)

GUEST SPEAKER: TBD

Call Raymond's 585-229-5400 for reservations. Open to members and non-members.

DECEMBER 2012

WHAT: Home for the Holidays Event with our Annual "Light Up Honeoye", "Big Red Box" shop locally rewards spree and Main St. open house

WHEN: Tuesday, December 11, 2012. 4 PM – 8 PM

WHERE: Gazebo in town – Richmond Town Park.

Details to follow.

HONEOYE LAKE COUNTY SEWER DISTRICT INFLOW REDUCTION PROGRAM

The Honeoye Lake County Sewer District will soon begin a program aimed at reducing the amount of clear water, which includes stormwater and groundwater, entering the sanitary sewer system. This program is necessary to alleviate recurring operational problems in the sanitary sewer system during wet weather. Everyone who is a customer of the Sewer District should have received a public education leaflet intended to help District customers understand the problem and what the County is doing to reduce the amount of stormwater entering the sewer system. The HVA has invited the Professional Engineer in charge of the program to address our Annual Meeting to explain the program and answer our questions.

Please renew your 2012-2013 HVA membership today. The HVA can only accomplish its mission of enhancing the quality of the environment and life experiences in and around Honeoye Lake through both your personal and financial support as a member.

If you have already renewed your membership, we greatly appreciate your support for all of the HVA's initiatives.

The Honeoye Valley Association is dedicated to protecting, preserving, and enhancing the quality of the environment and life experiences in and around Honeoye Lake. Through your membership the HVA can support activities like monitoring the lake water quality, supporting new water quality research activities, annual litter clean-up of over fifty miles of area roads, Finger Lakes Community College Environmental Conservation student scholarships, boat safety courses, signs displaying local boating laws, publishing the Grapevine, and serving as an advocate to other agencies for lake and watershed issues.

A large, diverse membership offers more viewpoints and assistance to various committees and projects. The membership year runs from July 1 through June 30 and the annual dues are \$20 per membership.

If you have membership questions, suggestions, or need additional forms, please contact any Board member listed in the Grapevine, or write to us. More information is available at www.hvaweb.org. Thank you.

Fishing Diaries

May 14, 2012

Dear Angler,

Thank you for returning your 2011-2012 Honeoye Lake angler diaries. Enclosed is a summary of your personal catch information, referenced to the code number on the cover of your diary. If you need additional diaries, please contact our office.

During the 2011-2012 fishing season, 24 diary cooperators reported 1,939 hours of fishing from 546 fishing trips. A total of 4,208 game fish and 612 panfish were reported caught. On average, anglers took 0.6 hours to catch one legal game fish (1.6 per hour). This is the best catch rates on record and was largely driven by excellent largemouth bass fishing.

Black Bass

Largemouth bass continue to make up most of the game fish catch, representing 92% of all game fish caught. A total of 3,854 largemouth bass were caught and 173 were harvested. Anglers who were specifically targeting largemouth bass had an outstanding catch rate of 3.4 bass/hour. One individual angler diary cooperator was responsible for reporting 71% of the largemouth bass catch. Even when excluding this angler's catch, the average catch rate was still very high at 1.7 bass/hour. Honeoye Lake continues to provide impressive catch rates for largemouth bass.

Sixty-one percent of the largemouth bass caught were legal size (12 inches or larger). This is a slightly lower frequency of legal size largemouth bass compared to last year, but is still high compared to most other years. The average length of largemouth bass with reported lengths was 13.1 inches. The average length of creel largemouth bass was 14.5 inches. Eleven largemouth bass over 20 inches in length were reported, indicating that some trophy-sized bass continue to be caught in Honeoye Lake.

The number of smallmouth bass reported was down some from last year but still higher than most years. A total of 245 smallmouth bass were caught and three were harvested. One angler accounted for 94% of the smallmouth bass catch. The average length of smallmouth bass with reported lengths was 12.5 inches.

Walleye

This year 34 walleye were caught with 23 harvested. This is the second lowest reported walleye catch since the angler diary program began in 1989. Anglers who were specifically targeting walleye had a catch rate of 0.18 walleye/hour. This catch rate is slightly higher than last year but is still below the target for New York State waters (0.25 walleye/hour). The average length of kept walleye was 19.7 inches. This year 20% of the angler diary walleye catch consisted of sub-legal walleye (< 15 inches). Unlike past years, very few walleye in the 15 to 18 inch range were reported and the majority of the catch was over 18 inches. The overall poor walleye catch rates and the high frequency of older and larger walleye suggests that walleye recruitment has been poor in recent years. Our spring sampling also indicates that the walleye population is substantially lower than it was in the early 2000's. Stocking of 8.7 million walleye fry has continued each year. We will need to assess if the current 15 inch length limit on Honeoye Lake should be moved back to 18 inches. Juvenile walleye survival is potentially negatively impacted by the very high bass population that currently exists in Honeoye Lake. On a positive note, the conditions for walleye fry survival were good this spring with gradual water temperature increases in the weeks following stocking.

Chain Pickerel

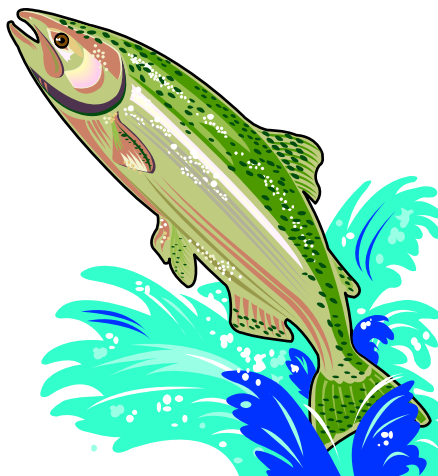
Catch of chain pickerel increased for the third straight year and was the highest since the 1992-93 season. The average length of harvested pickerel was 26.7 inches. The chain pickerel population appears to be increasing slightly.

Panfish

This is the 11th year we have asked for information about catch of panfish (i.e. yellow perch, bluegill, pumpkinseed, rock bass and crappie). Very few anglers said they were specifically targeting panfish so the following numbers may not show actual trends in the panfish fishery. A total of 424 panfish were reported, down slightly from last year. Bluegills, pumpkinseeds and black crappie accounted for 87% of all panfish caught. The number of black crappie reported (146) was up significantly from the previous year (36). Yellow perch numbers were down from last year. We do not believe that this is due to a lower yellow perch population in Honeoye Lake because our recent electrofishing catch rates for yellow perch were quite high. Please continue to report any panfish caught and if they were kept or released.

Thanks again for providing us with useful data on Honeoye Lake. As always, if you know of anyone interested in the diary program, please have them contact our office at 585-226- 5343. Good luck fishing during the rest of the season.

Good Fishing,
Pete Austerman
Aquatic Biologist



Detach and mail with your check:

Date: _____

Individual (\$20) New Member Renewal Extra donation for water quality projects \$____

Lake	Mailing
Name :	E-Mail:
Address:	Address:
City:	City:
State: Zip:	State: Zip:
Phone:	Phone

I would also like to be involved with the committees circled below:

Aquatic Vegetation
Boat & Safety
Stream Monitoring

Membership Drive
Publishing
Litter Control

Board of Directors
Fish & Wildlife

Honeoye Valley Association
PO Box 165
Honeoye, NY 14471