



County of Onondaga
Office of the County Executive

Joanne M. Mahoney
County Executive

ongov.net

Media Release

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Onondaga County Agriculture Council Kicks Off Fourth Year of “Buy Local. Buy Onondaga Grown.” Campaign

Announces Date of Third Annual ONFarm Fest

SYRACUSE, N.Y. - Onondaga County Executive Joanie Mahoney and the Onondaga County Agriculture Council today launched year four of the "Buy Local. Buy Onondaga Grown" campaign to encourage the community to purchase food products grown in Onondaga County.

A kickoff event was held at the Tre-G Farm in Pompey and allowed those in attendance to enjoy a taste of locally grown and produced foods. County Executive Mahoney, New York State Senator Dave Valesky, Executive Director of Cornell Cooperative Extension of Onondaga County David Skeval, and Agriculture Council Co-Chairs - County Legislator David Knapp and farmer Harvey Skeelee, spoke about the many benefits of seeking out locally grown products.

The “Buy Local. Buy Onondaga Grown” campaign, which seeks to educate the public on the importance of farming and farmland to our community, runs now through October. During the campaign, the community will learn about the size and scope of Onondaga County's agricultural industries such as produce, dairy, meat, maple and honey products, and more. They will also learn the value of farmland and the importance of preserving it for generations to come. The community is also encouraged to select Onondaga Grown items by looking for the Onondaga Grown logo at local grocers, convenience stores, farm stands, farmers markets, and restaurants.

“We are fortunate to have a robust and diverse agricultural industry in our county,” said Onondaga County Executive Joanie Mahoney. “When you choose Onondaga Grown products you are not only supporting local farmers, but you are also providing your family with the most nutritious and delicious seasonal products available.”

"The Agriculture Council is excited to continue the Onondaga Grown campaign to promote and support our local agriculture," said Harvey Skeelee, Onondaga County Farmer and Agriculture Council Co-Chair.

David Knapp, Onondaga County Legislator and Agriculture Council Co-Chair said, “We are pleased to announce that the third annual ON Farm Fest day-on-the-farm event will be held on September 22nd. We were thrilled with the turnout for last year’s event and hope to build on that by adding more farms to the tour this year. We will share more details as they become available, but we hope that you will plan to spend a family-friendly day touring some of our local farms.”

All local retailers who offer agricultural products grown in Onondaga County are invited to participate in the Onondaga Grown campaign by requesting a free media kit containing posters, window clings for entryways, and sheets of stickers for Onondaga Grown products. This gives consumers an easy way to identify and purchase Onondaga Grown products. In addition to seasonal TV and radio messaging, there are three other ways the public can interact and engage with the campaign and discover where to purchase Onondaga Grown products:

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/OnondagaGrown>

Facebook: [http:// www.facebook.com/OnondagaGrown](http://www.facebook.com/OnondagaGrown)

Website: <http://www.Onondagagrown.com>

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