Onondaga Lake Natural Resource Damage Assessment Restoration Update
November 2018

Since the March 2018 $26 Million natural resource damage settlement at Onondaga Lake, the Trustees, Honeywell and Onondaga County have focused on Restoration. Highlights of 2018 restoration work are presented here. For more information, see the November 2018 presentation, "Onondaga Lake NRD Restoration Projects."

Fish habitat structures – Honeywell, under the direction of the Trustees, spent the summer and fall of 2018 installing 1100 structures in Onondaga Lake to provide habitat for fish and other aquatic organisms. Structures included rock piles, trees, porcupine cribs, log cribs, boulder clusters, and gravel/cobble reefs.

Grassland Restoration - Honeywell, under the direction of the Trustees, planted 50 acres of native grassland on top of the Sediment Consolidation Area. This habitat will support grassland species such as bobolink and marsh hawk, as well as pollinators like the monarch butterfly.

Seneca River Boat Launch – Honeywell, under the direction of the Trustees, purchased property to install a two lane boat launch and parking area on the Seneca River. Construction will start in 2019.

Wetlands Conservation – Honeywell is on track to acquire over 200 acres of wetland and other habitat near the northern end of Onondaga Lake for transfer to land stewards to be selected by the Trustees. Habitat purchased so far supports a variety of birds, amphibians and reptiles, and the Federally listed Indiana bat and northern long-eared bat. The Trustees will be looking for one or more land stewards to oversee the properties.

Onondaga Lake NRDAR Community Working Group Established – The Trustees set up a community working group made up of a broad range of Onondaga Lake community stakeholders. The stakeholders are invited to learn about projects and provide each of their recommendations on requested topics. The first community working group meeting was on November 5, 2018. Presentation materials can be found on this website