

KEY EVENTS

Office of the County Administrator

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Employee Safety & Wellness

Recordable Injury / Illness

Municipality	1/1/21 – 2/2/2021	1/1/20 – 2/2/20	2020 Year End
Ontario County	2	1	7
Sheriff's Office	1	2	10
Cities	1	0	10
Towns & Villages	2	0	9
FLCC	0	0	2
Fishers Fire District	0	1	3
Victor Fire District	0	0	0
Soil & Water District	0	0	0
Volunteers	0	3	18
TOTAL	6	7	59

Recently, several injuries were reported from a slip and fall on the ice. In 2020, the last slip and fall on ice injury was in April courtesy of a late season snowstorm. Please be careful when walking on snow as ice may be just under the snow (this condition has contributed to many of our slip and fall injuries).

Now that Punxsutawney Phil predicted 6 more weeks of winter, I thought I'd share some thoughts on snow shoveling injuries. Every year 11,000 people go to the hospital due to injuries from shoveling snow. 50% of those injuries are due to exertion, 20% due to slips and falls, 15% as a result of being struck by snow shovels and 7% heart related. To avoid these injuries try pushing snow if possible before lifting, dress in layers, warm up or stretch before shoveling, avoid twisting movements, stand erect when shoveling and consider using an ergonomically designed snow shovel and consider using a snow removal service. Be safe.

County Administrator

With the NYSAC Legislative Conference being held virtually this year, the County Administrator and Deputy County Administrator will be participating in several virtual workshops during the week of February 22 – 26.

Economic Development

U.S. Senators Charles Schumer and Kirsten Gillibrand said last week that the federal Economic Development Administration had allocated \$1.47 million for the Cornell Agriculture & Food Technology Park to construct "Tech Farm 2." The funding will be used to expand the existing Tech Farm business incubator building by constructing a 20,000-square-foot adjacent building that will have the capacity to accommodate up to three new tenants in the City of Geneva.

The total cost of the project is estimated at \$2.1 million. The City of Geneva and the State of New York will provide the local matching funds. The project will include the construction of manufacturing and ancillary spaces including loading and logistics areas, office space, and parking. Once complete, the project will help create manufacturing jobs in the food processing industry, attract private investment and strengthen the regional economy. Schumer and Gillibrand said roughly 10 jobs would be created, and \$150,000 in private investment is expected.

The 72-acre Cornell Agricultural & Food Technology Park was created in the early 2000s with the goal of fostering the creation of innovative technologies related to agriculture, bio-based industries and food, and houses the existing 20,000-square-foot Tech Farm business and technology incubator. The existing Tech Farm facilities allow tenants in the incubator building to take newly developed products from the laboratory into a commercial production environment.

Public Health

What's the deal with pop-up COVID-19 clinics? On occasion, NYSDOH sends local health departments COVID-19 vaccine that is meant for a very specific group of people. The pop-up clinics are only advertised to that group of people. To continue to receive COVID-19 vaccine we MUST follow their rules and vaccinate the exact groups as we are instructed.



The Mt. Olive clinic in Geneva is a great example of a pop-up clinic meant to target an at-risk group identified by NYSDOH. The clinic was a partnership with Ontario, Seneca and Wayne County Public Health Departments, Finger Lakes Community Health and Mt. Olive Church. A very special 'Thank you' to the 55 volunteers and participants of the Geneva clinic. With the help of the other agencies and the volunteers we vaccinated 314 individuals.

[Mt. Olive Pop-Up COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic](#)

Public Works

The Department of Public Works has several large Federal/State aid highway projects in various stages of completion. Two of these projects planned for construction in 2021 include the County Road 46 at Smith Road Intersection Improvement located in the Town of Hopewell and the replacement of two large culverts on County Road 36 in the Town of Naples. Both projects had bid openings in the month of February with construction scheduled for completion late summer-fall of 2021. The construction of the County Road 46 at Smith Road Intersection will involve building a new roundabout and requires an off-site detour for approximately 3 months. The Department will issue additional correspondence and public outreach when the exact closure dates are known.

Another important Federal/State aid project just commencing is the intersection improvement of County Roads 4 and 20 located in the Town of Seneca. During design, this project will investigate the installation of a roundabout as a possible alternative and is scheduled for construction in 2023. These three projects represent an investment of over 8 million dollars and were obtained through competitive application processes completed by the DPW's engineering section. The projects will greatly help increase safety and are important improvements to County's highway system.



Workforce Development

In addition to the employment and career services we provide, Workforce Development now has a nice selection of Interview Clothing available to our clientele thanks to Ken Poole and the Canandaigua Rotary's Community Outreach Program. This collaboration will help our clients make a good first impression and meet their goals of self-sufficiency!

Youth Bureau

Youth Bureau Supports Responsible Parenthood

Parenting is the most critical starting point in any child's life. Perhaps nothing we do is more relentlessly demanding. To parent a child entails at least two decades of sustained attention; many see it as a lifetime commitment. It is difficult to think of an enterprise that is more deeply challenging and demanding. Childrearing is inseparable from daily domesticity--that messy accumulation of meals, earning a living, keeping a home safe and bills paid, laughter and laundry, sickness and health that fills a home. The kind of care parents give to children, the context they create for their growth, and the framework they create for later learning spring from the rhythms of that life and from the values that give it meaning.

At the same time, it is difficult to imagine an enterprise that has greater impact on public life—on the productivity of our community, the vitality of our culture, and the strength of our public institutions. The time, resources, and energy that parents give to their children influence the children's success as students and their contributions as citizens. Keep up the good work parents!



SEE WHAT'S NEW WITH OUR TEAM AGENCIES

Cornell Cooperative Extension

Basic Goat Care Seminars are being offered by CCE 4-H: The first one was held virtually on January 15 with Dr. Jessica Gulvin of Heart of Gold Veterinary Care. She presented to 13 4-H youth on the basics of goat care. Dr. Gulvin shared information about proper housing, feeding, trimming, and how to check for common health problems. We are hoping to hold goat seminars each month for the 4-H youth up until the county fair in July. The next seminar is about goat nutrition on February 19, 2021.

Intro to Space Exploration and Computer Programming was held on January 20, 2021. Ontario County 4-H hosted two engineers for an informative virtual session about STEM career exploration, information on NASA's space program, and an introduction to basic computer programming. 134 4-H and non 4-H youth attended from across the state and even a few from outside of New York State. Timothy Canham, Senior Software Engineer at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, who grew up in the Finger Lakes talked about the Mars Perseverance Rover and his work on the helicopter that will take pictures once the rover gets to mars. Rebekah Bagley, engineer for Collins Aerospace, introduced youth to Scratch which is a free computer programming language designed to introduce youth to coding logic. Bagley, a Finger Lakes native and Yates County 4-H alumnus, walked youth through a simple project where they programmed a mars rover icon to fly in response to specific key presses. To finish out the session, Ontario County 4-H Educator Sarah Wilhelm and NYS 4-H STEM Specialist Katherine Leo shared about the NYS 4-H Mars Base Camp STEM Challenge. Overall, it was a great session to spark youth interest in STEM opportunities and allow youth to interact with industry professionals.

The **2021 Tractor Safety and Certification Program**, sponsored by Cornell Cooperative Extension of Ontario County's 4-H Program, will be held March 4, 2021 and every Thursday night through April 29, 2021 at 7:00 pm. Attendance at all classes is mandatory and includes a written exam and driving test. This eight-week series of classes is offered for youth age 14 and 15, seeking employment on farms this coming summer, to meet the certification requirement of the US Department of Labor National Safe Tractor and Machinery Operations law. Class size is limited due to Covid-19 restrictions. Classes are taught by volunteers with many years of practical experience and local farm equipment shop owners and employees. Cost for the series: \$35 to cover the cost of the resource book. To register and for more information, contact Amy Morrissey, 4-H Educator at 585-394-3977 x 429 or 585-430-0706, leave a voice mail or email at alm72@cornell.edu

The **Parenting Skills Workshop Series #100**, hosted by Cornell Cooperative Extension of Ontario County, will be held Tuesday evenings, March 9 – April 27, 2021, 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm via Zoom. Parenting during a Pandemic has added challenges. Dealing with the uncertainty of school schedules, work schedules and often reduced income and support adds to the family's stress. The instructors will teach participants five skills that can help parents deal more effectively with difficult parent-child situations. Everyone completing the required classes will receive a Certificate of Completion. The program is free and offered foremost to Ontario County parents working with the Ontario County Department of Social Services, Child Protective, or Probation Departments. Registrations from other Ontario County residents will be accepted, if space permits. For complete registration information call 585-430-0706 and leave a message or ask your case manager for a registration form. Class size is limited. Pre-registration is requested by March 1, 2021.

Regional Teams:

Beginning a Livestock Farm Series will be held February 24 and March 10, 7-8:30pm, via Zoom. There are many aspects to consider when starting a livestock farm, such as what to sell, how to sell it, and recordkeeping. The sessions will cover: Resource Assessment, Business Planning, Basic Bookkeeping, and Budgeting. The series is geared towards livestock production with the goal to provide each farm the right tools to get started. With sufficient interest, follow-up sessions will be held biweekly. Contact Nancy Glazier at 585-315-7746 for more information. Cost: \$20 per person or farm couple.

Assess and Prevent Food Safety Risks in Leafy Greens Production will be held March 9, 2021 via Zoom, Time: TBD. E. coli outbreaks in lettuce grown in the Southwest have made headlines numerous times over the last several growing seasons. The health and financial impacts of these outbreaks have resulted in more attention being paid by buyers and regulators on the leafy greens industry. As leafy greens are a highly susceptible crop to contamination, precautionary lessons can be learned. This training will provide an overview of possible sources of contamination related to soil amendments, wildlife, water, post-harvest handling, transportation and more. This training will emphasize specific risks that leafy greens growers may experience, identify tangible corrective actions that can be taken, and provide participants the opportunity to work through example scenarios as a group. For more information, call 585-739-4065.

Finger Lakes Community College

Upcoming events with Finger Lakes Community College

Wednesday, Feb. 24: Paul Brock, associate professor of viticulture and wine technology and co-owner of Silver Thread Vineyard, will discuss "A Decade of Teaching, Growing, and Making Wine in the Finger Lakes," online at 7 p.m. [Click here for the registration link](#), which is also posted on events.flcc.edu. "Our students' hands-on education is influenced by the weather the region experiences just as it impacts the grapes and wine produced that season," Professor Brock explained. "We learn something new each year, and each graduating class has their own unique knowledge to bring into the world. I will show pictures from and share reflections on a selection of vintages from the past decade."

Thursday, Feb. 25: Paul and Mary Liz Stewart, co-founders of Underground Railroad History Project of the Capital Region, will give an online talk titled, "People of Courage, People of Hope, Seekers of Justice: The Underground Railroad Revisited," from 1 to 2:15 p.m. The link will be posted on the [FLCC events calendar](#) a few days before the event. The Stewarts will share what they call a "new interpretation of a very old story" and explain the work of the Underground Railroad Education Center.

Thursday, Feb. 25: ArtSpace36, FLCC's downtown gallery, and the Community Support Center offer Create+Connect online programming. Tune in on Feb. 25 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. for a workshop on creating mindful

Zen doodles. Participants need pens and paper. A link will be shared when it is available on the [ArtSpace36 website](#) and [events.flcc.edu](#).

Friday, Feb. 26: Photographer Kurt Brownell will lead a workshop on meditative landscapes on Friday, Feb. 26 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. ArtSpace36 will provide the needed pens and artist tiles for a \$25 fee. The link to order is [on the workshop page](#) of the ArtSpace36 website. Participants can pick up materials between 2 and 6 p.m. Thursday through Saturday.

Humane Society / Happy Tails

The Ontario County Humane Society would like to remind everyone about the safety of their pets in this very cold weather. There are some pets that thrive in this weather due to their heavy hair coats but there are others that cannot be outside for long periods as they get very uncomfortable outside within a few minutes of outside exposure. Therefore, please be sure that your pets are comfortable-most times if you do not want to be outside for long, neither do they. If your pet loves to be outside, make sure that they have adequate insulated housing with proper bedding and unfrozen water to drink. Just remember-put yourself in their paws and think about what you would want if you were left outside in these frigid temperatures!

Soil & Water Conservation District

Upcoming NYS DEC Endorsed 4 Hour Erosion & Sediment Control Training

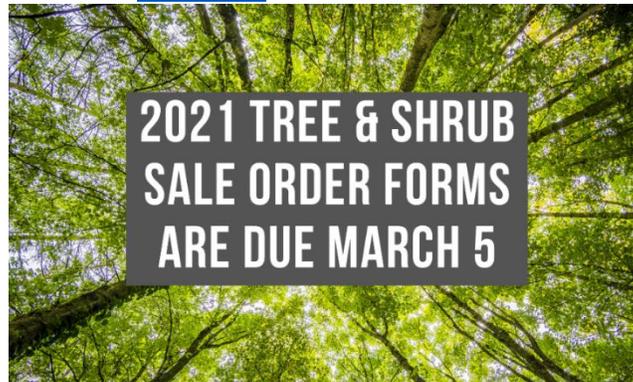
Thursday, March 4, 2021 from 8am-12pm

[Click here to register!](#)



2021 Tree & Shrub Sale Order Forms are Due March 5!

[Click here](#) for the order form.



We Need Your Help to Scout Hemlock Woolly Adelgid

The Ontario Soil & Water Conservation District and the New York State Hemlock Initiative are working together to stop the spread of the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (HWA). We need volunteers to look for HWA while out on their winter hike. Would you be interested? We will be offering trainings at local trails where you will learn how to identify HWA and use the iMapInvasives app to report this tiny insect that has had a disastrous effect on our Eastern Hemlock trees. If you would like more details on upcoming trainings, email alaina.robarge@ontswcd.com.



The Partnership for Ontario County

Come join Ontario County Youth Court for our Info Night on Wednesday March 10th at 6pm! The training will take place on Zoom; for the meeting link, please RSVP to info@ontariocountyyouthcourt.org. At the meeting, you can learn about the program, ask questions of the program director, and find out whether you might like to join us! We hope to see you there!

If you would like additional information on any of the key events, please feel free to contact our office or the appropriate department head.

Chris DeBolt & Brian Young

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