

**Water Quality Report
prepared by CLEAN@Silver Lake
(for the August 09, 2025 SLA Meeting)**

CLEAN@SilverLake. Going forward CLEAN@SilverLake will provide water quality reports to the Silver Lake Association as has the SLA Water Quality Committee. The SLA should revise its by-laws to reflect this change.

The SLA will continue to pay the annual CSLAP fee and CLEAN will execute the CSLAP sampling.

All water quality reports will continue to be archived on the CLEAN@SilverLake web site:

<https://cleanatsilverlake.org/>

Effective 10/01/25 the CLEAN@SilverLake Board of Directors is as follows:

Rob Ritz, President	Kelly Paganelli, Vice President/Secretary
Michelle Hess, Social Media/Treasurer	Todd Shuskey, Board Member
Lee Loomis, Board Member	Nate Wallis, Board Member
Ron Norton, Consultant	Frank Bright, Consultant

The current SLA Water Quality team members will be transitioned as Partners into CLEAN team.

CSLAP Sampling. A new team is in place and sampling is in progress.

Local Meetings.

Silver Lake Watershed Commission (SLWC). This committee has membership from each municipality drawing water from Silver Lake plus an SLA representative. Each municipality pays an annual fee. The SLA member votes on all matters except those involving expenditures. The meeting is often held on the same day as the WCWR / RCDC (see below). Lee Loomis has agreed to attend and report as consultant. **Ron Norton is stepping off this committee. The SLAWQ team recommends Lee Loomis be appointed to this position.**

SLA Vote.

Wyoming County Water Resources / Resource Conservation and Development Committee (WCWR / RCDC). This committee operates through the Wyoming County Soil and Water Conservation District (WCSWCD) and it has representation from every waterbody within

Wyoming County and DEC. Lee Loomis has agreed to attend and report as consultant.

Wyoming County Water Resource Agency (WCWRA). Individuals are elected to this body and appointed by the Wyoming County Supervisor. This group is headed by Scott Schrader, Wyoming County Administrator, and they oversee large-scale “projects”, including the N-end dredging at Silver Lake. Frank Bright will continue his participation, reporting back to CLEAN.

Drinking Water Source Protection Program (DWSP2). This group has membership from CLEAN, SLA, municipalities surrounding Silver Lake, and the Wyoming County Health Department. The group’s drinking water source protection program plan was submitted to NYS on 08/01/25. Edits will be necessary after NYS evaluation. Frank Bright will continue with this group, serve on the Plan Management Team (PMT), and report back to CLEAN.

Harmful Algae Blooms (HABs). Please remember that all bloom sightings, reporting, and updates are found at NYHABS web site:

<https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/e5dec19912454731a308bbb7af605fb3/>

Please stay up-to-date on HABs by checking this web site as often as you wish.

As of 08/05/25 at 4:00pm there have been nine (9) individually Archived reports at Silver Lake during the 2025 season.

Wyoming County Planning and Development Director. Angela Ellis was appointed as the new Director (0.5 FTE) effective 08/01/25.

Local Waterfront Revitalization Program (LWRP). The plans that derive from this group’s efforts will shape the future of Silver Lake.

Silver Lake residents should take the time to educate themselves on this program’s scope and potential by visiting the following URL:

<https://dos.ny.gov/local-waterfront-revitalization-program>

Frank Bright, Kelly Paganelli, and Michelle Hess will continue serving on the LWRP Waterfront Advisory Committee (WAC).

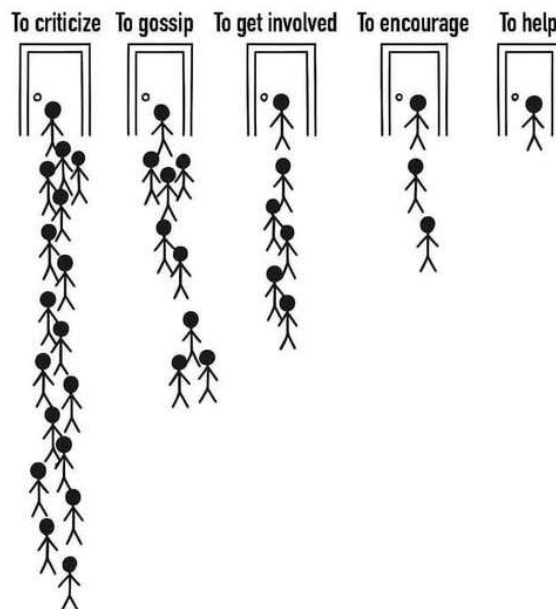
There have been two (2) well-advertised public meetings for individuals to learn more, ask questions, and provide their input. There is also a convenient online survey available at the following URL:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SilverLakeLWRP>

As of 08/05/25 there have been 168 surveys submitted. The plan is to keep this survey open through the summer and into the fall. The WAC will be updated at their next meeting.

Please take the time to complete the survey and help by giving your input.

The Lines of Life



David Wolfe

CLEAN@SilverLake will post updates on their Facebook page and web site. We will also e-mail SLA tract directors as warranted.

At the most recent LWRP public meeting (07/31/25, Epworth Hall, 6-8pm) Steve Perkins, former WCWRA chair and Wyoming County Health Department, Director and Scott Schrader, WCWRA chair and Wyoming County Administrator explained the distinction between the on-going N-end dredging project and any new projects derived from the LWRP efforts.

Scott and Steve also explained why the original LWRP is being expanded to include the waterway leading to the Genesee River. In short, NYS advised the group to include this expansion to make our final plans more comprehensive and to link up better with existing programs and plans.

A couple of key facts:

- 1) Failure to develop a comprehensive plan guarantees failure.

- 2) NO plan ideas are cast in stone. Many ideas have been suggested and vetted. Many continue to move forward because they have wide support while others have been dismissed.
 - a. OFF THE TABLE: A pedestrian right-of-way along the E-side of the lake.
 - b. ON THE TABLE: In-lake weed management strategies, targeted dredging, deep water (hypolimnetic) aeration, and improvements to the State boat launch.
- 3) You (YOU!!!!) can influence the LWRP plans. Complete surveys, offer up ideas, attend meetings, ask questions, and get involved to help.
- 4) There will be three (3) integrated LWRPs from the Village and Town of Perry and the Town of Castile.
- 5) Solutions to problems often come from people with very different views and experiences during face-to-face meetings (see below).

N-end Dredging Project. The main hold-up has been a failure to identify the final site for distributing the dredging spoils (i.e., sediment) from within the lake. (It is well-known that the sediment from the Outlet will all need to be trucked away to an appropriate solid waste disposal site.)

At the last LWRP public meeting (07/31/25) CLEAN team members, Castile Town Supervisor Klein, and Wyoming County Administrator Schrader had a discussion from which the kernel of a plan was developed.

The basic idea is as follows:

- Stop looking for a single deposition site. This strategy has proven to be problematic to implement because one glitch derails the entire process and then you must start all over.
- Think about multiple sites with multiple back-up sites. That is, think about using a parallel set of sites. If one site fails to work out, for any reason, move on to the next one.
- Wyoming County will reach out to the engineering firm leading the N-end dredging project (Clarke Patterson Lee (CPL)) and have them compile the sediment chemical composition and quantity. This request has been made.
- With information from the previous step in hand Wyoming County and CPL will contact Western New York Crop Management (WNYCM) and share the basic idea and provide information about the in-lake sediment composition and quantity (all known). WNYCM already tests all WNY crop fields, and they are the organization that informs farmers how much manure/nutrients they may spread on a particular crop field.

- Request WNYCM to determine how much farmland acreage would be necessary to accommodate the sediment. (Recognize the project will take several years to complete so it can be staged.)
- Request WNYCM identify the specific parcels/owners that are close to Silver Lake. The closer the better, of course.
- Wyoming County reaches out to the New York Farm Bureau (NYFB). The NYFB provides advocacy and education that might prove helpful when negotiating with farmers.
- Work with the farmers to craft agreements with plans for sediments deposition timing, cover crop installations, etc.

This plan has already been set into motion. CLEAN will provide updates as the become available.

Japanese Knotweed (JK). CLEAN team members have visited and spot-treated all previous sites.

The first spraying at the Country Club was executed on 06/26//25 along the creek paralleling Pvt Dr 1 (near the hole 14 “T” box) and along Luther Rd parallel to the Hole 13 fairway. The second spraying has been scheduled for 08/13/25. Spraying will be needed in '26.

Buffer Planting Site. We will forgo planting in '25 and assess the JK sites discussed above in '26.

Lake Life Event. The event was held on 06/21/25 at Silver Lake Marine and there were more than 300 attendees. Michelle Hess spearheaded the CLEAN table where Todd Shuskey, his students, and the boat steward were big hits. More than 130 milkweed plants were distributed to members along with other items.

LED Flares. In the lead up to 4th of July CLEAN sold / distributed more than 750 LED flares to SLA members. The feedback has been positive.

CLEAN / SLA Water Quality Golf Tournament. The 2025 tournament was very successful. The weather was perfect, the play was brisk, and there were lots of laughs and memories.

Special “Thank Yous” go out to:

- All our donors and sponsors
- Michelle Hess, IT support, registration manager

- Karen Norton, Ron Norton, Bonnie Bright, Don & DJ Starner AND ALL the volunteers
- All the “golfers”
- The lunch-only guests
- All the people who put together gift baskets and gifts for the basket raffle (41 baskets and gift cards)

We have requested Saturday, July 18, 2026 as the date for the 10th Tournament.

A new tournament director is needed.

Temperature Array. Please see previous Reports.

Watercraft Inspection Steward. We had spotty coverage this year, we are trying to determine the causes.

Silver Lake State Boat Launch. On 07/15/25 CLEAN team members met with Letchworth State Park Manager Doug Kelly and his team to discuss the Silver Lake launch area. To help with the boat trailer issue at the launch, the Letchworth team has submitted a permit to NYSDEC to lengthen the launch later this year (after the docks are out) when the water level recedes.

CLEAN and the Baumer family are working with the Letchworth Park team to purchase and install a stone reflection bench at a suitable site within the launch/park area.

CLEAN remains looped in on discussions between Letchworth leadership and users of water-free wash systems across NYS for invasive weed mitigation. This is the type of system targeted for the Silver Lake launch area.

Silver Lake Bioreactor. CLEAN team members have reached out to leadership within the WCSWCD to relaunch this project at a new site and with a new name.

During recent discussions with the DEC Region 9 leadership they voiced strong support and interest in these types of projects and partnerships.

If one or more of these nutrient capture projects can get off the ground and prove to be beneficial, they would be an obvious target for inclusion within a LWRP.

Aquatic Weeds. Bob Michalski has resurrected the Aquatic Weed Control Committee and has been working diligently. Once completed he will present an Aquatic Vegetation Management Program for Silver Lake.

Team Needs. We are looking for new members with interests in education, leadership, marketing, outreach, partnering, and/or water quality. If you have any interest, please reach out to Rob Ritz (robertgritz@gmail.com) or Kelly Paganelli (kpags@rochester.rr.com).

Next Steps. On 04/04/25 Frank informed all CLEAN Board of Directors and SLA Executive Board that he will be stepping down from his responsibilities effective 10/01/25. CLEAN has put new leadership in place and taken steps to ensure adherence to its Mission Statement and help to improve the health and vitality of Silver Lake going forward. Frank will consult for CLEAN.