

Sarah Bean
Vision of Onondaga Lake 350 words

Onondaga Lake is currently one of the most polluted lakes in the United States; however it is not damaged beyond repair. Many things are being done to restore Onondaga Lake. After the lake is restored, a nature center will be built which will inform community members and others of the environmental mistakes made by industrialists near Onondaga Lake. It will shine a light on little known past practices in the area. The center will provide an educational tool for children and a way to enjoy nature. It will teach children about nature and conservation and the history of the lake.

The Onondaga Clean Lake Nature Center will be located in an expanded Onondaga Lake Park. In the nature center building there will be an auditorium, indoor observation windows, a learning center, ant-farms, beehives, ^{an} environmental library, reading areas, maps of the area including nature trails and more.

Outside the nature center building ^{there} will be observation decks, a picnic area, four nature trails, a butterfly garden and other landscaping. The landscaping around the building will provide a wilderness feel as well as a year-round habitat for wildlife. The nature trails will vary in length and difficulty for different age groups.

This project will provide jobs for environmentalists. The Onondaga Clean Lake Nature Center will call for trail guides, several information providers as well as other staff necessary to run the center.

Many activities will take place at The Onondaga Clean Lake Nature Center. Lectures and meetings will be held in the auditorium. Guest speakers will come and visit the nature center to speak on environmental issues, what has been done to restore the

lake, how sewage is being taken care of and many other matters. Weekly activities for children will be available including story time, nature scavenger hunts, bonfires, family picnics and picture contests of the Onondaga Lake area

The Onondaga Clean Lake Nature Center will be a successful project. The knowledge provided about the environment and conservation will benefit both humans and nature. It will make learning fun for adults and their children. The center may also be

a tourist attraction, filled with hikes, learning, meditation and fun. (The center will ~~show~~ educate people about the time ~~in 8000 BC~~ when the Iroquois populated the area, through The Industrial Revolution, through the pollution and ~~then~~ the steps taken to restore the lake back to its natural beauty.) The generations now and the generations to come can then appreciate the natural beauty.

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