



Our Mission

The **FINGER LAKES INSTITUTE** (FLI) is dedicated to the promotion of environmental research and education about the Finger Lakes and surrounding environments. In collaboration with regional environmental partners and state and local government offices, the Institute fosters environmentally sound development practices throughout the region, and disseminates the accumulated knowledge to the general public.

Our Goals

- Advance, coordinate and disseminate scientific understanding about the Finger Lakes environment;
- Provide interdisciplinary training for the next generation of environmental researchers, educators, and policy makers;
- Serve as a clearinghouse for environmental information about the region;
- Enhance understanding of environmental issues by regional policy makers and general public;
- Create and provide educational resources and opportunities at all levels.

FINGER LAKES INSTITUTE

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HOBART
AND
WILLIAM SMITH
COLLEGES
Geneva, NY



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Our Core

Research

The FLI and Hobart and William Smith Colleges' faculty and students conduct research projects in collaboration with watershed management and environmental protection programs currently in place



Research vessels: *The William Scandling* steel hulled L-boat (above) and *The JB Snow* pontoon boat (right).



throughout the Finger Lakes region. Projects are interdisciplinary and focus on topics relevant to the Finger Lakes region. Research also enhances and improves the quality of training and research in environmental studies, science and natural resources.

Ongoing research includes:

- Exotic species
- Watershed/ lake limnology
- Hydrogeochemistry and ecology
- Environmental monitoring
- Watershed management
- Hydrology and water resource issues
- Human impacts on water quality
- Environmental and climate change
- Assessment of pharmaceuticals and personal care products

Education

The FLI offers a variety of educational resources and opportunities at the K-12 levels that build on and sustain a focus on the Finger Lakes environment. Educational outreach priorities include:

- Developing innovative curricular materials, resources and educational opportunities for K-12 students and teachers
- Offering professional development programs for teachers and other educators
- Hosting school groups and participating students involved with Science on Seneca and



- other outreach programs
- Providing educational opportunities for Hobart and William Smith students
- Contributing to K-12 schools through participation in school advisory boards and committees



Community Outreach and Public Service

Collaboration with regional non-profit organizations, local, state, and federal government agencies, watershed management programs, other academic institutions and the public will foster outreach programs that promote communication and sustained connections among the numerous stakeholders in the region. Efforts include providing:

- Tours of interpretive exhibits
- Public lecture series
- Annual research symposia
- Publications
- Intergenerational community programs
- Student internships
- Public conferences and workshops

Economic Development and Regional Planning

The long range effects of increased development in the Finger Lakes region and pressures associated with an emerging tourism industry and economic development initiatives must be linked to environmental protection. Watershed management programs are local, grassroots initiatives that integrate technical information, applied research and education with public involvement in local policy development for land-use planning and economic development. The FLI provides research and a clearing-house for information on:

- Land use and regional planning
- Sustainable or low impact development
- Green industrial practices and incentives
- Infrastructure capacity
- Drinking water quantity and quality
- Alternative energy
- Community environmental issues and concerns

