



**Buffalo Niagara Waterkeeper
Ecological Programs & Custom Services**

BNWaterkeeper.org



**BUFFALO NIAGARA
WATERKEEPER®**



Buffalo Niagara Waterkeeper Ecological Programs & Custom Services

Buffalo Niagara Waterkeeper has a 30-year track record of success, ranging from natural resource and habitat restoration planning and implementation to environmental policy making and advocacy, all while including the engagement of tens of thousands of people through volunteerism and environmental education. Waterkeeper's team consists of 25 full-time staff with experience in landscape architecture, habitat restoration, landscape management, ecology, water quality, biology, urban and regional planning, conservation, and community education and engagement.

Our staff successfully manages over 50 individual projects each year, totaling over \$8 million in annual budgets. Our proven track record of successful and sustainable projects, and our passion for collaboration and partnership, uniquely positions Waterkeeper to provide high quality, efficient, and beneficial services across a multitude of projects and initiatives in partnership with your municipality.

-  **MUNICIPAL ECOLOGICAL
AND WATERFRONT PLANNING**
-  **HABITAT RESTORATION -
PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION**
-  **NATURAL RESOURCE
MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE**
-  **ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT**
-  **GRANT WRITING**
-  **LAND ACQUISITION**
-  **OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT**



MUNICIPAL ECOLOGICAL AND WATERFRONT PLANNING

SERVICES:

- Desktop and field-based data gathering, data collection, inventory and analysis related to natural resources and ecology
- Strategic identification of priority actions and tangible projects for the protection and improvement of watershed health based on our partner's area of focus and goals, including but not limited to regulatory and zoning tools, habitat and shoreline restoration projects, improved land management practices, green infrastructure projects, and opportunities for waterfront public access
- Develop implementation plans and strategies for priority projects including project phasing, potential funding sources, timelines and schedules
- Updating municipal Comprehensive Plans including but not limited to Natural Resource Inventories and recommendations for environmental protection and improvement
- Technical assistance and technical advisement during municipal plan development
- Develop model ordinances, local land use laws, and/or conservation overlay districts to protect water resources
- Provide training and educational materials to Planning, Zoning, and Conservation Boards on planning tools that incorporate ecological and waterfront assets while improving climate resiliency
- Coordinate best management practices for waterway and natural resource management between municipalities with shared water resources
- Community engagement, facilitation, integration of the public into various processes

Our team led the completion of a multi-million dollar project along the southern shore of Grand Island in Beaver Island State Park to improve coastal resilience and shoreline stabilization.





HABITAT RESTORATION: PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION

SERVICES:

- Project visioning
- Project planning such as regional, watershed, and waterfront planning
- Desktop analysis
- Preliminary site assessment and site conditions
- Project scoping and development
- Conceptual design development
- Assist with permitting processes and communications with permitting agencies
- Overall project management and administration, including during design and implementation
- Leading procurement processes for professional services advertisements (design consultants, engineers and contractors)
- Completing observation for restoration implementation to ensure compliance with project goals
- Developing a technical advisory committee and coordinating design reviews
- Post-implementation monitoring and assessment



NATURAL RESOURCE: MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE

SERVICES:

- Complete assessments and develop plans for improvements in parks, open spaces, shorelines, areas surrounding waterways, and undeveloped areas
- Assist in establishing natural regeneration areas including boundary markers and educational signage
- Engage volunteers in properly planting trees, shrubs, and other plants as appropriate
- Provide training and educational materials to Park and Highway Department personnel on Best Management Practices for considering waterway health in relation to park management, maintaining roadside lands, and completing upgrades to culverts





ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT

SERVICES:

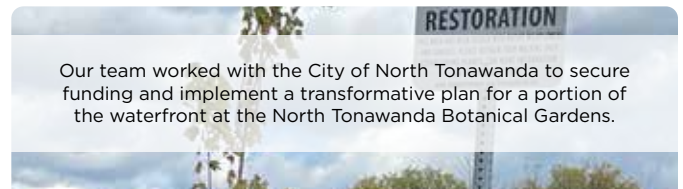
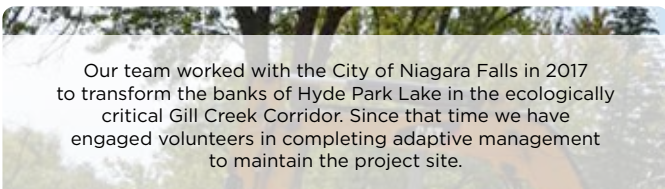
- Evaluate site conditions, diagnose site needs/ opportunities, and prescribe adaptive management solutions to enhance the ecological value of aquatic and riparian environments
- Plan, coordinate, and engage volunteers in completing adaptive management activities including supplemental plantings and seeding, mechanical invasive species control, trail maintenance, habitat box monitoring and maintenance, installing vegetation protection, and completing tree care (pruning, mulching)



GRANT WRITING

SERVICES:

- Identify and recommend grant and other funding sources to support priority projects
- Lead or support grant writing that incorporates Waterkeeper's principles and goals
- Grant management and administration





LAND PROTECTION

SERVICES:

- Guide land protection based on priority headwater forests and wetland tracts. Identify priority opportunities, connect with property owners, and other partners as needed. Work with land protection organization(s) to execute acquisition or easement
- Partner with local elected officials in communities located in the headwaters of the Niagara River watershed to conduct resident outreach opportunities focused on land protection opportunities
- Provide educational workshops on the importance of being effective land stewards which would include best management practices for healthy forests and waterways
- Guide communities in developing NYS-approved Drinking Water Source Protection Plans and identify key land protection opportunities for future protection



OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT

SERVICES:

- Develop and deliver educational programming
- Coordinate and implement volunteer opportunities
- Conduct tours of specific sites or restoration projects
- Host and conduct public meetings and public surveys
- Execute press releases and lead ribbon cutting events

Our team leads a public meeting about the Cayuga Creek Restoration Project in the Town of Niagara.





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