



New York Sea Grant is a joint program of Cornell University, the State University of New York, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

New York State has 3,400 miles of diverse coastline and is the only state in the U.S. bordering both the Great Lakes and Atlantic Ocean. More than 85% of NY's population lives in a coastal region.



New York Sea Grant regional offices provide innovative research, technical assistance, and outreach on such issues as water quality, coastal resilience, marine & freshwater fisheries, invasive species, algal blooms, aquaculture & seafood, coastal literacy, and shoreline community development.

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**NYSG Focus Area**  
for this project summary:  
**Resilient New York**  
**Communities & Economies**

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## Strengthening Local Government Capacity for Resilient Waterfront Planning Along Lakes Erie & Ontario

*NYSG equips local governments with tools and knowledge to protect coastal resources, enhance resilience, and support sustainable waterfront development.*

**L**ake Erie and Lake Ontario communities face flooding, shoreline erosion, and extreme weather risks worsened by climate change. These threats endanger economies, infrastructure, and ecosystems, requiring localized solutions with broader climate adaptation implications.

In 2024, New York Sea Grant in collaboration with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and the Town of Greece delivered floodplain management training for municipal officials in Monroe and Wayne counties. Workshops included hands-on exercises on the National Flood Insurance Program, Coastal Floodplain Management, and new Federal Emergency Management Agency flood maps. Participants accessed decision-support tools, case studies, and adaptive management guidance.

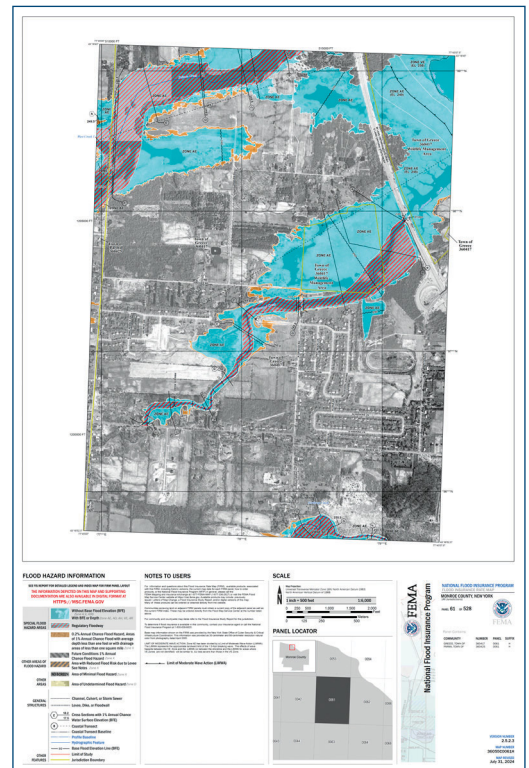
The program engaged more than 30 officials from 11 municipalities, enhancing their knowledge of floodplain management and the National Flood Insurance Program. Surveys showed 92% of attendees gained knowledge, and 65% planned to apply it in their communities. This initiative produced requests to NYSG for training in additional counties.

New York Sea Grant initiatives provide local governments with practical tools and knowledge, empowering them to protect their waterfronts, coastal and watershed communities, and enhance their resilience for future generations.

### Project Partners:

- New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
- Town of Greece, NY

***New York Sea Grant: Bringing Science to the Shore Since 1971***



*A National Flood Insurance Program map for one of NY's Great Lakes counties: an example of the resources NYSG can help local governments apply to their unique coastal and watershed resilience needs.*