

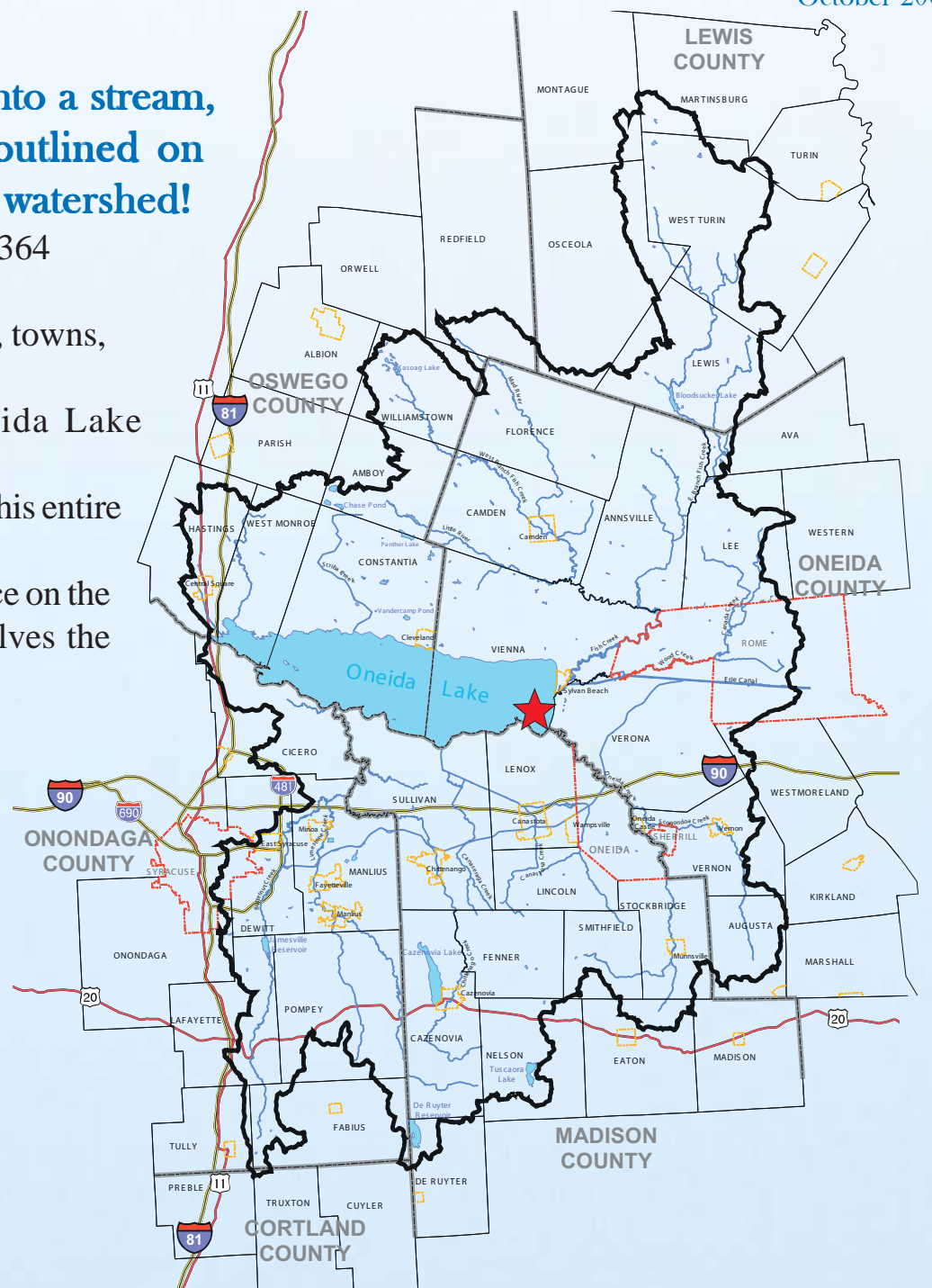
## DO YOU LIVE IN THE WATERSHED?

A watershed is the total land area that drains into a stream, river, or lake. If your home is in the area outlined on this map, then you live in the Oneida Lake watershed!

- The Oneida Lake watershed covers 872,722 acres (1,364 square miles).
- It encompasses portions of five counties and 69 cities, towns, and villages.
- Approximately 265,000 people live in the Oneida Lake watershed.
- Surface water from precipitation and snowmelt within this entire region drains into Oneida Lake.
- Land use throughout the watershed has a direct influence on the lake's ecosystem, so protection of Oneida Lake involves the protection of all areas throughout the watershed.



*Sediment flowing into Oneida Lake from Oneida Creek after a rainstorm in June 2006  
(see star on map for location)*



## PROTECTING OUR WATER RESOURCES INVOLVES ALL OF US

...from homeowners and lake users, to agencies, businesses, schools, and municipalities.

- Water erosion causes a large amount of sediment to flow into Oneida Lake and its tributaries, as seen in the photograph above.
- The CNY Regional Planning & Development Board (CNY RPDB), the Watershed Advisory Council, the Soil and Water Conservation Districts, and many other groups are actively working to protect and improve water resources throughout the Oneida Lake watershed.
- Local, State, and Federal funding is currently used for shoreline stabilization projects and projects with the agricultural community to reduce the amount of sediment flowing into the lake. Funding is also used for aquatic weed control, lectures, websites, newsletters, education fact sheets, programs for area school students, and projects to reduce water pollution from urban and agricultural practices.

## RECOMMENDATIONS FOR STREAMBANK AND SHORELINE HOMEOWNERS

- Erosion control on private property is the responsibility of the landowner but help is available from local agencies. Report logjams, beaver dams and shoreline erosion problem areas to your municipal officials or the county Soil and Water Conservation District.
- Reduce erosion on your property by planting native vegetation and installing rock riprap along streambanks.
- Encourage enforcement of Oneida Lake boating speed limits to reduce waves that contribute to shoreline erosion.
- Support municipal efforts to enforce management practices that minimize erosion at construction sites.
- Reduce the amount of runoff to local streams by encouraging highway departments to adopt sound management practices for road ditch maintenance.

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