

# SLA Water Quality Report

(for June 10, 2023)

**Silver Lake Watershed Commission (SLWC).** There are no updates. Please consult the 04/15/2023 SLAWQ Report.

**Monarch Butterfly, Milkweed & Pollinator Planting.** The SLAWQ team distributed over 500 plants at the 05/13/2023 SLA Meeting. Plants (even the smallest ones) that have been installed and watered appear to be doing well.

**Follow-up to 2022 Japanese Knotweed (JK) Spraying.** A follow-up spraying by A-Tip took place on 06/07/2023. It was interesting to see that JK sites sprayed in '22 that receive good sun exposure were nearly completely killed off. In contrast, JK sites that were in shaded/partially shaded areas had many live JK plants that were clearly stressed, but still growing. It may be necessary to cut back down any JK prior to an Aug. '23 respray.

**Potential 2023 JK Spraying Activities.** SLAWQ confirmed with A-Tip that The Club at Silver Lake has not reached out to A-Tip. We are forwarding this information to Wyoming County Soil and Water Conservation District (WCSWCD) staff.

**Improved Communications.** SLAWQ and CLEAN continue working to install informative Silver Lake Watershed maps at the Silver Lake State Park and at a site along the Silver Lake Trail that is suitable to the Village of Perry (VoP).

We are also working with the Perry Herald on an annual series of articles to call out our annual plans, efforts, and accomplishments with one article coinciding with the 2023 SLA/CLEAN Golf Tournament advertising and sponsorship campaigns.

**Potential Planting Sites for 2023, 2024, and 2025.** SLAWQ and the WCSWCD have identified several sites within the Silver Lake Watershed. WCSWCD staff have reached out to the land owner to secure permissions.

More information will follow as things develop.

**LED Flares.** As you may now, Wegmans still sells LED fares, but they no longer profit share with SLAWQ and CLEAN.

Attached is a flyer from Cele-Brite with an Amazon QR code. This code will take you to Amazon for the LED flares. This program replaces the Wegmans profit sharing plan, and Cele-Brite will donate \$1 per flare purchased to the SLA/CLEAN (that equals a \$3 donation for the 3 pack, and \$2 donation for the 2 pack).

**SLA/CLEAN Golf Tournament, Banquet, and Basket Raffle.** Proceeds from this event go toward a projects within the Silver Lake watershed that help to improve Silver Lake's health. The 2023 Tournament, Banquet, and Raffle will be held at The Club at Silver Lake on Saturday, July 22, 2023 (8 AM registration; 9 AM Tee time). The main points of contact are (Joe Caputo ([jvcaputo54@gmail.com](mailto:jvcaputo54@gmail.com))) and Frank Bright ([chefvb@buffalo.edu](mailto:chefvb@buffalo.edu))).

We hope all the volunteers from 2022 are ready to help again in 2023!! If you wish to help volunteer, please let us know ASAP.

We request that each Tract create a suitable basket for the Tournament's basket raffle. Please reach out to Karen Norton ([karennort@yahoo.com](mailto:karennort@yahoo.com)) or Bonnie Bright ([bbright4046@gmail.com](mailto:bbright4046@gmail.com)), if you have any questions about the raffle. Baskets can be brought along to the July SLA meeting (July 8<sup>th</sup>) or delivered to the Bright's cottage (4046 Lakeside Ave) the week of July 9<sup>th</sup>. Please, no surprise/early deliveries. If your basket contains perishable/temperature sensitive items (e.g., chocolate), plan to have it arrive at Club on the morning of July 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**CSLAP.** The DRAFT 2022 Silver Lake Report has been posted online and it has been discussed at the 05/13/2023 SLA Meeting.

The Report arrived much earlier in comparison to previous seasons, this is more helpful and timely as we launch our 2023 activities.

The 2023 CSLAP campaign supplies arrived this week and sampling will begin on 06/10/2023.

**PCHS Activities.** Todd Shuskey and his students are back to their pre-COVID levels.

In addition to continuing their sediment sampling work, Todd and his students completed a Fyke net fish capture effort in mid-May '23. The three (3) nets captured over 100 fish in <24 hrs. Assessment is ongoing.

**DEC Fyke Net Sampling.** In early June '23 DEC installed and removed a series of Fyke nets around Silver Lake. As reported on the SLA FB page this is part of the NYS DEC Big Panfish Initiative (BPI). A useful description of the project scope and data from earlier years is available at: <https://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/124966.html>

*Note: Very, very few fish are removed from the lake in these Fyke net experiments. Mostly, the fish types are identified, each species is counted, and the vast majority are returned back into the lake.*

**Harmful Algae Blooms (HAB).** Per NY State and DEC guidelines, please remember that all HAB sightings, reporting, and updates are found at NYHABS site: <https://nysdec.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=ae91142c812a4ab997ba739ed9723e6e>

**Silver Lake Water Level.** The 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/>

**Watercraft Inspection Steward.** SLAWQ has once again partnered with Mallory Broda at SUNY-ESF to secure a steward for the Silver Lake State Boat Launch. This year's steward is

local, his name is Will Parker. Will is scheduled to follow the typical Friday-Monday, 8:00AM-6:30PM schedule starting May 26<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> (Memorial Day Weekend). His assignment should run through Labor Day Weekend (Sept 1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup>).

If you visit the launch during Will's work times, please stop by and offer a kind word to acknowledge his efforts.

**Silver Lake Sewer System.** SLAWQ team members are working with the Town of Castile to improve communications.

SLAWQ is working to secure a tour of the local sewer treatment plant and get answers to our questions. Alex Emmerson (Mark & Mary's son) plans to join in on these tours. Alex is the plant supervisor for the Buffalo Sewer Authority.

**Improper Leaf and Yard Waste Disposal.** SLAWQ has reached out to the full CSLAP volunteer network across NY State and our NYSFOLA contacts to determine how other NY lakes manage this issue.

The Lake Erie Watershed Protection Alliance (LEWPA) states, "it's illegal to dispose of yard waste into lakes and waterways.

<http://mansfieldny.org/pdfs/2019/LEWPA%20Yard%20Waste%20Brochure.compressed.pdf>

A similar policy exists at Lake Hopatcong (in NJ)

<https://www.lakehopatcongfoundation.org/news/dont-rake-leaves-into-the-lake#:~:text=An%20abundance%20of%20decomposing%20leaves,fish%20and%20other%20aquatic%20life.>

SLAWQ will work with the SLWC to try and establish a local policy or ordinance.

SLAWQ is also working to create language for the SLA and CLEAN web and Facebook pages describing the negative impacts of leaf and yard waste disposal in our lake.

**Volunteering During the Letchworth Craft Show.** The annual Letchworth Craft show moved to Perry in 2022. This year's event will be held over the Columbus Day Weekend on October 7, 8, and 9. Several members of the SLAWQ team plan to volunteer to help. More information will follow.

The next SLAWQ meeting is scheduled for July 7, 2023 at 4:00 pm.