



News Release

Arlene Kreusch
(716) 879-4438

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ONONDAGA LAKE PARTNERSHIP ANNOUNCES 2007 MINI-GRANTS PROGRAM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Syracuse, N.Y. – The Onondaga Lake Partnership (OLP) is requesting proposals for the 2007 Public Education and Outreach Mini-Grants Program for public outreach and education projects involving Onondaga Lake and its watershed. A total of \$25,000 is available in individual grants of up to \$5,000.

“This program encourages locally-based watershed enhancement programs and educational activities and strengthens the link between the community within the Onondaga Lake Watershed and the OLP,” said Lt. Col. John S. Hurley, Commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Buffalo District and Chair of the OLP Executive Committee. “Progress is being made, and the vision of a cleaner Onondaga Lake is within sight. We want to channel the enthusiasm and great ideas of many interested and involved groups to support and realize that vision. The community plays a key role in the success of the Onondaga Lake Partnership’s efforts.” The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, an OLP member organization, provides the funding for the Mini-Grant Program through the Onondaga Environmental Institute, which administers the program on behalf of the OLP.

Previous Mini-Grant projects have included Centers for Nature Education’s monthly “Enviromail” event calendar; Cornell Cooperative Extension’s Rain Garden demonstration project at the Zen Center of Syracuse; the Nine Mile Creek Conservation Council’s “Nine Mile Creek Watershed Day”; Onondaga Yacht Club’s promotion of boating on Onondaga Lake; and multiple projects by the Izaak Walton League and Project Watershed. The following organizations received Mini-Grant awards in 2006: Atlantic States Legal Foundation; Centers for Nature Education; Dunbar Association, Inc.; Huntington Family Centers; Liverpool Central – Elementary Science Center; “Onondaga Creek Kids” through the Westcott Community Center; the Wildfowlers Association of Central New York; and the Roxboro Middle School “New Yorkers”.

All mini-grant applications must be postmarked by December 1, 2006. Award decisions will be made by March 1, 2007. Additional information and application forms for the Onondaga Lake Partnership’s Mini-Grants program may be obtained on the OLP website, www.onlakepartners.org, or by contacting Ms. Lindsay Speer of the Onondaga Environmental Institute at 315-472-2150 x 25 or nonon1@verizon.net.

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