

CHAUTAUQUA LAKE PARTNERSHIP

CHAUTAUQUA LAKE, A GREAT LAKE SEEKING A GREATER FUTURE

PO Box 81, Lakewood, NY 14750

May 3, 2017

Ms. Linda Barber
Chairperson
Chautauqua Lake and Watershed Management Alliance
201 West 3rd St, Suite 115
Jamestown, NY 14701

The Chautauqua Lake Partnership (Partnership, CLP) is a 501c3 non-profit corporation recently merged with the Bemus Bay Property Owners (BBPO) to implement Weed Management and Shoreline/Near Shore Cleanup Demonstration Projects in Bemus Bay in 2017. Our objective is to improve Chautauqua Lake water quality. The results of both Projects will benefit other parts of the lake and CLP will be available to facilitate their use.

We are disappointed that the Chautauqua Lake Association (CLA) leadership is continuing its support of the status quo and working against the CLP Demonstration Projects.

The CLA's "Bemus Bay Herbicide Informational Bulletin", with the introduction, "...the CLA leadership is not recommending a herbicide approach to submerged aquatic vegetation in Chautauqua Lake...", dated April 11, 2017, was posted on the CLA website several weeks ago, has been shared widely on social media and, just last Friday, was distributed using the Chautauqua Lake and Watershed Management Alliance (Alliance) distribution list to ~75 Alliance members and many more as it was forwarded by member organizations. We've asked the Alliance to address this unauthorized use of their member distribution list with the sender and recipients and the security of their e-mail distribution.

In the "Bulletin", issues are raised concerning the planned trials of Macrophyte Management Strategy (MMS)-approved herbicide-based weed management and safer and less labor intensive shoreline and near shore cleanup technology. These trials are focused on an ideal location, Bemus Bay, 85% landlocked, along less than 5% of the Chautauqua Lake shoreline with a combination of private homes and businesses and significant tourism activity.

The Town of Ellery and Village of Bemus Point are co-applicants on herbicide permit applications supporting CLP's Weed Management Project. These applications are currently being reviewed by the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation. The DEC's permit application review will consider challenges associated with the proven treatment technology used extensively in NY and other states.

CLP does not accept the status quo which the "Bulletin" attempts to justify. Open minds are needed to identify and try new ideas to remedy the unacceptable water quality in Chautauqua Lake. Although the small but growing all-volunteer CLP organization has strong community, Town and Village support, we don't understand how we can be a threat to well-funded lake organizations with full and part-time staff and well-compensated management.

CLP will continue to progress its 2017 Demonstration Projects consistent with its slogan, "Chautauqua Lake, A Great Lake Seeking a Greater Future". We are confident that those who care about Chautauqua

Lake will keep an open mind and support demonstration of the new ideas being pursued by the CLP for the benefit of Chautauqua Lake water quality improvement and its enjoyment.

We appreciate your support.

Sincerely,

Dr. James Cirbus, President
Chautauqua Lake Partnership

cc: Ms. Erin Brickley
Mr. David Shepherd
Mr. Ken Shearer
Ms. Sally Carlson
Mr. David Wesp
Mr. Don Emhardt
Mr. Pierre Chagnon
Mr. David Spann