

FY-2025 2nd quarter report

ENVIRONMENTAL, LAND & AG DIVISION

Status report of Outcomes/Goals

1. Which outcome/goal(s) does the Division wish to report on?
2. What metric is being used to measure the outcome/goal?
3. What are the accomplishments (i.e. positives, things for which the Division is proud, brags) have occurred over the reporting period that reflect the Division's progress for reaching the outcome/goal?
4. What can the community expect to see in the future (i.e. 6 months; next year; 18 months) from the Division related to the outcome/ goal?

Outcome/Goal # 1

Continuous review and improvement of current programming while also creating new programming based on community demand, to provide services to more of the community.

MEASUREMENT: Promoting positive community relations

ACCOMPLISHMENTS RELATED TO THE OUTCOME/GOAL:

WPP kicked off it's 'From Seed to Preservation' project in February with the support of a gardening coach. This project consists of 11 families, including Oneida Vocational Rehabilitation. Participants have started their seeds and mapped out their gardens and will begin planting in April. In March, participants had an opportunity to meet out at the garden site to see where they will be planting.

WPP designed and instructed a "Fueling Your Game: Powering Your Young Athlete the Clean Way" course for youth and parents. Feedback from youth and caregivers was collected. When youth were asked the question, "What surprised you most based on what you learned today?", most answers included statements like: "That Gatorade is not so healthy for you. You can make your own Gatorade". When asked, "Did today's workshop convince you to make healthier choices when it comes to snacks/drinks for athletes?", a whopping 86% said "yes". Parents were equally surprised by how unhealthy drinks like Gatorade/Power Ade" are. Following the workshop, 100% stated they plan on making changes at home. Following the workshop, one caregiver commented: "Appreciated the opportunity especially for youth. I think it's important to reach out to young people while

they are still developing eating habits. It's helpful to see other kids their age as well as any other members in the community making good choices and learning together"

*Great Lakes Intertribal Epidemiology Center' (GLITEC) has been assisting our programming with the creation of "Food is Medicine" educational resources. The completed works include: "Identifying Common Processed Foods" and "Alternatives to Commercial Sports Drinks". These educational resources may end up being utilized by other tribes.

On March 21, 7 Oneida families picked up a chicken coop. In October, they participated in a 'Raising Chickens 101' workshop. At the completion of the event, all participants expressed an interest to raise their own chickens. As a food sovereignty/food security initiative, all families will now be raising their own chickens. With the cost of eggs being so high, families will now have access to their own fresh, nutrient dense eggs, and empowered to be producers of their own food. Additional chicken coops are being placed at the County H garden site, where our gardening participants will have the option to help in the care taking of hens in exchange for free eggs. This opportunity was made available through a Social Justice Grant.

EXPECTATIONS/FUTURE PLANS REGARDING THE OUTCOME/GOAL:

As a result of program eval, we have been able to assess and design a more tailored approach to programming for our community. Our expectation is to continue to evaluate our workshops and adjust as needed to address any barriers and meet any specific needs for our families on an ongoing basis.

In general, from our community wide eval, we are finding a real need to increase small scale community led projects to address the need of connecting with family, community, and culture via our food pathways. We have finalized our 2025 programming schedule to fit these needs, offering educational workshops, community gardens, take home agriculture opportunities, etc. that focus on intimate connection and sustainable real change in our food systems.

Outcome/Goal # 2

Expand and enhance best practices to improve the health of the Reservation's environment and the community.

MEASUREMENT:



Mike conducting compliance visits at One Stops

ACCOMPLISHMENTS RELATED TO THE OUTCOME/GOAL:

19 Phase 1 AAI Reviews 3 Waste voucher requests 22 pet licenses issued
17 food safety inspections completed. 15 Food safety handlers trained and certified
5 Compliance inspections completed at Oneida One Stops
3 surface water investigations completed. 6 Wood cutting permits issued.
16.5 acres buffers maintained by nonpoint program staff, and 26.5 acres of field for burn breaks for upcoming prescribed burns.

In February the Environmental area submitted a 2 million grant application to the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) grant to continue Forestry, Nonpoint pollution prevention and wildlife monitoring programs.

EXPECTATIONS/FUTURE PLANS REGARDING THE OUTCOME/GOAL:

Provide compliance assistance to underground storage tanks facilities on the Oneida Reservation. Continue to offer the Food Handler and Safety Course, compete inspections, hire a second sanitarian and provide community outreach. Continue to respond to manure spills, pollution complaints, other threats to Reservation environment. The Nonpoint program plans to expand all buffers to fifty feet; to reduce nutrients and sediments in our waterways, this will take years to complete. Continue to plant cover crops on ag fields to add nutrients in our soil. Planning a pilot project with a chaos garden at Red Willow Parkway for the community to harvest. Three stream maintenance projects in 2025 field season. Continued implementation of best management practices for the ONF beef and bison operations, expanded grazing areas and pumphouses. Forester going through contract process for two reforestation projects in 2025.

Outcome/Goal # 3

Exercising Sovereignty

MEASUREMENT:

59 Tribal Fee to Trust Pending Cases as of 4/1/25		
	Taxes	Acres
16 Green Bay Properties	208,957.67	16.33
22 Hobart Properties	162,742.29	669.02
21 Outagamie County Properties	75,407.50	415.84
	447,107.46	1,101.20

ACCOMPLISHMENTS RELATED TO THE OUTCOME/GOAL:

3 acquisitions totaling 7 acres. Three rules were certified and are now effective. These are Rule #1, LANDBAC (Land Assessments for the Nation's Decisionmakers to Build an Autonomous Community), Rule #2 Land Use Licenses, and Rule #3 Easements. 644 turkey hunting tags sold. For the Quarter there were four contract HTWOs completed, resulting in an overall saving of \$36,189.50 for the Community/Membership.

* \$15,300.00 was for the hired Contractor.

* \$20,889.50 was for the Crew's cleanup/removal efforts.

* Contract Work – Required for the removal/felling of tree(s), that are beyond the Crew's capacities/capabilities, due to:

- Overall size/height of the tree(s)
- Location of the tree(s)
- Terrain/landscape issues
- Proximity to home structure or property
- Utility service precautions

EXPECTATIONS/FUTURE PLANS REGARDING THE OUTCOME/GOAL:

7 accepted offers to purchase on land totaling 94.832 acres. Negotiating on 7 properties totaling 107.3 acres. Recently held a Public Meeting for the DRAFT Agricultural Rule. ELA staff will be reviewing the comments and continuing the process for certifying and implementing this Rule.

Contact Info

CONTACT: Eric McLester

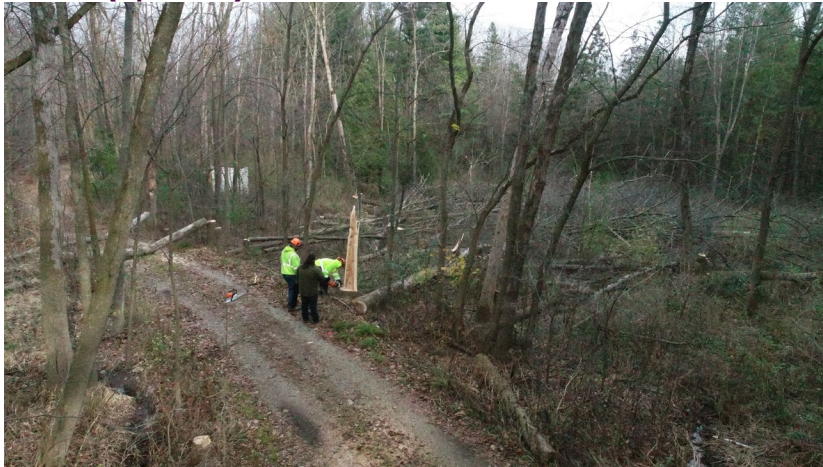
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Photos (optional):



Forest health maintenance has begun in Oneida with removing 75 dead Ash in the NHC woods under the guidance of the Forester.



ELA Division staff attended Chainsaw Safety Training



Tony Kuchma presenting on Oneida's wetlands restoration at Wisconsin Wetlands Association Annual Conference.



Pheasant Release (Shad Webster, Terry Metoxen, Eric McLester)



Mike Arce presenting on Oneida's work at WDOT listening session