



PRESS RELEASE

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Lake George's Last Great Shoreline Protected

Acquisition of 351 acres on Lake George ends nearly two decades of negotiations

Bolton Landing, NY – On February 27, 2009 the Lake George Land Conservancy (LGLC) ended nearly two decades of negotiations when it closed on the acquisition of 351 acres and 2,357 feet of shoreline along Lake George's eastern shore in the Town of Putnam. The conservation project, called the Last Great Shoreline, also includes 70 acres and 1,613 feet of shoreline remaining in private ownership that is now protected by a deed restriction.

The Last Great Shoreline is the largest, undeveloped, privately owned parcel remaining unprotected in Lake George. Lying just south of Anthony's Nose and Adirondack Camp, a popular kids' summer camp, the land is visible from the shoreline of Hague, Friends Point and Island Harbor.

The land contains approximately thirty-five acres of wetlands (reportedly including a rare white cedar swamp) which provide important food and breeding sites for amphibians, birds and mammals. These Sucker Brook wetlands provide a natural filtration system, contributing to the pristine water quality of Lake George. In addition, the legendary Jumping Rock, rising approximately 30 feet above the lake, is situated on the northern shore and will be preserved forever as an LGLC preserve.

"We are celebrating the protection of this Last Great Shoreline, a beautiful wilderness with extensive wetlands that provide critical habitat for wildlife as well as a natural method of water filtration," said Nancy Williams, Executive Director of the Lake George Land Conservancy. "Protecting this property is essential to completing the visual chain of protected, forested lake views that extend from Anthony's Nose to Gull Bay."

The \$4 million project marks the largest dollar purchase in LGLC history. The purchase has been made possible in part through funding provided by the Helen V. Froehlich Foundation, the Open Space Institute (OSI), and generous support by private donors.

"The Froehlich Foundation provided essential funding that paid for the initial expenses required prior to even signing a contract. None of our acquisitions would be possible without their generous, annual support," said Williams.

Karen Cortese, on behalf of The Northern Trust Company as Trustee of the Helen V. Froehlich Foundation, noted that the Foundation "is pleased with the results of our investment in Lake George and we know that Helen would approve of the lands that are being protected."

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“Protection of Lake George’s Last Great Shoreline is a huge step forward in protecting Lake George’s water quality and viewshed,” said OSI President Joe Martens, “While OSI is proud to have played a part in its protection, the Lake George Land Conservancy deserves the thanks and praise of all New Yorkers for taking on this hugely important project.”

The Open Space Institute is a nonprofit land conservation organization based in New York that has protected more than 100,000 acres in New York State through direct land acquisition—20,000 of those acres in the Adirondacks, including the nearly 10,000-acre Tahawus parcel.

LGLC plans to build a trail from Warrick Road to the shoreline overlook that will be open to the public from dawn to dusk. These trails will run along the upper ridges toward the Lake George shoreline south of Pam’s Point. A path to Sucker Brook wetlands and a boardwalk with interpretive signage would enhance the educational value of the trail system. In the future a trail may be built that will connect to LGLC existing Gull Bay Preserve and its active great blue heron rookery, just south of the new property.

LGLC would like to catalogue the bird populations that use this region for habitat and food. “We are looking for birders to help us identify bird populations as they migrate through or stay to breed from early spring through summer,” said Williams.

The Jumping Rock parcel will be open via boat from the water and open by land for educational trail programs from Warrick Road. “We believe that controlling the land access to Jumping Rock is important to protect the public’s safety,” explained Williams.

“We hope that our generous supporters will consider the importance of this initiative to the lake for its protection of water quality and scenic beauty,” said Williams, “and will invest with their financial support in the future of Lake George. The wilderness we preserve today is our legacy to our children and our children’s children.”

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The Lake George Land Conservancy is a nonprofit land trust dedicated to working with willing landowners to protect the world-renowned water quality of Lake George and to permanently preserve the natural, scenic and recreational resources of the Lake George region. To date, LGLC has protected more than 12,500 acres and 49,500 feet of shoreline within the Lake George watershed. www.lglc.org

The Open Space Institute (OSI) protects scenic, recreational, historical and working landscapes to ensure public enjoyment, conserve habitats, and sustain community character. www.osiny.org



Left: Last Great Shoreline wetlands

Below: Location map of Last Great Shoreline property as well as other properties protected by LGLC and its partners.

