

## Great Lakes Basin Small Grants Projects Engage Youth

New York's Great Lakes Basin (NYGLB) Small Grants Program is designed to support projects that take an ecosystem-based management approach to implementing the goals of New York's Great Lakes Action Agenda (GLAA). With a GLAA goal typically highlighted in each round of funding, since the program's inception in 2015, the NYGLB Small Grants Program has funded 46 projects, totaling approximately \$2 million, that aim to restore and revitalize the state's Great Lakes region.

New York Sea Grant (NYSG) administers the NYGLB Small Grants program in partnership with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC). NYSG and DEC awarded grants to projects that would both address goals of the GLAA and engage youth in educational experiences on environmental and conservation topics in 2021. In December 2022, the eight projects, receiving a total of \$204,801, were marked complete, having provided fun, creative and interactive opportunities for students to engage in environmental literacy and stewardship. The projects were conducted throughout New York's Great Lakes watershed, spanning from Buffalo to Alexandria Bay.

Through formal and non-formal education, these projects receiving NYGLB small grants helped to increase Great Lakes environmental awareness and knowledge in our youth and provided them with the necessary skills to make informed decisions about environmental issues and careers.

*New York's Great Lakes Basin Small Grants Program:*  
<https://nyseagrant.org/glsmallgrants>



*Buffalo Young Environmental Leaders Program students review the concept of a watershed and sources of water pollution as part of a NYGLB small grant-funded project completed by Buffalo Niagara Waterkeeper (BNW).*

*Photo: BNW*

### Partners:

- New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
- **Funding:** New York State Environmental Protection Fund under authority of the New York Ocean and Great Lakes Ecosystem Conservation Act

**The Sea Grant Focus Areas for this project are Resilient New York Communities and Economies and Environmental Literacy and Workforce Development in NY.**

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