



Oneida Lake Association  
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## Happy New Year!

The Board of Directors of the Oneida Lake Association wishes you a safe and prosperous New Year on the lake! We truly appreciate your past support. Soon you will be receiving a notice asking you to re-new your valued membership. We hope this is one New Year's resolution you will keep!

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## Quack!!

(from OLA Director Matt Snyder)

### Attention Duck Hunters! DEC Wants Your Input!

In the first week of 2023, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation sent a survey to all duck hunters for whom they have an e-mail address. The purpose of the survey is to solicit hunter input on duck seasons. It is very important that Oneida Lake duck hunters make their voices heard!



If you have a New York State Harvest Information Permit (HIP) number, obtained as part of your hunting license; and if DEC has a valid e-mail address for you, then you should have received the survey link in an e-mail titled "DEC wants your input on duck seasons!" sent the week of Jan. 3. If you don't see it in your inbox, check your "spam" folder and deleted items, and **be sure to click the survey link and complete the survey before the Jan. 20 deadline.**

We note that in constructing the survey, DEC included questions about snow and ice concentrating ducks. Your OLA Board of Directors Waterfowl

Committee has been communicating regularly with DEC about our members' interest in later season dates, when cold weather is more likely to force ducks to congregate on the lake and be vulnerable to hunters.

We will continue to advocate for a later season-date framework through the OLA directors who provide input to the DEC's Season Setting Task Force. A healthy response from Oneida Lake duck hunters will help validate the input that our duck-hunting members gave us last year, when we surveyed you on the subject, and it will strengthen our case to DEC to set seasons that are fair for hunters on Oneida Lake and across the Zone.

If you have questions or comments, please contact the chair of OLA's Waterfowl Committee, Director Matt Snyder, at [snyder.matthew.r@gmail.com](mailto:snyder.matthew.r@gmail.com). Thank you!

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## 9 Element Plan Pubic Meeting Reminder

The OLA Board is pleased to announce that it has representation on the panel that is studying Oneida Lake in order to make recommendations for its future. This panel employs the model of the 9 Element Plan, a document designed to research several aspects of the lake and its surrounding communities. The Panel conducting this research includes OLA Director Dr. Ed Mills, a renowned scientist from Cornell University. OLA Director Matt Kazmierski also sits on the panel, representing the DEC.

To its credit, the panel seeks input from the public as part of its fact-finding. Please read the flyer below for your opportunity to participate.

**You must register to participate. (See below).**

# Oneida Lake Watershed Nine Element Plan PUBLIC MEETING

A Nine Element Watershed Management Plan describes a community's water quality concerns and provides a strategy to address those concerns.

This plan will be developed in partnership with people who live, work, visit, and enjoy Oneida Lake and the creeks and streams around it, with guidance from state and local agencies.

Madison County has received funding from the New York State Department of State to develop this plan with support from the Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board (CNY RPDB) and in cooperation with a Watershed Advisory Committee.

There will be a virtual public meeting on January 24th where you can learn about the Nine Element framework, the project schedule, and the draft vision and goals for the lake and watershed.

Public participation is vital to this process! Please plan on attending one of these meetings to learn more about Oneida Lake and to provide your input on a vision and a set of goals for the watershed.

**ONLINE**  
**Tuesday, January 24th**  
**7:00 pm**  
**via Zoom**  
(registration is required)  
Register online at:  
<https://bit.ly/3hg3BvA>



Department  
of State



Central New York  
Regional Planning & Development Board

This flyer was prepared with funding provided by the New York State Department of State under Title 11 of the Environmental Protection Fund.

## Website photos

Here's a great photo from long-time OLA member, Mike Verescak. He says he's been a member since he was 10!

Thanks for the photo, Mike! We'll put you down for a free membership in 2023!

Keep those photos coming in!



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## Mission Statement

The OLA Board is pleased to report that we now have a Mission Statement for our organization. Over the course of a few months, our Committee worked to try to get this statement just right. Our goal was to present a single sentence that captured the spirit of who we are. As you can see, you--our members--play a prominent role in our mission.

**The Mission of the Oneida Lake Association is to protect the fisheries, wildlife, and natural resources of Oneida Lake by promoting science-based conservation and management through education and outreach, in partnership with our members and local communities.**

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## Safe Ice!

We're starting to see shanties pop up on the ice. With the ice-making weather iffy at best, please be careful out there. Don't forget your ice picks!



## Save the Date!

The OLA Board has settled on a date for the Annual Meeting. **Mark your calendars for Wednesday, April 26, 2023.** We'll follow up with more details regarding place, time, and speakers.

Our return to an in-person meeting last year was terrific! Come on out and join your fellow OLA members as we share our interest in the lake.

Pay your dues, and HELP PROTECT ONEIDA LAKE!!!!

**\$8 annually**

Recruit your neighbors and friends TO JOIN US!



Donate

Memorials and contributions to our program are most welcome.

OLA is a 501(c)4 organization serving and protecting the Oneida Lake environment.



[Website](#) [Who We Are](#) [What We Do](#) [How to Help](#)

OLA is a 501(c)(4) not-for-profit organization.

The Oneida Lake Association is a member of the New York State Conservation

Council <http://www.nyscc.com/> and the New York State Federation of Lake Associations <http://www.nysfola.org/>.

Please remember to obey all laws, rules, regulations, and codes of ethics as they pertain to boating, fishing, hunting, and the management of Oneida Lake and its tributaries.

Report environmental violations.

**1-844-DEC-ECOS (1-844-332-3267)**

*Edited by John Harmon and Matt Snyder*

*Send us your notes and articles for use in future ENews!*

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