

Pleasant Lake Association
Invasive Species Committee
PO Box 194
Stratford, New York 13470

February 3, 2019

Town of Caroga
PO Box 328
Caroga Lake, NY 12032

Dear Mr. James Long,

The property owners on Pleasant Lake in the town of Stratford, Fulton County are very fortunate that they can enjoy a clean lake which is free of any aquatic invasive plants or animals. Over the last decade, the number of transient watercraft launched by guests and renters, has significantly increased. Those unsupervised launches pose a great concern regarding the introduction of aquatic invasive species into the lake.

The Pleasant Lake Association's Invasive Species Committee has developed protocols for aquatic invasive species and boat launch monitoring. There is an ongoing invasive species prevention education program for all property owners, including those who rent. The major launch site has signage acknowledging that watercraft need to be dry, drained and clean before launch, there is a sign-in kiosk to register launched boats, and the launch is occasionally staffed by a lake steward. We encourage that before a watercraft is launched that it is washed at the Caroga Lake Wash Station. Address and times of operation of the wash station are posted at the ramp, along access roads to the lake, and periodically advertised on the Pleasant Lake community Facebook page.

In 2016 the Pleasant Lake Association's Invasive Species Committee enthusiastically endorsed having a wash and inspection station on Rt 29A in Caroga Lake. The station is not only located on the main route to Pleasant Lake but is just 8 miles away. The location is very convenient for potential boaters to our lake and they have frequently used that facility to clean their watercraft. The boat wash and inspection station is a major deterrent to the introduction of aquatic invasive plants and animals into the lakes of the southern Adirondacks.

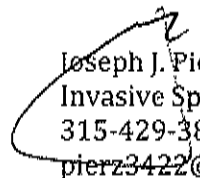
We gladly support the Town of Caroga's application for funding through the State Department of Environmental Conservation's Invasive Species Prevention Program to continue to operate and maintain the 29A boat wash and inspection station. The health of our lakes, in this region, depends on its operation.

Thank you so much for your leadership in the stewardship of the lakes in our county.

With Appreciation,



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