

In partnership with the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, New York Sea Grant developed a unique clearinghouse portal for information about New York's Great Lakes region.



NY Great Lakes Information Clearinghouse Now Online

New York's Great Lakes region supports local and regional economies; provides diverse recreational, maritime education, and tourism opportunities; and holds high ecological importance among the state's natural resources. Audiences looking for New York Great Lakes information on a wide range of issue areas now have a clearinghouse resource as a starting point for learning more about this vital region.

In 2016, New York Sea Grant (NYSG), in partnership with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), developed and launched a web-based clearinghouse of information about the Great Lakes region of New York State.

The site at www.nyseagrant.org/nygreatlakes acts as a portal through which users can access resources related to research projects, grants, New York's Great Lakes Action Agenda priorities, and information on coastal processes, ecosystems and habitats, fisheries, energy, education, Great Lakes communities, coastal recreation and tourism, and water quality.

This website was designed to provide audiences of all backgrounds, from environmental researchers and agency personnel to teachers and students, with an abundance of New York Great Lakes' information.

Examples of resources on the site are:

- Great Lakes Coastal Resilience Planning Guide published by the NOAA Digital Coast Partnership
- National Weather Service Marine Forecasts
- NYS Department of State Office of Planning & Development Geographic Information Gateway
- a hotlink to the New York Invasive Species Information website.

Personnel with environmental agencies and organizations statewide tested the website for user-friendliness and provided resources. Users can submit comments and questions via the *Contact Us* feature and subscribe to the NY Great Lakes Basin listserv for news, funding opportunities and event notices.



NYSDEC Great Lakes Program Eastern Great Lakes Watershed Coordinator Emily Sheridan, left, and website development project leader Brittney Rogers of New York Sea Grant share a page from the new clearinghouse portal to information on NY's Great Lakes region. Photo: NYSG

“The new Great Lakes clearinghouse website brings us one step closer to addressing the information management and public outreach to diverse audiences across the state. . . a useful tool in informing the public about New York's Interim Great Lakes Action Agenda.”

*— NYSDEC Acting Commissioner Basil Seggos
May 12, 2016*

Partners:

- New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
- Funding: New York State Environmental Protection Fund and Article 14 of Environmental Conservation Law

The Sea Grant Focus Area for this project is Healthy New York Ecosystems & Habitats

New York Sea Grant is a joint program of Cornell University, the State University of New York, and NOAA.

New York Sea Grant Extension,
112 Rice Hall, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14853
*This project summary was written by Extension Educator/
Watercraft Inspection Trainer Brittney Rogers,
315-331-8415, blr9@cornell.edu, www.nyseagrant.org*

1/2017