

Spotlight on Sustainability

From Your Ontario County Eco-Heroes

4 BENEFITS TO PLANTING TREES

1. CLEAN AIR

TREES ARE OFTEN REFERRED TO AS THE "LUNGS OF THE PLANET" BECAUSE OF THE OXYGEN THEY PROVIDE TO OTHER LIVING THINGS.

2. CLEAN WATER

FORESTS PROVIDE NATURAL FILTRATION AND STORAGE SYSTEMS THAT PROCESS NEARLY TWO-THIRDS OF THE WATER IN THE UNITED STATES.

3. TEMPERATURE CONTROL

HOUSEHOLDS WITH SHADE TREES COULD SPEND 12% LESS ON COOLING COSTS IN THE SUMMER.

4. FLOOD CONTROL

TREES ARE AN IMPORTANT PART OF STORM WATER MANAGEMENT.



Maple Weekends take place March 17-18 & 24-25, 2018
For more information visit: mapleweekend.nysmaple.com

Every March, Maple farms across the state open their doors to visitors during Maple Weekend. It is a delicious way to learn about maple farming as a form of sustainable agriculture while supporting local agri-tourism. Activities include sugar house and/or farm tours, samples, pancake breakfasts, and a variety of family friendly activities. Each farm has a little something different to offer.

ECO-FAQ What is Sustainable Agriculture?

GRACE Communications Foundation defines sustainable agriculture as the "production of food, fiber, or other plant or animal products using farming techniques that protect the environment, public health, human communities, and animal welfare. This form of agriculture enables us to produce healthful food without compromising future generations' ability to do the same."

REMINDER: Be ready for Arbor

Day tree planting by ordering trees and shrubs through the **Ontario County Soil & Water Conservation District Tree and Shrub Sale**.

Catalog and Order Forms may be found on the web at <http://ontswcd.com>
Order deadline is March 9th with pickup dates on April 20 & 21st.



Did You Know?

The Sugar Maple was adopted as the New York State tree in 1956. Maple syrup is made from the sap that flows through the tree's trunk in late winter.



Canandaigua, Geneva, and Victor are **Tree City USA Communities**. Tree City USA is a national recognition program that began in 1976 and is sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service and National Association of State Foresters.

These municipalities have achieved Tree City USA status by meeting four core standards of sound urban forestry management that include maintaining a tree board or department, having a community tree ordinance, spending at least \$2 per capita on urban forestry and celebrating Arbor Day.

Eco-Holiday Spotlight:

The International Day of Forests is celebrated around the world on March 21st with tree-planting activities; much the same way Arbor Day is celebrated in April, with discussions on climate change and the importance of forests worldwide.

