



LAKE CHAMPLAIN AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

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Background

- Cornell University: Limnology Research Technician
 - Biomonitoring and invasive species detection in Great Lakes Region
 - Collection of field samples for GLNPO
 - Education and outreach
 - Teacher education with Illinois Sea Grant
 - Great Lakes water quality and invasive species
- LCBP / DEC Region 5 AIS Outreach Specialist
 - Started June 2024
 - Round Goby
 - Baitfish sign distribution
 - Public outreach
 - Champlain Canal AIS Response



Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Education and Outreach: Lake Champlain and Champlain Canal

2024 Education and Outreach Activities:

- Baitfish Signs
- Public Events and Fishing Tournament
- AIS Management

2025 Education and Outreach Plans:

- Baitfish Signs
- Library AIS Workshops
- Public Events and Fishing Tournaments
- Champlain Canal AIS Response
- Invasive Species Awareness Weeks



2024 OUTREACH



Baitfish Signs

- Bait sign locations
 - 48 total sites
 - Clinton, Essex, Fulton, Warren, Washington, and Saratoga Counties
- Organizations involved
 - NYS DEC
 - Municipal
 - NYS Canals
 - NYS OPRHP

PROTECT YOUR WATERS
Baitfish may be small, but they can be big trouble!

Help keep fishing great in New York State by preventing the spread of invasive species and diseases.

- Don't dump fish or water from one waterbody into another.
- Follow the NYS baitfish regulations and use baitfish only where permitted. <https://on.ny.gov/baitfishregs>.
- Purchase certified disease-free baitfish.
- Dispose of unused baitfish in the trash or at a disposal station.
- Report illegal stocking to NYSDEC. 1-844-DEC-ECOS (1-844-332-3267).

Learn about more ways to protect your waters, <https://on.ny.gov/preventaquaticinvasives>.

Two harmful invasives spread by improper bait disposal

Round goby Rudd

NEW YORK STATE Department of Environmental Conservation

The map shows the Lake Champlain basin with yellow dots indicating 48 bait sign locations. Key locations include Montreal, Plattsburgh, Burlington, Montpelier, Mount Marcy, Saratoga Springs, Albany, and Schenectady. Rivers shown include the Ausable, Lamoille, Wineoaski, Batten Kill, Housatonic, and Connecticut. Mountain ranges like the Adirondack and Appalachian are also labeled. A scale bar shows 75 and 150 km, and a north arrow is present.

PATRICK LEAHY
Lake Champlain Basin Program

NEIW PCC

Public Events and Fishing Tournaments

- Invasive Species Council Meeting
- Hudson Crossing's Park Cardboard Boat Race
- APIPP Lake Protector training
- Adirondack Bass Club October Tournament
- APIPP Adirondak Invasive Species Summit
- Capital Region PRISM Partners Meeting



AIS Management

- Invasive Crayfish sighting
 - Grassland Bird Trust
- Curly Leaf Pondweed identification
 - Hills Pond
- Water Chestnut Removal
 - Plattsburgh



PLANNED 2025 OUTREACH



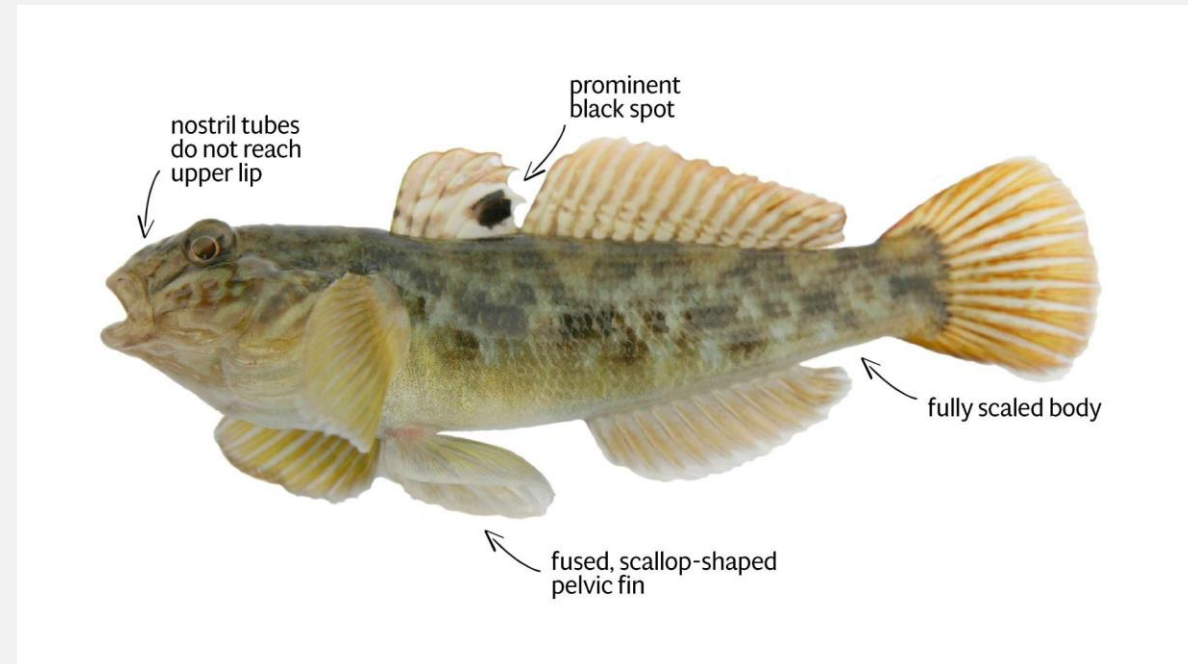
BAITFISH SIGNS

- Baitfish sign locations
 - 136 total sites
 - Clinton, Essex, Fulton, Warren, Washington, and Saratoga Counties
- Organizations and types of sites involved
 - DEC boat launches
 - Municipal
 - NYS Canals
 - NYS OPRHP
 - Marinas
 - Bait shops



LIBRARY AIS IDENTIFICATION WORKSHOPS

- Workshops are being prepared about aquatic invasive species identification
- Topics Covered
 - AIS identification
 - AIS spread prevention
 - What to do if an invasive species is found



LIBRARY AIS IDENTIFICATION WORKSHOPS

Capital region PRISM

- 8 Libraries participating
- Capital region PRISM public events and volunteer opportunities.
- The iMapInvasives reporting tool will be advertised.

Library	Dates and Times
Crandall Library	4/5/2025 1-2pm 4/19/2025 2-3pm
Greenwich Free Library	4/9/2025 6:30-7:30pm 4/16/2025 6:30-7:30pm
Saratoga Springs Library	4/17/2025 7-8pm 4/24/2025 7-8pm
Schuylerville Public Library	TBD
Fort Edward Free Library	5/1/2025 6:30pm-7:30pm 5/22/2025 6:30pm-7:30pm
Hudson Falls Free Library	TBD
Old Stone House Library (Fort Ann)	TBD
Whitehall Library	TBD

LIBRARY AIS IDENTIFICATION WORKSHOPS

Adirondack PRISM

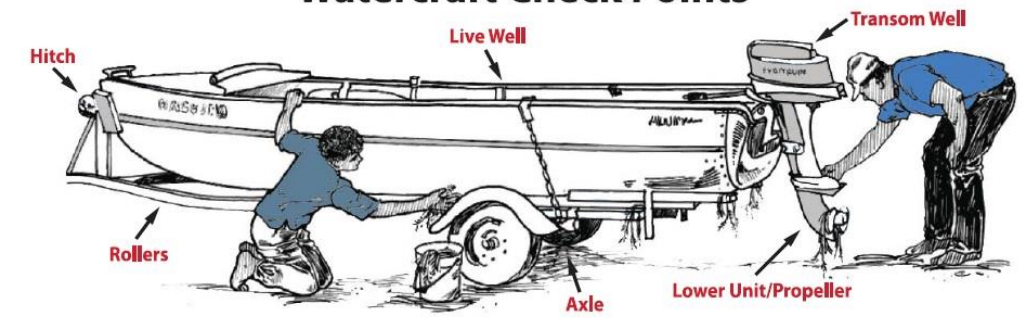
- 10 Libraries participating
- Adirondack PRISM lake protector training and volunteer opportunities.
- The iMapInvasives reporting tool will be advertised.

Library	Dates and Times
Hillview Free Library	3/22/2025 1pm-2pm 4/3/2025 6:30pm-7:30pm 5/3/2025 12:30-2:30pm
Plattsburg Public Library	4/12/2025 10:30am-11:30am 4/19/2025 10:30am-11:30am
Caldwell-Lake George Library	4/23/2025 6:30pm-7:30pm 4/30/2025 6:30am-11:30am
Bolton Free Library	TBD
Au Sable Forks Free Library	4/11/2025 2pm-3pm 4/18/2025 2pm-3pm
Moore's Free Library	5/8/2025 2pm-3pm 5/15/2025 2pm-3pm
Black Watch Memorial Library (Ticonderoga)	4/5/2025 10:30am-11:30am 4/12/2025 2:30pm-3:30pm
Schroon Lake Public Library	5/10/2025 1pm-2pm 5/17/2025 1pm-2pm
Northville Public Library	7/10/2025 12pm-1pm 7/17/2025 12pm-1pm
Richards Library (Warrensburg)	7/14/2025 10am-11am 7/21/2025 10am-11am







PUBLIC EVENTS (SO FAR)

- Hudson Crossing's Park Cardboard Boat Race
- Saratoga County Fair
- Essex County Fair
- Washington County Fair
- New York Invasive Species Expo
- World Canals Conference
- Launch of the Seneca Chief
- NYS Free Fishing Events

Watercraft Check Points



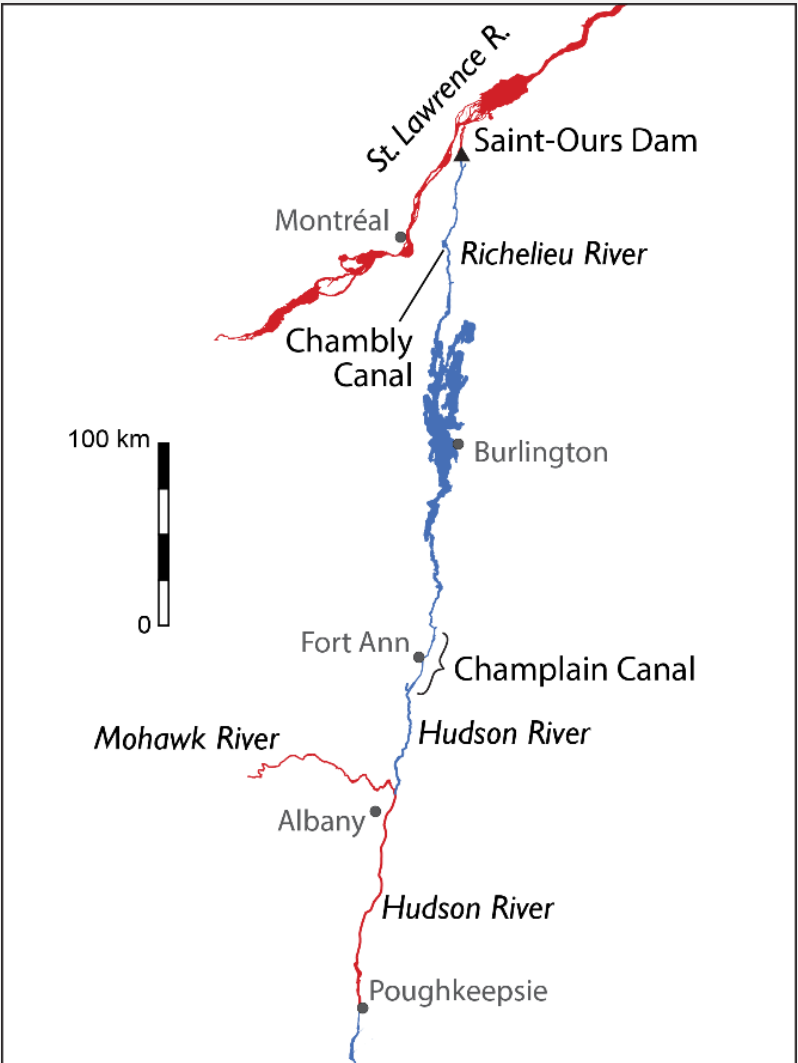
PLEASE DO NOT DUMP BAIT, FISH, OTHER ANIMALS OR PLANTS INTO THE WATER!



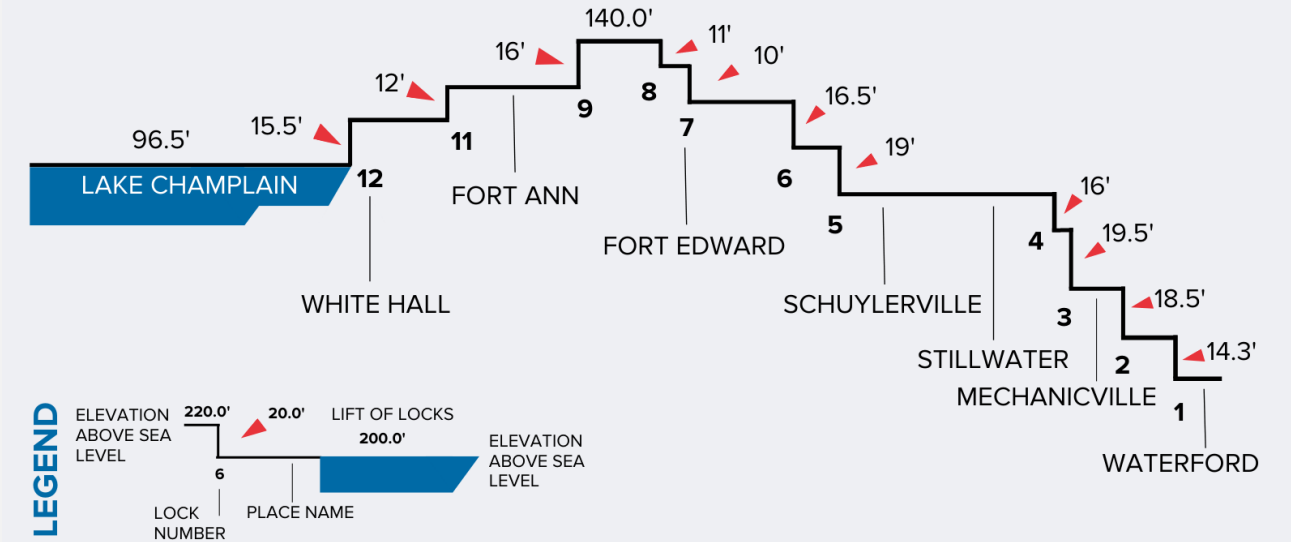
New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation
For more information visit www.nysparks.com/environment
or contact us at invasives@parks.ny.gov

Learn more!

AIS RESPONSE FOR CHAMPLAIN CANAL SYSTEM



CHAMPLAIN CANAL Elevation Map



ANGLER EVENTS AND GROUPS

- Ice fishing events
- Bass fishing events on Lake Champlain
 - Lake Champlain International
 - Adirondack Bass Club
 - Bass Master
 - Major League Bass Fishing
- Adirondack Kayak Fishing
- Trout Unlimited Chapters



INVASIVE SPECIES AWARENESS WEEKS

- National Invasive Species Awareness Week
 - February 24th - 28th
- New York State Invasive Species Awareness Week
 - First week of June



NISAW 2025 is set for
February 24 – 28.

National Invasive Species Awareness Week is an international event to raise awareness about invasive species, the threat that they pose, and what can be done to prevent their spread.



**CLEAN
DRAIN
DRY**

Prevent the Spread of Aquatic
Invasive Species



**STOP AQUATIC
HITCHHIKERS!**

Be A Good Steward. Clean. Drain. Dry.

Questions
or
Recommendations

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