

County of Onondaga Office of the County Executive

> Joanne M. Mahoney County Executive

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## County Executive Joanie Mahoney Announces "Save the Rain" Community Tree Planting Event

Community invited to help plant trees for the County's award-winning Save the Rain program.

SYRACUSE- County Executive Joanie Mahoney announced today the last Save the Rain volunteer tree planting event of the 2018 season. The community is invited to join the Save the Rain team this Saturday, October 27th from 9am-1pm at Kirk Park. Volunteers should meet at the Seals Community Center in Kirk Park (300 W Borden Ave, Syracuse, NY 13205) at 9:00am.

"Trees are an important part of the Save the Rain Program and so far we have planted over 7,500 trees in our community. We encourage everyone to come out and help Save the Rain plant trees in Kirk Park this Saturday," said County Executive Mahoney

The goal of the Save the Rain program is to manage stormwater, thereby reducing pollution to Onondaga Lake and its tributaries. The tree planting program is an important component of Save the Rain.

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Onondaga County's Executive Director, David Skeval said, "CCE Onondaga has been a proud partner of the Save the Rain program since 2014. This invaluable collaborative effort with the City of Syracuse and Onondaga Earth Corps, to provide education about our critical urban tree canopy exemplifies our mission in Onondaga County. To date, the STR program has coordinated the planting and care of thousands of street trees in the city, but most impactful is the education to our community on the importance of trees as green infrastructure and their beneficial impacts on our watershed."

Please keep in mind all events are rain or shine and to dress appropriately for the weather. It's also highly recommended that volunteers wear boots or sneakers to the tree planting event. We are digging into the soil with shovels and it's for your own safety to wear appropriate foot wear!

Please register online at: <u>https://reg.cce.cornell.edu/STR\_Parks\_231</u> or by calling Cornell Cooperative Extension of Onondaga County (315) 424-9485 ext. 263 or email cec294@cornell.edu. Or for more information on the Street Tree program, visit <u>http://savetherain.us/green-programs/urban-forestry-program/</u>

