

TOP TEN ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE CWC

Over the past 25+ years, the Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy has made many strides in the protection and enhancement of the watersheds and waterways of Chautauqua County. These accomplishments include:

- 1) Establishing and managing 25 nature preserves and 4 other environmentally-sensitive sites throughout Chautauqua County, conserving 2 miles of shoreline on Chautauqua Lake and its Outlet and more than 1,000 acres of land county-wide. CWC is the leading organization in saving and restoring the natural vegetative habitats essential for insects that control nuisance Eurasian milfoil plants in Chautauqua Lake.

- 2) Leading the efforts to conserve the Cheney Farm Lakeshore, which kept 34 acres of land and 3,600 feet of Chautauqua Lake shoreline open to the public! These efforts also resulted in a \$3.2 million New York State conservation investment in Chautauqua County.

- 3) Leading the efforts to conserve the Stow Farm Lakeshore by nurturing the deal with the Stow family, raising \$120,000, and engaging the State to partner to conserve the site, which kept 19 acres of land and 1,180 feet of shoreline open to the public!

- 4) Establishing the Chautauqua Lake Outlet Greenway by conserving 80 acres of wetlands and forest and $\frac{3}{4}$ mile of the north shore of the Lake and Outlet from Fluvanna to Jamestown—an area described in the New York State Open Space Plan “*as an ecological oasis*”.

- 5) Establishing a conservation easement on 16 acres of land at the Lake Chautauqua Lutheran Center, which included 900 feet of scenic forested shoreline.

- 6) Helping with the conservation of Midway Park as a State Park and the Town of Westfield’s acquisition of 1,800 feet of Barcelona Beach and 2,000 feet of creek-side public access along

Chautauqua Creek.

7) Engaging with other organizations, government officials and community leaders to establish a dedicated fund for “waterway protection and enhancement” and forming and serving on the Chautauqua Lake Management Commission to coordinate efforts of multiple organizations serving the lake and watershed.

8) Holding numerous educational programs and tours for the public, municipal officials, landscapers, and highway personnel, which has led to a heightened awareness, acceptance and implementation of more watershed and water quality responsible land use practices on the part of governments, service providers, institutions, businesses and individuals.

9) Promoting phosphate-free dishwashing detergents and fertilizers via sample handouts, “Don’t Feed The Weeds!” lawn signs, newspaper and newsletter articles, and radio ads, which led to a shift in consumer demand for this type of detergent at the largest local grocer in Jamestown and provided the impetus, technical assistance and public support needed for the County Legislature to enact a law regulating the use of lawn fertilizers containing phosphorus.

10) Establishing *The Shed Sheet* newsletter to provide area residents, elected officials, and local businesses and organizations with lake and watershed stewardship information and lake and watershed news.