



Introduction: A variety of actors from Vermont, New York and Quebec have affected how Lake Champlain has been developed and the water quality in various regions of the lake. As climate change causes more natural disasters and rainfall, more phosphorous will leach into the lake, causing blue-green algae blooms. In order to improve water quality in Lake Champlain it is important to understand the various actors involved in addressing water quality of the lake.



Guide to Advocating for Water Quality in Lake Champlain Brochure

Methods: I compiled a list of names and organizations of actors involved in Lake Champlain from multiple sources including the VT State Archives, UVM Special Collections, a TAC Meeting and Lake Champlain Basin Program’s website. These were added to a Microsoft Excel file with all of the various actors involved in Lake Champlain. There is a separate spreadsheet for Vermont, New York, Quebec, the United States, Canada and International actors. From there each spreadsheet was broken down into categories by Statewide Agencies, Statewide Nonprofits, Local and Regional Government, Local and Regional Nonprofits, and companies and industries. These were then cross-referenced by the various interests of each actor. The categories are: environmental, agricultural, emergency management, transportation, commerce, public service, health, recreation, environmental research, agricultural research, and people who may be involved in each organization or governmental position. Each actor with a website was given a hyperlink, so that future research may be easier to complete.



Conclusions: Lake Champlain has many actors, which function in a multijurisdictional network to keep the lake clean. Each actor has different goals in reducing phosphorous, whether it is for recreation, human safety, or just a clean environment. There are 6 different governmental bodies and a variety of non-profits who want to prevent further pollution from phosphorous run off, and each has different ideas of how to accomplish this goal. With the imminent threat of climate change, it is important that they all come together. Citizen activism will play a huge role in the future and it is important to educate the public about how they can become involved.

Results: My research has produced a comprehensive spreadsheet that is easily accessible to future researchers and individuals interested in the various governmental and non-governmental actors involved in Lake Champlain. I have also produced a pamphlet that helps citizens learn how to advocate for water quality in Lake Champlain (see image).

Lit Cited:

- <http://www.lcbp.org/>
- <http://clf.org>
- www.echovermont.org/
- <http://lcmm.org>
- <http://vermontagriculture.org>
- <http://vermontfishandwildlife.org>
- <http://www.nbr.state.vt.us/>
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Actors Affecting Water Quality in Lake Champlain

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