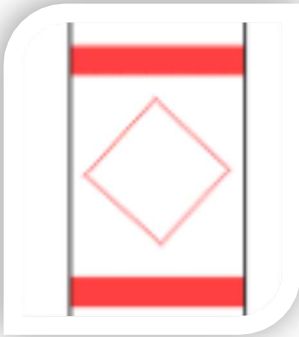


SLA Water Quality Report

(for August 10, 2024 SLA ANNUAL Meeting)

In-Lake Navigational Buoys. The SLA does **NOT** manage or have responsibility for **any** buoys in Silver Lake.

In-lake buoys that have an orange triangle between two (2) orange horizontal lines are Danger buoys that are installed and managed by Marine Services.



If you see or find a Danger buoy out of place send along a picture and its location to:

Bob Capurso (SLA President)
585-260-9646 (cell / text)
rgcapurso@gmail.com (email)

Bob will reach out the Marine Services.

Any and all other buoys (or swim platforms) located in Silver Lake are privately owned and privately managed. If you have any issue with any non-Danger buoy, reach out to the buoy owner. If you do not know the buoy owner, reach out to the Tract Director where the buoy is located (see the SLA Directory for maps and contact information).

Meetings.

A. Town of Perry (ToP) Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA)

SLAWQ has repeatedly reported on the proposed Expansion at the Emerling Farms Dairy on Rt-246 and SLAWQ team members have attended several public meetings voicing their concerns (please see earlier WQ Reports).

On 07/11/2024 the ToP ZBA voted in favor of the Expansion at the Emerling Farms Dairy on Rt-246.

SLAWQ team members worked up through the DEC channels and have been in contact with John Hock, Chief, Water Quantity Management Section, Division of Water, NYS DEC voicing our concerns. On 07/19/2024 we received the following response from Mr. Hock:

We [DEC] reached out to Emerling last month to start collecting information on their water withdrawal system. Based on descriptions of their operation we believe that they are currently below the agricultural water withdrawal regulatory threshold (3 million gallons during any 30-day period).

We [DEC] advised them that if their operations expand such that they will exceed the regulatory threshold, then they will need to apply for a DEC water withdrawal permit.

B. Drinking Water Source Protection Program (DWSP2)

Ron and Frank have been representing the SLA.

The original Program scope has been greatly expanded to include the entire Silver Lake watershed, all users of Silver Lake's water, and the project has been renamed the "Silver Lake Communities".

We have tried to weave in a range of things that impact the overall health and vitality of Silver Lake in contrast to the original narrow focus on back-end water processing to produce potable water. The argument we made was that cleaner lake water on the front-end will make water treatment more economical and simpler on the back-end. Examples of factors woven into the new Program range from effectively managing water run-off into the lake, lake ecology, tributary remediation, improving riparian buffers, and nutrient control to excess sediment (dredging), excess weeds, and making the lake-side sewer system more robust to ensure the lake remains safe and healthy.

C. Silver Lake Watershed Local Water Revitalization Program (LWRP) Waterfront Advisory Committee (WAC).

The kick-off meeting was held on 07/11/2024.

SLA representation on the WAC is:

Bob Capurso (SLA Pres)	Kelly Paganelli (SLAWQ co-chair, CLEAN VP)
Ron Norton (SLAWQ, CLEAN)	Frank Bright (SLAWQ co-chair, CLEAN Pres)
Mike Bellamy (Business owner, SLA member)	

This is a large, diverse committee with representation from the Towns of Castile & Perry and the Village of Perry, farmers, lake-front cottage owners, lake-front business owners, NYS Parks, SLA, CLEAN, and DEC. The committee is guided by a dedicated team with decades of LWRP experience.

The LWRP serves as the NYS Office of Planning and Development's primary program for working in partnership with waterfront communities across NYS to address local and regional (coastal or inland) waterway issues, improve water quality and natural areas, guide development to areas with adequate infrastructure and services away from sensitive resources, promote public waterfront access, and provide for redevelopment of underutilized waterfronts.

In short, the LWRP WAC creates LWRPs with substantial public input and the LWRPs serve as keys to unlock doors to resources that cannot be reached without a LWRP.

More information on the LWRP can be found at:

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

SLAWQ will share information related to the Silver Lake Watershed LWRP as it becomes available.

SLAWQ team members will be hosting a comprehensive pontoon boat tour of Silver Lake for the LWRP WAC on 08/13/2024.

D. Wyoming County Water Resources Coordinating Committee (WCWRCC)

SLAWQ team members met with this group on 07/18/20204 and provided an update on Silver Lake.

E. Wyoming County Water Resource Agency (WCWRA) Board of Directors

The Board met 07/24/2024 with Frank in attendance.

An update on the Silver Lake Dredging Project was given:

- Wyoming County secured \$1M for the dredging project (\$3M ask).
- There may be a Senate top up.
- The SEQR* for the in-lake sediment's final resting place was not successful (significant artifacts found).
- An alternative site is being identified, negotiated.

*SEQR – State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQR) requires all local, regional, and state government agencies to equally examine the environmental impacts along with the social and economic considerations for a certain project, or action, during their discretionary review.

F. Silver Lake Watershed Commission (SLWC)

SLAWQ team members met with this group on 07/25/2024 and provided an update on Silver Lake.

Interesting information from the Village of Perry Gate Keeper for 07/25/202x follows:

Year	Water Level at the Federal St Dam (inches)	Seasonal Rainfall (inches)
2024	95	17.75
2023	92	14.25

In-Lake Weeds. The Dan Horgan-led taskforce is investigating weed management options for Silver Lake. The group met on 07/29/2024. The team secured the most recent “Region 9 Aquatic Invasive Species Monitoring Program Aquatic Vegetation Survey” (Attachment 1) and arranged for a licensed herbicide applicator (vendor) to visit on 08/08/2024 and inspect the lakefront along the Munger and Austin-Shearman Tracts.

The vendor is working on plans and quotes.

(Note: Despite what the Aquatic Vegetation Survey says, Silver Lake is actually located in Wyoming County.)

SLAWQ suggests a formal study be performed using Perry High School and a Consultant be hired to help secure funding through WCSWCD and the Finger Lakes - Lake Ontario Watershed Protection Alliance (FOLLOWPA).

Yard Waste. The SLA is working on a plan to address fall yard waste.

SLAWQ suggest an expanded Dumpster plan in fall '24 with two (2) dumpsters that are each emptied as needed and that are on site from mid-Oct until Dec 1.

The SLAWQ team and CLEAN suggest purchasing 1000 (\$600, 50/50 SLA/CLEAN split) paper lawn/leaf bags at the September SLA Meeting (Saturday, September 14, 2024). SLA members may plan pick bags up at the meeting or from their Tract Directors.

Please follow SLA and CLEAN on Facebook for updates and schedules.

Walker Rd Bridge Replacement. No new updates.

Japanese Knotweed (JK) Spraying. SLAWQ team members have surveyed all previously treated sites. Touch-up treatments were needed in some spots.

Several additional JK infestations have been identified in the Silver Lake Institute (SLI). The herbicide sprayer visited on 08/08/2024 to assess the sites and prepare quotes. JK spraying in the SLI would not begin until '25 at the earliest and this effort will require all appropriate permissions from landowners and all funding. Decisions will also be needed on target site priorities.

Funding might involve a five-way WCSWCD, SLI, CLEAN, SLA, and homeowner partnership. Based on what we learned during our previous JK eradication efforts, partners will all need to commit to a multi-year / multi-treatment JK eradication effort.

Citizens Statewide Lake Assessment Program (CSLAP). The '24 campaign is in process (5 of 8 completed).

Recent CSLAP reports for most NYS lakes are available through the “CSLAP Dashboard”:

<https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/c32878596a0a47deb5f97ea5e07ec9c5/page/Dashboard/>

When using this site click the left button labeled “Go to CSLAP Reports” and search for your lake name (e.g., Silver Lake Wyoming, Livingston*).

Potential Planting Sites. The proposed “Silver Lake Wood Chip Bioreactor Pilot Project” was discussed and described at the May '24 SLA meeting.

WCSWCD, SLA, CLEAN, SLWC, and an anonymous donor have partnered to fund this Project. This Project will replace the '24 SLA and CLEAN planting project.

SLAWQ will be scheduling visits to our 'previous planting sites in the Silver Lake State Park and East Lake & E Spring Brook Rds to check on the shrubs and trees and stabilize cages as needed.

Silver Lake Water Quality Golf Tournament. The 2024 Tournament was held on Saturday, July 20, 2024. The weather was perfect, registration was smooth as silk, and the golf course was in great shape, the 25 teams played along at a good pace, the lunch was wonderful, and the gourmet cupcakes were delicious.

To all the volunteers a **T H A N K YOU!**

We did very well financially thanks in large measure to our donors and sponsors.

The 2025 Tournament has been scheduled for Saturday, July 19, 2025.

Oh, and the 2024 winning team was (no drum roll needed): Team Kinsman (3x).

Perry High School. No new updates. See the most recent Report posted on the CLEAN web site.

DEC Big Panfish Initiative (BPI). SLAWQ briefed members last year on this project. Please stay informed by visiting the BPI web site:

<https://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/124966.html>

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

<https://nysdec.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=ae91142c812a4ab997ba739ed9723e6e>

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

As necessary SLA / CLEAN will post on our Facebook pages.

Please remember that Silver Lake is not a swimming pool. Algae and weeds are normal in a lake.

Persons and pets should, of course, avoid algae. If persons or pets come into contact with algae, please wash.

Silver Lake Water Level. Remember the Village of Perry (VoP) maintains a camera at the Silver Lake Outlet damn site. The link to this camera is:

<https://villageofperry.com/departments/water-sewer/source-of-water/lake-water-level/>

Please stay up-to-date on the lake water level from anywhere by checking this site.

U.S. National Drought Monitor. The U.S. Drought Monitor (USDM) is a map released every Thursday, showing where drought is and how bad it is across the U.S. and its territories. The map uses six classifications: normal conditions, abnormally dry (D0), showing areas that may be going into or are coming out of drought, and four levels of drought: moderate (D1), severe (D2), extreme (D3) and exceptional (D4).

The link to the interactive USDM map is:

<https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

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

Temperature Array. The Silver Lake temperature array recently celebrated its birthday.

Data from the array can be seen at the following web site:

<https://karl.hanafins.com/silver-lake-thermocline-data---station-1>

SLAWQ will be repositioning the microprocessor in the fall.

Water Steward. The Steward at the State Boat Launch has been in place for several months and reports are favorable.

Next Meeting, Friday, September 13, 2024, 4 pm, Frank and Bonnie's, 4046 Lakeside Ave.