

# Oneida Lake Association Boating Safety Map

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*This map is not for sale.*



OSWEGO COUNTY

## Some Navigational Hazards Along the Shore

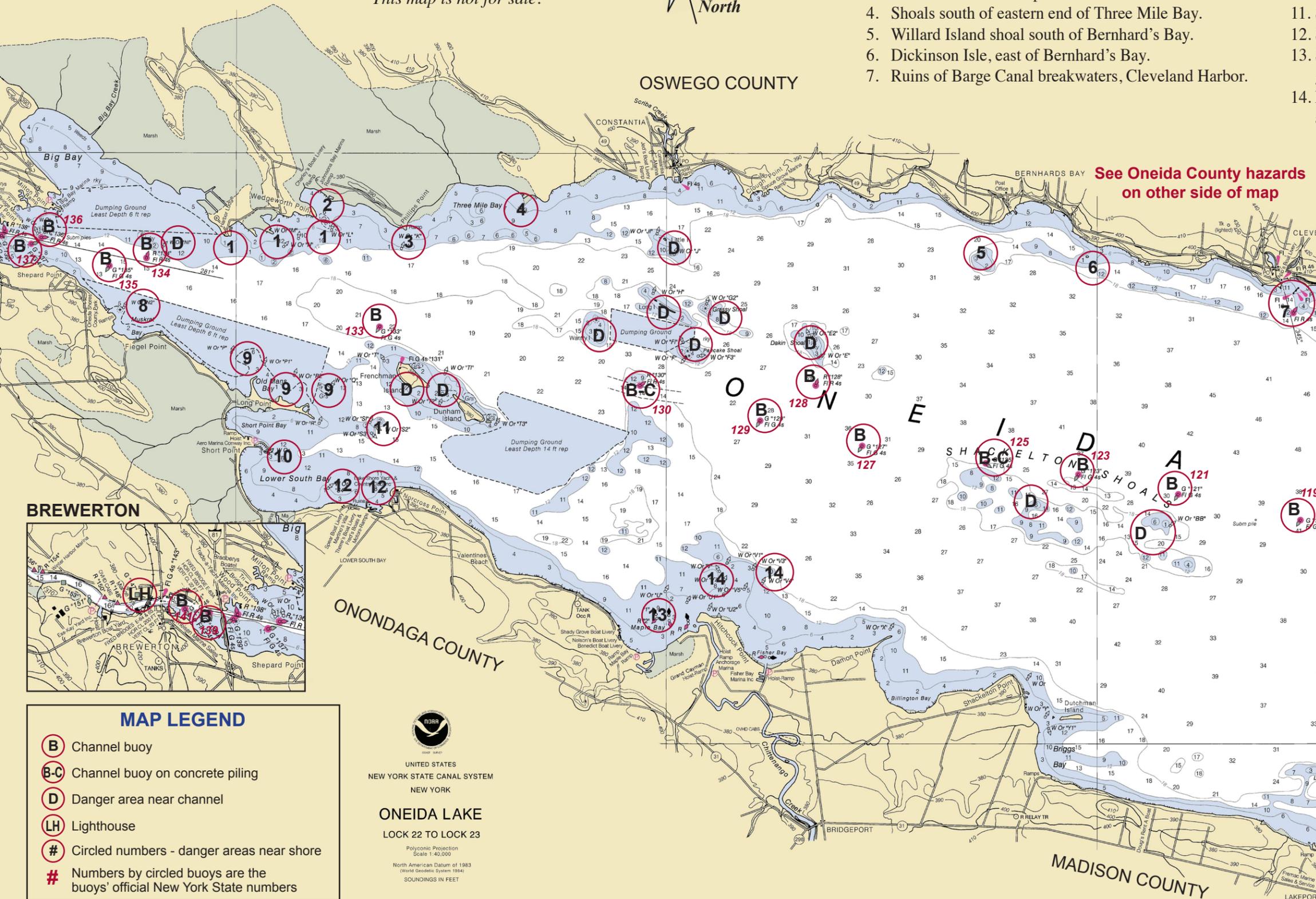
Some of these are marked by can or pin buoys; others are not. Always drive slowly when voyaging along Oneida Lake's shoreline.

### Along the Oswego County Shore - Traveling West to East

1. Shoals south of Shaw and Wedgeworth Points.
2. Two grass shoals in Johnson Bay.
3. Shoals south of Phillips Point.
4. Shoals south of eastern end of Three Mile Bay.
5. Willard Island shoal south of Bernhard's Bay.
6. Dickinson Isle, east of Bernhard's Bay.
7. Ruins of Barge Canal breakwaters, Cleveland Harbor.

### Along the Onondaga County Shore - Traveling West to East

8. Shoals north of Oneida Shores County Park.
9. Shoals north of Long Point.
10. Shoals east of Short Point.
11. Shoals south of Frenchman's Island and east of Long Point.
12. Shoals west of Norcross Point.
13. Shoals west of Chittenango Creek's mouth - Stay between the green and red guide buoys until safe water is reached.
14. Eel Island shoals, north of Hitchcock Point - This is a large shoal area. Stay outside of pin buoys.



See Oneida County hazards on other side of map

## Boaters - Please Read!

Specific shoreline hazards on this map are circled in red and numbered. Their numbers correspond to the numbered hazards in the lists for each county that border Oneida Lake. While we have tried to be all-inclusive, additional hazards may exist.

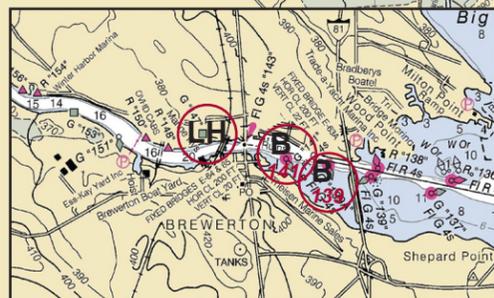
Buoys in the channel are labeled "B" and circled. If the buoy is placed on a concrete piling, it is labeled B-C and circled. Channel dangers are marked D and circled.

New York State marks many hazards with "can" and "pin" buoys. Occasionally, marina owners use other buoys to identify hazards near their facilities or entrances to channels leading to their property. Be cautious near *any* buoy in Oneida Lake.

## Navigation Tips for Oneida Lake

- Never consume alcoholic beverages or use drugs.
- Obey U.S. Coast Guard navigation rules.
- Always carry your cell phone.
- Make sure that your boat and motor are in tip-top condition.
- Know all dangers in the area of the lake where you're navigating.
- Check the weather forecast for storm warnings and advisories.
- Pay close attention to wind speed and direction. Large, wind-driven waves create dangerous conditions.
- Thunderstorms are extremely dangerous. Lightning, powerful winds, and big waves often accompany these storms.
- Stay off the water if you have any doubts about your boat or the lake's conditions.
- Always wear a PFD (life jacket). New York laws state that children under twelve must always wear one when in any boat under sixty-five feet in length, unless they are within a fully enclosed cabin. All passengers must wear PFDs from November 1 until May 1.
- Anyone being towed, such as water-skiers, tubers, or wake-boarders, and anyone operating a jet ski must wear a PFD.
- Boats must carry one PFD per passenger at all times. This includes non-motorized watercraft such as canoes, kayaks, and rowboats.
- Beware of floating debris in the lake, especially during the spring thaw, after flooding and heavy rains, and after high winds subside.
- Be aware of Oneida Lake's annual draw down (up to three feet), which occurs around November 1 and continues through winter. After draw down, consult a reliable depth map to determine which areas are too shallow for boating.
- Slow down when you navigate near all launch areas and near the shoreline.
- Thick weed beds can congest bays in summer. Be careful.

BREWERTON



ONONDAGA COUNTY

### MAP LEGEND

- Channel buoy
- Channel buoy on concrete piling
- Danger area near channel
- Lighthouse
- Circled numbers - danger areas near shore
- Numbers by circled buoys are the buoys' official New York State numbers



UNITED STATES  
NEW YORK STATE CANAL SYSTEM  
NEW YORK

ONEIDA LAKE

LOCK 22 TO LOCK 23

Polyconic Projection  
Scale 1:40,000  
North American Datum of 1983  
(World Geodetic System 1984)  
SOUNDINGS IN FEET

See Madison County hazards on other side of map

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## Some Navigational Hazards in or Near the Oneida Lake Channel

### Traveling From Brewerton to Sylvan Beach

- Even numbered (red) buoys are on the channel's north side and odd numbered (green) buoys mark the south side. Most are large, heavy metal buoys. Some are placed atop concrete pilings. These buoys are circled, numbered, and labeled B or B-C (on concrete piling).

*Note - The next three hazards are in Brewerton Harbor. They are not marked 'D' because of space limitations.*

- In Brewerton - the pilings of the railroad bridge, the Route 11 Bridge, and the Route 81 Bridge.
- Buoy 141 (green buoy) - rock shoal south of buoy - Stay on the north side.
- Buoy 139 - (green buoy) boulder south of buoy - Stay on north side.

*Danger areas are labeled D and circled.*

- Poddygut Shoals - north of Buoy 134 (red buoy) - shallow water.

- Shoals around and between Frenchman's and Dunham's Islands - shallow water - Do not drive between the islands.

- Concrete pier - south side of Frenchman's Island.

- Shoals surrounding and near Wantry, Long, and Little Islands, south of Constantia - shallow water.

- Buoy 130 (red) - This is a concrete piling.

- Pancake Shoals - northeast of Buoy 130 - shallow water.

- Dakin Shoal - north of Buoy 128 (red) - shallow water.

- Shackleton Shoals - between Buoys 125 (green - concrete piling) and 121 (green) - shallow water - The area south of 121 is particularly shallow and marked with pin buoys.

- Buoy 113 (green) - This is a concrete piling. Buoys mark the shoal. Very shallow water exists in the center and east of the shoal.

- The Sylvan Beach "rockpile" and partially submerged Barge Canal jetty. They were built in 1918 to guard the Beach's harbor. High water submerges part of them, creating a dangerous situation.

## Navigation at Night and if Visibility is an Issue

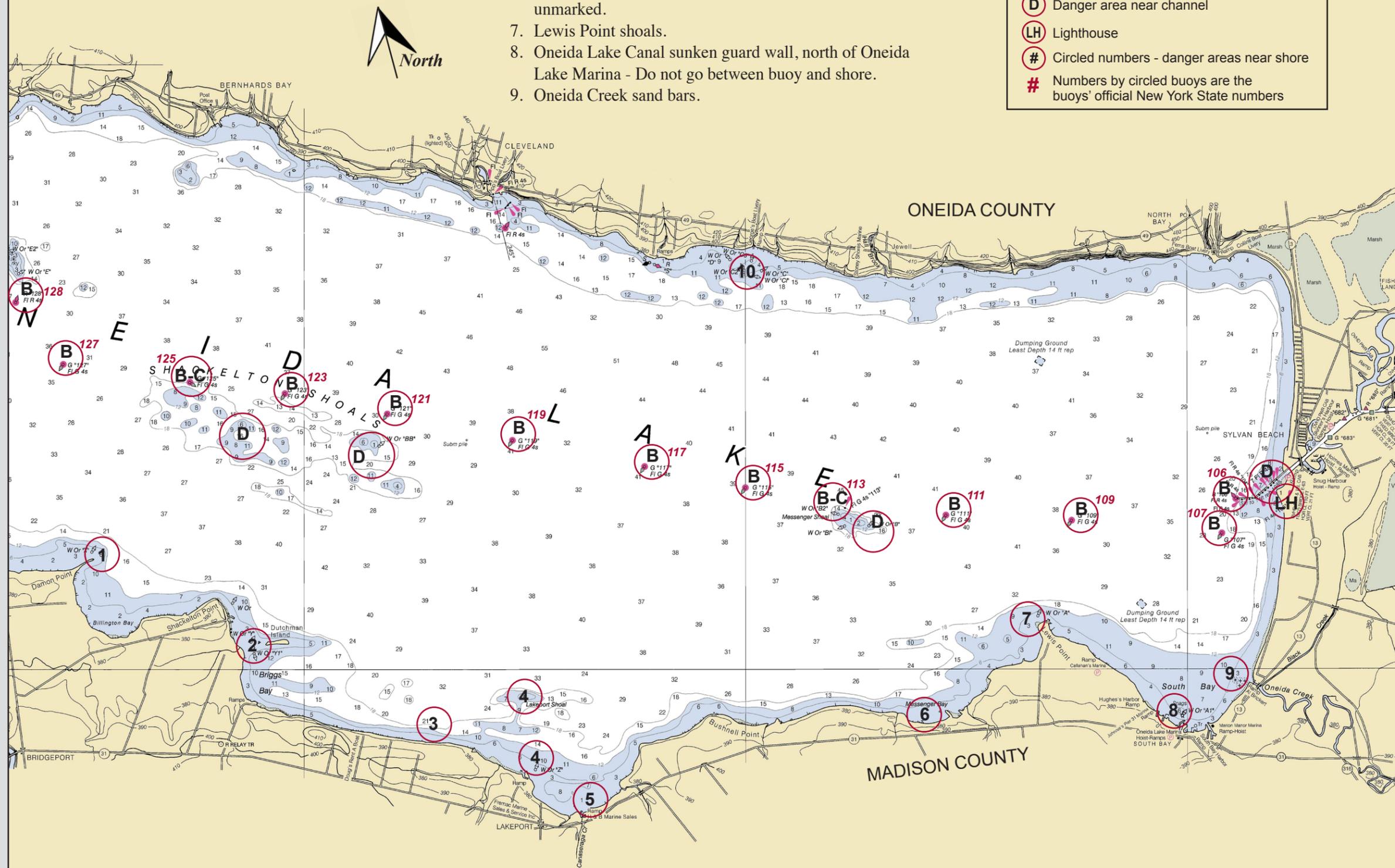
- Slow down. The Coast Guard strongly recommends that boaters slow down during poor visibility.
- Slow down quickly when you spot lights near your boat. These could be another vessel's running lights.
- Running lights are small in comparison with the total lake environment. Concentrate intensely when boating at night.
- Know the permanent physical hazards in areas you are navigating and stay away from them.
- Shore lights can be confusing. Become familiar with lights in the areas of the lake that you navigate.
- Don't navigate the lake in fog.
- Always check the forecast before venturing onto the lake at night.
- Driving into sunrise and sunset can blind boaters. Slow down.

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## Some Navigational Hazards Along the Shore

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### Along the Madison County Shore - Traveling West to East

1. Shoals north of Damon Point.
2. Shackleton Point - Dutchman's Island shoals - Do not go between the island and shore.
3. Chapman Park pier.
4. Shoals north of Fremac's Marina.
5. Shallows north of the mouth of Canaseraga Creek, Lakeport.
6. Goose Island shoal, slightly east of Hamlin's Marina - unmarked.
7. Lewis Point shoals.
8. Oneida Lake Canal sunken guard wall, north of Oneida Lake Marina - Do not go between buoy and shore.
9. Oneida Creek sand bars.

### Along the Oneida County Shore - Traveling West to East

10. Eaton Shoals, south of Anglers' Bay Marina.

### MAP LEGEND

- B** Channel buoy
- B-C** Channel buoy on concrete piling
- D** Danger area near channel
- LH** Lighthouse
- #** Circled numbers - danger areas near shore
- #** Numbers by circled buoys are the buoys' official New York State numbers