



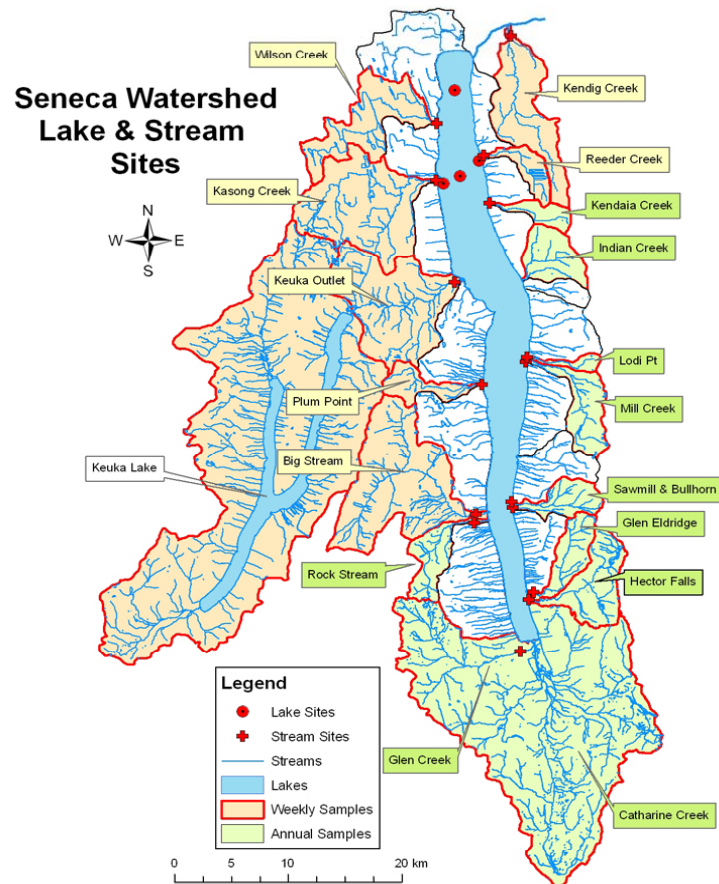
Seneca Watershed Intermunicipal Organization

*Municipalities in 5 Counties
Chemung, Ontario, Schuyler, Seneca, Yates*

Mark Venuti, Chair
Town of Geneva Supervisor

March 2018

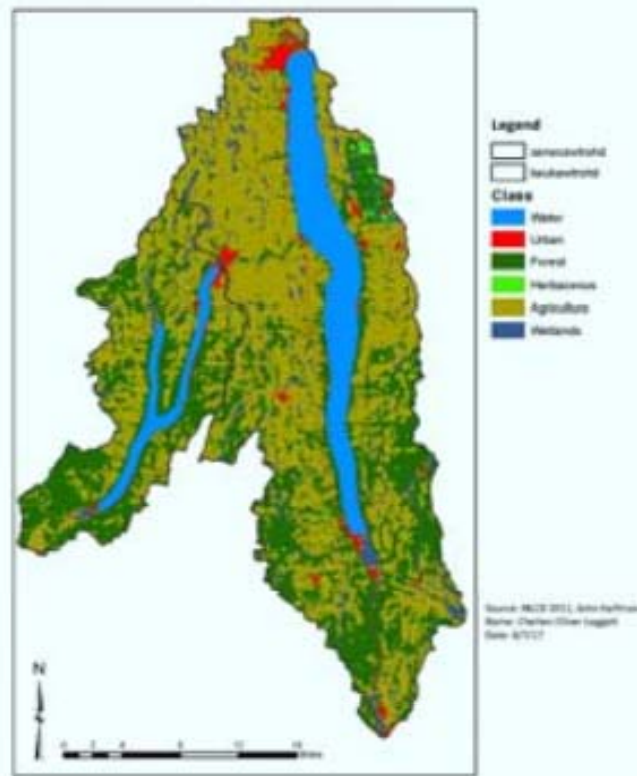
Seneca Lake Watershed



- Largest of the Finger Lakes
 - Surface area - 66 sq. miles
 - Watershed - 457 sq. miles
 - Volume - 4.2 trillion gallons
- Water Supply for 100,000
 - Total Permitted Withdrawals – 9 Million Gallons per Day
- Retention time - 20 years
- Watershed overlaps 40 municipalities in 5 counties

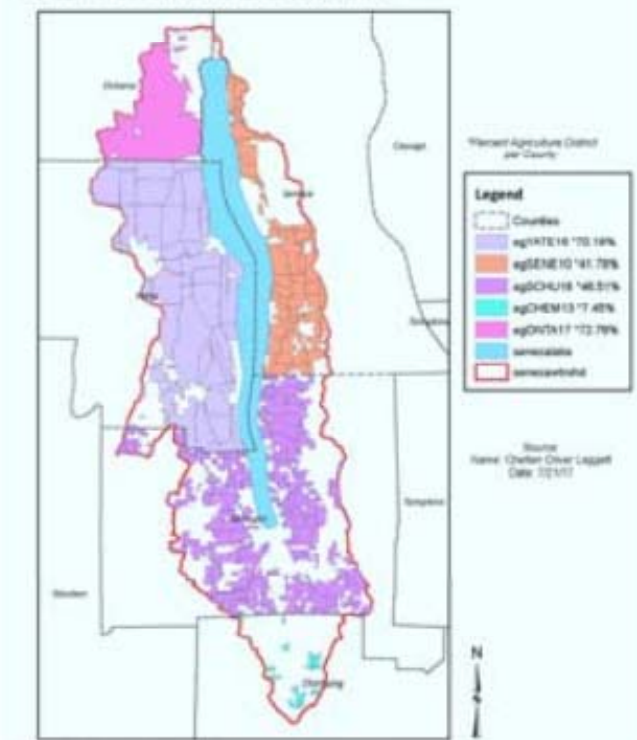
Seneca Lake Watershed

Seneca & Keuka Watershed Land Cover Map



- Agriculture is predominant land use in the watershed
- Agricultural districts account for 52.8% of the watershed
 - Close proximity to the lake

Agricultural Districts of Seneca Lake Watershed



Origin of the Intermunicipal Organization

- The IO came out of the Seneca Lake Watershed Management Plan
 - The Plan built on the 1999 State of the Lake Report
 - Work began in 2010 and the Plan was finalized in 2014
- The issues identified were:
 - Nutrients
 - Invasive Species
 - Contaminants
- How to address these issues:
 - Enforce Steep Slope development guidelines
 - Additional water monitoring for contaminants
 - Adoption of greater stream buffer setback ordinances
 - Additional evaluation and study of possible sources of pollution
 - Additional Training of municipal staff and officials

Watershed Plan Components: Management Practices, Strategies for Watershed Protection; Implementation Strategy and Schedule

- Planning Matrix
 - Steps, strategies
 - Groups responsible
 - Timeline, etc.
- Major areas of concern include:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Coordination, collaboration, partnership recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hazardous waste management
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Agriculture	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Roads and highways
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stormwater management and control	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wetlands
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Forestry and silviculture management	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Regulatory management
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wastewater treatment systems and management	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Invasive species management

SWIO Background

SLAP-5

Seneca Lake Area Partners – 5 Counties



**Southern Tier Central
Regional Planning &
Development Board**



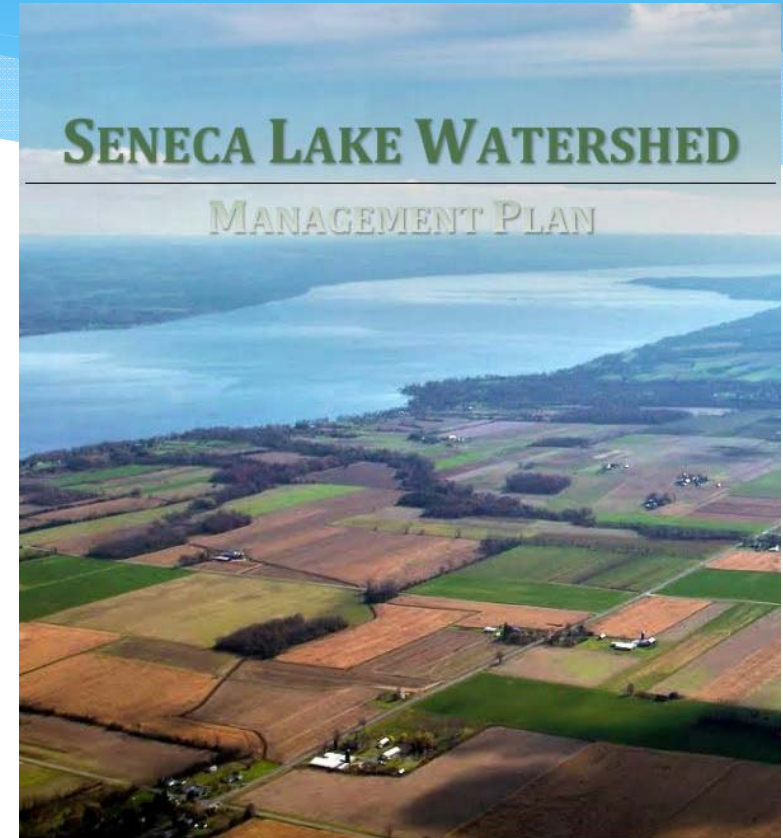
Seneca Lake Watershed Management Plan



Seneca Watershed Intermunicipal Organization

Seneca Lake WMP – 2010-14

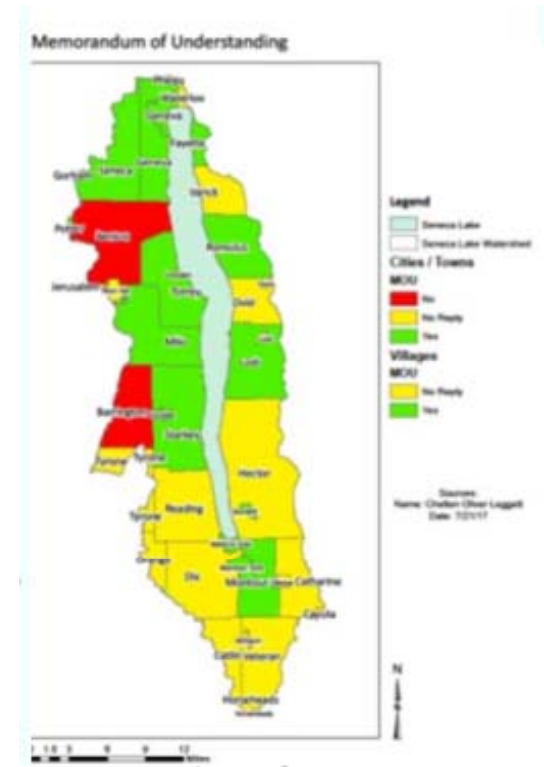
- 40 municipalities
- 5 counties
- 2 regional planning groups
- Lots of stakeholders
 - County Soil and Water Conservation Districts, Cooperative Extensions
 - Seneca Lake Pure Waters
 - FLI/HWS
 - But, few elected officials



Seneca Watershed Intermunicipal Organization

Seneca Lake and its watershed is a tremendous intermunicipal resource affected by the actions taken by and within all communities having legal jurisdiction over any part of the watershed

- Charged with the maintenance and improvement of the health and water quality of the watershed
- To preserve, protect and remediate ecological and water quality concerns in the Seneca Watershed
- Made up elected officials from the 40 municipalities within the watershed
 - To date 22 have joined



Seneca Watershed Intermunicipal Organization

- You have to play to win!
- Membership meetings are quarterly and open to the public
- Next meeting is April 30 at 7:00 p.m. at the Watkins Glen Village Hall, 303 North Franklin Street
- SWIO website is senecawatershedio.wordpress.com
- Contact Mark Venuti at 315-789-3922, 315-789-4549 and supervisor@townofgeneva.com