

# Round Lake Preserve

TOWN OF MALTA, NY



GWC, Inc.  
PO Box 705  
Salem, NY 12865  
p: 518.854.7386  
f: 518.854.7387  
mjpacker@gwriters.com  
www.gwriters.com



As subcontractor to The LA Group, members of the GWC, Inc. worked on Phase I of a project to develop an interpretative plan and way-finding strategy for communicating with visitors to the new Round Lake Preserve in the Town of Malta about the rich nature, history, and culture found at the site. Our clients, Town of Malta, New York and Saratoga PLAN land trust, teamed up to protect the Lake and establish the recreation area for public

use and enjoyment. GWC provided creative services and public involvement assistance during this phase of the project. The GWC design team then continued the firm's involvement with the project; and worked on Phase II, writing and designing interpretive panels; and providing fabrication recommendations for the signs that are installed on the recreation area kiosk and along the canoe launch trail.

## Welcome to Round Lake Preserve

### Four-Season Explorations

The welcome you to explore Round Lake Preserve—all areas of diverse natural habitats, and working farmlands conserved in perpetuity and open to public use. Rounding both Round Lake and the Anthony Hill, Round Lake Preserve offers accessible trails, breathtaking fishing, canoe-to-hull access, and wildlife viewing areas.

Round Lake Preserve is accessible in all seasons—from the first wilderness to springtime through the last traces of wildlife tracks in winter snow. We hope you will return to explore it throughout the year.

### Conservation Success Story

Not long ago, the property was approved for residential development. Through conservation easement, the land for conservation, including the property nature and cultural resources, the Town of Malta and Saratoga PLAN partners in 2010 to purchase the site.

With funding from New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, a Saratoga County Open Space and Recreation Foundation, and the Town of Malta, Round Lake Preserve is now open to the public and offers recreational opportunities.

Plant Our Future  
For those interested in all that Round Lake Preserve has to offer, we have a number of ways to get involved. From the Saratoga County Open Space and Recreation Foundation, you can help fund the future of Round Lake Preserve through the Saratoga PLAN 2010-2015 Open Space and Recreation Foundation.

## Thriving on Diversity A Wealth of Natural Communities

### Why Wetlands Matter

Wetlands are the most productive and diverse ecosystems in the world. They regulate the natural water cycle, store carbon, and provide habitat for a wide variety of plants and animals.

By protecting natural wetlands, the Round Lake Preserve helps reduce flooding, improve water quality, and provide habitat for a wide variety of plants and animals.

Not long ago, wetlands were considered wastelands. Now they are recognized as valuable ecosystems. We know that wetlands are critical to maintaining biodiversity, water quality, flood control, and a host of other ecosystem services. Round Lake Preserve protects more than 10 acres of wetlands, helping to keep them thriving.

### Tune in to a Changing Landscape

Wetlands are 22 acres. Round Lake Preserve encompasses a local array of habitats. From the open areas that surround you, the land slopes toward the open waters of Round Lake and the Anthony Hill. It takes you to a patchwork of habitats, meadows, upland forest, streams, and the different types of wetlands. Each habitat supports a distinct community of plants and animals.

As you explore Round Lake Preserve, watch and listen for the changing landscape around you. Which kinds of plants dominate the ground near or deep? What sounds do you see and hear in each habitat?

Looking from upland fields to the wetlands and open water, you can see how a landscape composed by grassland species like waterfowl, fish, and other birds, and mammal habitat and waterfowl, and other species. That's why Round Lake Preserve's wealth of natural communities is so important for wildlife.

## People of Round Lake Drawn to Bountiful Waters

### Millennia Along the Lakeshore

For thousands of years, people have been drawn to the waters of Round Lake. Located at the junction of the lake and its outlet, the Anthony Hill, Round Lake Preserve is rich in history. During the last 8000 years, evidence of the long connection between people and this land.

The more natural conditions that attracted native inhabitants drew the first white settlers to Round Lake. In 1680, Round Lake became the site of a millrace and mill race, marking the beginning of a new era of settlement.

Throughout that time, the lake remained the hub of community life. In winter, people gathered to hunt, fish, and raise their families. They skated, ice-fished, and fished. And in the summer, they fished, ice-fished, and fished. And in the summer, they fished, ice-fished, and fished.

### Livery Seaplanes: High-flying History Nearly

In the 1920s and 30s, the buzz of airplane engines echoed at Round Lake. From the town of Livery, seaplanes, like the Livery Seaplane, took to the water. Livery Seaplanes, like the Livery Seaplane, took to the water. Livery Seaplanes, like the Livery Seaplane, took to the water.

By the 1920s, Livery Seaplanes had become a popular mode of transport. They carried passengers and cargo to and from the lake. They were a vital link between the town and the lake.

In 1927, Livery Seaplanes began to fly. They carried passengers and cargo to and from the lake. They were a vital link between the town and the lake.