Residents along the southern Lake Ontario coast in Wayne County, New York, are faced with the unique challenges that come with owning or residing at lakefront property. Lake Ontario’s naturally dynamic processes pose risks such as flooding and erosion for which shoreline residents need to be prepared. It is crucial that residents have easy access to information that can help them manage these risks and properly care for their portion of the shoreline.

In 2022, New York Sea Grant, in partnership with the Wayne County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD), compiled new and existing resources of use to property owners into “Lake Ontario Shoreline Resident Information Folders.” Filled with expert-reviewed information about topics such as weather and climate, coastal processes, and water levels, these folders are designed to empower residents with information needed to protect and manage a lakefront property in an environmentally-friendly way. On a broader scale, this public outreach helps to build more resilient coastal communities.

At workshops during the summer of 2022, the Wayne County SWCD handed the resource folders to 532 Lake Ontario shoreline residents. Approximately 1,700 folders are planned for distribution to additional Wayne County shoreline residents in 2023.

Lake Ontario Shoreline Resident Information Folder:
https://nyseagrant.org/LOLandownerFolders

Partner:
• Wayne County Soil and Water Conservation District
• Funding: New York State Environmental Protection Fund under authority of the New York Ocean and Great Lakes Ecosystem Conservation Act

The Sea Grant Focus Area for this project is 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.
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