

LAKE CHAMPLAIN WATERSHED



All the land that eventually drains into a waterbody is called its watershed. The Lake Champlain watershed encompasses 8,234 square miles and extends into New York, Vermont, and Quebec.

The watershed area is 19 parts land for every 1 part water, meaning what people do, even miles away from the lake, strongly affects lake ecosystems.

Indigenous groups—including the Abenaki, Mohawk, and Mohican Peoples—have stewarded these lands and waters for thousands of years and continue to steward them.



5 Ways to Enjoy Lake Champlain

1

Swim: Lake Champlain has over 50 beaches and there are dozens of swimming holes along the rivers.

2

Fish: Join our diverse and avid fishing community and cast your rod in the lake or one of its tributaries for sport or food.

3

Boat: Whether by motorboat, sailboat, canoe, or kayak, Lake Champlain is spectacular from the water. Visitors can rent a kayak or charter a sailboat.

4

Bike or Hike: Beautiful bike routes and hiking trails for every type of explorer abound. You can even bike across the lake on the Colchester Causeway.

5

Relax: With 587 miles of shoreline, there are numerous places to set out a blanket or chair and enjoy Lake Champlain.

Learn More

Lake Champlain is a beautiful place to live, work, and visit. Learn about what makes the Lake Champlain watershed special and how to address challenges such as climate change, invasive species, stormwater runoff, and cyanobacteria blooms.

