



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For further information contact Diane Carlton, 315-426-7403

Onondaga Lake Partnership announces 2012 Mini Grants program

Syracuse, N.Y. – The Onondaga Lake Partnership (OLP) is pleased to announce that it is accepting proposals for the 2012 Public Education and Outreach Mini Grants Program. Applications from eligible organizations to conduct projects within the Onondaga Lake watershed must be postmarked by February 24, 2012 (for information about the boundaries of the watershed, please consult www.onlakepartners.org/onlakewatershed). Award notification will be made by April 2, 2012. Please note: The Mini Grants Program has a shorter timeline this year, than in prior years. Projects must be completed no later than August 31, 2012.

The purpose of the program is to fund multiple locally-based projects designed to increase the knowledge and involvement of the public in Onondaga Lake and its watershed. Individual grants will be awarded in various amounts up to \$5,000. Organizations eligible to apply include: Indian Nations or their designated organization, local government or public agencies, educational institutions, and non-profit organizations and associations. Eligible and ideal applicants should be applying to establish a new program, expand a program, or implement a separate, stand alone component of an existing program (the component should not have received funding by the OLP Mini Grants Program in the past) within the five month project period. Only applicants with projects that can be completed within the five month project period are encouraged to apply. Unfortunately, there will be no exceptions to this date and extensions can not be granted.

Additional information about eligibility and application forms for the Onondaga Lake Partnership Mini Grants program may be obtained on the OLP website, www.onlakepartners.org/public_projects_mini, or by contacting Onondaga Environmental Institute at 315-472-2150 x12 or via e-mail at olpoutreach@oei2.org.

Support for the Mini Grants Program is provided by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, an OLP member organization, through a grant to Onondaga Environmental Institute.

###