

## Office of the County Executive

Joanne M. Mahoney
County Executive

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**Media Release** 

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## County Executive Joanie Mahoney Announces Third Annual "ON Farm Fest"

Daylong celebration of local agriculture in Onondaga County

Syracuse, N.Y. - It's time to go out and about on the farm! County Executive Joanie Mahoney announced today that the third annual ON Farm Fest will be held on Saturday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>. Join friends and neighbors for fun, educational visits to 11 of Onondaga County's farms. Meet farmers, find out how farms work and see exactly where our locally grown food comes from. Food, special giveaways, and a variety of local musicians will be on hand to make this a very exciting celebration of local agriculture.

"Onondaga County has a robust and diverse agricultural industry, as is evidenced by the wonderful farms on this year's tour. From fruits and vegetables, grains, and dairy to meat, fiber, and horses," said Onondaga County Executive Joanie Mahoney. "ON Farm Fest provides the community with a fun, family-friendly opportunity to learn about agriculture and meet some of the farmers who work so hard to produce the food that we depend on. I encourage everyone to come out and enjoy a day on the farm and support our local agriculture."

"We are thrilled with the growth of ON Farm Fest, from 7 farms participating in the first year to 11 farms this year," said David Knapp, Onondaga County Legislator and Agriculture Council Co-Chair. "We would like to thank everybody who has come out and supported the Fest and local agriculture, as well as the farms that have been kind enough to open their doors to the community. I hope to see you on the 22<sup>nd</sup>!"

"As a retired dairy farmer, I recognize the importance of promoting agriculture. For many years we held tours at our farm and, as a result, I am proud to be a part of the teamwork involved in organizing this year's ON Farm Fest," said Agriculture Council Co-Chair Harvey Skeele. "So tell your neighbors and check out the variety of farms we have in our County!"

ON Farm Fest is a product of County Executive Joanie Mahoney's Onondaga County Agriculture Council and their "Buy Local, Buy Onondaga Grown" campaign. ON Farm Fest is a creative collaboration between Onondaga County and Cornell Cooperative Extension of Onondaga County intended to connect local farms

with the community. The Onondaga County Agriculture Council supports the agricultural community through education, promotion and advocacy programs.

ON Farm Fest takes place on Saturday, September 22nd from 10 AM until 3 PM.

Featured ON Farm Fest farms are:

Affinity Farm
Bentwood Alpacas & Yaks
Brady Farm
Emmi & Sons, Inc.
Hourigan's Dairy Farm
Local 315 Brewing Co. & Fawn Crossing Hops Farm
Lucky 13 Beef Farm
Navarino Orchard
Palladino Farms and Heritage Hill Brewhouse and Kitchen
Silver Spring Farm
Tre-G Farms

For more information on planning your ON Farm Fest day, please visit <a href="www.onfarmfest.com">www.onfarmfest.com</a>.

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