



# Lake Health is IMPORTANT!

**Did  
you  
know...**

Living on a beautiful lake has many advantages. Water charges the air with negative ions, helping your body absorb oxygen more easily, which improves your digestive system, blood pressure, and heart rate. Sunshine and fresh air increase our serotonin levels, which enhances our mood and emotional well-being. The quiet stillness of a lake reduces stress and enhances a deeper connection to nature. Water activities like swimming, kayaking, paddle-boarding, and fishing keeps us more active and engaged with the outdoors. And of course, lakefront and "lake rights" properties are a coveted commodity, especially when well-maintained.

**Lake Health affects ALL of us!**

## **A HEALTHY LAKE IS A HEALTHY COMMUNITY!**

There are many benefits of protecting and preserving our beautiful Silver Lake:

- Fresh air
- Staying active
- Enjoying nature and wildlife
- Protecting our drinking water
- Creating a calm, serene environment
- Swimming, kayaking, paddle-boarding, and fishing
- Preserving our property values

**Our Lake  
is  
Our Home**





# SIGN UP NOW for Hydro-rake & Harvester

# Did you know...

## Hydro-raking & harvesting are different.

**Harvesting** is the cutting of lake weeds and removal of clippings to clear waterways, improving water flow and aeration. Harvester comes in late June and late August this year.

**Hydro-raking** uses a floating barge with a backhoe and rake attachment to remove nuisance aquatic vegetation and debris, helping to restore depth in swimming areas and shoreline access.

If you want to schedule hydro-raking, you must have a plan that includes a shoreline **silt barrier** (such as hay bales) to prevent sediment and clippings from falling back into the lake, as well as, a plan to immediately remove sediment offsite. Lake treatment options require careful planning and permitting from the NYSDEC.

**Any plan must be communicated and approved by SLPOA. Contact SLPOA President, Brad Cole directly to discuss at [bradcole@me.com](mailto:bradcole@me.com)**

## SUMMER IS COMING!

It's the season to prepare for summer and lake care with hydro-raking and harvesting:

- Hydro-raking and harvesting will begin mid-June (dates TBA)
- SLPOA dues are used to pay for lake maintenance and keep our lake healthy.
- Deadline for ordering private hydro-rake or harvesting is **May 1st.**
- **Any private work MUST be approved by the SLPOA Board to ensure adherence to our NYSDEC permits.**

# SIGN UP DEADLINE is MAY 1st!





# Lake Data is CRUCIAL!

# Did you know...

A **water quality test** provides data on phosphorus, temperature, pH, oxygen, conductivity & water clarity.

A **vegetation survey** identifies aquatic plants and defines coverage areas.

A **depth survey** creates a topographical map of the lake contour, helping to understand sedimentation changes.

This information will be **crucial** for understanding the current status of the lake and what treatment methods will be most beneficial. They are essential tools for developing a thorough lake management plan.

We need funding to pay for these services!

Click [HERE](#) or scan code to **DONATE NOW!**



## TESTING AND SURVEYING

Gathering lake information with water quality testing and depth & vegetation surveys provides **valuable** information to assist in:

- Identifying vegetation and invasive species
- Creating a map of vegetation density & problem areas
- Defining depth levels and monitoring sediment
- Observing phosphorous, pH, water clarity, and oxygen levels
- Building historical data
- Helping to develop an effective lake management plan

# Surveys & Tests Matter!



# Keep Our Lake Clean!

**Did  
you  
know...**

**Glyphosate** is a chemical found in many weed-killing products like **RoundUp**. It has been linked to cancer in humans and its parent company, Monsanto/Bayer, has paid hundreds of millions in damages. It binds to soil, remaining active for over a year and can seep into your well water. It can also be carried by rain runoff.

## **PLEASE DON'T USE ROUNDUP!**

When planning a construction or large landscaping project, it is **important** to keep soil stabilized by: preserving large trees; installing a silt barrier; and properly disposing hazardous materials and debris offsite.

Toxins from failed septic systems can cause excessive weed & algae growth in lakes and diminish water quality.

**PLEASE SERVICE YOUR SEPTIC SYSTEM EVERY 2-5 years!**

## **CHEMICALS AND RUNOFF**

Fertilizers, weed killers, and construction debris are carried by rain runoff, harming water quality and aquatic life:

- Glyphosate in products like RoundUp and Eraser can kill more than weeds
- Phosphorous from pavement, asphalt and pet waste feed lake weeds and can create an environment for harmful algae blooms
- Silt, dirt and debris from construction and extensive landscaping are washed downhill carrying toxins into the lake.

**What goes  
on the lawn,  
ends up in  
the lake**





# GET INFORMED & INVOLVED

# Did you know...

A connected community is a strong community. We need all of us working together to protect our environment and preserve our lake. Please sign up for our mailing list and community events. Get involved!

Sign up for our mailing list [HERE](#)



Join our FaceBook page [HERE](#)



Donate & share our GoFundMe [HERE](#)



## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Silver Lake Property Owners Association (SLPOA) wants the community to come together to preserve our beautiful Silver Lake by signing up for:

- Important announcements and newsletters
- Fundraising events to raise money and awareness for lake health
- Community projects, like riparian buffer zone care
- Fun events for all

# SLPOA is ONLINE!



# RIPARIAN BUFFERS are VITAL

**Did  
you  
know...**

A **riparian buffer** is an area near a water body that is specially designed to filter silt, sediment, and nutrients (like phosphorus and nitrogen), diminishing runoff and erosion. Many NY lake associations have invested significant time and money into developing these areas to preserve water quality and inhibit invasive aquatic weeds, as recommended by NYSFOLA and the NYSDEC. You can find extensive information here - <https://dec.ny.gov/environmental-protection/water/water-quality/nps-program/riparian-buffers>

Some plants to consider for your garden & shoreline are: Pickerelweed, Iris, Black-eyed Susan, Bulrush, Ostrich Fern, Redtwig Dogwood, and Trillium.

Please DONATE to help us continue our research!  
[GoFundMe HERE](#)



## RIPARIAN BUFFER ZONES

Planting specific native plants at the shoreline has many benefits:

- Trees and shrubs help stabilize soil, diminish stormwater runoff, and prevent erosion
- Emergent and submergent plants help filter nutrients and increase oxygen levels
- Certain plants absorb phosphorus and nitrogen before reaching the water
- Planting flowers helps beautify our lake's edge and creates habitats for healthy aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems.

**the RIGHT  
plants at the  
shoreline  
matter!**



# LEAVES AFFECT LAKE HEALTH

**Did  
you  
know...**

Leaf litter contributes a significant amount of phosphorous and nitrogen to stormwater runoff, which can then be carried into lakes, rivers, and wetlands. Excessive amounts of phosphorous and nitrogen can cause **eutrophication** (the depletion of oxygen in water), negatively impacting aquatic life & habitats and “feeding” invasive weeds.

Timely removal and proper disposal of leaf & yard litter can reduce harmful nutrient levels in runoff by over **80%!!**

The NYSDEC recommends shredding, mulching and composting your leaves and yard waste either on your property (away from shorelines) or at a local designated site.

**For more information, visit:**  
**[www.dec.ny.gov](http://www.dec.ny.gov)**

## Autumn Clean-Up

Lake Health continues in every season. In Fall, leaf and yard debris **needs to be taken care of properly:**

- Leaves release phosphorous and nitrogen as they decompose,
- Leaves can accumulate on shorelines - increasing harmful nutrient levels,
- Yard debris can be carried via stormwater runoff, clogging drainage systems and ending up in our lake
- Increased phosphorous and nitrogen levels causes eutrophication.

**Proper leaf  
disposal is  
important!**



# Road Salt Impacts Lake Health

**Did  
you  
know...**

Rock salt breaks down into sodium and chloride ions when dissolved in water.

Chloride is a **persistent pollutant**, meaning that once it is in the water, it stays there. One teaspoon of salt can pollute FIVE gallons of water! Salt won't work in temps lower than 15°F.

Luckily, there are effective alternatives available - please use sand, brine, and products like **ECOS Ice Melt** around our lake (it's safer for pets too!).

**PLUS**, the NYSDEC has initiated a campaign to reduce rock salt use. More info here - **www.NYSDEC.com**

In fact, multiple states in the Northeast are diminishing the use of rock salt. More info here - **www.EPA.gov**

**DO NOT USE SALT ON  
DRIVEWAYS AND WALKWAYS!!**

## Winter Worries

When winter snow and ice arrive, so does rock salt. Rock salt dissolves in snow and ends up in waterways via stormwater runoff, leading to:

- Contamination of drinking water as the salt seeps into groundwater,
- Harmful levels of chloride that endanger plants and wildlife,
- Increased soil erosion,
- Corrosion of metal and concrete that damage roads, bridges, and cars,
- Oxygen depletion in freshwater, jeopardizing native aquatic and terrestrial habitats

**Rock Salt  
damages  
our lake!**