

# BUCKINGHAM POND CONSERVANCY ANNUAL MEETING

MARCH 17, 2024

Our mission is to coordinate existing resources and identify new resources devoted to protecting, preserving, and enhancing Buckingham Pond and its surrounding green space.



# AGENDA

1. Welcome (Felton McLaughlin)
2. Introduction of Current Board Members (Felton McLaughlin)
3. Board Member Elections (Felton McLaughlin)  
Proposed renewing & new board members
4. Treasurer's Report (Jenny O'Neill)
5. Welcome Neighborhood Specialist  
Alex Word
6. Year in Review 2023-2024
7. Q & A



# BOARD MEMBERS & ELECTIONS

## 2024 – 2026 SLATE PROPOSED BOARD

Board Member	Board Term
Gabi Sarhos – Current President	2024-2026
Felton McLaughlin – Vice President	2024-2026
Jenny O’Neill – Treasurer	2022-2025
Nancy Costello – Secretary	2023-2025
Grace Bennett – At Large	2024-2026
Kate Carleo – At Large	2023-2025
Jeanette Carioto – At Large	2023-2025
Laura Andrea Leguia – At Large	2023-2025
Marsha Penrose – At Large	2024-2026
Anne Savage – At Large	2024-2026
Mark Schlessman – At Large	2024-2026
Linda Wagner – At Large	2023-2025



**Gabi Sarhos**  
President



**Felton McLaughlin**  
Vice President



**Grace Bennett**  
At Large



**Marsha Penrose**  
At Large



**Anne Savage**  
At Large



**Mark Schlessman**  
At Large

## Buckingham Pond Conservancy Financial Position

# TREASURER'S REPORT

## FINANCIAL POSITION 3-YEAR COMPARISON 2024, 2023, 2022

	Mar-24	Mar-23	Mar-22
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Bank Accounts - Broadview and PayPal	\$ 63,264	\$ 57,906	\$ 51,464
<b>Restricted Assets</b>			
Albany County Legislative Grant	\$ (2,270)	\$ (2,375)	\$ -
Allocation - Native plants (March 2019 Board meeting)	\$ (10)	\$ (10)	\$ (10)
Allocation - Website (June 2019 Board Meeting)	\$ (350)	\$ (1,325)	\$ (2,500)
Landscape Plan	\$ (1,000)	\$ (1,000)	\$ (1,000)
Playground	\$ (835)	\$ (835)	\$ (835)
<b>Total Restricted Assets</b>	<b>\$ (4,465)</b>	<b>\$ (5,545)</b>	<b>\$ (4,345)</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 58,799</b>	<b>\$ 52,361</b>	<b>\$ 47,119</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>			
Total Liabilities	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Net Assets	\$ 58,799	\$ 52,361	\$ 47,119
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 58,799</b>	<b>\$ 52,361</b>	<b>\$ 47,119</b>

## Buckingham Pond Conservancy Income and Expenses

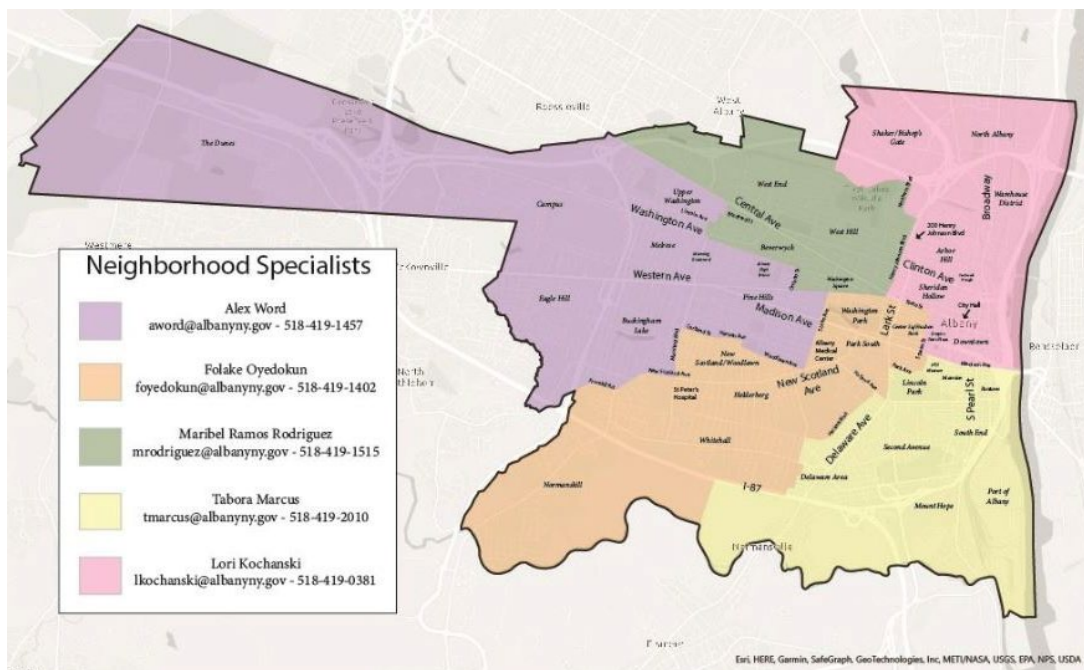
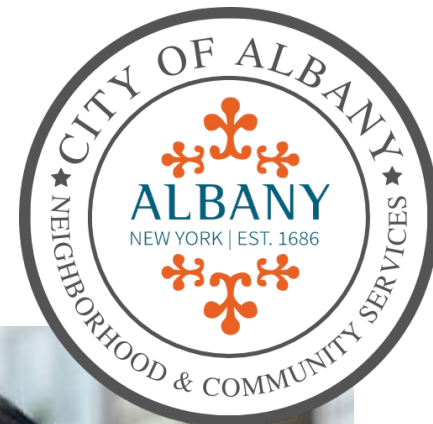
# TREASURER'S REPORT

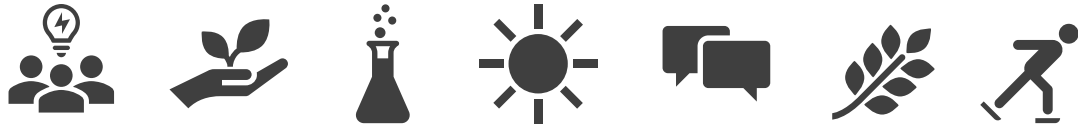
## INCOME & EXPENSES 3-YEAR COMPARISON

2024, 2023, 2022

	Mar-24	Mar-23	Mar-22
<b>Income</b>			
<b>Donations</b>			
Events	62	173	-
Miscellaneous	2,547	2,106	2,491
<b>Total Donations</b>	<b>\$ 2,609</b>	<b>\$ 2,279</b>	<b>\$ 2,491</b>
<b>Interest From Bank Accounts</b>	906	154	64
<b>Membership</b>			
Membership 21/22	-	-	8,050
Membership 22/23	-	6,175	575
Membership 23/24	5,750	175	-
Membership 24/25	550	-	-
<b>Total Membership</b>	<b>\$ 6,300</b>	<b>\$ 6,350</b>	<b>\$ 8,625</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 9,815</b>	<b>\$ 8,783</b>	<b>\$ 11,180</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
<b>Events</b>	96	102	71
<b>Meeting Expenses</b>	364	1,125	4,056
<b>Operating</b>			
Bank Charges & Fees	58	47	64
Legal & Professional Services	1,175	1,805	-
NYSFOLA Membership	620	545	545
Operating Miscellaneous	2,039	1,092	978
<b>Total Operating</b>	<b>\$ 3,892</b>	<b>\$ 3,489</b>	<b>\$ 1,587</b>
<b>Park/Pond Improvements</b>	105		950
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 4,457</b>	<b>\$ 4,716</b>	<b>\$ 6,665</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>\$ 5,358</b>	<b>\$ 4,067</b>	<b>\$ 4,515</b>

# Welcome Neighborhood Specialist Alex Word





# 2023 YEAR IN REVIEW

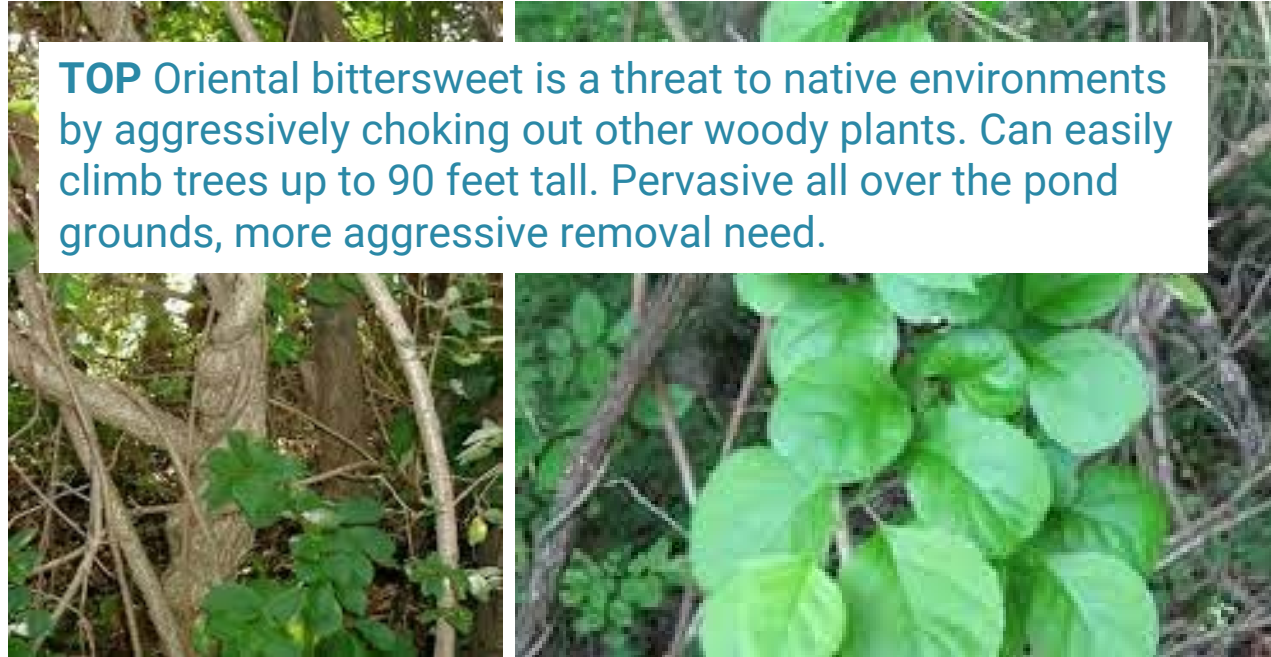
THANKS TO VOLUNTEERS,  
DONORS, AND CITY OF ALBANY



1.

SPRING/  
SUMMER/  
FALL

**CLEANUP AND  
BITTERSWEET  
& GARLIC  
MUSTARD  
MAINTENANCE**



**TOP** Oriental bittersweet is a threat to native environments by aggressively choking out other woody plants. Can easily climb trees up to 90 feet tall. Pervasive all over the pond grounds, more aggressive removal need.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**



### **BOTTOM**

Removals of highly invasive garlic mustard, year 3:

(L) First Year Rosettes; (C) Second Year Flower

April to May; (R) Jewelweed,

a native annual plant with showy orange flowers, where garlic mustard had dominated the year before







2.

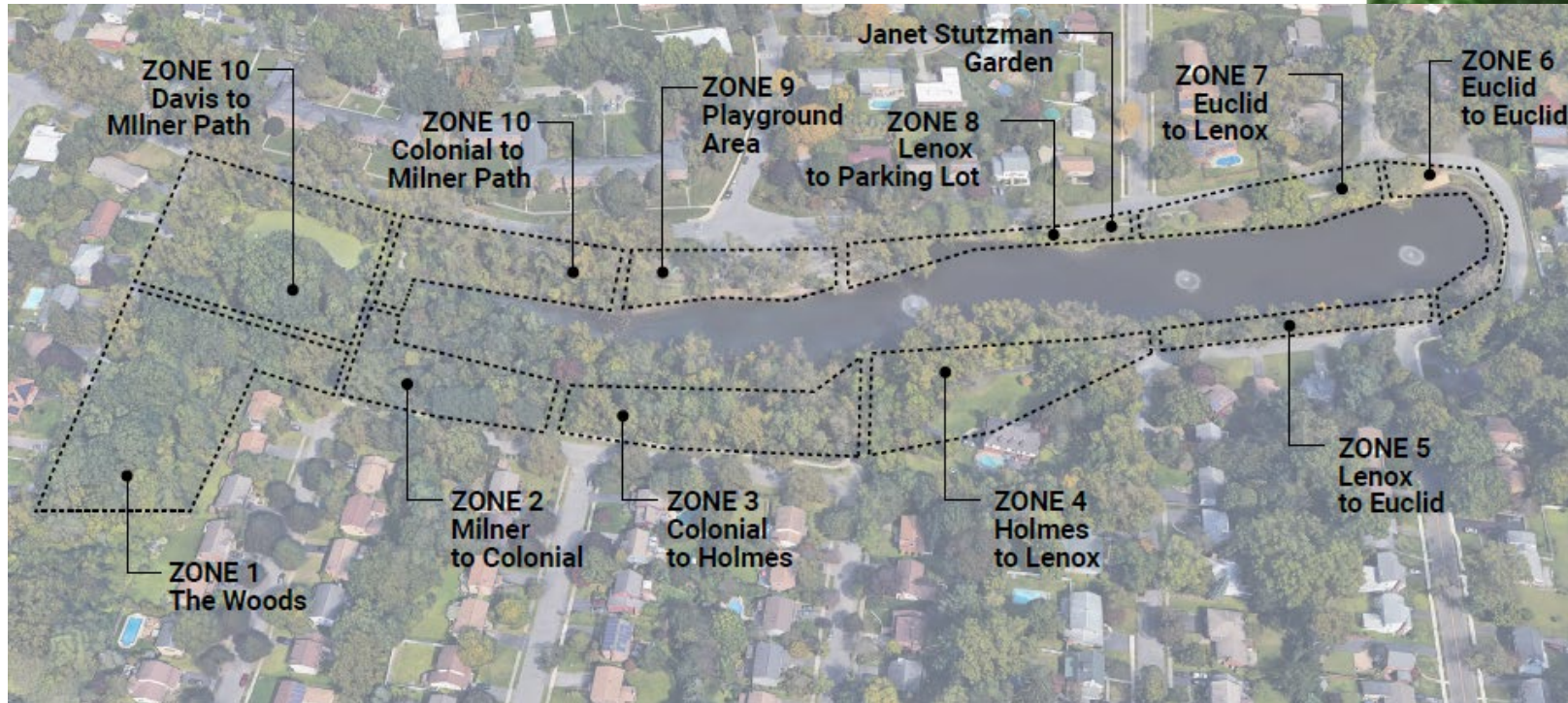
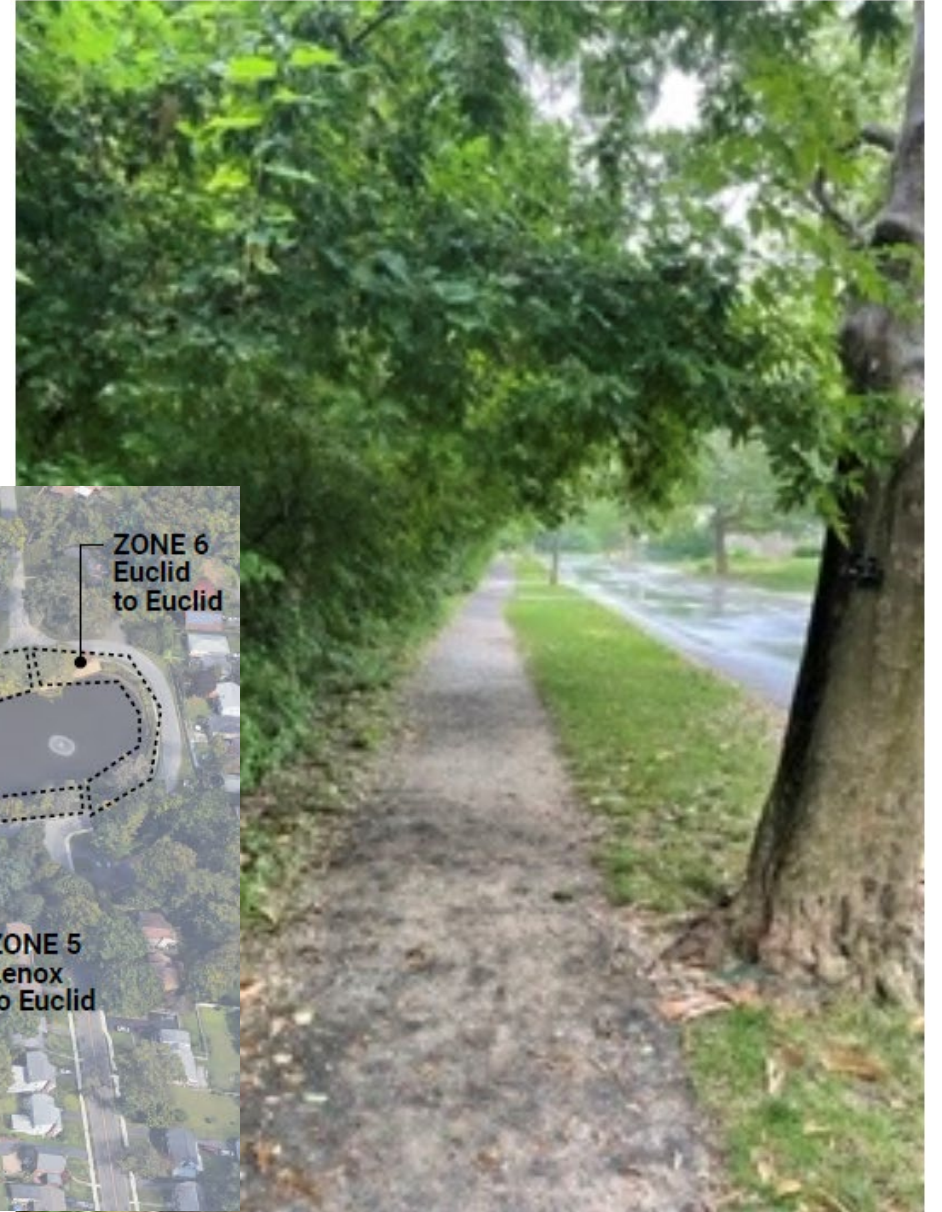
SPRING/  
SUMMER/  
FALL  
**PARK  
STEWARDS**

**You can help!**  
**With a bit of training you  
can become a Park Steward!**

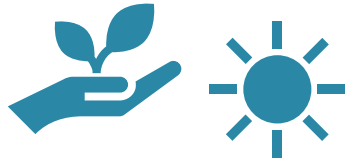
TASKS: Clipping, trimming shrubs on pathway  
and shoreline; raking leaves; etc.

**Thanks to Park Stewards**  
BJ Costello, Felton McLaughlin, Ruth Pelham

**MORE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**



3.



EVENTS



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4.

## ANOTHER CSLAP SEASON COMPLETE

Pond Water Quality through NYSDEC and NYSFOLA

### Glossary of Water Quality and HAB Indicators

**Clarity (m):** The depth to which a Secchi disk lowered into the water is visible, measured in meters. Water clarity is one of the trophic indicators for each lake.

**TP (mg/L):** Total phosphorus, measured in milligrams per liter at the lake surface (1.5 meters below the surface).

**TN:** Total nitrogen, measured in milligrams per liter at the lake surface.

**Chl.a (µg/L):** Chlorophyll a, measured in micrograms per liter.

**pH:** A range from 0 to 14, with 0 being the most acidic and 14 being the most basic or alkaline. A healthy lake generally ranges between 6.5 and 8.5.

**Cond (µmho/cm):** Specific conductance is a measure of the conductivity of water.

**Chloride (mg/L):** Chloride, or chloride ions.

**Upper Temp (°C):** Surface temperature, measured in degrees Celsius.



## Buckingham Lake – 2022 Sampling Season Results

Red shaded results indicate eutrophic water quality conditions. In these columns, 'No' indicates there was no significant trend, '↑' indicates there was a significant positive trend (p<0.05), '↑↑' indicates there was a strong significant positive trend (p<0.01), '↓' indicates there was a significant negative trend (p<0.05), '↓↓' indicates there was a strong significant negative trend (p<0.01), and blank indicates there was insufficient data to identify a trend. In this report, seasonal trend analyses for individual sampling years and long term trend analyses show changes in key water quality indicators over a consistent index period (mid-June thru mid-September).

Open Water Indicators	2022 Sampling Results								Seasonal Change	Season Median	Decadal Median	Decadal Trend	Longterm Median	Longterm Trend
	06-11	06-25	07-10	07-23	08-06	08-20	09-03	09-25						
<b>Clarity (m)</b>	1.5	1.3	1.1	1.4	0.8	1.6	1.1	0.8		1.2	0.9	NO	1	NO
<b>Upper Temp (degC)</b>	20	22	25	29	29	25	22	17		23.5	25	NO	25	NO
<b>Surface TP (mg/L)</b>	0.095	0.095	0.094	0.077	0.107	0.103	0.084	0.057		0.095	0.071	NO	0.067	NO
<b>TN (mg/L)</b>	0.809	0.881	0.847	1.266	0.942	0.854	0.726	0.639		0.851	0.773	NO	0.744	NO
<b>TN:TP</b>	8.5	9.3	9	16.4	8.8	8.3	8.6	11.3		8.9	10.1	NO	10.7	NO
<b>Surface NH3 (mg/L)</b>	0.052	0.029	0.093		0.112	0	0.058	0		0.052	0.034	↑	0.034	NO
<b>Chl.a (ug/L)</b>	5.2	21.3	9.6	11.1	26.3	17	18.5	11.1		14.1	16	NO	11.8	↑
<b>pH</b>	8.6	7.9	7.7	7.9	7.9	8.2	7.9	8.4		7.9	7.7	↑	7.7	↑↑
<b>Surface Chloride (mg/L)</b>	284.7		278.4							281.6	281.6	NO	281.6	NO
<b>True Color (ptu)</b>	10	15	15	15	12	17	15	8		15	16	↓↓	17	↓↓
<b>Cond (uS/cm)</b>	894.2	940.2	1016	1152	1067	853.5	757.6	736.3		917.2	832.5	↑↑	814.9	↑↑

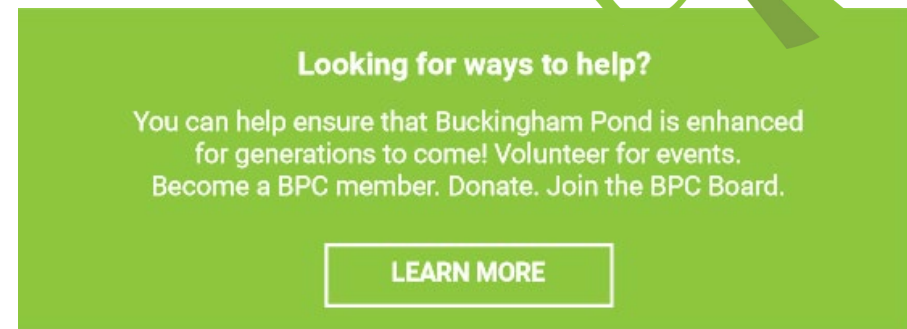
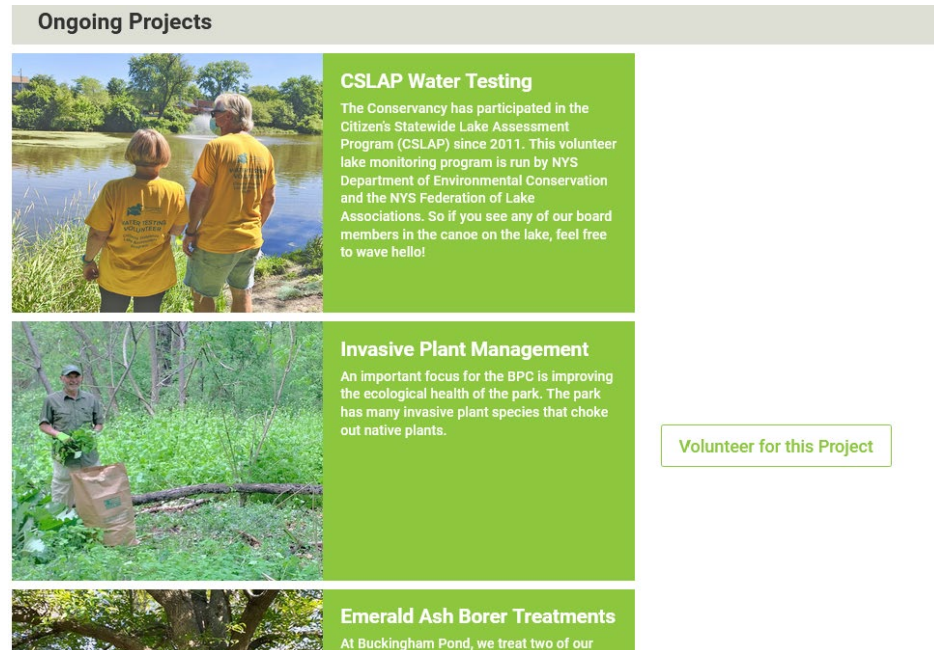
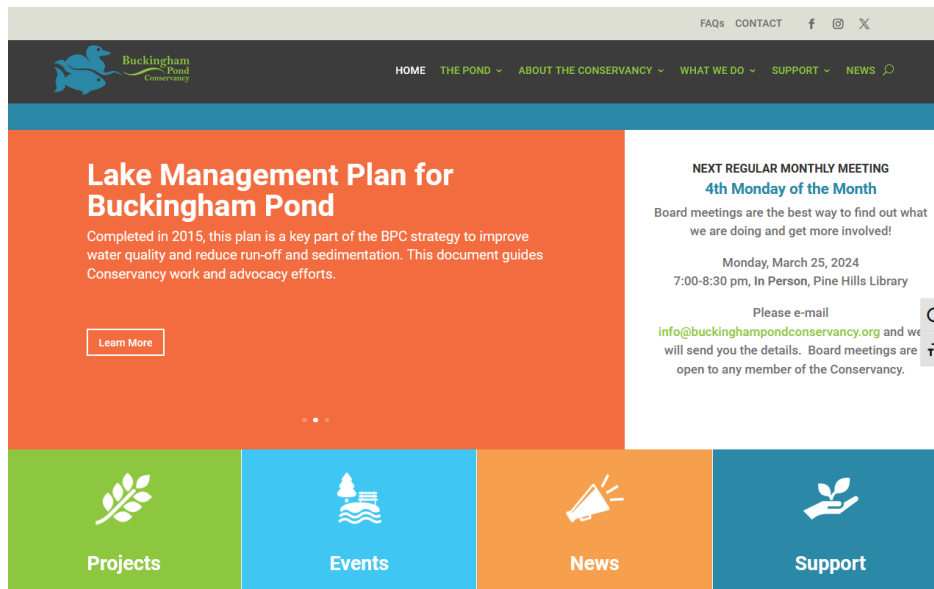


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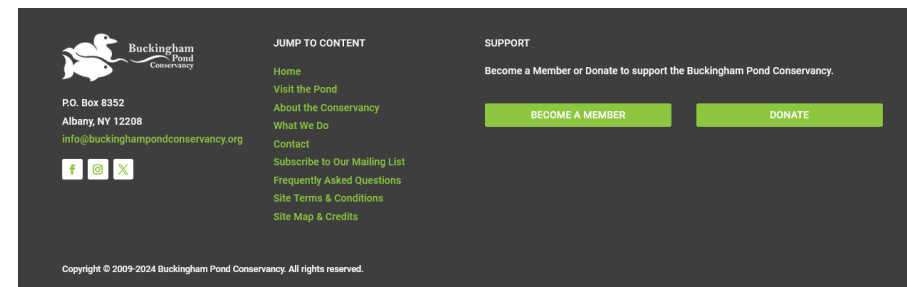
## WEBSITE LAUNCHED

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Excited to make progress towards the new updated BPC website



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7.

**OTHER  
WORK**

Around the Pond

**Playground Advocacy**Board with neighbor Al Lawrence,  
and Department of Recreation**Little Free Library**Department of Recreation w/ initiative  
by neighbor Therese Joyce**Port-a-Potty Advocacy**Department of General Services with  
Board and neighbor Bill Alexander and  
Neighborhood Specialist Alex Word**Path Repair in Fall 2024**Department of General Services,  
thanks Jeff Kelley and crew**Wildlife Advocacy  
(Great Blue Heron)**

Wildlife Rehabilitator Amy Bizer

Thanks to Sara Hart for continued  
vigilance and bringing issues to Board  
and City's attention.

# OPPORTUNITIES

## 2024 – 2025 LOOK AHEAD

- Keep you updated on website, social media, and monthly meeting.
- Continue developing relationship w/ City departments (DGS/AWD/REC), Deb Zamer, Alex Word
- Prioritize path improvements with AWD & DGS
- Prioritize native species planting
- Mobilize more volunteers, Park Stewards
- NYSFOLA/CSLAP water testing





Questions / Comments.

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**THANK YOU**

INSTAGRAM & FACEBOOK

[WWW.BUCKINGHAMPONDCONSERVANCY.ORG](http://WWW.BUCKINGHAMPONDCONSERVANCY.ORG)