



# Lake George Association

*People Protecting the Lake Since 1885*

## NEWS RELEASE

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

#### **Invasive Yellow Iris Back on Lake George**

Lake George, NY – June 10, 2011 – The Lake George Association is asking the public to be on the lookout for Yellow Iris, *Iris pseudacorus*, an invasive species currently in bloom. This invader has returned to Mossy Point, where the LGA first discovered it a couple years ago. Though pretty, yellow iris is known as a “botanical bully” because it is poisonous and it spreads aggressively. Its roots can connect hundreds of plants, choking native wetland plants, restricting water flow and degrading habitat for fish, plants and other animals. Its seeds spread long distances along the edges of ponds, rivers, streams and lakes.

“Early detection and a rapid response for removal is the key to the successful eradication of any new lake invader,” said Emily DeBolt, LGA’s director of education. “That’s why we need the eyes of as many people as possible, looking around on the lake edge for this plant,” she said.

Please call the LGA at 518-668-3558 if you see this plant on Lake George or its tributaries. Before attempting to pull this invader, please verify the plant's identification with the LGA. If desired, the LGA will come out and remove this plant from a lakeside property. If a property owner decides to remove the plant on their own, these steps should be followed:

1. Wear gloves as the plant’s resins can irritate the skin.
2. Clip flower heads prior to seed development.
3. Pull and dig out plants being careful to completely remove all of the roots. Any roots remaining in the ground can grow new infestations.
4. Cut plants standing in water below the waterline.
5. Place all plant pieces in plastic bags and take the bags to a sanitary landfill site. Do not compost.

(See picture last page.)

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#### **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](http://www.lakegeorgeassociation.org)

