

WHOSE STUFF IS IT, ANYWAY?

CONSERVATION

The fresh waters of New York State are an excellent environment for the preservation of shipwrecks and artifacts.



Courtesy Lake Champlain Maritime Museum



Courtesy H. Lee White Maritime Museum

Courtesy Tim Caza

Water to air

When shipwrecks or artifacts are brought to the surface, the change of environment rapidly accelerates deterioration of shipwrecks and artifacts, sometimes within a matter of weeks. Conservation is critical to maintaining an object's long-term physical integrity.



Courtesy Lake Champlain Maritime Museum

Owned by all

The State of New York has a long history of providing access to public resources, from Adirondack trails to canalside bike paths. Underwater, shipwrecks can be opened to the

diving public as historic preserves. Even non-divers can experience shipwrecks in programs that utilize remotely-operated vehicles.

It is our generation's privilege

to care for shipwrecks so that our children can also explore them. Divers are often the first to notice changes to shipwrecks due to mishandling, accident, or environment.

Divers and boaters can also help slow the spread of aquatic invasive species by following the "Clean, Drain, Dry" guidelines for dive and boat gear.



PUBLIC ACCESS

The Abandoned Shipwreck Act of 1987 requires the State to provide the public with "reasonable access" to abandoned shipwrecks.



STEWARDSHIP

Shipwrecks are non-renewable resources. We must ensure they are not loved to pieces.



Take only pictures; Leave only bubbles.

