

NYSG responded to the strong need for educational materials on native plants in New York State with a new guide to more than 40 species and their ideal coastal locations.

Working with Nature: A NYSG Guide to Native Plants for NY's Great Lakes Shorelines

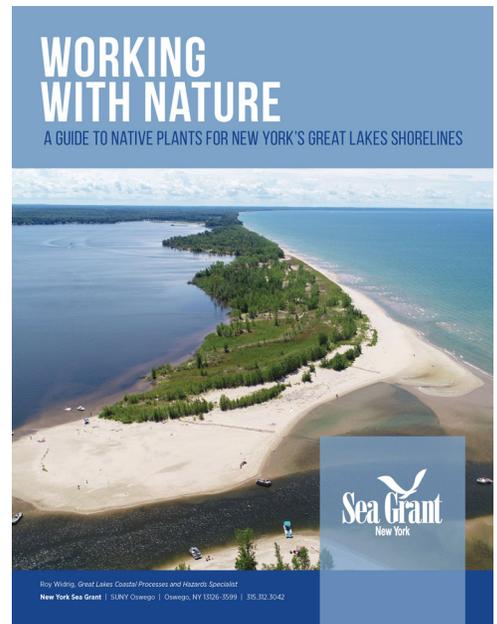
With high interest by New York environmental organizations for promoting the use of natural and nature-based features for shoreline ecosystem restoration, there existed a gap in resources detailing native, erosion-resistant and water-loving plants in New York State for homeowners and environmental practitioners.

Through extensive field work, photography, and research, New York Sea Grant (NYSG) developed a 28-page *Working with Nature Guide: A Guide to Native Plants for New York's Great Lakes Shorelines* with full-color photos of more than 40 native plants that thrive in New York's Great Lakes' coastal areas. Additionally, this guide provides best practices for natural and nature-based erosion management techniques as well as detailing the various coastal settings in New York and the plants that fit those settings.

In its first eight months of publication, more than 100 copies of the *Working with Nature* guide were distributed to shoreline residents and others working along the state's freshwater coastlines to aid in the restoration of New York's shorelines across all of the state's Great Lakes coastal counties. **The guide can be accessed online at <http://www.nyseagrant.org/glcoastal>.**

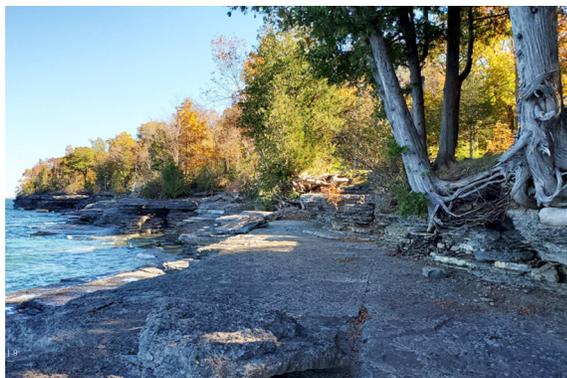
Project Partners:

- Funding: New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
- Cornell University Master Gardener Volunteers



Far right: As noted in NYSG's Working with Nature guide, sand cherry helps stabilize NY's Great Lakes dunes.

Near right: The harsh environment of the bedrock shores along the Lake Ontario shoreline in Jefferson County, NY. Photos: Roy Widrig/NYSG



NYSG Focus Area for this project: Resilient New York Communities and Economies.

New York Sea Grant is a joint program of Cornell University, the State University of New York, and NOAA.
Contact: New York Sea Grant Extension, 112 Rice Hall, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14853; www.nyseagrant.org.

Project summary written by NYSG Great Lakes Coastal Processes & Hazards Specialist Roy L. Widrig, 315-312-3042, rlw294@cornell.edu.