



Goals:

- ✓ Help environmental and outdoor clubs, as well as interested classes, become more aware of environmental issues that pertain to Lake George, its watershed and the Adirondacks.
- ✓ Empower students to make a difference in their community by learning about and addressing environmental issues.
- ✓ Foster environmental awareness and support within the community through parental communication and involvement.

IGAwareness is designed to help schools, classes and clubs learn more about environmental issues affecting Lake George, and watersheds in general. Then, teachers and students can take that learning a step further by getting involved in the community, by working to fix a problem or to prevent a potential problem.



For example, the LGA may do a presentation on stormwater runoff and non-point source pollution to a class, which can then look for sources of non-point source pollution in its own community. From there, the class may decide to address one issue affecting their community. The class may identify that people are not picking up after their pets, and the nutrients from the pet waste may be adding nutrients to the lake, or nearby stream.

The LGA can work with them to come up with solutions to this problem- which may include creating “pet stations” with a scooper and bags, as well as installing educational signage. The LGA would

serve as a resource to help guide the class through the process of getting permission from their municipality to go forward with the project, as well as the

details of what the stations would look like, how many are needed, and where they would go. The municipality may be able to help contribute funds, or the group may decide to fundraise for the project on their own. In some cases, the LGA may also have funds available to contribute to a project.

The LGA will work with teachers to make presentations relevant to curriculum and NYS standards. While there may not be time in a teacher's schedule to devote to a service project, there may be volunteers that could be used to help carry out the students' ideas. Any and all suggestions are welcome. The LGA will publicly recognize classes that complete or help with service projects.

Available presentations (Note: If there is a topic of interest that is not on the list, just ask and we may be able to put something together or direct you to a professional who can):

- ✓ The Lake George Association: What it is and what it does.
- ✓ Issues and pressures facing Lake George (or any lake)
- ✓ Non-point source pollution
- ✓ Invasive species
- ✓ What is a watershed?

All of these can be adapted to any age group. Some presentations may include activities or games. Length can also be varied to meet your needs.

Service project ideas (Here is just a sample!):

- ✓ Informational campaigns in the school using posters, flyers, newsletters, lectures, etc.
- ✓ Native plant garden or rain garden projects on school grounds
- ✓ Older students can develop games and activities to teach a subject to younger students
- ✓ Earth Day or other celebrations hosted by a class or club.

The possibilities for ideas are limitless! Even if you feel your class or club will not have time to do a big project, talk to the LGA about doing it in stages, or doing 1 stage of a project.

This program is free to schools in the Lake George Watershed, and is underwritten by the LGA's members and contributors. A small fee will be charged to cover mileage for schools located outside of the Lake George Watershed.

If you have questions or ideas or to sign up to participate in this program, or just to schedule a presentation, call or email LGA's Education and Outreach Coordinator: 668-3558 or kbadey@lakegeorgeassociation.org.

The Lake George Association is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization. On the web at www.lakegeorgeassociation.org.