Fundraising Reaches ‘95 Goal

Bunny and Lew Hamilton and the BFS Advisory Committee have successfully completed their first year fundraising effort. Their goal: $40,000. Total donations: $42,005. We would like to acknowledge and thank the following donors as well as those listed in the Fall ’96 Reporter.

American Fisheries Society
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Walter vom Saal

Located in Cooperstown and founded in 1968, the Biological Field Station is a unique facility serving the Upper Susquehanna Watershed, Otsego county and the immediate Cooperstown area. It is primarily a teaching and research center for undergraduate and graduate students from across New York, the United States, and Canada. Directed by Dr. Willard Harman and staffed with talented, experienced professionals, the Biological Field Station is presently the focal point for information about issues affecting Lake Otsego and the Susquehanna River.
OTSEGO LAKE IS SEVERELY STRESSED BECAUSE...

...LAKESIDE RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT...

...PLUS AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITY...

IN ADDITION, MORE BOATS WITH GREATER HORSEPOWER...

...SERVED MOSTLY BY SEPTIC SYSTEMS...

...CAUSES NUTRIENT LOADING, FERTILIZING ALGAE AND AQUATIC WEEDS.

...PRODUCE WAKES WHICH RELEASE NUTRIENTS FROM THE SEDIMENTS.
NUTRIENT LOADING CAUSES EXCESSIVE ALGAL GROWTH...

...WHICH REDUCES WATER CLARITY, HURTING RECREATIONAL USE.

FURTHER, IT CAUSES A SHIFT TOWARD HARMFUL BLUE-GREEN ALGAE.

GREATER ALGAL POPULATIONS DEplete MORE BOTTOM OXYGEN...

...THREATENING OTSEGO'S COLD WATER FISHERY.

VERY LOW OXYGEN WILL TRIGGER A SELF-PERPETUATING PHOSPHORUS RELEASE, IMPERILING THE LAKE.

In Oxygenated Water, Phosphorus...

...Binds to Bottom Sediments.

In Oxygen Depleted Water...

...Phosphorus Is Released from Sediments.
OTSEGO LAKE BIODIVERSITY HAS SUFFERED...

...AS INTRODUCED ALEWIFE POPULATIONS EXPLODED...

...DECIMATING AN ESSENTIAL OPEN-WATER FOOD SOURCE...

...FOR AN IMPORTANT GAME FISH, THE CISCO, PLUS SMELT AND SOME TYPES OF MINNOWS.

FURTHER, INTRODUCED EXOTIC PLANTS ARE TAKING OVER, REDUCING DIVERSITY.

HIGHER LAKE LEVELS ERODE SHORELINES, HURTING MOLLUSK POPULATIONS...

...AS WELL AS IMPORTANT FISH-FOOD INSECTS...

...DEGRADING THE LAKE.

The College at Oneonta Foundation receives and manages gifts for the Biological Field Station. All gifts are used expressly for the purposes for which they are given and are tax-deductible. Information is available through:

Dr. Willard Harman  
Professor and Director  
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Cooperstown, NY 13326  
(607) 547-8778

The Biological Field Station is a facility of the State University of New York College at Oneonta.

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