

Goals and Concerns for Onondaga Creek

Onondaga Creek Community Forums were conducted to solicit public input for the future of Onondaga Creek.

Seven forums were held in April, May and July of 2006. Input was gathered three ways:

- participants voted on "dot boards"
- flip chart notes of verbal statements
- written responses on "goals" and "concerns" cards.

Quotes (shown to the right) were selected from written and verbal comments. "Dot board" results are depicted below. Data analysis is underway; a final report is forthcoming.

Input obtained at the forums will be used by the Onondaga Creek Working Group to develop the Onondaga Creek Revitalization Plan (OCRPs).

A Sample of Verbal and Written Input:

What is your goal, vision or dream for the Onondaga Creek corridor? What do you want for Onondaga Creek and its surroundings in the future?

"I'd like to see the creek cleaned up so I could enjoy walking and paddling along as much of its length as possible."
(Community Forum participant at Bob Cecile Center, 4/19/06)

"I want my children and future grandchildren to be able to fish in a clean creek and to be able to eat the fish they catch."
(Community Forum participant at Onondaga Nation School, 7/27/06)

"Revitalize the neighborhood by revitalizing the creek."
(Participant at Southwest Community Center, 7/20/06)

"Beacon for economic development in the city."
(Community Forum participant at City Hall Commons, 5/3/06)

"Take the fence down, slow down the current and allow access, clean up water."
(Community Forum participant at South Presbyterian Church, 5/25/06)



What issues or concerns, problems or obstacles, if any, must be overcome or solved before your vision of Onondaga Creek and its surroundings can be achieved?

"The speed of the water is both an attraction for boaters and danger for errant walkers."
(Community Forum participant at the Bob Cecile Center, 4/19/06)

"Dumping sewage and chlorine into the creek is not cleaning the creek."
(Participant at South Presbyterian Church, 5/25/06)

"Lack of government will/support to spend and follow through with the plan."
(Community Forum participant at Clary Middle School, 7/19/06)

"Maintaining public momentum long enough to reach long term goals."
(Participant at LaFayette Community Center, 5/18/06)

"To stop the major polluters that are currently polluting Onondaga Creek and surrounding watersheds."
(Community Forum participant at Onondaga Nation School, 7/27/06)

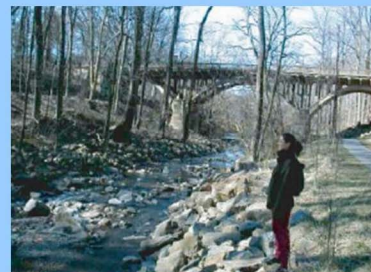
Dot Board Results:

"What would you like to see or do near Onondaga Creek?"



Walking / Jogging

— Top 3 Recreational Activities —



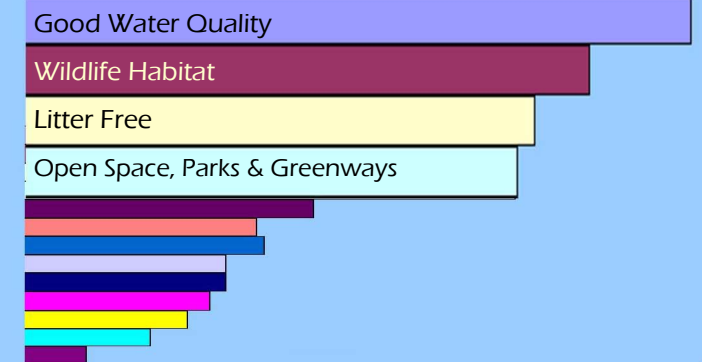
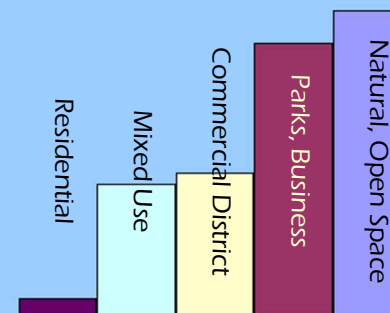
Finding a Peaceful Place / Solitude



Biking

"Which qualities are important to you for Onondaga Creek?"

Land Use Preferences



6 Ways to get involved

1 Visit the website regularly
www.esf.edu/onondagacreek/

2 Attend a Working Group meeting
5:30 PM on the first Wednesday of every month. Meetings are open to the public. Locations and topics can be found on the website.

3 Join the Listserv
Project updates are distributed through the Onondaga_Creek listserv. Email your name to outreach@oei2.org

4 Invite us to your meeting
The Project Team is actively engaging groups interested in the future of Onondaga Creek.

5 Blog us
Post your thoughts for the future of Onondaga Creek at www.onondagacreek.blogspot.com/

6 Read and comment on the Plan
The Draft Onondaga Creek Revitalization Plan will be released for a six-month public comment period in Autumn 2007.



The Onondaga Creek Revitalization Plan (OCRCP) is currently being developed by the Onondaga Creek Working Group.

The plan will provide a guide for future development, water quality, and habitat improvements that can enhance environmental, social, and economic conditions along Onondaga Creek.

Public input is essential to development of the plan.

A draft plan will be released in Autumn 2007.

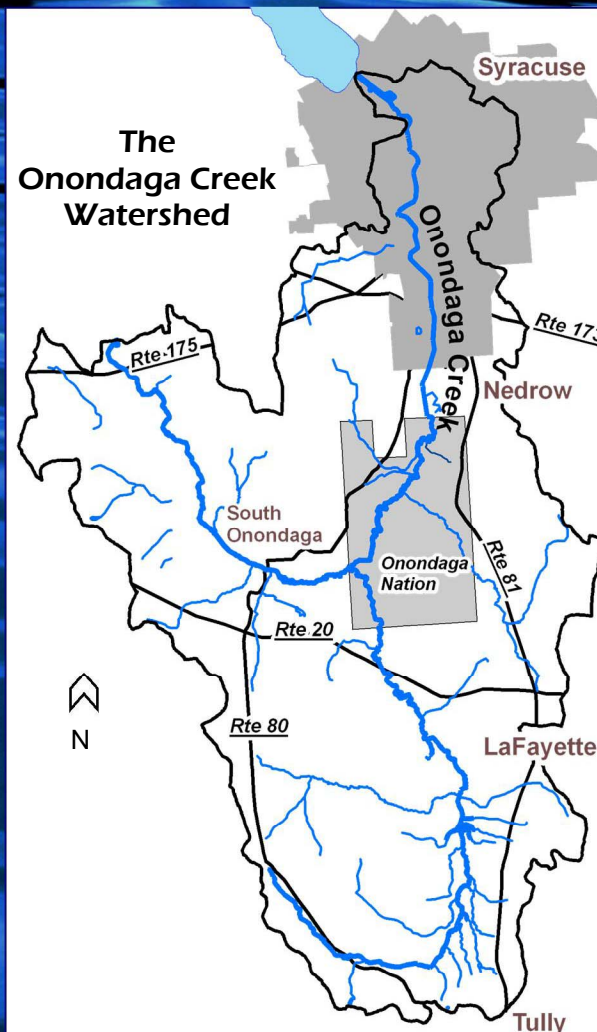


Working Group

Project Team

The Working Group is a diverse group of volunteers who live or work in the Onondaga Creek watershed. The Working Group will develop the revitalization plan for Onondaga Creek.

Atlantic States Legal Foundation
Canopy
City of Syracuse
Cornell Cooperative Extension of Onondaga County
Onondaga Environmental Institute
SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry



The Onondaga Lake Partnership (OLP) sponsors the Onondaga Creek Conceptual Revitalization Plan (OCRCP) project with funds from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA). Visit www.onlakepartners.org for more information on the OLP.



A clean lake reflects well on all of us.

Shaping the Future of ONONDAGA CREEK

A first look at Central New York citizens' goals and concerns for the future of Onondaga Creek



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onondaga creek
CONCEPTUAL REVITALIZATION PLAN