

CNY Regional NYSFOLA Conference Land Trusts Working for Water Quality

**The Central New York Land Trust
and Our Role in Protecting
Skaneateles Lake Watershed**





Protecting Nature's Gems...*One Acre at a Time*

CNY Land Trust & Water Quality

Richard "Rick" Smardon, PhD, Past Board Chair &
Paul Porter, Director of Stewardship
Central New York Land Trust

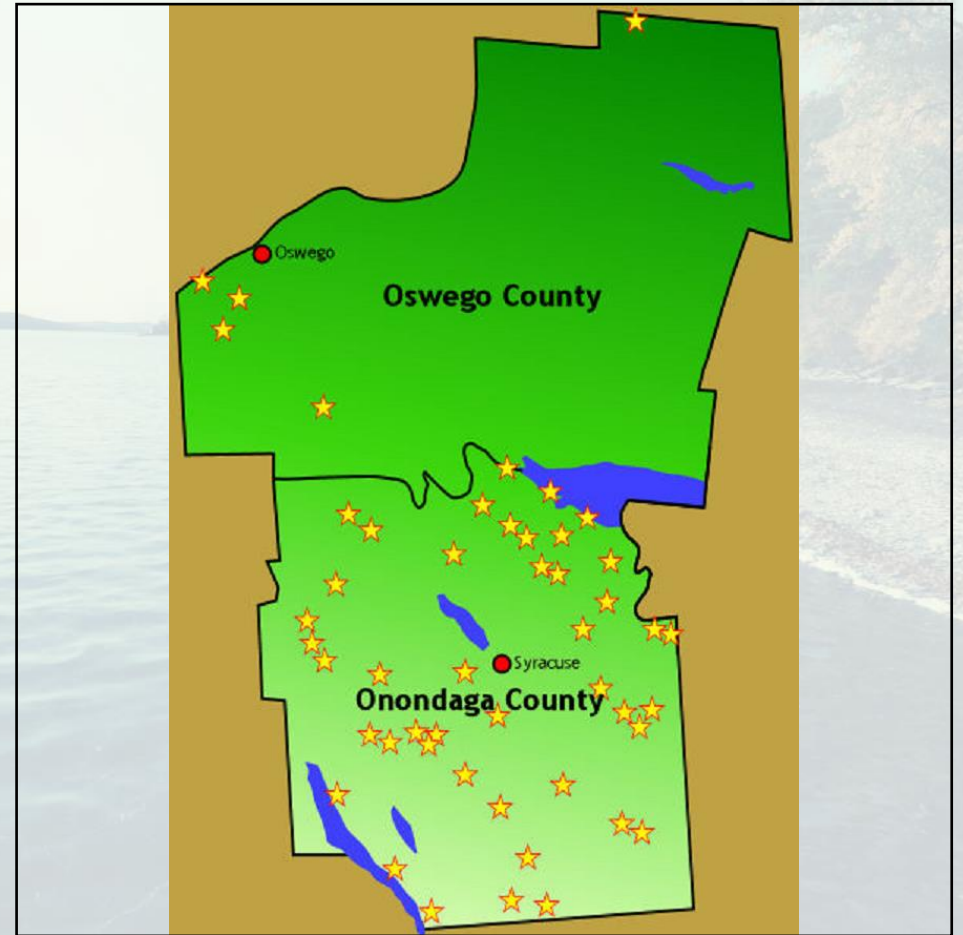
Central New York Land Trust

- Founded in 1972
- Membership-supported, nonprofit land conservation organization
- 1750-square mile service area in Onondaga and Oswego Counties
- Supported by over 350 individuals and families



Central New York Land Trust

- 51 preserves
- Started with Baltimore Woods & Old Fly Marsh
- 6th largest land trust in NY state
- Nationally accredited in 2021



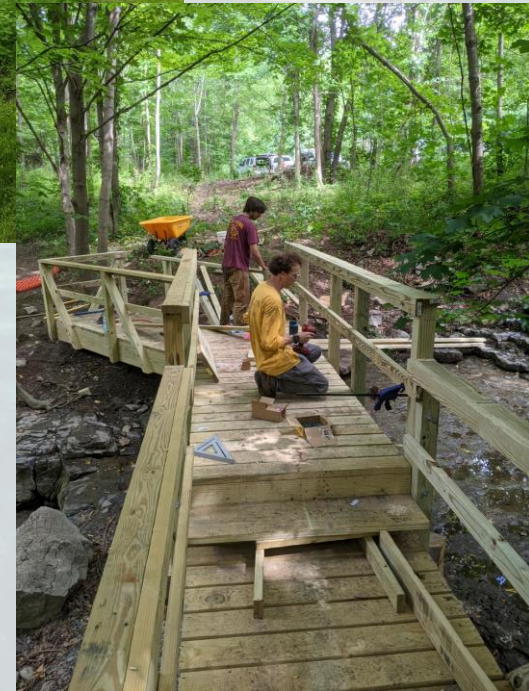
Central New York Land Trust

- Major role is property acquisition & stewardship
 - Due diligence
 - Fee simple vs. easements
 - Acquisition means
 - Tax exemption status
 - Level of development



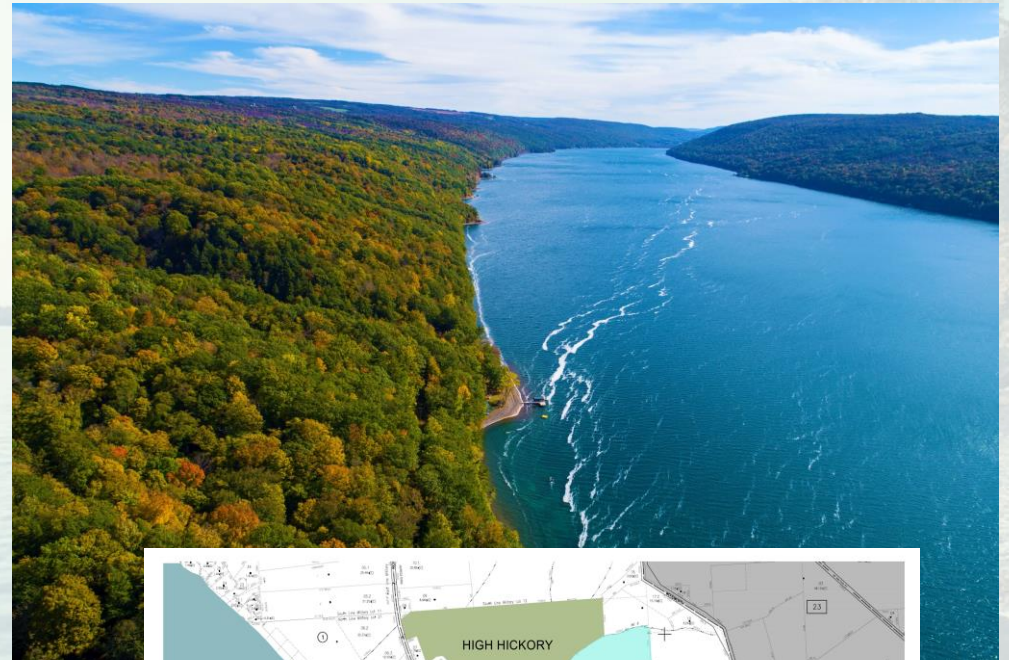
Central New York Land Trust

2022 - A Year of Progress, Partnership and Bridge Building



CNYLT and Water Quality Roles

- The Vitkus Conservation area Skaneateles Lake
- CNYLT recipient of Water Quality Improvement Grant (WQIP)
- CNYLT Recipient of Central New York Community Foundation Grant



Central New York Land Trust

Vitkus Conservation Area Skaneateles Lake

- Conserve 108 acres
- Restore damaged steep-sloped eskers and streambanks
- Create low impact public access compatible with our conservation values
- Partner with SUNY College of ESF, Upstate Freshwater Institute and other related organizations
- Create a center for excellence with partnership opportunities between ourselves, educational institutions, and peer organizations

CNYLT and Water Quality Roles

- Extensive damage created by previous landowners



CNYLT and Water Quality Roles

- A center for excellence and partnership
- Laboratory facilities
- Research access to Skaneateles lake
- Student accommodation
- Office and conference space
- Volunteer workshop
- Gathering space



Central New York Land Trust

Investing in All Communities



Getting Involved

- Join and become a member: individual, family memberships
- Volunteer stewardship
- Organization partnerships

Contact

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