



Photo Credit Sally McCay/UVM

# What is Sea Grant?

Sea Grant is a federal-state partnership that uses scientific research to support action by coastal communities to ensure economic growth through the use of environmentally sustainable practices.

Sea Grant is federally funded by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). There is a network of 33 Sea Grant programs around the country that collaborate regionally.

Based at universities across the country, Sea Grant helps build and grow innovative businesses along America's coasts, protect against environmental degradation and improve community resilience to natural disasters, and train the next generation of environmentally literate leaders.

## Lake Champlain Sea Grant

Lake Champlain Sea Grant is a cooperative program of the University of Vermont and the State University of New York (SUNY) at Plattsburgh.

## How We Work

Lake Champlain Sea Grant integrates research, outreach, and education, and partners with organizations to develop and share science-based knowledge that sustains the environment and economies of the Lake Champlain Basin.

### RESEARCH

We support research through competitive grants.

### OUTREACH

We extend and provide outreach of applied research - bringing research to communities and stakeholders and putting research findings into action in partnership with local communities.

### EDUCATION

Lake Champlain Sea Grant educates K-12 classes, trains teachers, and engages life-long learners in hands-on training about water resources and lake and watershed health.

## Congressional Authorization

National Sea Grant College Act

(Public Law 110-394)

## Funding

### NOAA BASE

\$430,000 annually

### NON-FEDERAL MATCHING FUNDS (50% OF BASE)

\$215,000 annually

### SOURCES OF NON-FEDERAL FUNDS

- Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources
- University of Vermont Extension
- SUNY-Plattsburgh
- VT Department of Environmental Conservation
- Private and non-profit organizations



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# Lake Champlain Sea Grant Projects

## RESEARCH

Researchers from the University of Vermont and SUNY-Plattsburgh are studying:

- Low impact design and best practices to minimize the impact of stormwater runoff;
- Microplastics in the Lake Champlain food web; and
- Climate change in Lake Champlain using weather buoy data.

## OUTREACH

Sea Grant staff work with community partners to provide resources and education to stakeholders in both states to develop resilient communities and economies. Projects include:

- Green Infrastructure Collaborative - a partnership with Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation to promote Green Stormwater Infrastructure and Low Impact Development practices in Vermont watersheds for the management of stormwater runoff from developed lands;
- Realtor workshops - continuing education training to provide Realtors with resources and knowledge about Vermont state land use regulations, mapping tools, and flood hazard identification;
- Crude oil transport readiness - as part of a regional effort with Great Lakes states, efforts are being made to understand and prepare communities for potential crude oil train derailments, including training spill response teams and organizing containment efforts; and
- Winter road maintenance - providing education to municipalities on how to reduce the use of salt on roadways, while maintaining safe roads

## EDUCATION

Lake Champlain Sea Grant partners with University of Vermont Extension to lead the Watershed Alliance program in which:

- K-12 students participate in interactive classroom instruction and hands-on field science to learn about streams and lakes;
- Teachers are trained and provided curriculum to integrate watershed education into their curriculum; and
- Undergraduate students serve as Watershed Educators, gaining hand-on experience and training in environmental education.

## Staff

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