

## WAYNE COUNTY



### SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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7312 Route 31, Lyons, New York 14489

Telephone/fax (315) 946-7200

[www.waynecountyNYsoilandwater.org](http://www.waynecountyNYsoilandwater.org)

November 29, 2017

#### Memorandum

To: Port Bay Residents

From: Lindsey M. Gerstenslager, District Manager

#### Update for the East Barrier Bar Project

The Port Bay East Barrier Bar is owned by New York State, which means New York State Department of State (NYSDOS) holds the responsibility of ownership. New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) manages the property as a Fishing Access Site (FAS) and maintains the property in relationship with the approval of NYSDOS.

The Port Bay Working Group is continuing to work towards a manageable and acceptable solution with NYSDEC and NYSDOS. The Working Group is made up by local leadership of Port Bay Improvement Association, the Town of Wolcott, Town of Huron, New York Sea Grant, NYSDEC Region 8 Representatives and Wayne County Soil & Water Conservation District. Together, these people are acting as a liaison between the local issues and the State. The Region 8 NYSDEC have actively seeking to find options for this area of shoreline to meet all needs of the residents and wildlife while trying to facilitate information to the NYSDOS Representatives and follow NYS laws and regulations. Their partnership is invaluable in this process. While this project has been on-going for the last four years, a lot has been learned and identified for long term management. Through research, data analysis, geographical and accountability surveys, stabilization tests, and frequent monitoring, many potential long term applications for shoreline stabilization have arose. This information will be published next spring and will shed some light on the internal planning of the Port Bay Working Group. The Port Bay Working Group understands the urgency and is continuing to push for a solution that will sustain all parts of this project.

If you would like to help, please let the state legislative members know how and why the barrier bar helps Port Bay. Below is their contact information and an attached form letter to help with outreach. They are aware of the issues and are working on a solution as well, but having individual names of real people that are affective is a powerful message.

Assemblyman Robert C. Oaks  
10 Leach Road  
Lyons, NY 14489  
315.946.5166  
[oaksr@assembly.state.ny.us](mailto:oaksr@assembly.state.ny.us)

Senator Pamela Helming  
425 Exchange Street  
Geneva, NY 14456  
315.568.9816  
[helming@nysenate.gov](mailto:helming@nysenate.gov)