



Lake George Association

People Protecting the Lake Since 1885

NEWS RELEASE

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For IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LGA Teaches Lake Protection to Lake George Elementary Students

Lake George, NY – November 7, 2011 – Staff from the Lake George Association worked this past October with Lake George Elementary School teacher Robin Weber and her 5 - 6th grade after-school club -- the Lake Rangers. The Rangers meet weekly to examine the issues affecting the Lake George watershed.

Several weeks ago, the Rangers toured the site of the West Brook Conservation Initiative with LGA Project Manager Randy Rath, and learned how the stormwater runoff entering the lake presents its greatest threat. Last week, Emily DeBolt, LGA director of education, and Jill Trunko, LGA educational intern, worked with the students at a stream on the school's property to help capture and identify the macroinvertebrates living in the stream. These tiny insects are key to determining the biological health and water quality of a stream.

Some macroinvertebrates are very sensitive to pollution while others are very tolerant. Sensitive organisms like mayflies, stoneflies, caddisflies, (*pictured above, courtesy of University of Wisconsin Extension*), water pennies, dobsonflies or hellgrammites, and gilled snails are all indicators of healthy, good quality water.

"The students donned rubber boots, grabbed nets and ventured into the stream," said Robin Weber, the students' teacher. "This was truly a remarkable hands-on activity yielding a memorable and meaningful learning experience. The LGA is a valuable resource to us. I appreciate the tremendous learning opportunity we have right in our backyard," she continued.

About the Lake George Association

The LGA is a member-supported nonprofit organization. Families, businesses, summer residents and donors support the LGA. Founded in 1885, the Lake George Association is the nation's oldest lake protection organization. Members and friends of the association can:

- Learn more about lake-friendly living;
- Take a trip aboard the LGA's Floating Classroom;
- Subscribe to a free e-newsletter;
- Attend educational outreach presentations;
- Become a citizen scientist or volunteer for stream clean-ups;
- Call the LGA for technical expertise and solutions for low-impact development and landscaping; and
- Learn about LGA stormwater protection projects in their neighborhoods.

The LGA is located on Rt. 9N across from I-87 South Exit 21 in Lake George. For more information the public can call 518-668-3558 or visit www.lakegeorgeassociation.org



Photo caption: LGA Educator Jill Trunko prepares Lake George Elementary students to use nets to capture macroinvertebrates from a stream on the school's property. The 5-6th grade students participate in "Lake Rangers," an after-school club that examines issues affecting the Lake George watershed, led by teacher Robin Weber.



Photo caption: LGA Director of Education Emily DeBolt helps Lake George students identify the macrovertebrates they captured. These tiny insects are key to determining the biological health and water quality of a stream.

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