



NEWS RELEASE

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For more information: Peter Bauer (518) 668-9700 x304

FUND for Lake George Launches Annual Comprehensive Water Quality Monitoring Program; 2009 Marks 30th Year of Continuous Study

Monitoring program has been organized and funded each year since 1980, making it one of the longest and most comprehensive monitoring programs in the U.S.

FUND partners with the RPI Darrin Fresh Water Institute on monitoring program. FUND support totals over \$1.5 million to study Lake George since 1980.

Lake George – The FUND for Lake George has begun its annual water quality monitoring program on Lake George and is pleased to announce that 2009 marks the 30th year of a continuous monitoring program. This is a comprehensive water quality monitoring program that includes a variety of leading parameters to evaluate and track the water quality of Lake George. This program is one of the most successful long-term monitoring programs in the U.S.

“2009 marks the 30th straight year that the FUND for Lake George and the Darrin Fresh Water Institute have partnered to study the water quality of Lake George. The historical importance and scenic beauty of Lake George are well known, but the lake should also be known for its contribution for scientific study. This long-term database has charted the ecological health of Lake George for three decades” said Peter Bauer, Executive Director of the FUND for Lake George.

“The monitoring on Lake George is our most significant research program. Long-term datasets are extremely valuable to fully grasp how we are subtly and significantly altering our environment. Without this kind of information we are subject supposition, accusation and hearsay as to why water quality is changing, which greatly limits communities acting deliberately to protect water quality” said Dr. Charles Boylen, Associate Director of the RPI Darrin Fresh Water Institute. “This partnership is unique in the U.S. where we have a private group that has raised the awareness about the importance of water quality monitoring as well as

provided the financial support for a scientific institute to perform sampling, monitoring, analysis and interpretation.”

The monitoring program covers 12 locations, four littoral zone areas (shallow) and eight deep water locations, from south to north on Lake George, from the Lake George Village to Heart Bay. This study includes the five major sub-basins of Lake George. Specific locations include Tea Island, Warner Bay, Basin Bay, Dome Island, Northwest Bay, French Point, Huletts Landing, Sabbath Day Point, Smith Bay, and Rogers Rock. The analytes sampled include: pH, Specific Conductance, Total Nitrogen, Total Phosphorus, Total Soluble Phosphorus, Soluble Reactive Phosphorus, Nitrate, Ammonia, Silica, Sodium, Calcium, Chloride, Sulfate, Dissolved Oxygen, Chlorophyll-a, Magnesium, Alkalinity, and Transparency, among others.

Over the past 30 years, the FUND for Lake George has raised over \$1.5 million to support this long-term monitoring program and other associated research efforts with the DFWI. Support for lake science in 2009 is \$98,000.

“Good science drives good public policy” said Peter Bauer. “The scientific studies have focused attention on critical public issues facing the lake, from chronic septic system or municipal treatment failures to increasing salt levels to growth of an annual dead zone in the south basin to impacts from inadequate stormwater management and poor land use practices. The FUND and DFWI are committed to publishing a report on the state of Lake George based upon the past 30 years of lake study.”

Lake George is the backbone of the regional economy in this area and is vital to the high quality of life in the area and it makes sense to study the lake thoroughly and to work to protect it” said Peter Bauer.

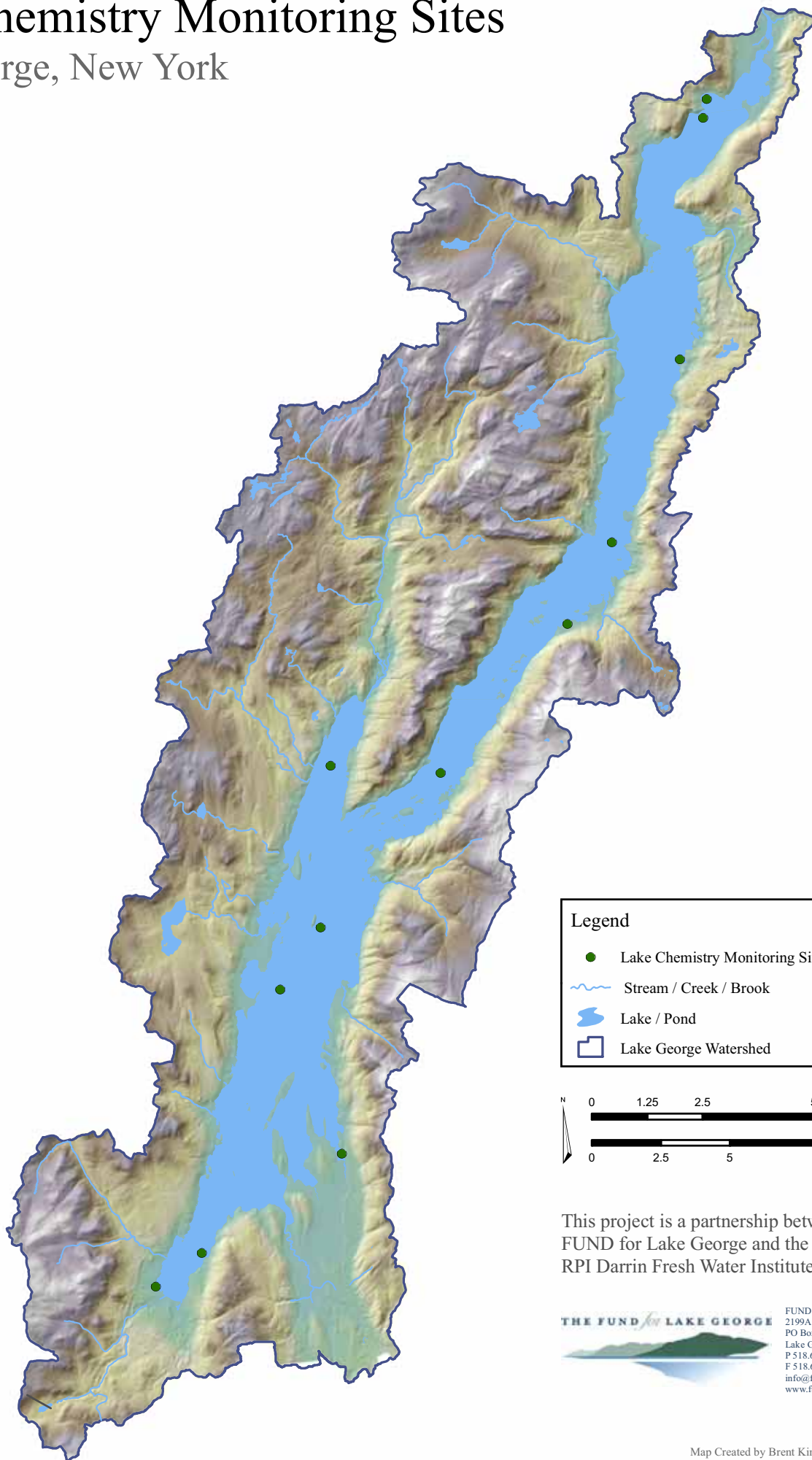
Additionally in 2009, the FUND and DFWI will monitor coliform levels at public beaches around Lake George, maintain an atmospheric research facility at the south end of Lake George in partnership with the Department of Environmental Conservation and Lake George Park Commission, and study stormwater impacts on West Brook.

The FUND for Lake George

The FUND for Lake George is a not-for-profit, privately funded organization dedicated to the protection of Lake George. Formed in 1980, the FUND takes a science-based approach to the protection of Lake George water quality and the overall health of the Lake George watershed. The FUND pursues this mission through grants to fund long-term scientific research on the lake, launching new initiatives, advocacy for new protections, and partnerships with other organizations and local governments. The FUND is the sponsor of the Lake George Waterkeeper, among other programs on Lake George. The FUND for Lake George is managed by a Board of Trustees and maintains an office in Lake George. See www.fundforlakegeorge.org.

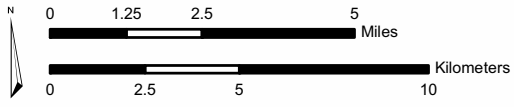
Lake Chemistry Monitoring Sites

Lake George, New York



Legend

- Lake Chemistry Monitoring Site
- ~ Stream / Creek / Brook
- ☑ Lake / Pond
- ☐ Lake George Watershed



This project is a partnership between the
FUND for Lake George and the
RPI Darrin Fresh Water Institute

THE FUND for LAKE GEORGE



FUND for Lake George
2199A State Route 9
PO Box 352
Lake George, NY 12845
P 518.668.9700
F 518.668.5915
info@fundforlakegeorge.org
www.fundforlakegeorge.org