



FREE aquatic invasive species identification training and CRISP watershed steward training provided by the Catskill Regional Invasive Species Partnership (CRISP) and the SUNY-Oneonta Biological Field Station. If you are someone who lives around or enjoys spending time in a small lake or pond, then consider volunteering to be a Watershed Steward which may be a perfect fit for you! CRISP is looking for individuals to donate a few hours of their time at local lake and river boat launches and access points on weekends throughout the summer season from June through September.

Aquatic invasive species are a growing threat to all local waters. Trained Watershed Stewards will be able to stop the introduction and transport of invasive species by fishing tackle, footwear, and boat trailers through visual inspections, interviews with waterbody users, and instruction on how to properly clean equipment before using it on another body of water. When invasive species take hold in a waterbody, they can displace native species and rapidly multiply, making waterways impassible to boats and impossible to use for recreation, altering water quality, and negatively affecting tourism.



Occainfo.org

Volunteer training will be provided on Friday, May 27th, 2016 from 9:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. at the SUNY-Oneonta Biological Field Station Boat House on Otsego Lake (7016 St Hwy 80, Springfield, NY; 7 miles north of Cooperstown, NY). This day-long training will familiarize volunteers with the CRISP Watershed Steward's Manual, acquaint them with aquatic invasive species that threaten our region through hands-on identification, and train them in how to talk to waterbody users while conducting boat inspections. No reservations are required but recommended. Please email paul.lord@oneonta.edu or call 607-435-4989 for more information.