



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 3, 2022

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New Exhibit and Activities Mark the 50th Anniversary of the Clean Water Act in Vermont and New York

VERGENNES, VT – Lake Champlain Maritime Museum is marking the 50th anniversary of the passage of the Clean Water Act of 1972 this summer with a new exhibit and public activities. In tandem with partners around the Champlain Valley, the exhibit and activities give the public the chance to celebrate the importance of clean water through history, action, and educational events.

The new exhibit, *The Clean Water Act*, explores the history that led to the passage of the Clean Water Act, key parts to know about this federal legislature, how it relates to Lake Champlain, and people of the Champlain Valley who continue the fight for clean water. Featured locals include Tom Jorling, one of the architects of the Clean Water Act in 1972, former DEC commissioner for New York state, and professor and attorney; Kelley Tucker, executive director of the Ausable River Association; and Iris Hsiang, youth member of the Vermont Climate Council and founder of the Youth Organizing Coalition. The exhibit was made possible with generous support from the Champlain Valley National Heritage Partnership. *The Clean Water Act* exhibit is open for all to visit for free in person at the museum in Vergennes, VT or online at www.lcmm.org/Clean-Water-Act.

Champlain Valley residents and visitors interested in doing more to celebrate water and the anniversary of the Clean Water Act can participate in a variety of activities with the museum or local partners. Visit the links for more information, some activities have required advance registration or additional costs.

Upcoming Clean Water Act-related activities:

- **Eco Demonstrations, Wednesdays–Saturdays in August at 1–2 p.m.:** A free drop-in activity at the museum all about how daily actions, decisions, and research connect to or impact Lake Champlain. Details at <https://www.lcmm.org/calendar/>.
- **Cyanobacteria Testing, Wednesdays in August at 2–3 p.m.:** A free weekly demonstration at the museum on how to test water for cyanobacteria levels. Details at <https://www.lcmm.org/calendar/>.
- **Is It Clean? Pop-Up Activity, August 4 at 3–6 p.m.:** A free pop-up Clean Water Act activity at the Vergennes Farmers Market hosted by museum staff. Learn what threats the Clean Water Act helped to address and more.
- **Adirondack Water Week, August 5–14:** A week-long collection of events around the Adirondack region for residents and visitors to connect with issues that impact clean water through educational programming, lectures, and community engagement. Full schedule at <https://www.adkwatershed.org/adirondack-water-week>.

- **Guided Paddling Trip on Lake Everest, August 6 at 9 a.m.–12 p.m.:** A guided paddling trek with the Ausable River Association all about the wonders and challenges of the Ausable River. Participants will learn about local wildlife and invasive species that threaten native plants and wildlife. Details and registration at <https://www.ausableriver.org/events/river-tours>.
- **The Clean Water Act at 50, August 11 at 6 p.m.:** A virtual talk by the museum’s executive director, Susan Evans McClure, on the founding, the impact, and the legacy of this watershed legislation on our watershed. Register for free at <https://www.adkwatershed.org/events/the-clean-water-act-at-50-with-susan-evans-mcclure>.

About Lake Champlain Maritime Museum

Founded in 1985 with the mission to preserve and share the cultural and natural heritage of the Lake Champlain region, Lake Champlain Maritime Museum is building a healthy future and community for Lake Champlain. Through education, exhibits, historic boats, research, and collections, the Museum connects people to the region’s history, ecology, and archaeology and creates opportunities for hands-on learning that will last a lifetime. Year-round education programs serve more than 2,500 K-12 students, as well as hundreds of educators locally and nationally. For more information, visit www.lcmm.org.