

2018 NY Great Lakes Basin Small Grants Awards Enhancing Community & Ecosystem Resiliency

In 2018, New York Sea Grant (NYSG) in partnership with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) awarded nearly \$200,000 in New York Great Lakes Basin Small Grants (NY-GLBSG) funds to projects to advance community and ecological resiliency within New York's Great Lakes watershed, while supporting water quality improvement and restoration of native wildlife and habitats.

NYSG administers this grants program, now in its fourth year of successfully funding projects that achieve goals of the Great Lakes Action Agenda, as identified by basin-wide stakeholders.



NYGLB Small Grant award recipients use funds to address shoreline restoration and resiliency opportunities. Photo: NOAA/Lauren Long

The 2018 NYGLBSG recipients:

Western New York Land Conservancy, East Aurora, NY, \$25,000: Enhancing Ecosystem Integrity and Climate Resiliency by Restoring Rare Wetland Seep Ecosystems in the Niagara Gorge.

Measures to control non-native invasive plants add to a larger multi-year effort to restore plant communities throughout the Niagara Gorge.

City of Ogdensburg, Ogdensburg, NY, \$25,000: Alternative Solutions for Managing Erosion: Engineered Solutions vs. Nature-Based Approach and the Implications for Access to Waterfront Recreation. For siting and design of living shoreline features, public discussion re: erosion, flood protection, waterfront access/recreation, risk reduction planning.

Genesee-Finger Lakes Regional Planning Commission, \$25,000: Post-Flood Recovery Building Workshop. Funded a community-driven process for Sodus Point stakeholder groups to begin developing post-2017 flood event resiliency planning.

Onondaga Environmental Institute, Syracuse, NY, \$24,987: Improving Aquatic Habitat Connectivity in the Onondaga Creek Watershed for Coldwater Species Restoration in a Changing Climate.

Increasing native and removing invasive vegetation is improving riparian habitat to support sustained brook trout survival plus stream bank stability.

Environmental Finance Center, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY, \$25,000: Creating Community and Watershed Resiliency through Training and Technical Assistance: For 2 workshops to spur shoreline and upland communities to implement ecosystem-based management (flood resiliency) planning.

Town of Greece, NY, \$25,000, Waterfront Infrastructure Resiliency Assessment. For improving the integrity & operation of waterfront sewer systems, particularly during high water conditions.

The Nature Conservancy, Rochester, NY, \$25,000: Salmon Creek/South Avenue Engineering Study. For current-day hydrologic/hydraulic study regarding flooding attenuation in Village of Hilton and apartment complex area.

St. Lawrence County, Canton, NY, \$25,000: Enhancing Shoreline Resilience Along the St. Lawrence River in St. Lawrence County. For stakeholder-driven assessment of ecosystem vulnerability and resiliency measures to add to city, town and village planning along 40 miles of riverfront.

New York's GLBSG Program is a project of the state Environmental Protection Fund's Ocean and Great Lakes Ecosystem Conservation Program.

For More Information:

<http://www.nyseagrant.org/glsmallgrants>