

Lake Steward Program

The Adirondack Watershed Institute of Paul Smith's College created the Watershed Steward program in 2000 to educate the public about conservation, preservation, and stewardship issues. Watershed stewards are posted at the Upper St. Regis, Lake Placid and Upper Saranac Lake public boat launch areas as well as the summit of St. Regis Mountain.

Stewards are charged with delivering interpretive messages about invasive aquatic and terrestrial species, along with information about safe boating, responsible camping, state land management and local history. Stewards have also conducted extensive research on recreational boating use of Upper Saranac Lake, traffic patterns to and from Fish Creek and have monitored and maintained public camp sites. A complete shoreline inventory was compiled to create a baseline document on development and environmental impacts.

The program on Upper Saranac Lake was funded in 2000 – 2003 by the Upper Saranac Lake Foundation. Funding will not be provided for 2004 due to start up costs associated with the Eurasian Milfoil Project.

This summer, Paul Smith's College's Adirondack Watershed Institute will fund a part-time lake steward at Saranac Inn, who will serve two days per week delivering information about invasive species and recording recreational use patterns. Please contact Eric Holmlund, director of the Watershed Stewardship Program, with questions or comments about the program. He can be reached at 518-327-6341.

This has been a highly effective and professional program. The stewards will be missed on the lake this summer.

For more information contact Paul Smith's College – Adirondack Watershed Institute – Eric Holmlund – Stewardship Program Director. www.paulsmiths.edu/aai/

To view 2003 traffic data for Saranac Inn, [click here](#).