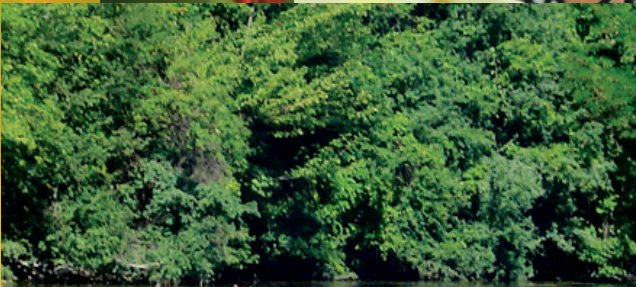


onondaga lake cleanup

RECOVERY
well on its way

2015 update





Dredging of Onondaga Lake COMPLETED a year ahead of schedule

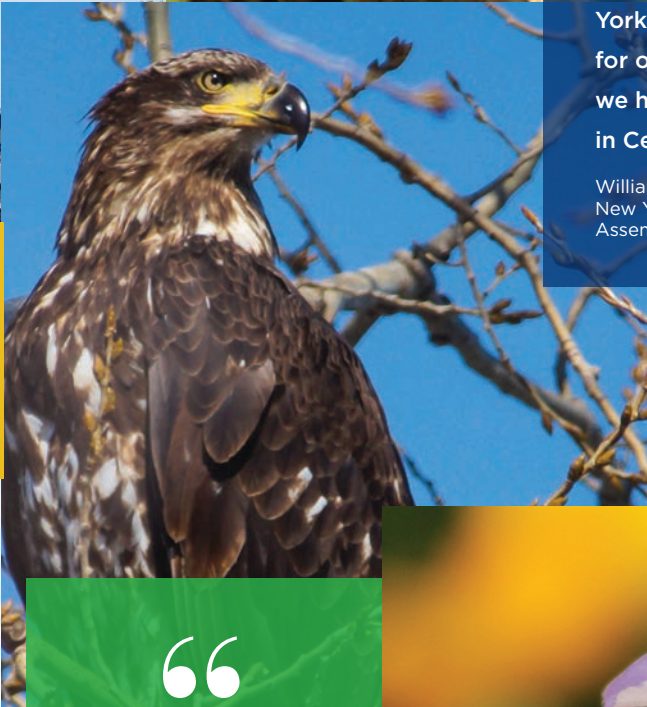
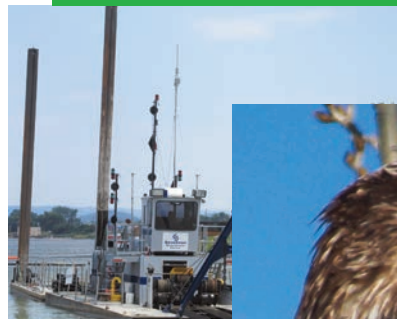
In 2014, Honeywell completed the dredging of Onondaga Lake under the supervision of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, a year ahead of schedule. Dredging activities began in July 2012. About **2.2 million cubic yards of material was removed** from the bottom of the lake using hydraulic dredges that reduced truck traffic, emissions, and noise. The early completion of dredging is a result of focused execution of a carefully designed project plan. Capping and habitat restoration are scheduled to be finished in 2016. Restoration of Geddes Brook was completed in 2012 and Nine Mile Creek in October 2014. The water is cleaner, wildlife is returning, and the community is invested in the future use and stewardship of the lake and its watershed.

▼ Completing dredging activities.

“
Eighty-five percent of the labor for the project came from Central New York. This is a model for other projects that we have to do here in Central New York.
William B. Magnarelli,
New York State Assembly Member



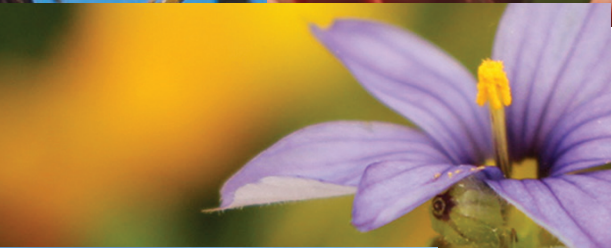
“
I'm hoping people will realize a tremendous asset is being returned as a result of the work Honeywell has done.
Joanne M. Mahoney, Onondaga County Executive



Native plants SUPPORT underwater growth & fish spawning

An isolation cap is being placed over shallow water portions of the lake bottom to seal in any remaining contamination. The cap, which is primarily sand and stone, provides a new clean lake bottom and a new habitat layer. During the summer months, liquid nitrate is being added to the deep water to inhibit methylmercury production in lake water, which will help reduce levels of mercury in fish. **Nearly 250,000 native plants plus fish structures, such as porcupine cribs**, will help support underwater vegetation growth and fish spawning. The isolation cap will cover 425 acres of the lake. Contaminants in the deep water portions of the lake are being addressed by thin-layer capping, nitrate addition, and natural recovery.

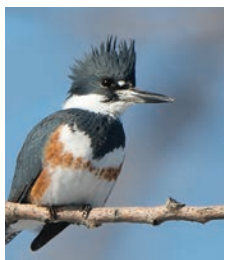
“
The transformation of this lake, the water quality changes, are nothing short of amazing.
Charles Driscoll,
Ph. D., Distinguished Professor of Environmental Systems Engineering, Syracuse University



Wildlife RETURNS to restored wetlands

More than 110 species of fish, birds, and mammals have returned to restored wetlands and nearby areas in the Onondaga Lake watershed, including mink, beaver, wild turkey, bald eagles, northern pike, largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, snapping turtles, pied-billed grebe, great heron, osprey, brown trout, and sunfish. Honeywell is improving wetlands and planting about **1.1 million plants, shrubs, and trees** to enhance habitat for fish and wildlife. To date, **44 acres of wetlands** have been restored at Geddes Brook, Harbor Brook, Nine Mile Creek, and the former LCP Chemicals site, and along Onondaga Lake's western shoreline. More than 300,000 native plants have been planted. The habitat restoration work along the western shoreline is visible to community members walking along the county's Onondaga Lake west shore trail extension.

Several recommendations by environmental organizations that formed the Habitat Community Working Group, a group that was created by Honeywell and DEC, were incorporated into the habitat plans. These recommendations included bird nesting and foraging, fish habitat for spawning and nurseries, deep water fishing, fishing access, and native species.





Community volunteers
preserve and
PROTECT
Onondaga Lake

The *Onondaga Lake Conservation Corps* seeks to inspire future stewards of Onondaga Lake and its watershed through a hands-on, experience-based program that offers citizens and organizations the opportunity to participate in activities that help restore and sustain Onondaga Lake and its value as an Important Bird Area.



Since its formation in 2012, hundreds of community members have participated in *Onondaga Lake Conservation Corps* events. **More than 500 volunteers** have planted more than **4,500 native plants, trees, and shrubs** at wetlands adjacent to Nine Mile Creek, Geddes Brook, and Harbor Brook, and along Onondaga Lake’s western shoreline. Founding partners of the *Corps* include Audubon New York, Montezuma Audubon Center, Onondaga Audubon Society, Parsons, O’Brien & Gere, and Honeywell. Schools, community groups, local organizations, and individuals are welcome.

To learn more or participate in future activities, please contact montezuma@audubon.org or call **315.365.3588**. For more information visit us at:

facebook.com/onondagalakecc 
youtube.com/onondagalakecc 



“
The remediation
of Onondaga Lake
and adjacent waters
and lands will make
this area one of
the most interesting
landscapes in
upstate New York.
Donald Leopold, Ph.D.,
SUNY-ESF Professor

The *Onondaga Lake Conservation Corps* returned to the wetlands to see how volunteers helped create a home for more than 65 fish and wildlife species.

“
ESF has been thrilled with the opportunity to work with Honeywell to restore the habitats around the lake. It really is one of the greatest sources of hope today.
Quentin Wheeler, Ph.D., SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry President

“
I have lived in Geddes my entire life. I never thought the lake would change in my lifetime. The water is cleaner and wildlife is returning; rare species are now calling Onondaga Lake ‘home.’ The future is bright.
Paul Marconi, *Onondaga Lake Conservation Corps* Volunteer

Nearly 500 Central New Yorkers viewed spectacular images of bald eagles, common mergansers, American black ducks, and other waterfowl at Audubon New York’s “Birds of Onondaga Lake” photography exhibit in spring 2014 at the Onondaga Lake Visitors Center. Audubon New York hosted the exhibit with support from Honeywell and the *Onondaga Lake Conservation Corps*. Onondaga Lake became an Important Bird Area in 1997 and was subsequently co-adopted by Montezuma Audubon Center, Onondaga Audubon Society, and Honeywell because of its value to waterfowl.

[illegible]

A photograph of three students in a canoe on a body of water. The student in the foreground is a young man with curly brown hair, wearing a red long-sleeved shirt and a life preserver, holding a paddle. Behind him is a student in a dark shirt, also wearing a life preserver. At the back of the canoe is a student in a blue shirt and a blue cap, wearing a life preserver and holding a paddle. The water is calm and greenish-brown.



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Dear Community Members,

It is an exciting time for Onondaga Lake. With dredging completed, a year ahead of schedule, we are continuing with capping and habitat restoration through 2016. More than 110 species of fish, birds, and mammals have already returned to restored wetlands, and nearby areas.

The community's pride and passion have helped fuel this progress and are being rewarded as the lake becomes a healthy, sustainable asset for generations to come. More than 500 volunteers have participated in hands-on, experience-based *Onondaga Lake Conservation Corps* programs that help restore and sustain the lake and its value as an Important Bird Area.

As recovery continues, the community is enthusiastic about all of the opportunities to use the lake now and in the future. We hope you get or stay involved, and learn more about the cleanup by coming to the Onondaga Lake Visitors Center or by becoming a member of the *Onondaga Lake Conservation Corps*.

For more information, please visit our website, lakecleanup.com, or call **315.552.9784**.

Thank you,

John McAuliffe
Syracuse Program Director

2015 calendar

Construction Projects

Onondaga Lake capping resumes	Spring
Western Shoreline wetlands and shoreline construction continue	Spring/Summer/Fall
Southwest Shoreline property grading	Spring/Summer/Fall
Consolidation area closure	Spring/Summer/Fall
Onondaga Lake deep water treatments	Summer/Fall

Habitat Improvement Projects

Western Shoreline wetlands	Spring/Summer
Southwest Shoreline planting	Spring/Summer
Lake bottom habitat	Summer/Fall
Geddes Brook, Nine Mile Creek, Upper Harbor Brook and LCP wetlands habitat monitoring	Throughout the year

Citizen Participation & Community Enhancement Projects

Community Participation Working Group (CPWG)	Monthly
<i>Onondaga Lake Conservation Corps</i>	Spring/Summer/Fall
Free Fishing Weekend	June
Onondaga Lake Visitors Center tours/meetings	Throughout the year
E-newsletters/Website updates	Throughout the year

Honeywell Hometown Solutions

<i>Honeywell Educators @ Space Academy</i>	June
<i>Honeywell Summer Science Week at the MOST</i> 10 th Anniversary year	July
<i>Honeywell Sportsmen's Days at Carpenter's Brook</i>	September



For more information or to sign up for our e-newsletter, please visit our website, lakecleanup.com.