



EARTH CORPS • ENCORE

EMPOWERING YOUTH • BUILDING COMMUNITY



315-565-3797 • www.onondagaeearthcorps.org

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



In the past year the Onondaga Earth Corps has had much to celebrate including the successful transition of our organization to a completely independent 501c3, and Greening USA's 2016 "Sustaining Our Community Award" – recognizing OEC's contribution to the sustainability of our community and commitment to environmental, economic and social justice and stewardship. In the first half of 2017, OEC had already employed and trained 34 youth, planted 869 trees and provided 2656 hours of youth service in the community.

Earth Corps is at the center of change, creating new opportunities, a new mindset and a new focus on the gifts and positive energy of our youth. Weaving and strengthening the fabric of our community, our relationships with one another and the natural environment is a collective effort, and we are always eager to expand our circle of friends. It is in that spirit that we invite you to join us by contributing, volunteering, offering your expertise, learning and sharing about the significant work of the Onondaga Earth Corps.

GREGORY MICHEL

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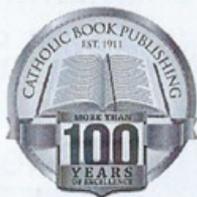
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“Sweet 16th
Anniversary Cabaret”**

*Thank for your tireless efforts
in helping to educate
our young people.*

“All over the country, creators of (city and county master plans) and the public that advises them will have an opportunity to consider whether the veins of nature and wildness will be as important as the arteries of transportation to the future of our neighborhoods.”

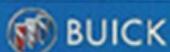
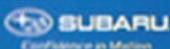
- RICHARD LOUV, “LAST CHILD IN THE WOODS, SAVING OUR CHILDREN FROM NATURE-DEFICIT DISORDER”

“One of the advantages of living in most cities is human cultural diversity; by applying the Nature Principle, our homes, our neighborhoods, our cities can become more biodiverse, more interesting places to live. Species diversity, like cultural diversity, enriches our lives and gives us hope.”

- RICHARD LOUV, “THE NATURE PRINCIPLE”

“As we and our land are part of one another, so all who are living as neighbors here, human and plant and animal, are part of one another, and so cannot possibly flourish alone.”

- WENDELL BERRY



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MISSION

The Mission of the OEC is to empower youth to be active participants in creating positive change for themselves, their communities and the environment.

OEC – PAST AND PRESENT

The OEC began as the Eli MacDonald Green Team in 2004. The initiative was created by MacDonald, a Veteran and Activist, when he identified the need for young people to be active in beautifying their neighborhoods and landscaping properties for elderly and disabled residents. In 2005, the program adopted the youth conservation corps model and changed its name to Onondaga Earth Corps.

The OEC models itself on the highly successful and effective Youth Conservation Corps model that has been in operation throughout the United States since the 1930's to address critical environmental and human service needs. Corps programs lead to positive impacts on participants' employment and earnings, teach them valuable job readiness and technical skills for the future, and provide needed services.

OEC crew members participate in urban forestry projects, stormwater management projects, private property management and community environmental education and outreach.

THANK YOU

Our special thanks to the following for their generous support of the OEC:



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The CorpsNetwork

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URBAN FORESTRY

YOUTH PLANTING TREES IN SYRACUSE



Urban forestry projects included tree inventories, neighborhood outreach, tree planting, and tree care.

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

OECS AND SAVE THE RAIN PARTNER TO MAINTAIN SYRACUSE'S GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE



Stormwater management projects included rain gardens, rain barrel construction, demonstration of a green roof, and neighborhood outreach.

PRIVATE PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

TREE AND PROPERTY MAINTENANCE BY OEC



Landscaping services include cutting lawns, trimming overgrown shrubs and trees, and landscaping under the guidance of program staff. Inter-generational communication, correcting mis-perceptions and overcoming stereotypes are some of the critical community benefits to result from these activities. The OEC staff remains committed to ensuring that property maintenance activities remain an integral part of the youth-led projects.

NEIGHBORHOOD & PARK BEAUTIFICATION



The Clean Streets crew teaches about litter challenges and solutions across the city.

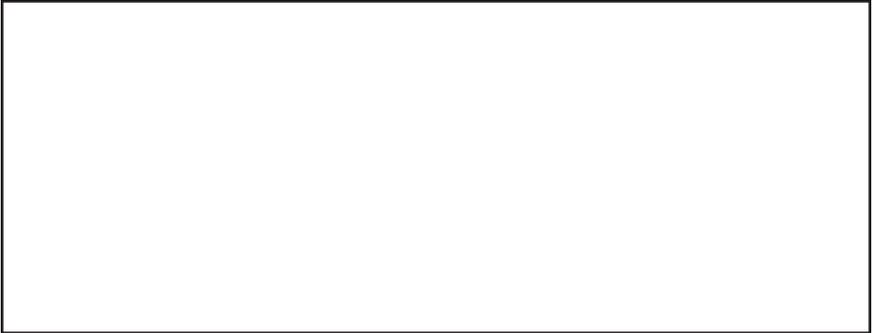
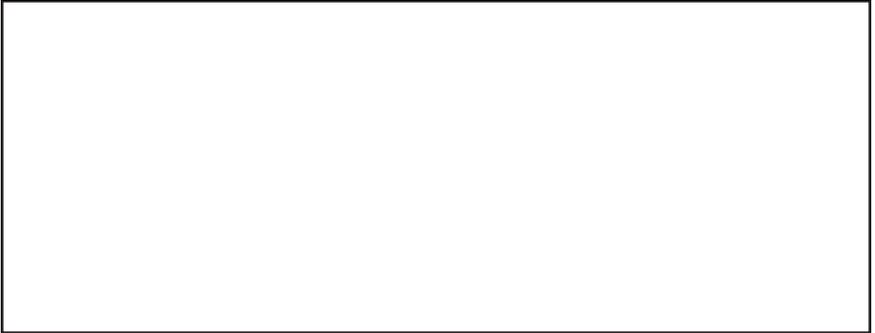
Onondaga Earth Corps has recently partnered with the City of Syracuse & the

Department of Parks and Recreation and Department of Public

Works to bring real work experiences to young people in the summer. These crews have been crucial first responses to the city's need to clean

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Work is appreciated, and good work is appreciated a lot!....Work opens doors to Friendship and mutual confidence that no amount of conversation will accomplish.”

- KAT KINKADE

“To such an extent does nature delight and abound in variety that among her trees there is not one plant to be found which is exactly like another; and not only among the plants, but among the boughs, the leaves and the fruits, you will not find one which is exactly similar to another. “

- LEONARDO DA VINCI

“It’s the little things citizens do. That’s what will make the difference. My little thing is planting trees.”

- WANGARI MAATHAI

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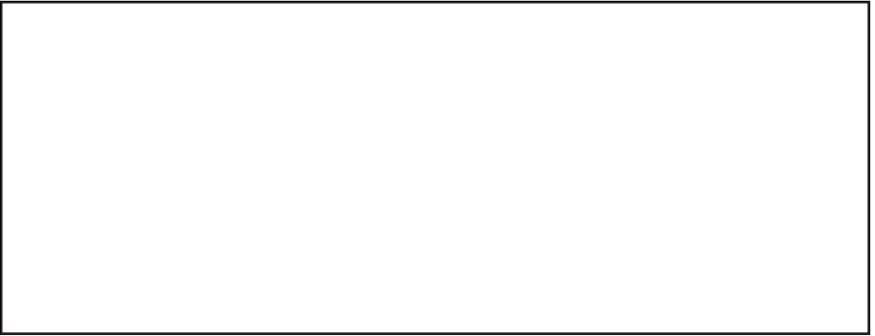
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Your investment in the Onondaga Earth Corps will change lives!

By contributing to the OEC you are investing in young people who are working toward being productive, responsible citizens and stewards of the earth.



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THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

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