



Department of  
Environmental  
Conservation

# The Year in Review: DEC's CNY Highlights and Accomplishments

Current and Future Environmental Challenges –  
AAEES CNY Environmental Symposium

October 10, 2019

Red Barn 20  
Cazenovia, NY

# Learning Objectives and Outline

- Discover how DEC is:
  - Prioritizing environmental quality and protecting natural resources
  - Improving transparency and keeping the public informed
  - Protecting public safety
  - Promoting outdoor recreation opportunities



# DEC Region 7 Response Team

- Law Enforcement
- Forest Protection
- Natural Resources
  - Lands and Forests
  - Mineral Resources
  - Habitat
  - Wildlife
  - Fisheries
  - Real Property
- Environmental Permits
- General Counsel



# DEC Region 7 Response Team

- Environmental Quality
  - Air Resources
  - Water
  - Materials Management
    - Pesticides
  - Environmental Remediation
  - Hazardous Waste
  - Spills (MOSF/PBS/CBS)
- Operations
 

○ Syracuse	○ Happy Valley WMA
○ Cortland	○ Three Rivers WMA
○ Kirkwood	○ Salmon River FH
○ Sherburne	
- Regional Administration



# Emerging Contaminants

JULY 8, 2019 | Albany, NY

**Governor Cuomo Announces Availability of \$350 Million for Water System Upgrades Statewide and Directs Health Department to Begin Adopting Maximum Contaminant Levels for PFOA, PFOS and 1,4-Dioxane**

INFRASTRUCTURE

HEALTH

ENVIRONMENT



Levels recommended by the Drinking Water Quality Council are the nation's most protective for PFOA and PFOS, and first-ever level for 1,4-dioxane

- DOH, DEC, and EFC will work together to assist municipalities in meeting standards and funding upgrades to water systems



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# Awareness of Water Resources



## Know Your NY Water

This website provides information about the quality of New York's public drinking water and our rivers, lakes and streams

[Drinking Water Reports](#)[NY Waters Map](#)

## Learn About NY Water

'Know Your NY Water' provides information about public drinking water quality and waterbody health



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# Harmful Algal Blooms

**About NYHABS**

- Yellow points are HABs reported within the last two weeks, and may not reflect current conditions. HABs may be present in other places, or conditions may have changed since the HAB was reported. HABs may be present in all or parts of a waterbody. People and animals should avoid discolored water or surface scums.
- Grey points are archived HABs. These reports are more than two weeks old, but were reported this year (2019).

[Report a HAB](#)  
Link leaves the DEC website and connects to a Survey 123 webform maintained by DEC, but hosted by...

Current HAB Reports    Archived HAB Reports

Options    Filter by map extent    Zoom to    Clear selection    Refresh

Date of Report	Lake Name	HAB Status	Reported by	Extent	County	
8/9/2019, 9:52 PM	Owasco Lake	Suspicious	NYS DOH	Small Localized	Cayuga County	Please contact the facility for the most up to date information about the bloom.
8/2/2019, 2:00 PM	Jamestown Reservoir	Suspicious	NYS DOH	Small Localized	Orangeta County	Please contact the facility for the most up to date information about the bloom.
8/2/2019, 1:41 PM	Owasco Lake	Suspicious	Public	Large Localized	Cayuga County	

7/6 features 0 selected

## 'NYHABS' Online Notification and Reporting System for Harmful Algal Blooms

# DEC Funding Opportunities

## Water Protection Grants

Funding for projects that protect and improve New York's water resources








Program Name	Eligible Parties	Deadline	Awarded By
<a href="#">Water Quality Improvement Project (WQIP) Program</a>	<a href="#">MUNI</a> , <a href="#">NFP</a> , <a href="#">OT</a>	Closed	DEC
<a href="#">NYS DEC/EFC Wastewater Infrastructure Engineering Planning Grant (EPG)</a>	<a href="#">MUNI</a>	Closed	DEC/EFC
<a href="#">Non-Agricultural Nonpoint Source Planning Grant</a>	<a href="#">MUNI</a> , <a href="#">OT</a>	Closed	DEC
<a href="#">The Hudson River Estuary</a>	<a href="#">MUNI</a> , <a href="#">NFP</a> , <a href="#">OT</a>	Closed	DEC

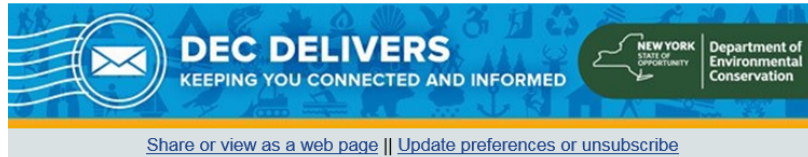
<https://www.dec.ny.gov/pubs/grants.html>

The screenshot shows the DEC website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the New York State logo and links for Services, News, Government, and Local. Below this is a dark header for the Department of Environmental Conservation with sub-links for Recreation, Nature, Prevent & Control Pollution, Regulatory, News & Learning, and Search. The main content area features a large underwater photograph of a diver. Overlaid on this is a blue and white pop-up form titled 'DEC DELIVERS' with the tagline 'KEEPING YOU CONNECTED AND INFORMED'. The form asks the user to 'Receive Email Updates from DEC' and includes a text input field for an 'Email Address', a 'SUBSCRIBE' button, and two smaller buttons for 'No Thanks' and 'Remind Me Later'. A large red arrow points to the 'SUBSCRIBE' button.



# DEC DELIVERS: *MakingWaves* e-Newsletter

- Camping, Wildlife Viewing, and Hiking 
- Outdoor Discovery e-Newsletter 
- Announcements and Press Releases
- Natural Areas and Wildlife
  - Wildlife, Fish, and Marine Life
  - Forests, Plants, and Land Conservation
  - Invasive Species 
  - Hudson River Estuary 
  - Forest Preserve
- Prevent and Control Pollution 
  - Water (MakingWaves e-Newsletter) 
  - Climate Change
  - Air Quality (Air Mail! e-Newsletter) 



## **MakingWaves** - News from the Division of Water

### This Week's Updates:

- Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) Deadline Approaching
- Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs) Notifications

### Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) Deadline Approaching

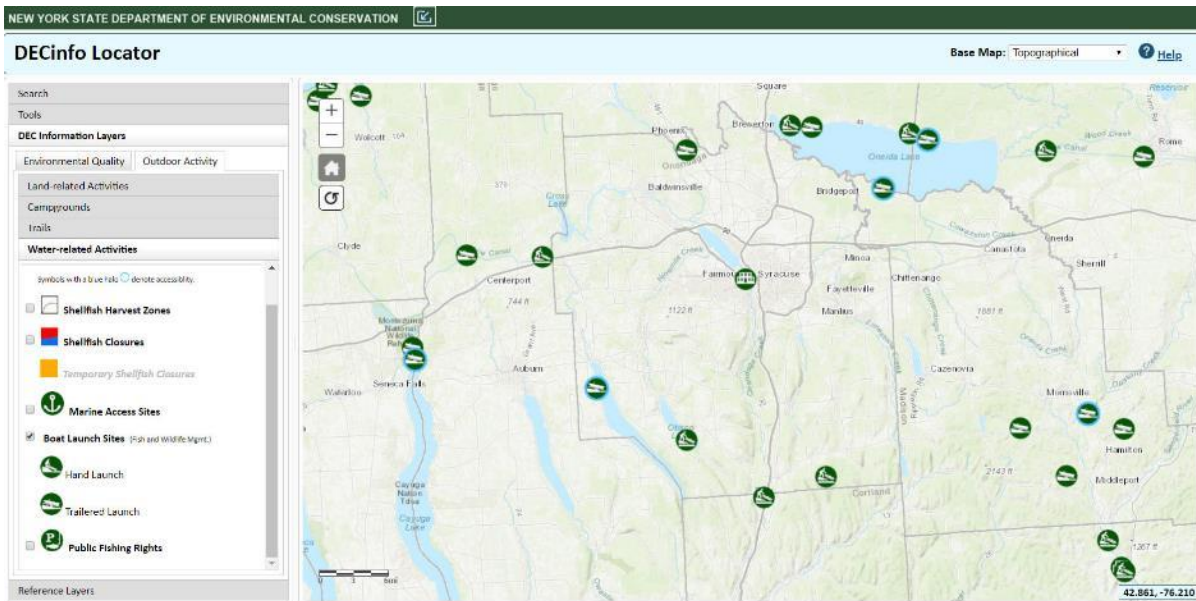
The deadline to submit [Water Quality Improvement Project Grant](#), [Wastewater Infrastructure Engineering Planning Grant](#) and [Non-Agricultural Nonpoint Source Planning Grant](#) applications through the [CFA](#) is 4 p.m. on July 26, 2019.

This is a hard deadline. Incomplete applications will not be considered for grant funds. We suggest you submit your application well before the deadline. In addition, all required attachments must be submitted through the CFA. Mailed hardcopies of attachments will not be accepted.

### Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB) Notifications

Visit [NYHABS](#), DEC's harmful algal bloom notification map, to view locations of current freshwater HABs in New York State. Each yellow dot on the map represents a HAB reported in the past two weeks. Click on a dot for more information, including the date it was reported, the waterbody name, and pictures. Click on the arrow at the bottom of the screen to view a list of

# Transparency and Data Access



'DECInfo Locator' interactive map delivers public documents and recreational information, tailored to location

# Prioritizing Environmental Quality



Illegal Dumping Enforcement,  
Environmental Justice Areas



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# Protecting Public Health and Environmental Quality



“Rolling Coal” Enforcement,  
Oswego County



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# Protecting Public Health and Environmental Quality



Unlawful Burning Enforcement



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# Lake Ontario Shoreline Resilience



## Resiliency and Economic Development Initiative Commission

- Multi-agency task force charged with developing a plan to improve the resiliency of infrastructure along Lake Ontario's waterfront while strengthening local economies in flood-prone regions



# Reimagining Canals



Sweeping initiative to examine how the Erie Canal can be reimagined to:

- Boost local **economies**
- Inspire new opportunities for tourism and recreation
- Strengthen environmental **resiliency** along the historic waterway

# Lake Sturgeon Recovery Program



Photo courtesy Thomas E. Brooking, Cornell University Biological Field Station at Shackleton Point

Largest lake sturgeon caught in Oneida Lake since stocking began in 1995

- 72.5-inches, 139 pounds



# Protecting Public Safety



Emergency Response  
Rice Creek Dam, Oswego

# Protecting Public Safety



Wildland Firefighting,  
Walker Fire, Plumas National Forest, CA



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# Protecting Public Safety



Photo courtesy David Figura, NY Upstate

Specially trained ECOs assist NYS DOCCS to apprehend escaped parolee Christopher Block in Skaneateles

# Protecting Public Safety



Photo courtesy NYS Police

Search and Rescue,  
Town of Palermo



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# Protecting Natural Resources



Hunting and Fishing Enforcement

# Protecting Natural Resources



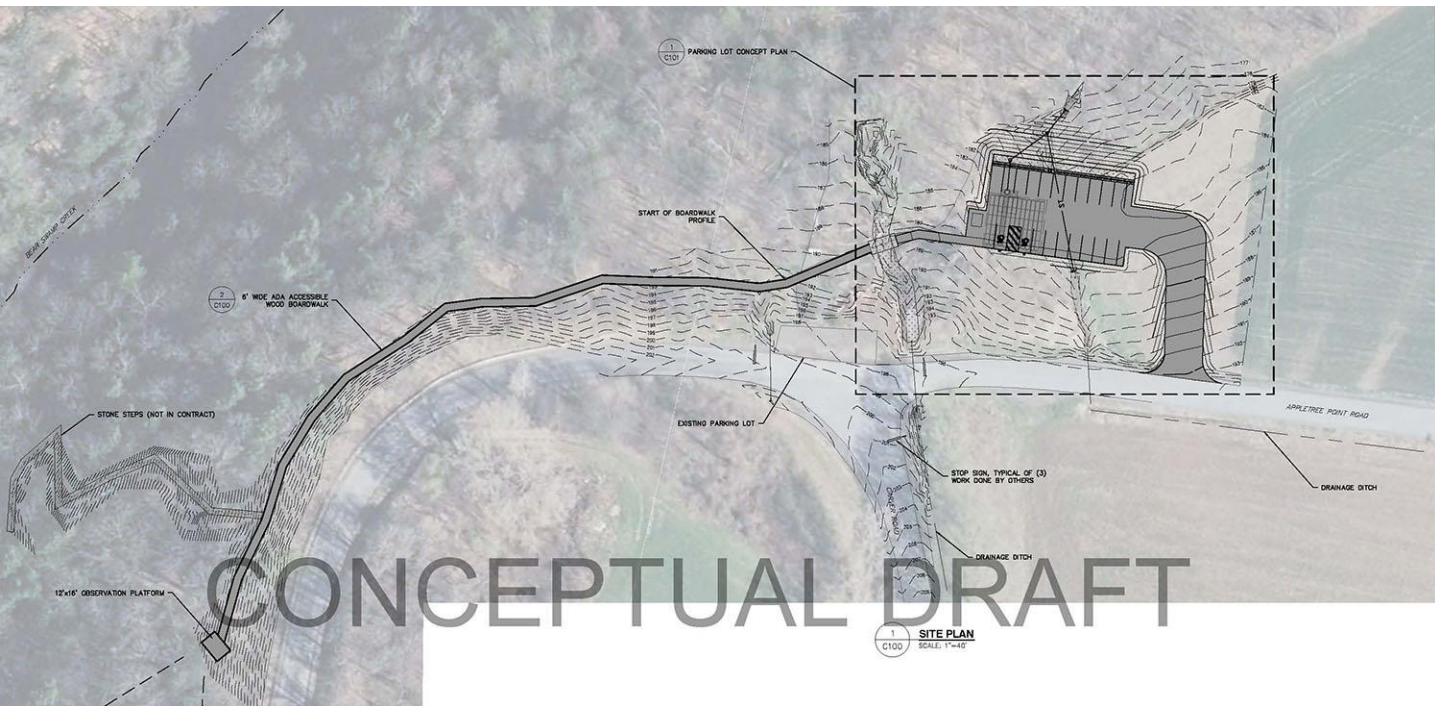
Wildlife Rescue

# Promoting Outdoor Recreation and Access



Onondaga Lake  
Kenneth P. Lynch Boat Launch

# Promoting Outdoor Recreation and Access



Carpenter Falls Unique Area  
Public Access Improvement Project



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# DEC Training Academy



22<sup>nd</sup> Basic School,  
ECO's and Forest Rangers



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# Question and Answer

- What are some of the ways DEC staff work to protect environmental quality and natural resources?
- What are some of the resources available to the public to help understand and stay informed about environmental quality and natural resources?
- What are two outcomes New Yorkers should expect as a result of Reimagining the Canals?
- What are examples of how DEC collaborates with other state and local agencies?
- What features is DEC incorporating into its new recreation access points to improve accessibility?



# Thank You

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## Connect with Us



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