

## **Seneca Lake Dynamics and Water Quality**

John Halfman

John Halfman is pretty much the voice of water quality on Seneca Lake. He has been doing research on Seneca for many years and is largely responsible for the creation of the Finger Lakes Institute through Hobart & William Smith Colleges, an organization that is dedicated to the promotion of environmental research and education about the Finger Lakes and surrounding environments.

John Halfman teaches in both the Geoscience and Environmental Studies programs at Hobart & William Smith (HWS). He earned a PhD from Duke University and taught a few years at the University of Notre Dame before accepting a faculty position in the Department of Geoscience at HWS in 1994. His teaching and research interests revolve around geolimnology and hydrogeochemistry (i.e., water quality issues) of Lakes and currently focus on the Finger Lakes of central and western New York. He has maintained an active monitoring program of the streams and lakes in the region, focusing on Seneca Lake. Current projects include the environmental impact of (1) zebra and quagga mussels, (2) watershed/lake major ion hydrogeochemistry, and (3) nutrient loading from the watershed to the lakes. His interests led to the founding of the Finger Lakes Institute at the Colleges, and earned him the Finger Lakes institute Endowed Chair of Environmental Studies.