

8/6/18-HOT, HUMID WEATHER IS EXPECTED TO STRETCH THE STATE'S POWER GRID TO THE BRINK. THE POWER DEMANDS FOR AIR CONDITIONING ARE EXPECTED TO COME CLOSE TO THE SYSTEM'S MAXIMUM CAPACITY THIS WEEK, AS A HEAT WAVE SENDS TEMPERATURES SOARING. IN RESPONSE GOVERNOR CUOMO HAS ORDERED STATE AGENCIES TO IMPLEMENT POWER CONSERVATION MEASURES AT STATE FACILITIES. BUT THAT'S EXPECTED TO SAVE ONLY SIXTY MEGAWATTS WHEN DEMAND IS CHARTED TO PEAK AT OVER 32-THOUSAND MEGAWATTS OF POWER FOR THE NEXT FEW DAYS.

8/7/18-THERE'S BEEN ANOTHER OUTBREAK OF BLUE GREEN ALGAE IN ONEIDA LAKE, AND IT'S NOT ALONE. THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION SAYS OVER FIFTY BODIES OF WATER ACROSS THE STATE HAVE SEEN BLOOMS OF THE POTENTIALLY TOXIC ORGANISMS. THAT NUMBER IS EXPECTED TO RISE AS A NEW ROUND OF HOT, HUMID WEATHER PROVIDES THE PERFECT CONDITIONS FOR THE ALGAE TO REPRODUCE. OFFICIALS AT VERONA BEACH STATE PARK SAY ANYONE PLANNING A VISIT SHOULD CALL AHEAD TO SEE IF THE BEACHES ARE OPEN.

8/10/18-NEW YORK STATE NEEDS TO GO GREEN. THAT WAS THE MESSAGE FROM HOWIE HAWKINS, THE GREEN CANDIDATE FOR GOVERNOR. HE WAS IN UTICA YESTERDAY TO TOUT HIS CANDIDACY WITH A NUMBER OF APPEARANCES ACROSS THE AREA. HE'S THE FOURTH GUBERNATORIAL CANDIDATE TO VISIT THIS ELECTION YEAR, COMING AFTER LIBERTARIAN LARRY SHARPE, DEMOCRAT CYNTHIA NIXON, AND REPUBLICAN MARC MOLINARO. THE ONLY CANDIDATES WHO HAVEN'T MADE AN APPEARANCE ARE INDEPENDENT STEPHANIE MINER AND...GOVERNOR CUOMO HIMSELF.

8/10/18-A RECORD NUMBER OF PEOPLE ARE SPENDING THEIR VACATIONS RELAXING AT THE STATE'S CAMPGROUNDS. WITH THREE WEEKS LEFT IN THE TRADITIONAL SUMMER SEASON THE STATE HAS ALREADY SEEN 562-THOUSAND OVERNIGHT STAYS, A NEARLY SIX PERCENT INCREASE OVER LAST YEAR'S NUMBERS AT THIS TIME. AND OFFICIALS ARE EXPECTING THE FLOW OF GUESTS TO CONTINUE WELL AFTER THE LONG LABOR DAY WEEKEND. MOST STATE PARKS ARE NOW OPEN RIGHT THROUGH OCTOBER, AND PRIMITIVE CAMPING IS AVAILABLE YEAR ROUND.

8/15/18-SOMETHING DANGEROUS IS LURKING IN THE LAKES OF THE ADIRONDACKS. OTTER LAKE IN NORTHERN ONEIDA COUNTY IS THE LATEST BODY OF WATER TO REPORTEDLY SUFFER FROM A BLOOM OF BLUE GREEN ALGAE. ONEIDA COUNTY HEALTH OFFICIALS ARE WARNING RESIDENTS TO TAKE THE THREAT SERIOUSLY. THE ALGAE PRODUCE TOXIC COMPOUNDS THAT CAN PRODUCE SYMPTOMS RANGING FROM SKIN IRRITATION TO SEVERE BREATHING PROBLEMS IN BOTH HUMANS AND PETS. ANYONE EXPOSED TO THE ALGAE SHOULD WASH OFF WITH CLEAN WATER AND CONTACT A DOCTOR IF SYMPTOMS DEVELOP.

8/15/18-LOCAL HEALTH OFFICIALS ARE WARNING RESIDENTS TO TAKE PRECAUTIONS AGAINST RABIES. THE DISEASE IS ENDEMIC ACROSS CENTRAL NEW YORK THANKS TO THE LARGE POPULATION OF WILD ANIMALS. OFFICIALS SAY PET OWNERS SHOULD MAKE SURE ALL OF THEIR ANIMALS HAVE BEEN VACCINATED AGAINST THE VIRUS, AND RESIDENTS SHOULD AVOID CONTACT WITH ANY ANIMALS ACTING STRANGELY. AND THIS IS THE TIME OF YEAR TO MAKE SURE YOUR WINDOWS AND ATTIC ARE PROPERLY SEALED. COLDER TEMPERATURES DRIVE ANIMALS LIKE BATS INTO HOUSES SEEKING WARMTH.

8/16/18-COMMUNITIES IN THE SOUTHERN TIER CONTINUE TO CLEAN UP FROM THIS WEEK'S MASSIVE FLOODING, BUT THE AFTERMATH COULD REACH US HERE IN THE UTICA ROME AREA. DOZENS OF CARS WERE INUNDATED BY HIGH WATER AND THERE'S A GOOD CHANCE THEY'LL BE SHOWING UP FOR SALE AFTER BEING SALVAGED. THAT'S PERFECTLY LEGAL, BUT SOME UNSCRUPULOUS CAR DEALERS CAN PUT THE VEHICLES UP FOR SALE WITHOUT INFORMING

BUYERS THEY'VE BEEN FLOODING. THE BEST WAY TO PROTECT YOURSELF IS TO DO A FREE TITLE CHECK THROUGH SERVICES LIKE CARFAX AND VINCHECK.

8/21/18-GOING GREEN AIN'T CHEAP. STARTING NEXT YEAR NEW YORKERS WILL BE PAYING OVER HALF A BILLION DOLLARS MORE FOR ELECTRICITY TO MEET THE STATE'S GREEN ENERGY STANDARDS. UNDER THE PROPOSAL THE STATE WILL SUBSIDIZE SOLAR, WIND, AND NUCLEAR GENERATING FACILITIES WITH MONEY RAISED BY SELLING RENEWABLE ENERGY CREDITS. THE EXTRA CHARGES PASSED ON TO POWER CUSTOMERS IS EXPECTED TO RISE EACH YEAR, AND BY 2021 PROJECTIONS SHOW THE STATE WILL BE PAYING OUT CLOSE TO A BILLION DOLLARS A YEAR.

8/28/18-THE FORECAST IS FILLED WITH HOT, HUMID TEMPERATURES, AND OFFICIALS ARE WARNING RESIDENTS TO TAKE COMMON SENSE PRECAUTIONS AGAINST THE HEAT. THAT INCLUDES KEEPING AN EYE ON ELDERLY NEIGHBORS WHO MAY HAVE ISSUES DEALING WITH SOARING TEMPERATURES. RESIDENTS SHOULD ALSO THINK TWICE ABOUT LEAVING PETS OR CHILDREN INSIDE A CAR FOR ANY LENGTH OF TIME. WITH AN AIR TEMPERATURE IN THE UPPER EIGHTIES IT ONLY TAKES A FEW MINUTES FOR THE INSIDE OF A CAR TO BECOME LETHALLY HOT, EVEN WITH CRACKED WINDOWS.