



***Science for Community Solutions:
Research, Tools, and Action for Adirondack Waters***
One-Day Conference

Tuesday, February, 17th, 2026

9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Adirondack Room, Joan Weill Adirondack Library, Paul Smith's College

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

- 9:00 a.m. Registration & Tabling Session**
Coffee, tea, and light breakfast items
- 9:45 a.m. Welcoming Remarks**
Paul Smith's College, Adirondack Research Consortium, Adirondack Council, Adirondack Watershed Institute
- 10:00 a.m. Panel: Road Salt Best Management Practices**
An overview of research and monitoring on road salt impacts as well as real solutions and best practices at the municipal level and legislative actions at the state level.
- Moderator: **Dr. Chelsea Smith**, Adirondack Watershed Institute
 - **Lija Treibergs**, Adirondack Watershed Institute
 - **Superintendent Mike Farrell and Deputy Superintendent Tyler Jarvis**, Town of Peru
 - **Superintendent Brad Hathaway**, Village of Lake Placid
 - **Andrew Williams**, Adirondack Council
- 10:50 a.m. Break & Tabling Session**
- 11:00 a.m. Presentation: Wake Sports in the Adirondacks**
Local actions and lake-friendly approaches to mitigate the impacts of wake sports on our wildlife and ecosystems.
- **Claudia Brayer**, Protect the Adirondacks
 - **Dr. Lizz Schuyler**, Adirondack Center for Loon Conservation
- 11:30 a.m. Presentation: GIS Tools and Apps for Easier Clean Water Administration**
An overview of the tool being used to monitor septic replacement in the county.
- **Sara Frankenfeld**, Warren County Planning
 - **Ethan Gaddy**, Warren County Planning
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch in the Bobcat Lounge, Joan Weill Student Center**

- 1:15 p.m. Presentation: New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation - Programs, Funding and Income Surveys - How-to guidance for accessing funding programs**
- **Gabby Smith**, NYS Environmental Facilities Corporation
 - **Nick Demitraszek**, NYS Environmental Facilities Corporation
- 1:45 p.m. Panel: Community-Based Water Protection Strategies**
An overview of the different tools and resources that lake associations, communities, landowners, and others can access to better protect the health of their lakes.
- **Chris Navitsky**, Lake George Association
 - **Guy Middleton**, Upper Saranac Foundation
 - Kelley Tucker, Ausable Freshwater Center
 - **Erin Vennie-Vollrath**, DEC
 - Dr. Sara Kelly, Adirondack Watershed Institute
- 2:45 p.m. Federal and State Legislative and Funding Updates**
- **Andrew Williams**, Adirondack Council
- 2:55 p.m. Closing Remarks**
(Adirondack Watershed Institute)
- 3:00 p.m. Tabling Session & Optional Tours**
*Note: For the optional tours, you will need to walk across campus. Please wear safe walking shoes/boots and winter outdoor clothing.
- 3:15 p.m. Optional Tour of Paul Smith's College Mobile Emergency Response Operations Center**
- 3:35 p.m. Optional Tour of the Adirondack Watershed Institute's NYS-Certified Water Quality Lab**
- 4:00 p.m. Conference Adjourns**
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COMING IN APRIL!

30th Annual Conference on the Adirondacks

“Key Issues Shaping the Adirondack Future”

Wednesday & Thursday, April 15-16, 2026, High Peaks Resort, Lake Placid, NY

For program and registration information:

<https://www.adkresearch.org/events>