



ASSEMBLY POINT ALGAL BLOOM HOT SPOTS

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The Lake Champlain Basin Program (LCBP) awarded the APWQC funds that included an initiative to continue exploration of the Assembly Point shoreline. During the summer Kathy Bozony and Lisa Adamson swam the shoreline photographing algae blooms and collecting algae samples. The samples were analyzed using the **Palmer Pollution Index (PPI)** metrics values where certain types of algae are associated with water pollution. Tests showed that algae samples from some Assembly Point sites (see photographs) were typical of that found in areas contaminated by sewage (human and/or animal waste) and received high PPI values.

Algal blooms can be a warning indicator of excess nutrients flowing into the lake and contaminating our drinking water. Stormwater runoff carrying road salt and pollution, sediment from unbuffered streams and shorelines, fertilizers and pesticides, cesspools, untreated wastewater from poorly designed or unmaintained septic systems and other pollutants all feed the algae in the lake, forever changing its water quality. A recent study funded by the LCBP revealed a definite correlation between residential property values and water quality. When water quality decreases, sale values decrease.

During the 3rd Annual Algae Awareness Day swim (July 16), Kathy and Assembly Point residents snorkeled several sites on the periphery of Assembly Point to see what lurks underwater in Lake George. The team also learned how to identify and report invasive aquatic plants to the Lake George Park Commission. Mary Helen O'Keeffe reported a new milfoil bed off the northern end of the Assembly Point this summer to the LGPC and it is now scheduled for hand harvesting by the Commission.

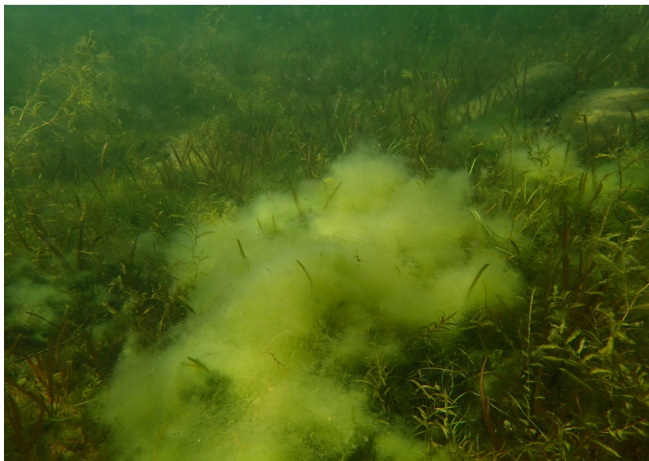
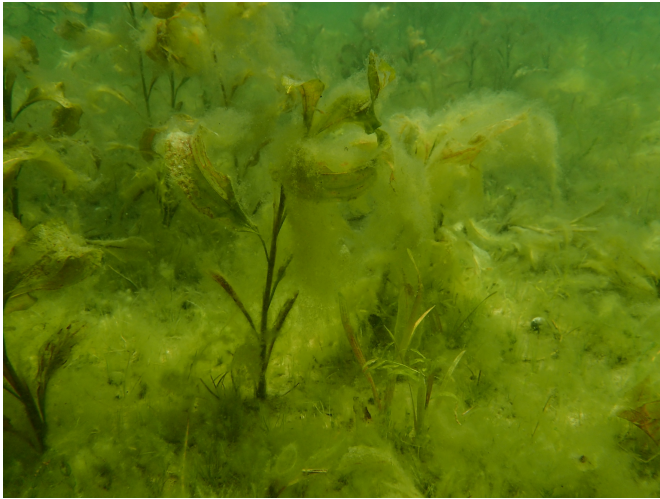


Assembly Point Milfoil Sites

Legend

- FUND Sites
- Dense Sites
- Moderate Sites
- High Priority Sparse Sites
- Low Priority Sparse Sites
- Clear in 2015 Sites
- Clear Sites removed from Active Management

**Assembly Point Algae Blooms in distressed areas
with high Palmer Pollution Index values**



Dr. Robert Adamson's Early History of Assembly Point

Lake Champlain Basin Program funds have allowed APWQC to relaunch Robert Adamson's book, *Assembly Point in the 20th Century*, first issued in 2001.

Bob's history starts out with battles of the American Revolution that occurred on or near Lake George. One of the revolutionaries, Jonathan Coolidge, returned to explore the Lake and bought 250 acres on a high hill above Diamond Point. From it, he could see a long, beautiful peninsula, now known as Assembly Point. Later, his grandsons, together with other businessmen from Glens Falls and Ticonderoga, namely, the Lees and Adamsons, bought 40 acres on the Point.

Assembly Point is unique not only because of its setting on the Queen of American Lakes, surrounded by the Adirondack mountains but also because of the care taken by its early settlers from the Mohawk Indians to the founding fathers of Glens Falls. Their spirit made our community unique: a spirit of public service, benevolence, neighborliness and care for and enjoyment of nature. That spirit of stewardship lives on in the various associations on the Point.

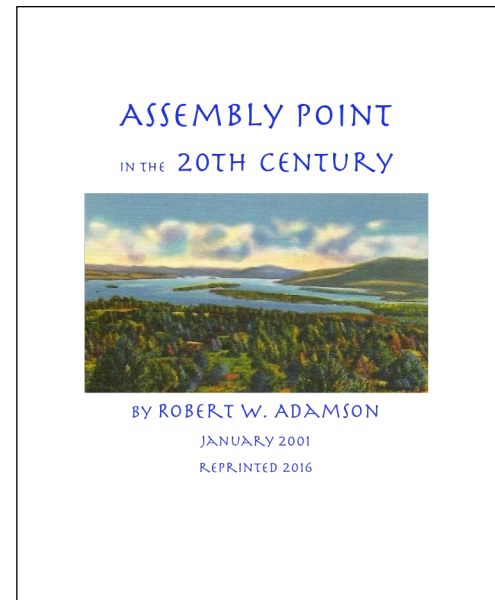
Another important person in the Point's development was Dr. Drurie Sanford of Brooklyn, NY who bought Long Island and established a home there. Dr. Sanford was invited to establish the Lake George Assembly on the Point. It was to be a community of residents dedicated to religion, reason and recreation.

Howard Mason in his book, *Backward Glances*, describes the Point,

At age 11 in 1893, my parents.... went there for a Sunday drive.... around the shore of the new Forty Acres until we reached the open-air pavilion or lecture hall which was well filled.... One thing that impressed mewas the great number of open-work, rustic houses along the paths.

Shortly afterwards, a US Post Office and a general store were established at the end of the Point. By 1925 over 30 shoreline lots had been sold north of Takundewide Lane now Crossover Lane. The decision was made to keep the center area in back of the shore lots for recreation or forever wild. A new corporation called Otyokwa, meaning "gathering of friendly people", was created in 1939 to hold this center property. Adamson's history finishes at the end of the 1930s, however his daughters, Lisa and Judith have added a chapter to bring us up to the present day. Board member Dr. Rolf Ahlers has written the Forward.

The book is available for a \$10 donation to the Coalition. Call 656-9440 for a copy.



Please consider a tax exempt donation to the APWQC this year!

Would you like to receive the newsletter via email?

Contact: Beverly Pozzi 656-9440; apwqc7@gmail.com

SHORT NOTES:

- The Lake George Park Commission released its *Lake George 2015 Recreation Study*. Did you know there were almost 16,000 boat registrations in 2015 and that Assembly Point is over capacity (238%) in boats per acre and that 60 law enforcement officers were required to restrain the 700 attendees at Log Bay Day? Our fall newsletter will review this important report.
- The Million Dollar Beach was closed seven days during August 2016 by the NYS DEC because of high fecal coliform levels.
- The Harris Bay Yacht Club has asked the Lake George Park Commission for a variance to expand in order to accommodate larger boats.
- Welcome Packets, which explain the history of the Point and tips on Lake stewardship, are available to all new residents.
- If you would like to serve on the Board of Directors of the Coalition please contact Mary Helen O'Keeffe, Chair of the Board.

THANK YOU:

- Golub Foundation for funding the plantings on the Shore Colony embankment, Scott Dubin and Gould's Landscaping for getting the job done.
- Town of Queensbury for replacing and improving the catchment basins at the bottom of Sunset Lane. While this is an "end of the pipe" solution, it is a step to preserving water quality.
- Corrina Parnapy for testing and reporting on 31 samples of algae taken from around Assembly Point.

The Assembly Point Water Quality Coalition, Inc. is a 501c3 non-profit corporation committed to improving and restoring water quality and compromised ecosystems in the Lake George Lake Champlain Basin by supporting policies, regulations and practices which preserve and protect waters and watersheds.
