

# Lake Wallenpaupack Community Science Newsletter

Scientists for Community, Community for Science

## Welcome to the Newsletter!

We are trying something new at Lacawac Sanctuary and looking to introduce those of you who live nearby (or far away!) to some of the work we do with volunteers around Lake Wallenpaupack. We aim to address the main goals of this water quality monitoring program as well as issues lakes face globally with biweekly newsletters.



## Why Wally?

Wallenpaupack is a lake spanning 13 miles with over 50 miles in shoreline. Its unique shape and many coves brings about questions on spatial differences in water quality.

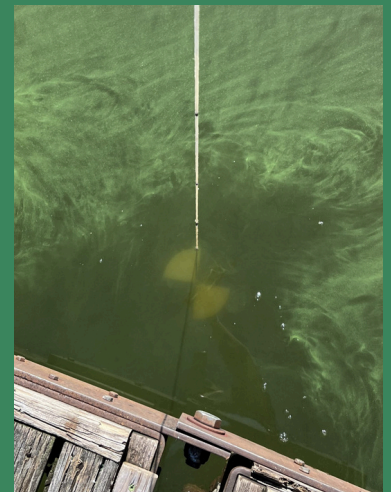


## How it Started...

Back in 2019, Lacawac Sanctuary started receiving concerned calls about a lake wide algal bloom. From these calls, PLEON established the Volunteer-Led Water Quality Monitoring program on Wally to better understand water quality changes. This program is based off of the Lake Liliinonah CLEO program.

## What Data is Collected?

Over the past five years, volunteers and Lacawac interns have collected data at, now, 41 sites on Lake Wallenpaupack. This data includes: Secchi depth (see image of the Secchi disk on right), water depth, water temperature (at 1 m), water color, algae observations, field conditions, chlorophyll-a, and potentially total nitrogen and total phosphorus. Our primary focus is on changes in water quality and clarity. The Secchi disk is a simple yet powerful tool to assess for changes in clarity and chlorophyll-a is used as a proxy for algae, organisms which commonly impact water quality/clarity.



# This Year's Community Science Team at Lacawac Sanctuary



**Beth Norman, PhD**  
Director of Science and  
Research



**Alex Bros**  
PLEON Technician



**Olive Stern**  
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**Jayson Genao**  
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Questions or input on potential Lake Wallenpaupack Community  
Science newsletter topics?

Want to join the Wallenpaupack Community Led Water Quality  
Monitoring Program?

**Email [pleon@lacawac.org](mailto:pleon@lacawac.org)**