



NEWS RELEASE

Release No. 07-18

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May 24, 2007

Lake Day Filled With Fun Activities

Syracuse, NY--The 6th Annual Onondaga Lake Day will take place on Saturday, June 2, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Onondaga Lake Park, behind the Griffin Visitor Center near the lake's shore. The event is sponsored by the Onondaga Lake Partnership and is designed to bring people to the lake to take part in a variety of fun and educational activities. According to Sue Miller, Chair of the event for the Partnership's Outreach Committee, this year's event "will showcase how the lake is getting better through Partnership programs and promote steps that individuals can take to help the lake."

Special features of this year's program will be free boat tours on the lake leaving from the marina, narrated one-hour tram rides highlighting the history of the lake, a free learn-to-fish clinic from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. for kids 15 years and younger with equipment provided plus presentations and videos throughout the day in the "classroom by the lake" tent near the Salt Museum.

The following will also be offered from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.:

- Exhibits and displays by Partnership members and other organizations related to the uses and ecology of the Lake, its shoreline and its watershed and projects underway to improve the lake with hands on things to do for children and teens.
- Ultimate Sports with a lake view will offer kids and adults alike an opportunity to try some old sports with a new twist like monster volleyball and ultimate Frisbee on the lawn behind the Visitor's Center.
- Fish from the lake will be displayed in a tank staffed by Onondaga County's lake monitoring personnel. See how many fish you can identify.
- Adults and teens can test their knowledge of the Lake – take the Lake WQ/IQ Test.
- Take your whole family on a spin on a bicycle built for 3 or more. Rides start at the Information Tent.
- Attend an Open House at the historic Onondaga Yacht Club.
- Visit the Salt Museum and learn about the area's salty past.
- Get kids' photo taken with Ronny Raindrop or Rick the Raccoon.
- Encourage kids to take part in games, crafts, face painting, and eco/info scavenger hunt.
- Help make a bluebird house for use in the lake's watershed.
- Get a free tree seedling to plant and learn how to build a rain garden.

Special presentations throughout the day will include:

- Lakeside fitness demonstration at 11 a.m. on lawn near tents. Join in.
- Talk with a Partner – Members of the Partnership's Executive Committee will be available from 11:30 - 12 noon, and 12:30 - 1 p.m. to answer your questions about the lake and partnership programs.
- Zoo to You – staff of the Friends of the Rosamond Gifford Zoo will bring critters like those who reside around the lake and share interesting information about their habitat – see the elusive spotted salamander and box turtle up close.
- See Movies on the Shore featuring our latest educational videos including: How you can help the Lake and the Willow Power project on the wastebeds.

- Try out the rowing machine of the Syracuse Chargers and sign up for lessons.

Lake Day organizers report they will have plenty of information for participants on how they can help the lake plus posters for school classrooms, coloring books, litter bags, rain gauges and other take home items. Door prizes will also be given away throughout the day.

“This truly is an opportunity for families to come out to the lake and have a free fun day while learning how the lake is improving and what everyone can do to help the lake from those directly involved in the remediation efforts,” Miller noted.

For a complete listing of the day’s schedule of activities and presentations, go to www.onlakepartners.org. or contact: Sue Miller 315-435-2260.