



**Oneida Lake Association**  
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[president@oneidalakeassociation.org](mailto:president@oneidalakeassociation.org)



## OLA Annual Meeting

The Directors of the OLA thank the many folks who attended our Annual Membership Meeting on April 27. We had another terrific line-up of speakers from the Director of the Constantia Fish Hatchery, to DEC law enforcement, to the researchers at the Shakleton Point Field Station, and much MORE. In fact, our theme for the evening was MORE In 2024!

At the end of the meeting, several members won a variety of door prizes including fishing lures, bluebird houses, rods and reels, and MORE! Two lucky winners walked away with a GoPro style camera and a kayak.

If you would like to view the recording of the meeting you can do so at this link.

[https://youtu.be/05FolfG\\_ZyA](https://youtu.be/05FolfG_ZyA)

We will also post the link on our Facebook page.

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## OLA Scholarship

We are pleased to announce the winner of this year's OLA Scholarship. In fact, this year's winner collected two awards from the OLA. One is the Eugene Kadlubowski Memorial Scholarship, fully funded by Eugene's daughter, OLA member Marcia Kadlubowski. She generously donated \$1000. The Board of Directors decided to match that scholarship award with another \$1000. Once again, we thank



Meyer's RV and Marine for their generous donation which allows us to make this award.

This year's worthy recipient is Ty Williams, a senior at Camden High School. He will enter the College of Environmental Science and Forestry in the fall where he will study Natural Resource Management.

Ty writes:

***Dear Oneida Lake Association,***

***I would like to thank you for your generosity in awarding me with your scholarship. I am honored to have been selected and am very thankful. Throughout my life I have learned to value hard work, service, and making the world a better place at each and every moment. This scholarship will help me to purchase books, put money towards tuition and fund other expenses in college as I move forward in my academic career at SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry in the fall.***

***I someday hope to become a Forest Ranger or NYS Trooper where I can make the world a better place. I promise to stand up to and reach for the same values as the OLA does and I will strive to be the best version of myself I can be. Thank you again.***

***Sincerely,  
Ty Williams***

## **Update from DEC**

### **Protecting New York's Waters from Aquatic Invasive Species This Fishing Season**

While fishing this season, you can take steps to protect your waters from aquatic invasive species (AIS). AIS can out compete native species, damage economies and ecosystems, and negatively impact recreation. Follow these guidelines to help prevent the spread of AIS.

**Clean, Drain, and Dry fishing equipment.** AIS such as hydrilla, spiny waterflea, and didymo can be carried between water bodies on fishing equipment. Before moving to a new location and after you've finished fishing:

- *Clean plants and mud from fishing gear, boots, and waders and put it in the trash. Consider using rubber boots with studs rather than felt-soled waders, which can be difficult to clean.*
- *Drain water from gear and bait buckets onto land. If keeping bait, drain the water and replace it with spring water or dechlorinated tap water.*
- *Dry your equipment with a towel or let it air dry.*

**Use bait responsibly.** Properly using and disposing of bait can prevent the spread of diseases and AIS. Purchase certified bait to make sure it's disease-free. After fishing, dispose of unused bait in the trash rather than

throwing it into a water body.

[Check DEC's Baitfish Regulations page](#) to keep up-to-date on which fish can be used as bait, where bait can be used, and more.

**Report sightings of AIS.** Be part of our efforts to control invasive species! If you find AIS while fishing, [report it to iMapInvasives](#), New York's invasive species database. [Visit DEC's Aquatic Invasives Species page](#) to learn more about AIS to look out for.

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## Artificial Bait

Speaking of the proper disposal of bait . . . OLA Director Bill Alexander encourages us to pay attention to artificial bait, as well. Anglers should "stop throwing their old baits in the water," Alexander writes. He sent along this photo of a lake trout (from Cayuga Lake) that had been cleaned. You can see that the fish contained dozens of plastic baits that it had ingested. We are hearing about more and more fish who are impacted by these artificials that have been tossed into the lake. Please be sure to dispose of these baits in land-based trash receptacles.



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## Youth Fishing Derby

**OLA Director Matt Kazmierski has kicked off our First Annual OLA Youth Fishing Derby.**

May 1, 2024 - December 31, 2024

Eligibility:

Up to 15 yrs old

Must be child or grand child of OLA Member



## Rules

1. Fish must be caught on Oneida Lake east of Route 81 Bridge and tributaries up to first impossible barrier
2. Fish must be caught during the regular season for each species.
3. The longest fish in the following categories will receive a trophy and fishing prize package: walleye, yellow perch, largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, pickerel, non-gamefish (carp, drum, catfish, etc..)

Entries must submit the following information to [president@oneidalakeassociation.org](mailto:president@oneidalakeassociation.org) :

- One photo of the fish with the child and one with the fish on a ruler with the length clearly visible
- Date of catch, length of catch, species.
- Name and age of child, name of OLA member.
- Entries must be submitted by an adult 18 years or older.
- All Entries must be received by December 31, 2024.

**Check our website and Facebook page for updates.**



**This Memorial Day, The OLA Directors thank everyone who has served or who is serving our country!**

Have a safe Holiday!

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**The Mission of the Oneida Lake Association is to protect the fisheries, wildlife, and natural resources of Oneida Lake by promoting science-based conservation and management through education and outreach, in partnership with our members and local communities.**

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Pay your dues, and HELP PROTECT ONEIDA LAKE!!!!

\$8 annually

Recruit your neighbors and friends TO JOIN US!



Donate

Memorials and contributions to our program are most welcome.

OLA is a 501(c)4 organization serving and protecting the Oneida Lake environment.



## OLA Website

OLA is a 501(c)(4) not-for-profit organization.

The Oneida Lake Association is a member of the New York State Conservation Council <http://www.nyscc.com/> and the New York State Federation of Lake Associations <http://www.nysfola.org/>.

Please remember to obey all laws, rules, regulations, and codes of ethics as they pertain to boating, fishing, hunting, and the management of Oneida Lake and its tributaries.

Report environmental violations.

**1-844-DEC-ECOS (1-844-332-3267)**

*Edited by John Harmon*

*Send us your notes and articles for use in future ENews!*

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