

ELA Division Newsletter

LATIHWY^TYSANIKO·LALE? *they protect the earth*



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Environmental Updates

Pet Wellness Resources

By Jennifer J. Jordan, PhD, CHES Sanitarian II

We all love our pets! A healthy pet is a happy pet, but sometimes a family's financial situation gets in the way of taking care of a pet's needs. Sanitarian Jennifer Jordan has put together a list of area agencies that can assist with pet wellness clinics and emergency pet food pantries.

Please note this list is not all inclusive and some agencies have specific guidelines and business hours. Please contact the agency at the phone numbers/websites listed here for more information.

Also, Oneida Community, please remember that all pet licenses expire annually on December 31st! Per Oneida Nation Law, pet licenses need to be renewed annually beginning January 1, 2026.

Oneida does not offer vaccine assistance at this time. There is no fee to license your pet, but we do need a copy of your pet's current rabies vaccination from a licensed Veterinarian.

To renew your pet's license, please contact Sanitarian Jennifer Jordan at jjordan4@oneidanation.org

Animal Clinic	Contact
Community Paws of WI	920-212-1565
WI Humane Society-GB	920-469-3110
Packerland Veterinary Center	920-498-2808 <i>(5% general discount w/Oneida Tribal ID)</i>
Vetco at Petco Vaccination clinic	920-480-6972



Environmental Update

Bats on the Rise

What Bat Monitoring reveals about the night skies

Recent bat monitoring on Oneida Nation lands shows a clear message: our restoration work is creating healthier, more diverse habitat for bats. Acoustic surveys documented six confirmed bat species using Oneida grasslands, wetlands, and forests - including several species of conservation concern. During mating season Big Brown and Hoary bats were the most active across sites, reflecting their reliance on forest edges, open fly aways, and breeding roost trees. Little Brown bats - a species heavily affected by White-nose Syndrome - showed higher activity here than is typical elsewhere in the entire region, a hopeful sign for recovery.

In the migratory season, Silver Haired Bats dominated activity levels, with nearly 800 confirmed passes at the Buffalo Grazing site, indicating that Oneida lands provide important stopover habitat during fall migration. Evening Bat, rare in Wisconsin, was also detected at the Orchard area, highlighting the importance of ongoing habitat stewardship. The bat report recommends tracking all types as Focal Species for adaptive management, due to their ecological importance and the presence of several species with state or federal conservation concern. Continued surveys, mating and migratory - will help track long term trends and the success of restoration activities.

800

Silver-haired Bats were documented during migration - Oneida lands are an important stopover

Photo: Merlin D. Tuttle

What you can do to help:

- Plant native, bat friendly trees: Oaks, maples, and hickories develop cavities and loose bark that provide natural roosts.
- Keep standing dead trees when safe.
- Use Dark Sky-friendly outdoor lighting. Shield lights, switch to warm-colored bulbs, and use motion sensors to reduce light pollution. bats are especial light - sensitive.
- Avoid tree cutting from June 1 to August 15. This protects breeding roosts and avoids disturbing pups.
- Consider installing a bat house. Especially in areas with limited natural cavity trees, such as grazing or open field sites.

For more information on the Bat report contact Tony Kuchma: akuchma@oneidanation.org

Environmental Update

Oneida Bird Report *findings*

Over two decades, Oneida has restored prairies, wetlands, and forests - and the birds are telling us it's paying off. In 2023, Point-Count (PC) surveys documented 102 species across nine sites and the Acoustic Recorder System (ARS) detected 93 species, capturing quiet singers we might miss by sight alone. In 2024, diversity remained high, although a different site mix and effort: 67 species on point counts and 68 on acoustic recorders. Together, these methods show a resilient bird community across grasslands, wetlands, and woodlands on Oneida lands. *"The land tells its story through birds - when habitat heals, the chorus returns."* Gary Casper *Oneida Bird Report*.

Scientific Lens

How it's measured:

June point counts are short, repeated dawn surveys at fixed sites. June acoustic recorders sample 10 - minute sound clips daily; we use on *Count* (how many samples occupied) and *Duration* (days from first to last

By the numbers	PC	ARS
2023 (June):	102	93
2024 (June):	67	68

detection) to help identify on-territory breeders verses transients.

What this means:

Restoration areas are supporting large, multi-habitat communities -strong evidence of ecological recovery. Grassland, wetland, and edge species are present where we expect them, showing the right habitat structure is in place. More articles to come!

How you can help:

- If you manage fields, avoid mowing April - August to protect ground - nesters.
- Leash dogs near marsh edges during nesting season.
- Download Merlin ID, to ID birds in your area.
- Join the Oneida Bird Monitoring Group.



Photo: *A. Powless*

For more information about birds in Oneida contact Amber at apowles7@oneidanation.org

Environmental Update

Water Resources Program Highlights



1999



2025

Surface Water Monitoring

The Water Resources Program checks the health of our rivers and streams by testing the water, studying the insects that live in it, and look at the overall condition of the stream.

Most locations are monitored April through November or until waters freeze. Our goal is to ensure clean water, safe fish for consumption and a healthy ecosystem for future generations.

Photos above show visible improvement to Trout Creek before and after restoration efforts throughout the watershed from 1999 to 2025.

Trout Creek shows recovery, resiliency and encouragement for continued efforts to protect Oneida's waterways.



Fish Restocking in Oneida's Lakes ('25)

Fish stocking happens thanks to the efforts of the St. Croix Fish Hatchery and Genoa National Fish Hatchery. 582,356 total fish stocked in '25.

breakdown by fish type & lake	Oneida Lake	Osnuha Lake	Quarry Lake
Extended Growth Walleye Total: 3,556	✓	✓	✓
Rainbow Trout Total: 1,000		✓	
Black Crappie Fingerlings Total: 1,800	✓		
Flat Head Minnows Total: 576,000	✓	✓	✓

electro shock surveys update →

Annual Spring Lake Electro Fishing Surveys were conducted in April of 2025 in partnership with U.S. Fish & Wildlife. Fall's Lake Survey was postponed due to the Federal Government Shutdown. Surveys will resume in 2026.

For more information contact Alaina Noll at: anoll@oneidanation.org

Environmental Update



Silver Creek after maintenance

Nonpoint Program 2025

Conservation Project Areas

3 Stream Maintenance Projects:

- Silver Creek - Approximately 100' of stream regrading to allow for positive flow and reduce upstream flooding, near Fish Creek Road.
- Oneida Creek - Approximately 200' of stream along Pearl Street regrading to allow for positive flow and reduce upstream flooding
- Trout Creek - Approximately 2,000' of stream regrading to allow for positive flow and reduce upstream flooding, near Cooper Road.

Nonpoint Program continues practices to help filter runoff into water ways.

Several nonpoint practices were installed at the former Bougie property. The Van Wychen Waterway & Crossing project consisted of an engineered grassed waterway with two 4" support drainage tiles to accommodate the extra capacity from the neighboring tiles that has caused erosion within the existing drainage. Along with some shaped critical area plantings and 3 stream crossings, we worked with the lessee to continue using cover crops with their row crops to minimize any nutrient and sediment loss.



Here are some examples of grassed waterways.
Left: seeded grassed waterway.

Right: shows a stable spot for crossing the stream without disrupting the flow.



For more information contact Wes Johnson at wjohnson@oneidanation.org

Land & Conservation Update

GET OUTDOORS **ONEIDA**
 A good mind. A good heart. A strong fire.

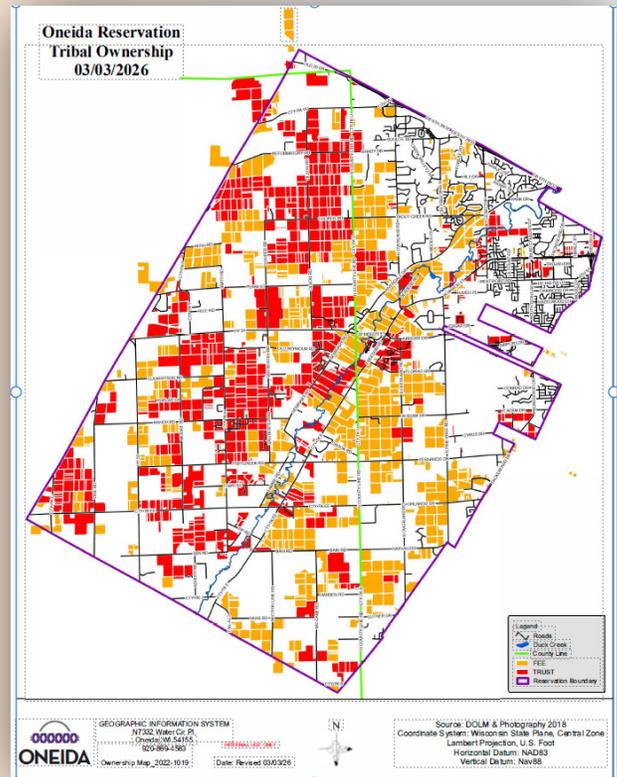
Spring Turkey Tags

ON SALE March 2, 2026
 Oneida Spring Turkey Season
 Dates: 4/4/26 - 5/24/26

*Sportsmen will receive 4 tags.
 Bag limit - Two (2) Bearded Birds & Two (2) Hens.

Please contact the Oneida Conservation Dept with any questions at (920)869-6500

Land Acquisition Update



UPDATED Preliminary numbers from the 25-26 Deer Harvest Report from both Brown & Outagamie counties.

	Antler less	Legal Buck	Total
Bow	39	87	126
Gun	27	58	85
Muzzle Loader	21	18	39
Total	87	163	250

Land Management had 9 new acquisitions in second quarter of FY26 for a total of 87.15 acres, which brought the Oneida Nation's total land holdings to 29,156 acres or 45% of the reservation.

- 2994 Service Road (Former White Eagles) was acquired and will be evaluated for future use.
- Two residential homes were transferred to Comprehensive Housing at the end of January.
- 7.93 acres of land purchased went into Trust on Old Seymour Road.

For more information contact Shad Webster at 920-869-6500

Agriculture Update

Ag Area

Watch for
ag & food
area
updates
next issue

The Cannery Celebrates a Year of Growth, Service, and Community Impact

The Cannery marked another successful year, completing its fourth season as a Tribal Elder Food Box vendor. From May to September, the

team delivered 2,000 units each month, featuring Frozen Strawberry Drinks, assorted jams, and Apple Sauce/Apple Butter—all while maintaining regular harvesting, processing, and community order fulfillment.

A 2024 corn shortage required a full menu redesign for 2025, yet demand remained strong. The Cannery continued to support community events, including a special April request from Thornberry Creek to prepare Bison Veggie Wild Rice for more than 50 Draft Week visitors.

In May, the team proudly catered the Missing & Murdered Indigenous Relatives Walk for the third consecutive year, serving 450 portions of Chicken Wild Rice with Squash Soup and 450 Strawberry Drinks. The Cannery also continued its monthly support of Just Move It Oneida, providing 15–20 quarts of soup to promote healthier eating.

For more information contact Jodi King at jking@oneidanation.org

This year included new collaborations as well. Staff partnered with Mending the Disconnect With Food Program to host community workshops on juicing, strawberry processing, and pickle making.

November brought one of the Cannery's most anticipated traditions: the Community Kanastolha/Corn Bread Pick-Up. Thanks to dedicated staff and volunteers, more than 500 orders were filled.

As The Cannery and Food & Ag continue to grow together, the team looks ahead with excitement—weekly deliveries will resume soon, and White Corn is expected to return to the menu in 2026.



Shekoli Everybody,

Hope everyone is looking forward to spring, especially with the big winter storms behind us after record-setting Blizzard Elsa.

The biggest news this quarter within the ELA Division is another major reorganization. A year ago, we removed “Health and Safety” from our name; now we are intentionally bringing focus on Food As Medicine in a new and meaningful way.

The Agricultural Area included the

Oneida Nation Farm, Oneida Orchard, Tsyunhehkwa, Cannery, and OCIFS/WPP. With the addition of Oneida Food Distribution and Oneida Emergency Food Pantry, it became clear that a new structure was needed.

We have now created a new focus area called “Food As Medicine”. This area will include:

- Oneida Food Distribution & Oneida Emergency Food Pantry
- The Cannery
- OCIFS
- Mending the Disconnect with Food.

The unified approach will center on providing healthier whole food options, with a strong emphasis on traditional foods.

Another important change involves the existing Agricultural Area. The Tsyunhehkwa Farm has been integrated into the Oneida Orchard and the two will move forward as one under the name “Oneida Orchard Farm”. This newly aligned Orchard Farm will report to the Oneida Nation Farm, ensuring all



agricultural operations are unified under one structure.

This transition will allow us:

- A wider variety of fruits, beyond just apples
- Expansion of berry production
- An increased diversity of vegetables

Everything previously offered through Tsyunhehkwa will now be available at the Oneida Orchard Farm location.

Coming soon at Oneida Orchard Farm, plans for the new retail store are nearly complete. Groundbreaking is expected this spring, with a goal of opening before the end of the year.

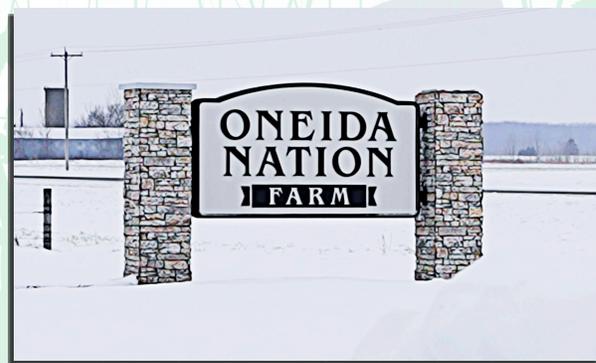
Additionally, the new Oneida Cannery is on track for mid-summer completion, with plans to move into the new 11,000 sq. ft. facility this summer.

These changes reflect our

continued commitment to protecting the environment, restoring health, strengthening our food systems and food security, and reconnecting our community to traditional and whole foods. Have a great spring and eat lots of white corn!

-Eric McLester

Oneida Nation Environmental, Land & Agriculture Looking Ahead



- March : Spring Migration! Watch for returning birds.
- March: Spring Tilling List opens call Orchard.
- April 4: Spring Turkey Season Opener
- April 20: Green Earth Library HWY Clean Up 10am-12pm.
- April 22: Earth Day Clean up your yard and neighborhood.
- April 24: National Arbor Day -Plant a tree!
- May 1: Oneida Lake opens.
- May 1: Oneida Campsite opens.
- May 15: Buckthorn Walking Stick Workshop w/Mike Arce -watch for sign-up details.
- May 16: Seed & Plant @ Orchard 9am til gone.
- June: Garlic Pull @ Old Museum Trail.
- June 18: First Oneida Farmer's Market.
- Mid-July: #6 Wild Bergamot & Sweet Grass Community Harvest.

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OneidaEHSD](https://facebook.com/OneidaEHSD)



ELA Division

NEWSLETTER-

Release Dates

November 1st

March 19

May 1st

August 1st

*Next Issue:
Name Change
announcement &
New Look!*