

Rural & Community Development

Every community has the potential to be enhanced by recognizing the critical role open space, agriculture, tradition, culture and heritage has on its identity, viability and quality of life. Community & Rural Development at Cornell Cooperative Extension of Oneida County has an ongoing commitment to offer information and resources that encourage local municipalities, organizations, and citizens to build strong economies, facilities, and programs throughout the region.

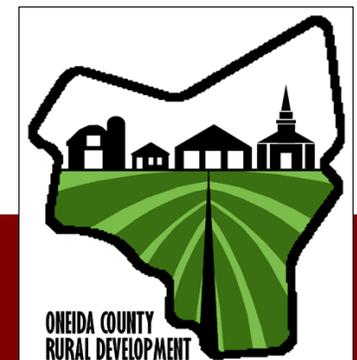
In 2012, continued support was provided for

- **Southern Oneida County Council of Government (SOCCOG) circuit riding.**
- **Comprehensive Planning and Technical Assistance** for municipal governments in Oneida County on agriculture, land use, zoning issues, recreation, revitalization, and community capacity.
- **Rural Community Development Consortium (RCDC) trainings** for Chenango, Hamilton, Herkimer, Fulton, Lewis, Madison, Montgomery, Oswego, Oneida, Otsego, and Schoharie Counties.
- **eXtension Rural Community of Practice**, an online collaboration of Community Development programs and professionals throughout the Land Grant University system to provide resources at a local level.
- **Rust 2 Green (R2G)**, uses a participatory processes to engage academic and community partners in collectively identifying needs and specific action steps that can be taken to foster a paradigm shift from Rust-to-Green to advance sustainable practices and resiliency in some of New York's most at-risk communities.



Projects in 2012:

- **Stronger Economies Together (SET)**, a rural economic development program through United States Department of Agriculture. One of the grants made to support the program was awarded to a region that includes Oneida, Herkimer and Hamilton Counties along the Route 28 corridor. CCE Community and Rural Development in Oneida County will be providing the educational curriculum designed to facilitate a specialized economic development plan that will build on the effort of the NYS Regional Economic Development Councils in the Mohawk Valley and the North Country.
- **Amish Education and Outreach**, an influx of more traditional agricultural methods in the area has created a need for municipal officials and residents to increase awareness of the impacts on their community. Cornell Cooperative Extension has been working with other local agencies to provide access to resources that may help address these needs in the community. An informational packet is being produced that will contain resources to assist municipal officials and Amish residents access needed services.



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