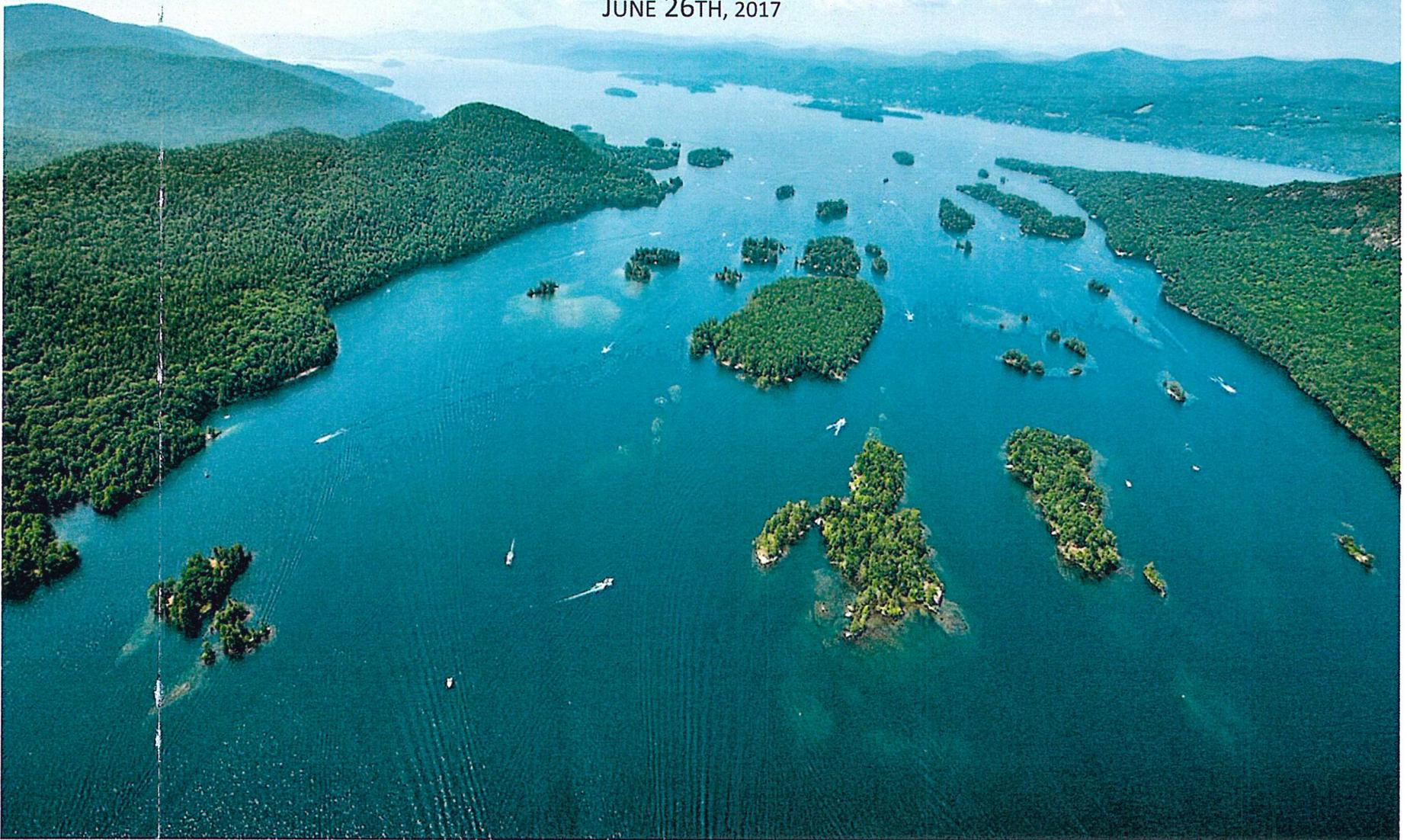


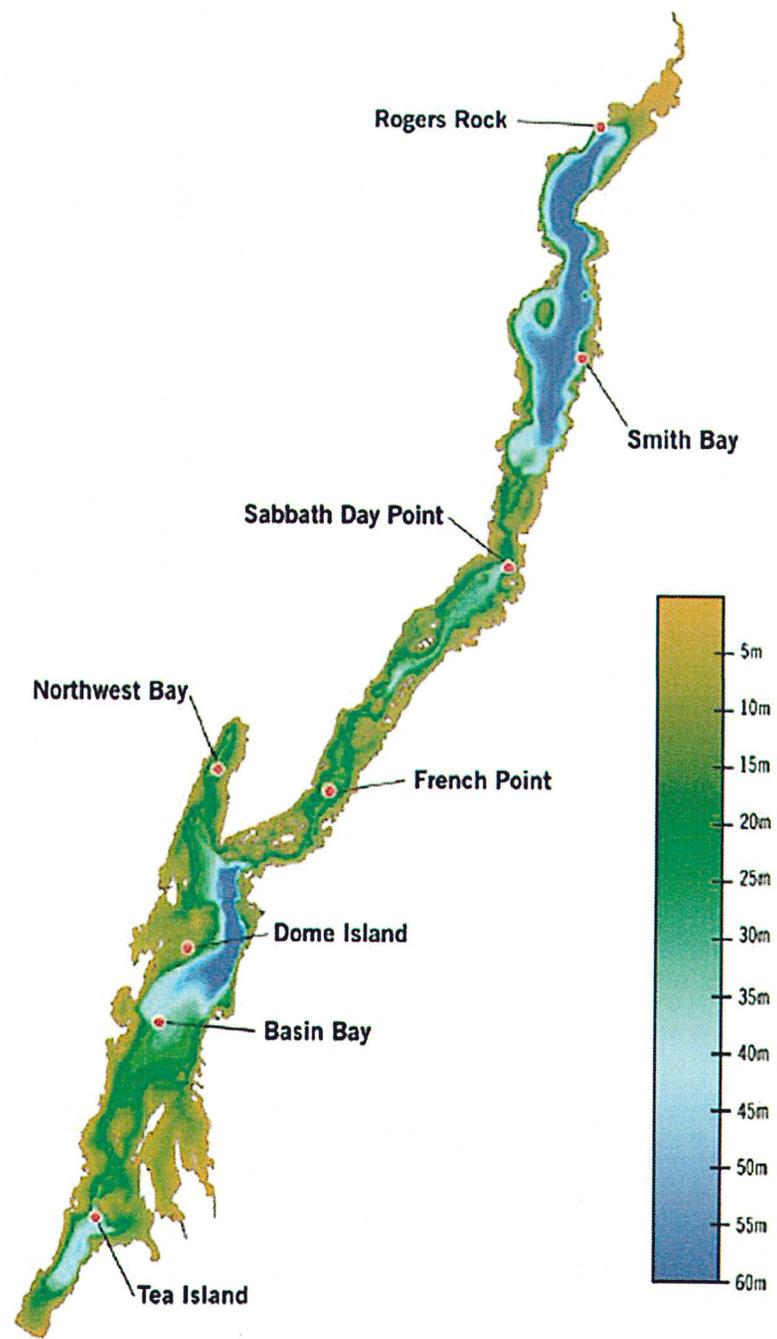
# LAKE GEORGE: A FEW CURRENT TOPICS

PRESENTATION TO THE WARREN COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE

BY DAVE WICK, LGPC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

JUNE 26TH, 2017





# AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES AND LAKE GEORGE

- Currently five known invasive species in Lake George

- Eurasian Milfoil
- Zebra Mussels
- Asian Clams
- Curly-leaf Pondweed
- Spiny Waterflea

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Over \$8 million dollars spent  
on management to date

Annual costs upwards of  
\$1 million



# Eurasian Watermilfoil: Lake George's First Invader

- Discovered in 1985
- Began management in 1986: 30 years management to date
- Over \$6 million spent to date, making great strides over past three years (increased funding and better techniques)
- Co-Funded through LGPC, LGA and Fund for LG. This season will see between \$260,000 and \$460,000 depending on DOS grant
- Need concerted effort of \$400-\$500k for a few more years to finally get all dense beds eliminated



# Asian Clams (*Corbicula fluminea*)

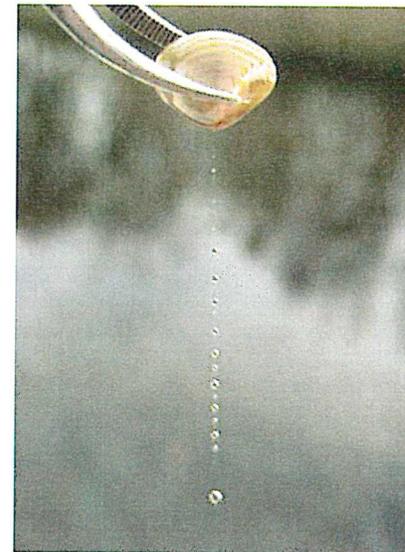
## ○ Description

- Fresh water species native to tropical southern Asia
- Up to 10,000 clams per square meter
- Capable of self fertilization (only takes one)



## ○ Why Do We Care?

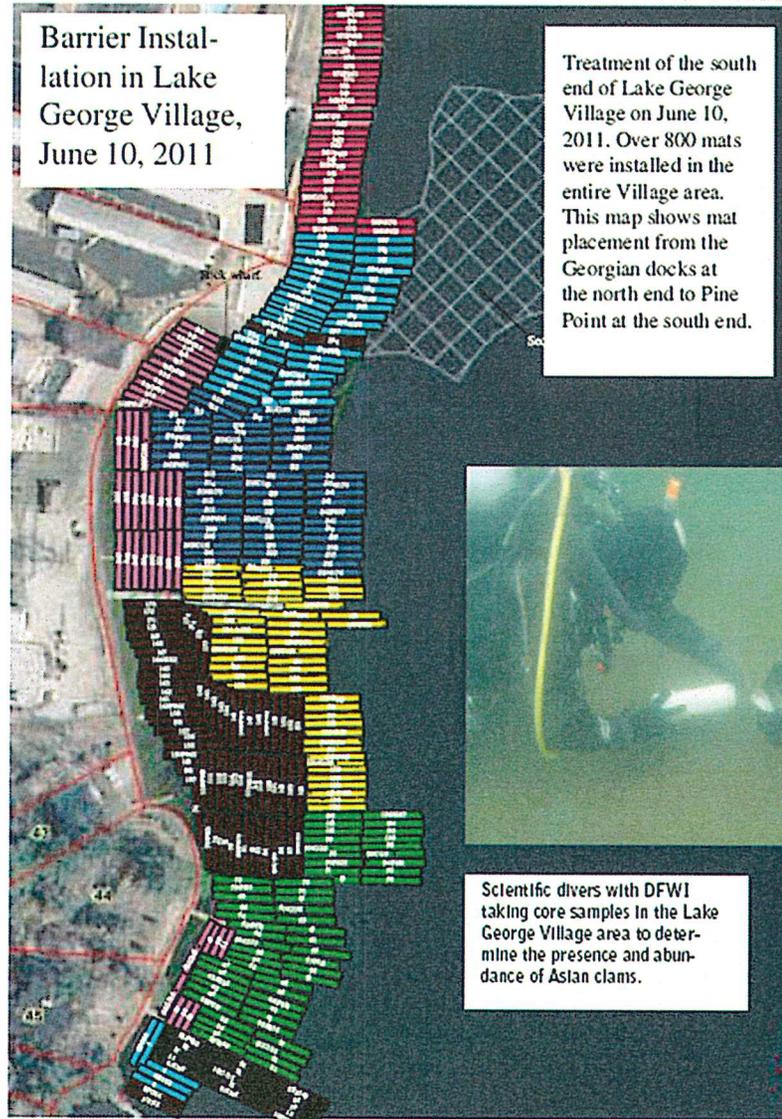
- Economic
  - Possible decreased tourism potential
  - Clogged Intake pipes
- Ecology
  - Decline in water quality (algae blooms)
  - Displaced habitat for natives





Barrier Installation in Lake George Village, June 10, 2011

Treatment of the south end of Lake George Village on June 10, 2011. Over 800 mats were installed in the entire Village area. This map shows mat placement from the Georgian docks at the north end to Pine Point at the south end.



Scientific divers with DFWI taking core samples in the Lake George Village area to determine the presence and abundance of Asian clams.



- April 23rd
- April 26th
- April 27th
- April 28th
- April 29th
- May 2nd
- May 11-13
- May 16-20. Plus all docks at Meise Village most at Georgian, all docks north of SurfSide, ending at Scotty's Motel. Beach mats completed by May 18th.
- May 24-27. Plus last four northern docks at Georgian.

Over 800 7' x 50' PVC mats have been installed in Lake George Village waters as part of a project to contain and eradicate the Asian clam. Of those, between 60-75 mats were used under more than 40 docks and are not numbered on this map.

Volunteer maintenance along shore has been constant. Active maintenance by diver crews June 2-3, June 6-9, 13-16.

# WHAT'S OUT THERE?



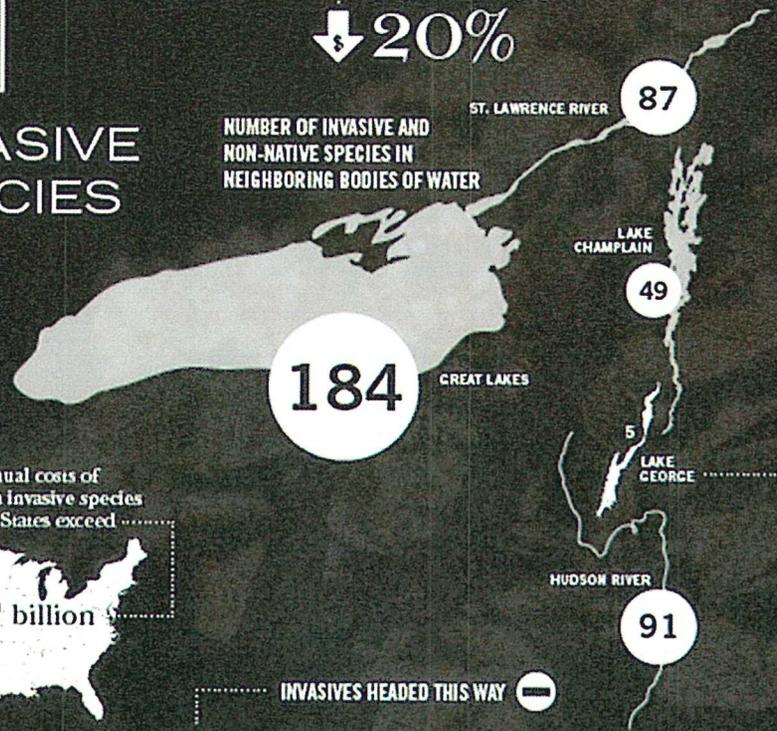
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STATE  
OF THE  
LAKE

# INVASIVE SPECIES

  
 Invasive impacts on water quality could cause a property value drop up to  
 **20%**

NUMBER OF INVASIVE AND NON-NATIVE SPECIES IN NEIGHBORING BODIES OF WATER



Estimated annual costs of damages from invasive species in the United States exceed



INVASIVES HEADED THIS WAY 



**quagga mussels**  
*(Dreissena polymorpha bugensis)*  
 from the Great Lakes—called zebra mussels on steroids—where they are causing billions of dollars in damage every year



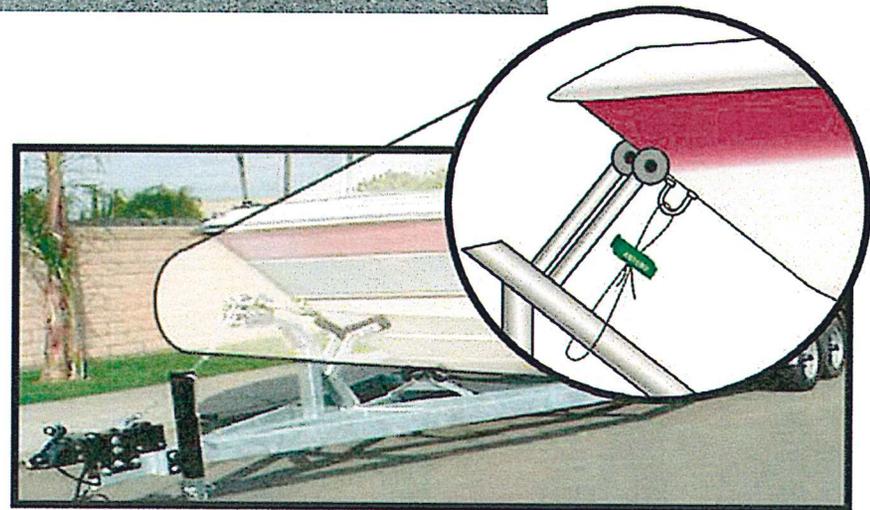
**hydrilla**  
*(Hydrilla verticillata)*  
 in Cayuga Lake Inlet, Central NY, rhymes with godzilla, and has monstrous effects on invaded waters



Trallered boats are a primary vector for the introduction and spread of aquatic invasive species

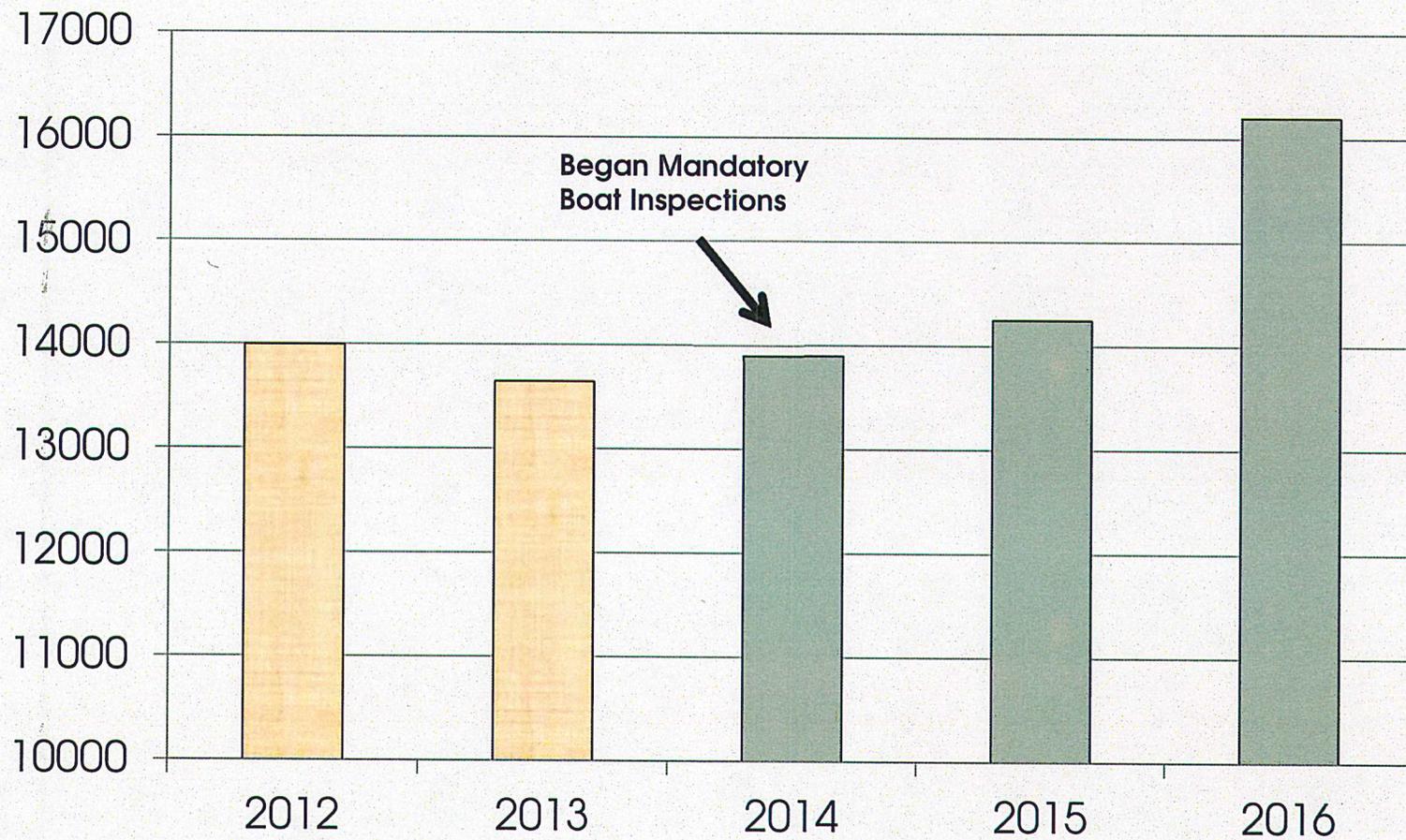
# LG Boat Inspections – Year 4

- All trailered boats must be inspected prior to launch, and are then sealed to the trailer as shown at right
- When removed from lake, boat secured to trailer
- Upon next return to Lake George, if seal is intact, inspection is not necessary
- If seal is not present (i.e. launched at another lake), new inspection is required

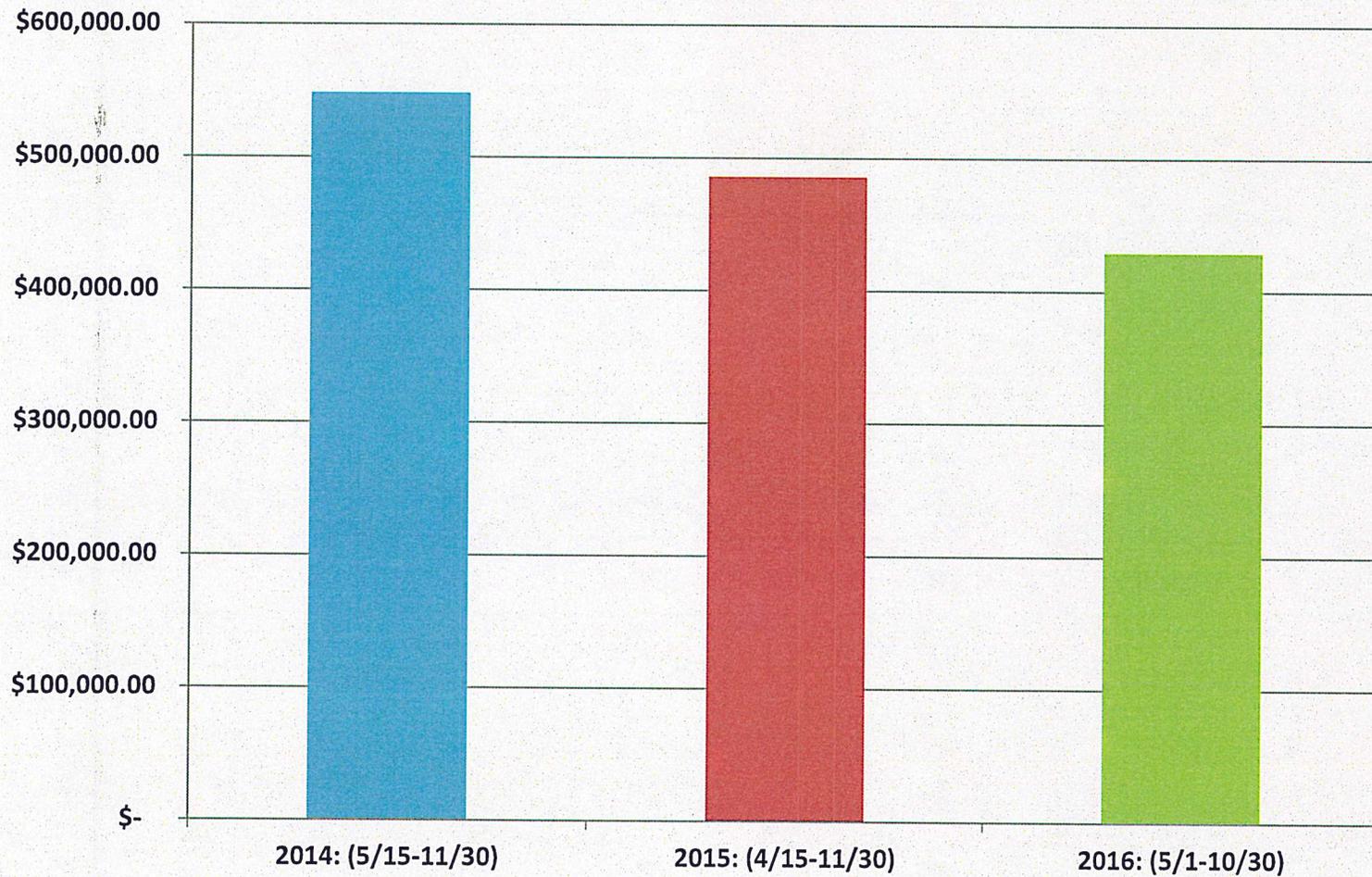




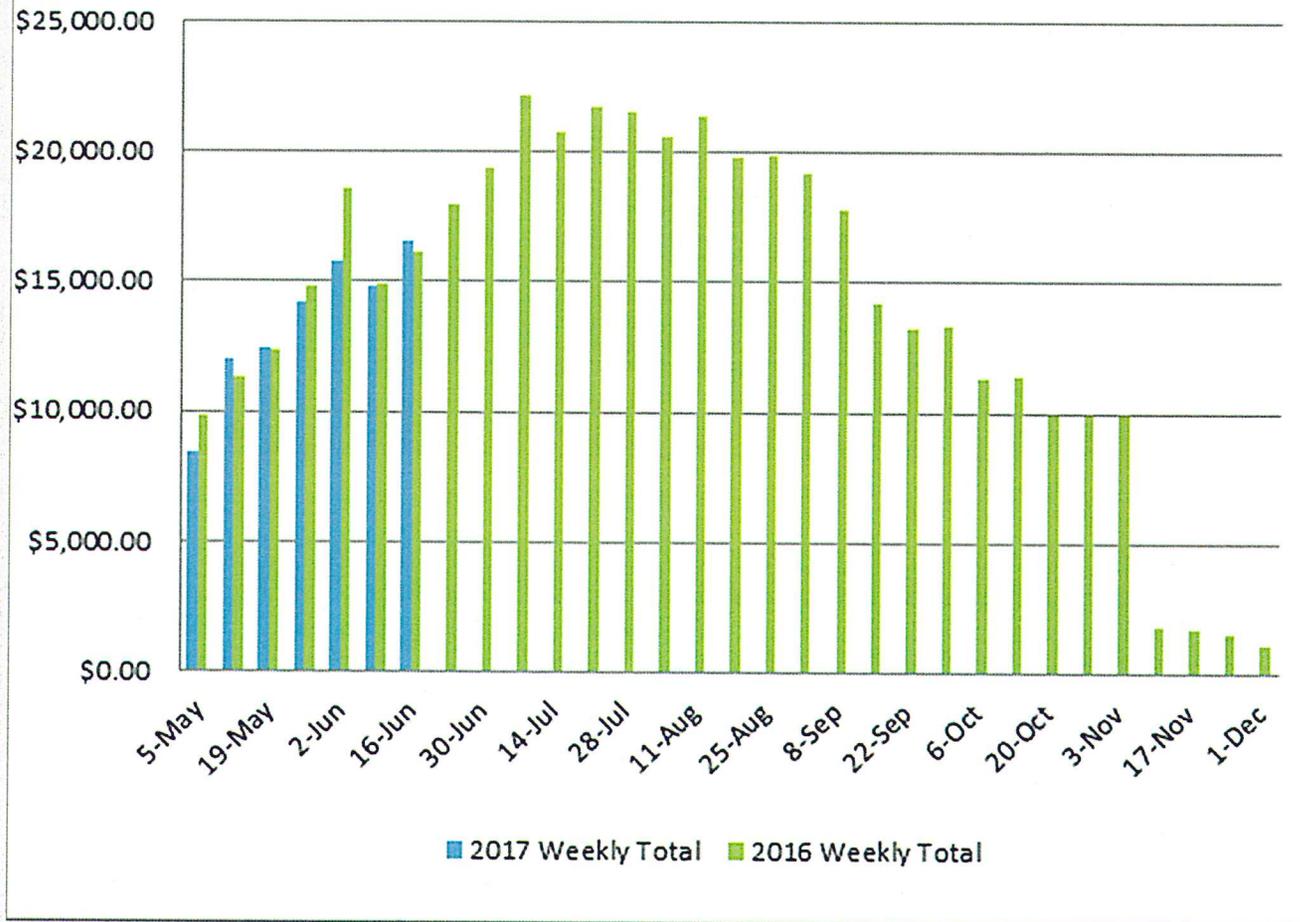
# LAKE GEORGE BOAT REGISTRATIONS



# TOTAL STAFFING COST BY YEAR



## Weekly Staffing Cost Comparison



- 2016 Total Cost to Date: \$66,926.55
- 2017 Total Cost to Date: \$62,944.09
- Difference: \$3,983 less in 2017 for far

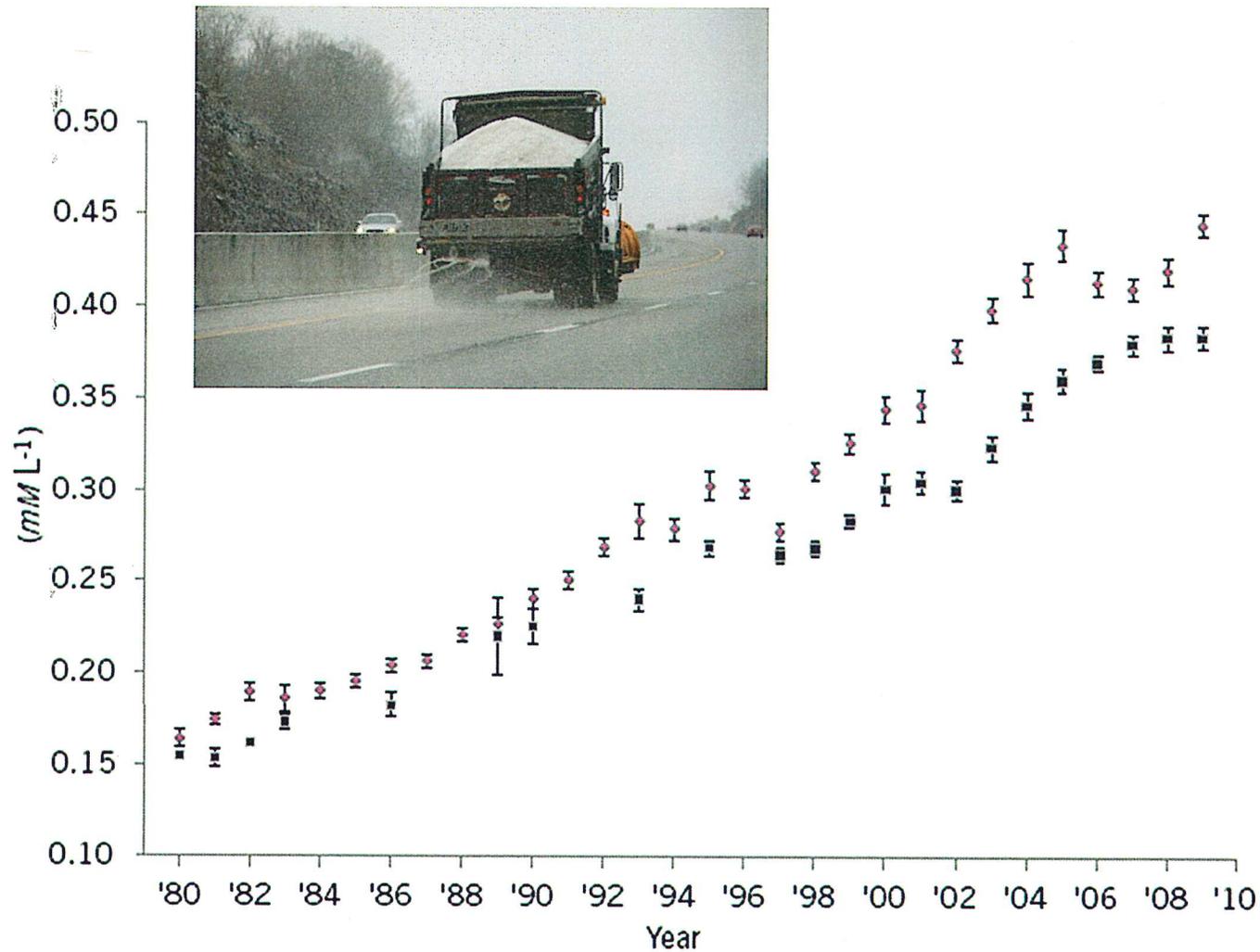
# Current Issues...



- Invasive Species
- Stormwater Runoff
- Stream Corridor Protections
- Highway De-icing



# Sodium and Chlorides



**FIGURE 4.** Mean annual sodium and chloride concentrations (as millimoles per liter) measured in surface waters (0 – 10 m depth) of Lake George, 1980 – 2009.

## Winter Road Maintenance Activities in The Lake George Watershed

**680 lane miles** of road

**42 tons** of sand/lane mile/year

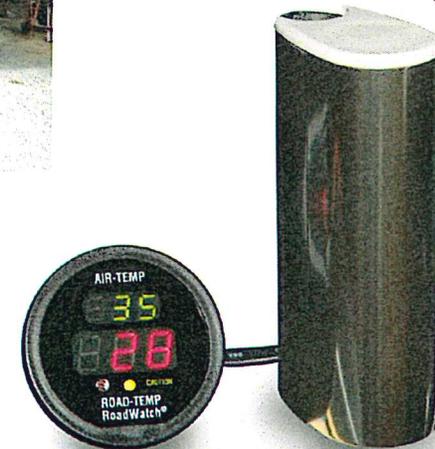
**13 tons** of salt/lane mile/year

**29,000 tons** of sand  
every year

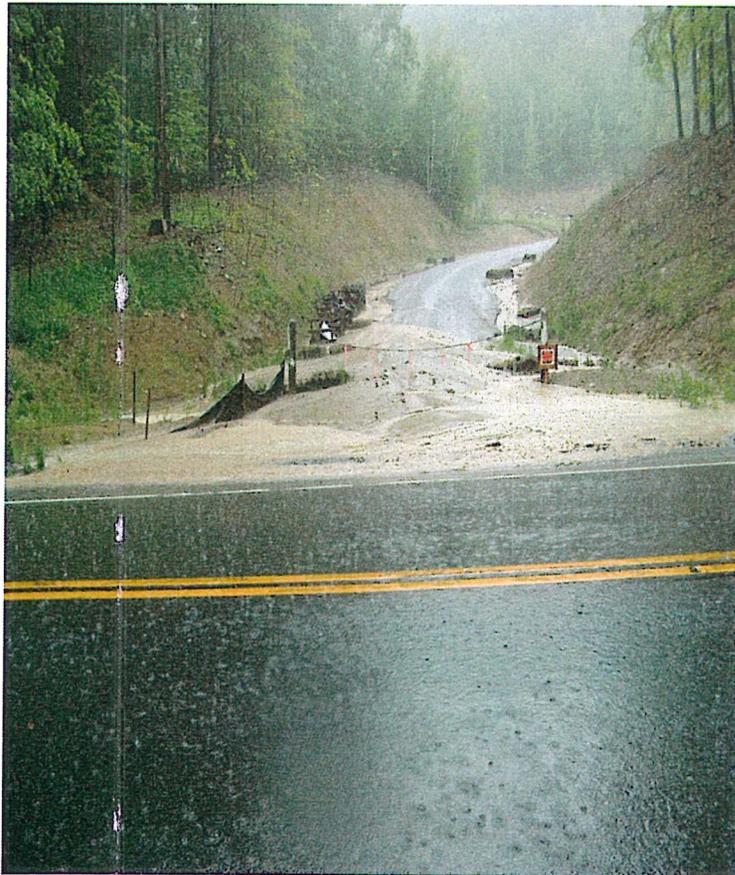
**9,000 tons** of salt  
every year

# Changing the Game on Salt

- Working with Municipalities on 'brining', and purchasing new brine spreaders and storage tanks
- Purchasing and installing 20 new road temperature sensors on town trucks all around LG Watershed
- Building new salt storage barn for Village of LG
- Developed new municipal de-icing policies for all towns
- Tracking the use and spreading of salt to determine what works and what needs fixing



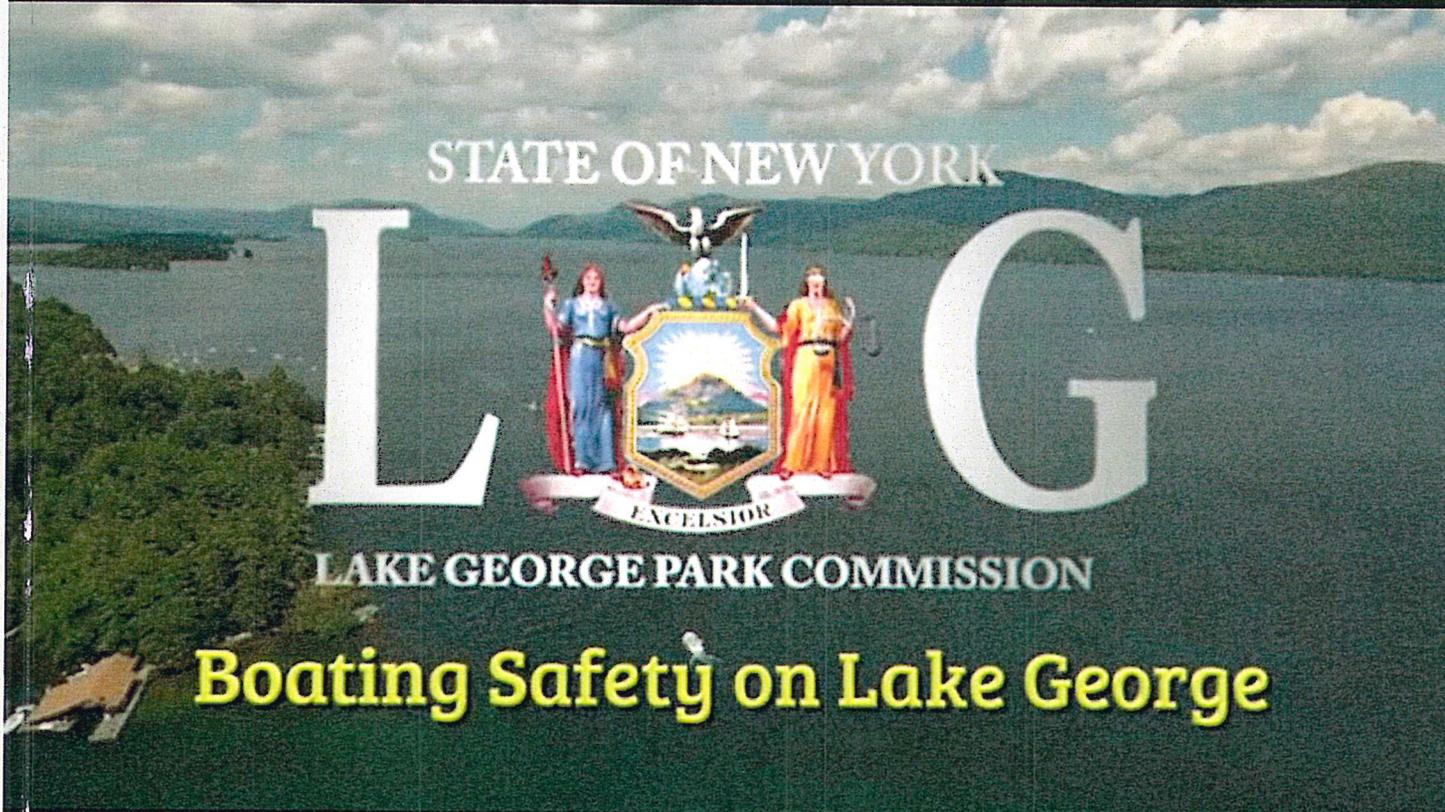
# LGPC Stormwater Regs Update



- LGPC administers stormwater runoff regulations for new development
- Last update 20 years ago, looking at existing program
- Will be meeting soon with many focus groups and the general public to discuss ideas

# NEW BOATER SAFETY EFFORTS

LAKE GEORGE BOATING SAFETY YouTube



▶ ⏪ 🔊 0:06 / 7:03



# Log Bay Day Comes to an End

## 2016 STATISTICS

**700 - 800** People

**200-225** Vessels

**60** Law Enforcement Officers

**46** Assists, Violations and Incidents

**2** Tragedies, including one death



Thank You!

