



CITY OF
ONEIDA

NEWSLETTER



Fall Festival

October 4, 2025

OCTOBER 2025 EDITION



315-363-4800



www.oneidacityny.gov



slapera@oneidacityny.gov



JOIN US!

Our 5th annual Fall Festival is coming soon, so save the date! Every year it gets bigger and better. This year, we have over 100 vendors, live music, food trucks, pumpkin races, petting zoo, bouncy houses, touch a truck, and so much more! Bring the family or come alone, either way, there is something for everyone. Rain or shine, outdoor event. There will be shuttle service available from Wilson Street.

11:00 to 5:00pm

Mott Street

OCTOBER-2025

MEETINGS

COMMON COUNCIL

October 7, 2025
Council Chambers

6:30 PM

WATER BOARD

October 14, 2025
Water Department

3:30PM

PLANNING BOARD

October 14, 2025
Council Chambers

6:00PM

TRAFFIC SAFETY BOARD

October 21, 2025
Council Chambers

2:00PM

COMMON COUNCIL

October 21, 2025
Council Chambers

6:30PM

— WE ARE —

HIRING

JOIN OUR TEAM

- WWTP Maintenance Mechanic
- Lateral Transfer Police Officers
- Motor Equipment Operator
- Account Clerk



www.oneidacityny.gov/jobs

Email: jkaiser@oneidacityny.gov



CITY MANAGER

KYLE LOVELL



Dear Oneida Residents, Common Council Members, and Beloved Community,

October in Oneida is shaping up to be full of fun, tradition, and community spirit!

First, a few can't-miss fall events:

- Fall Fest takes place on Saturday, October 4, 2025, from 11:00 AM to 5:00 PM—a full day of seasonal activities, family fun, and plenty of local pride right in the heart of our community.
- Trunk or Treat will be held on Saturday, October 25, 2025, from 1:00 PM to 3:30 PM at the Vet's Parking Lot (vendor setup 11:30 AM–12:30 PM).
- Trick or Treat Street returns to Cleveland Avenue on Friday, October 31st (Halloween) from 4:00 PM–7:00 PM, bringing back the beloved tradition of costumes, lights, and treats.

This month also holds a personal milestone for me: October 22 marks my one-year anniversary as your City Manager. Serving my adopted hometown of Oneida has been one of the greatest honors of my life. I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to our Common Council for their support, and most importantly, to all of you—our residents—for your trust and encouragement throughout my first year.

I also want to recognize and thank every department across the City—from Parks & Recreation, Police, Fire, DPW, Water, and Wastewater, to Codes, City Clerk's Office, Finance, and beyond. Each of you plays a vital role in keeping Oneida safe, strong, and moving forward. Your hard work and dedication are what make these community celebrations possible and ensure our city continues to thrive.

From my family to yours, thank you for making this past year so memorable. I look forward to many more years of progress, celebration, and community spirit here in Oneida. Together, we're building something truly special.

🎃👻 See you at Fall Fest and out on Trick or Treat Street—don't forget your costume!

Warmest regards,
Kyle Lovell
City Manager, City of Oneida

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Groundbreaking for The Oneida

I am thrilled to share that after years of hard work, collaboration, and perseverance, the groundbreaking for The Oneida has officially been scheduled for Thursday, October 9th at 11:30 AM.

This is not just another project—it is a transformational moment for our community. The Oneida will breathe new life into our downtown, bringing with it energy, opportunity, and pride for generations to come.

I warmly invite all residents of our fair city to attend this historic ceremony. Please join me, Mayor Rossi, the Common Council, and community leaders as we turn the first shovels of earth on this long-awaited endeavor.

This milestone would not have been possible without the vision, support, and patience of the Common Council, Mayor Rossi, and you—the residents of Oneida. Thank you for believing in this city and standing behind our efforts to make it stronger and more vibrant.

Let's celebrate together what persistence, teamwork, and community spirit can achieve. I cannot wait to see you there!

Sincerely, Kyle P. Lovell
City Manager, City of Oneida



DRI UPDATES

CITY MANAGER, KYLE LOVELL

At the September 16th meeting of the Common Council, City Manager Kyle Lovell provided updates on Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) projects, noting that the AYSO site visit took place Monday, September 15, and the Vets Field site visit was completed earlier on September 16. The projects are now moving into the 30% design phase, and public comments received by email have been forwarded to the engineering teams for consideration. Lovell said that discussions about the actual drawings should begin within the next couple of months.

CITY CHAMBERLAIN NEWS

At the September 2 Common Council meeting, City Manager Kyle Lovell announced the resignation of the elected City Chamberlain. Until a permanent arrangement is established, office hours and staffing will be limited. We appreciate the public's patience during this transition.

klovell@oneidacityny.gov



CITY CHAMBERLAIN

OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY	9AM - 3PM
TUESDAY	9AM - 3PM
WEDNESDAY	9AM - 3PM
THURSDAY	9AM - 3PM
FRIDAY	CLOSED
SATURDAY	CLOSED
SUNDAY	CLOSED

The office will also be closed from 12:00-1:00pm for lunch.

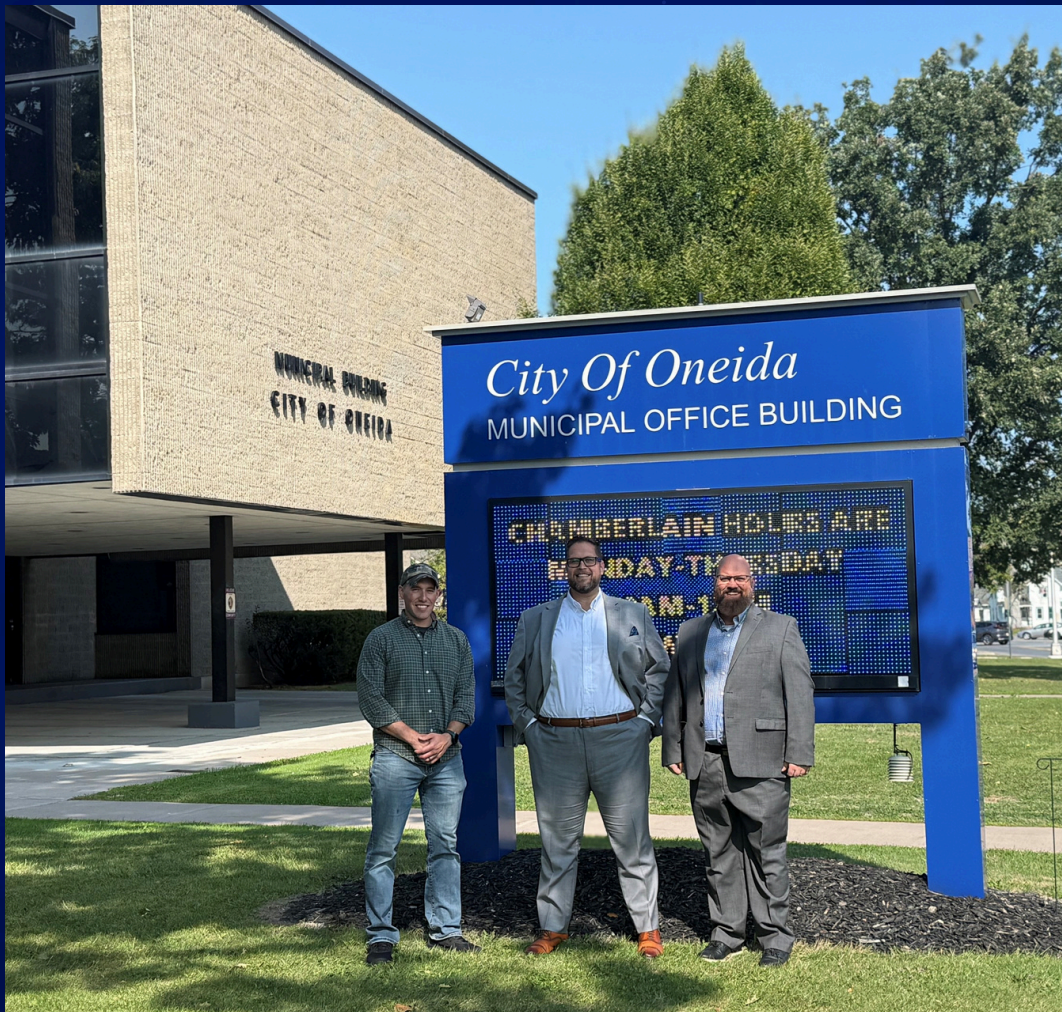
[Pay Online](#)

Main St. entrance drop box
Chamberlain office drop box



CITY OF ONEIDA

WELCOME TO THE TEAM



The City of Oneida proudly welcomes Andrew (Drew) Company, Water Superintendent and Steve Vonderweidt, Director of Planning and Development as the newest members of the Executive Team.

STEVE VONDERWEIDT

Steve holds a Master of Business Administration in Entrepreneurship and brings over 15 years of leadership experience in community planning, operations, and nonprofit management, along with a strong background in grant management and strategic planning. He is excited to partner with residents, local businesses, and community organizations to support economic growth and help move Oneida's development projects forward.



Andrew Campany graduated from SUNY Polytechnic Institute in 2016 with a B.S. in Civil Engineering Technology and has worked as a Civil Engineer with various firms across Central NY. Over the years, he gained experience in site design, environmental assessments, project management, drainage, and utility infrastructure. Bringing 14 years of service in the NY Army National Guard, he specialized in engineering and construction. "It is both an honor and a privilege to serve the residents of Oneida and surrounding municipalities from within the Water Department, and I look forward to working with the team to ensure the continued reliability, safety, and improvement of our community's water system."

ANDREW CAMPANY



Happy Retirement

TOM O'HERIEN

30
YEARS

After 30 years of service, Tom O'Herien is retiring from his position as Assistant City Engineer. Since beginning his career with the City of Oneida in 1995, Tom has been a dedicated and valued member of our team. We thank him wholeheartedly for his commitment to the City and its residents and wish him all the best for a well-earned, happy, and healthy retirement.



On September 6, 2025, 3 of our firefighters took part in the 9/11 Memorial Stairclimb at the State Office Building in Utica. Climbing the equivalent of the Towers 110 stories were Assistant Chief Dennis Relyea, Firefighter LJ Redpath and Lt. Brian Burkle.

Thank you for your dedication and commitment to remembering and honoring those that served and those who perished on September 11, 2001. To the members of our Fire Department—thank you for your courage, dedication, and service. Our community is grateful and proud.



CITY OF ONEIDA

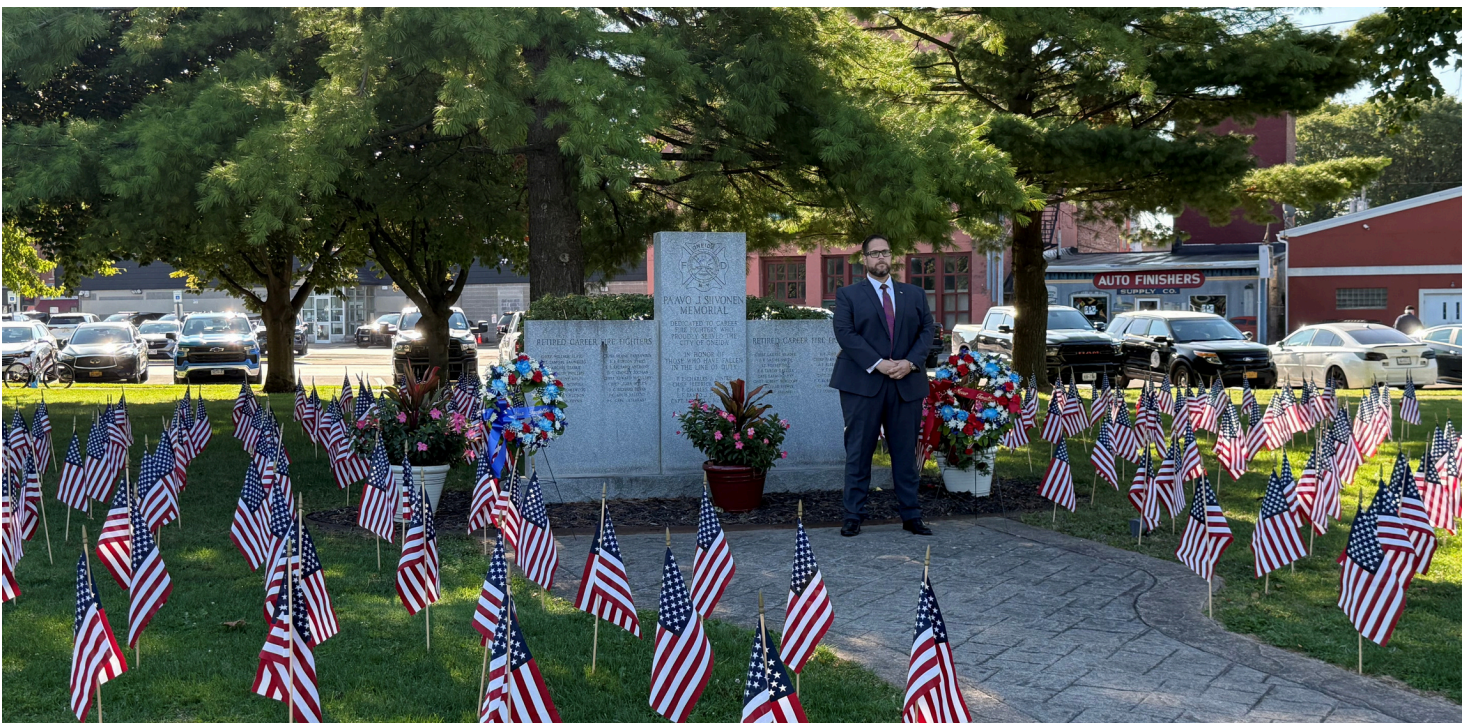
9/11 REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY

On September 11, 2025, our community joined in solemn remembrance of the lives lost and the bravery shown on September 11, 2001. Together, we affirm that we will never forget.





SEPTEMBER 11, 2025





WELCOME JADIE & JUNE'S

"STEP INTO JADIE AND JUNES,
WHERE CLASSIC ITALIAN FLAVORS
GET A VIBRANT, ECLECTIC TWIST IN
A SETTING THAT FEELS LIKE A
STYLISH, MID-CENTURY MODERN
HOME AWAY FROM HOME."

130 BROAD ST., ONEIDA
OPENING SOON!



www.jadieandjunes.com

315.915.2266

COMMUNITY BANK



Community Bank has unveiled a fresh new look. A full-service financial institution, it provides all the offerings of larger banks while standing apart with its strong reputation for outstanding customer service.

182 MAIN STREET

CONTACT US
+315-366-3844
WWW.CBNA.COM

Madison County Public Health

IMMUNIZATION CLINICS

By Appointment Only

Call 315-366-2361 (Option 2)

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2025

Wednesday, September 3

1:00–3:30 pm

Tuesday, September 9

9:00–11:30 am

Thursday, September 11

1:00–3:30 pm

Wednesday, September 17

11:00 am–1:00 pm

Monday, September 22

3:00–5:30 pm

Tuesday, September 30

9:00–11:30 am

Wednesday, October 8

1:00–3:30 pm

Thursday, October 16

9:00–11:30 am

Wednesday, October 22

9:00–11:30 am

Cash, check, credit card, and
• some insurances are accepted.

• Please have your insurance card
ready when you call.

• If you or your child do not have
insurance, please let us know
when you call for an appointment.

For a list of
immunizations
or for more
information,
please scan



Location: Madison County Public Health
138 N. Court Street, Building 5, Wampsville, NY

Senior Information Fair

Presented by:



NY Connects
Your Link to Long Term
Services and Supports

Wednesday, October 1, 2025

10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

**Theodore's Restaurant
3231 Seneca Turnpike, Canastota**

Resources for Older Adults, their Families & Friends

**Vendors! Medicare Info! Flu Shots! Benefits Eligibility Screening
and more!**

All individuals are invited to attend this free event.

**To request a reasonable accommodation to participate in this event, please contact
the MCOFA at 315-697-5700 or information@ofamadco.org by 9/24/2025.**

Funded by the U.S. Administration of Aging under Title II of the Older Americans Act, New York State
Office for the Aging, Madison County Board of Supervisors, and local contributions.
This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



FALL FESTIVAL

OVER 100 VENDORS!

11:00AM-5:00PM

SATURDAY

04

OCTOBER

MOTT STREET-ONEIDA

**FOOD TRUCKS, GAMES, LIVE MUSIC,
PUMPKIN RACES, PETTING ZOO, TOUCH-
A-TRUCK, BOUNCE HOUSES AND SO
MUCH MORE!**





ONEIDA PARKS & RECREATION &
ONEIDA ELEMENTARY PTO
HOST



TRUNK OR TREAT
Vet's Parking Lot

SAT OCTOBER 25 1-3:30
360 North Main Street (Vet's)

SAVE THE DATE!





TRICK OR TREAT!

STREET

FRIDAY-OCTOBER 31, 2025

TIME: 4:00-7:00

CLEVELAND AVE., ONEIDA

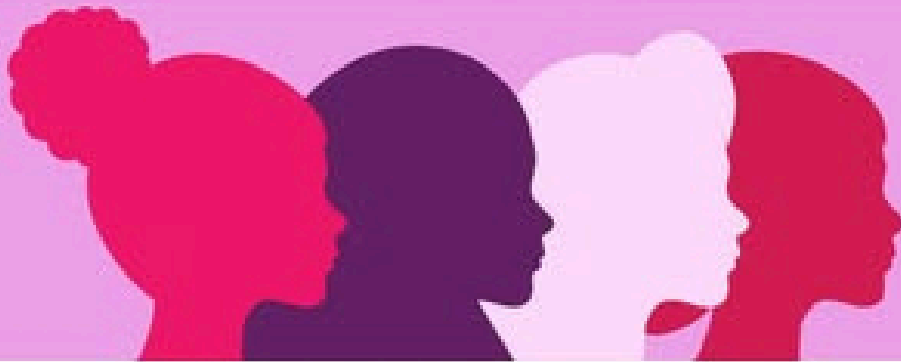
JOIN US FOR OUR 2ND ANNUAL EVENT!

**Anyone interested in handing out candy in
the median, please feel free to join us!**

Volunteers needed!!!

SISTER TO SISTER

Support to Success



OCTOBER 9TH – NOVEMBER 13TH

Join us for the Sister to Sister: Support to Success program, a six-week initiative, in collaboration with the NAACP-Rome Branch, the Rome YMCA, and Excellus BlueCross Blue Shield.

This program is designed to empower women by focusing each week on important health topics that address their unique challenges. Through engaging discussions and valuable resources, participants will share experiences and build connections in a supportive environment. Join us on this transformative journey—together, we are stronger!

THURSDAYS 10-12PM

Rome Family YMCA
301 W. Bloomfield St.
Rome, NY



**SCAN TO
REGISTER!**

FREE and Open to the Public

Call the Rome Family YMCA at 315-336-3500 to register,
or visit our website at www.ymcatrivalley.org

For details, please contact the NAACP Rome Branch at 315-271-7703
or, Autumn McLain amclain@ymcatrivalley.org



OCT. 9TH

**WOMEN'S HEALTH: MVHS AND ROME
HEALTH DOCTORS DISCUSS
WOMEN'S HEALTH NEEDS**

OCT. 16TH

**CHRONIC CONDITIONS:
IMPORTANCE OF SCREENING**

OCT. 23RD

**EXERCISE: BARRE CLASS WITH ELENA
COMBO BALLET, PILATES & YOGA**

**FINANCIAL BASICS &
MONEY MANAGEMENT**

OCT. 30TH

**EXERCISE: SILVER SNEAKERS WITH KATH
EXERCISE FOR ALL ABILITIES**

**DIET AND NUTRITION FROM
EXCELLUS BCBS**

NOV. 6TH

**EXERCISE: AQUA YOGA WITH AMY
YOGA IN THE POOL**

**HEALTHY & AFFORDABLE MEALS WITH
CHEF JEFF BEAM**

NOV. 13TH

**MENTAL HEALTH DISCUSSIONS WITH
THE NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER &
NAACP OF ROME, NY**

YMCATRIVALLEY.ORG

Congratulations

SECRETARY TO THE STATE ASSOCIATION



MICHELLE IRONSIDE KINVILLE

FUNERAL DIRECTOR

Michelle Ironside Kinville was recently sworn in as Secretary to the New York State Funeral Directors Association. We are proud of you and wish you much success in your new position!

THANK YOU



COUNCILOR ANDREA HITCHINGS WARD 3

In appreciation of Councilor Andrea Hitchings—who never misses a moment to support our community. First to volunteer, first to say “thank you,” and often the one bringing pizza and donuts to celebrate our departments.

Thank you for your time, kindness, and unwavering dedication to our employees, residents, and community. We appreciate you and all you do!

Thank you



To our Community Gardeners,

As the 2025 season comes to a close and we prepare to wind down for the Fall and Winter months, I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to everyone who participated in our gardens this year. It has truly been a pleasure working on this project and gaining new knowledge about gardening along the way.

What I appreciate most is the spirit and dedication you have shown, your willingness to help others, your generosity in donating excess items, and the pride you've taken in keeping the garden area so well-maintained.

A special thank you goes to Ralph Kohler, who has been an invaluable resource—always ready with helpful tips, thoughtful suggestions, and even sharing some zucchini and other items with us at City Hall. Your generosity and support are truly appreciated!

Hopefully, next year our gardens will continue to grow!



Best Regards,
Sandy LaPera



September 16, 2025

Dear Oneida Friends and Neighbors,

We are the Oneida Memorial Association, a small group of dedicated volunteers who take immense pride in Honoring our Fallen Soldiers. Each year, we organize and host the Annual Memorial Day Parade and the Flag Garden Ceremony in May. We also assist in placing the American Flag on the gravesites of our local fallen soldiers here in Oneida.

Next year, on Friday, **May 22, 2026**, we are honored to host the **147th Continuous Memorial Day Parade** here in Oneida.

As you can imagine, hosting the Parade comes with a price. Typically, the Parade costs between \$6,000.00 - \$7,000.00. Our largest **Fundraiser** for the Parade is Purse Bingo. This year, **Purse Bingo will be held on Saturday, November 08, 2025**. Along with the Purses as a prize for each Bingo win, we raffle off Gift Baskets, Gift Cards, and Special Prizes. Between the donations and sales of the Bingo Games themselves, the Gift Baskets, Gift Cards, and Special Prizes & monetary donations, we can usually cover the cost of the Memorial Parade.

With your help, we can make this Parade Fundraiser a successful event.

We hope that you will consider donating to help sustain this longstanding tradition of the Oneida Memorial Day Parade. Once again, it will be our **147th Annual Continuous Memorial Day Parade in Oneida**.

Donation suggestions:

- * Gift baskets
- * Gift Cards
- * Gift Certificates
- * Monetary Donations

We, the Oneida Memorial Association, appreciate the time and consideration of our request. We value your donation today as we have in the past.

Remember to put these dates on your calendar for next year.

***Monday, May 4, 2026 - Flag Garden Ceremony at Veterans Field**

***Friday, May 22, 2026 - Parade - Main Street, Oneida**

With kindest regards,

Helen Acker
Secretary
Oneida Memorial Association
P.O. Box 93, Oneida, NY 13421
315.264.9221

NEWS FROM ONEIDA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

New Policy on Student Use of Internet-Enabled Devices Dear Oneida Families, We want to inform you of a new policy recently adopted by the Oneida City School District regarding the use of **Internet-Enabled Devices** by students during the school day.

Beginning with the 2025–26 school year, **students will not be permitted to use Internet-Enabled Devices on school grounds during the instructional day**, including during lunch, recess, study halls, and passing times. This includes smartphones, smartwatches, tablets, and other devices capable of internet access.

Why This Change?

This policy supports our commitment to maintaining learning environments that encourage focus, connection, and academic success. Excessive use of devices has been shown to disrupt engagement and student learning.

What Is Still Allowed?

There are specific, limited exceptions, including:

Authorized use for educational purposes during class

Use required for medical needs or as outlined in an IEP/504 Plan

Emergencies or translation needs

Use by a student caregiver under special circumstances

Non-internet-capable cell phones (basic phones)

Device Storage

Students will be required to store their personal Internet-Enabled Devices in lockers or cubbies during the school day.

Contacting Your Student

Families may reach students during the school day by calling the school's main office:

Oneida High School: (315) 363-6901

Otto Shortell Middle School: (315) 363-1050

Durhamville Elementary: (315) 363-8065

Seneca Street Elementary: (315) 363-3930

Willard Prior Elementary: (315) 363-2190

Enforcement

Violations will be addressed in accordance with the Code of Conduct. However, suspension will not be used as the sole disciplinary action for violating this policy.

Transparency & Reporting

An annual report on the enforcement of this policy will be posted to the District website starting September 1, 2026.

We appreciate your support in helping us create a more focused and distraction-free environment for all students. If you would like to request a translation of the full policy, please contact your child's school.

To view the full policy, click [HERE](#)



NEWS TODAY

E-BIKES, MOPEDS, SCOOTERS & BICYCLES

At the September 2, 2025 Common Council meeting, a resident raised concerns about unsafe use of electric bicycles (e-bikes). Police Chief Steve Lowell reported that officers have been trained on e-bike operation and applicable laws. Residents are reminded to know and follow all e-bike regulations to protect riders and the community.

Violations may result in fines and penalties. If you have any questions, please visit the link below or reach out to the Oneida Police Department.



FOR MORE INFORMATION:

[Visit the NYS Department of Motor Vehicles](#)

ELECTRIC BIKES



Operators must be 16 years old or older!

- E-Bikes are banned on roads with speed limits over 30 mph, sidewalks and public property/land
- Only NYC permits Class 3 E-Bikes, which exceed 25 mph
- E-Bikes do not require DMV registration
- E-Bikes must be ridden as far right as practicable if there is no bike lane and must watch the direction of traffic
- E-Bike differences: Class 1 E-Bikes can travel up to 20 mph; Class 2 and 3 E-Bikes can exceed 25 mph
- Helmets are required for Class 3 E-Bikes

MOPEDS



Class A



Class B and C

- ◆ To legally operate a Moped, drivers must have a valid Driver's License
- ◆ Class A Mopeds, capable of reaching speeds up to 40 mph, require a valid Class M Driver's License
- ◆ Both Class B and Class C Mopeds require registration with the DMV
- ◆ Operating a Class A Moped also necessitates vehicle registration and a mandatory inspection
- ◆ Insurance is required for Class A & Class B Mopeds; insurance is recommended for Class C Mopeds
- ◆ Class B Mopeds can reach speeds of up to 30 mph
- ◆ Class C Mopeds are limited to 30 mph
- ◆ Mopeds are considered limited use motorcycles and shall only be ridden in the roadway
- ◆ Helmets are required for Class A (40 mph) and Class B (30 mph) Mopeds

ELECTRIC SCOOTERS



Operators must be 16 years old or older!

- E-Scooters are for single riders only
- No riding on sidewalks; pedestrians have the right-of-way
- Speed limit is 15 mph; no DMV registration required
- Ages 16-17 must wear a helmet; For adults, helmet use is strongly recommended but not required
- Riding in parks is not allowed
- E-Scooters must be operated on the shoulder or as far right as possible, and must watch the flow of traffic

BICYCLES



Bicycles may not be operated on the sidewalk by anyone over the age of 10



Children ages 14 and under must wear a helmet while operating a bicycle



Bicyclists must operate on the shoulder or as far right on the road as possible, and must match the flow of traffic if there is no bike lane



Bicyclists have the same rights and duties as motorists (rules of the road, stop signs, traffic lights, etc.)



Parents are responsible for their children's safety while operating a bicycle and can be issued a ticket for violations

NEWS FROM NYS

Inflation refund checks The 2025–2026 New York State budget provides for the state’s first-ever inflation refund checks. These one-time payments provide relief to New Yorkers who have paid increased sales taxes due to inflation. If you qualify for a payment, you do not need to do anything; we will automatically send you a check. Checks will be mailed over a period of several weeks starting at the end of September 2025. **Am I eligible?** You are eligible for a refund check if, for tax year 2023, you:

- filed Form IT-201, *New York State Resident Income Tax Return*;
- reported income within the qualifying thresholds below; **and**
- were not claimed as a dependent on another taxpayer’s return.

How much of a refund will I receive?

The amount of your refund check depends on your income and filing status for the 2023 tax year:

Refund amount by filing status and income

Refund amount by filing status and income

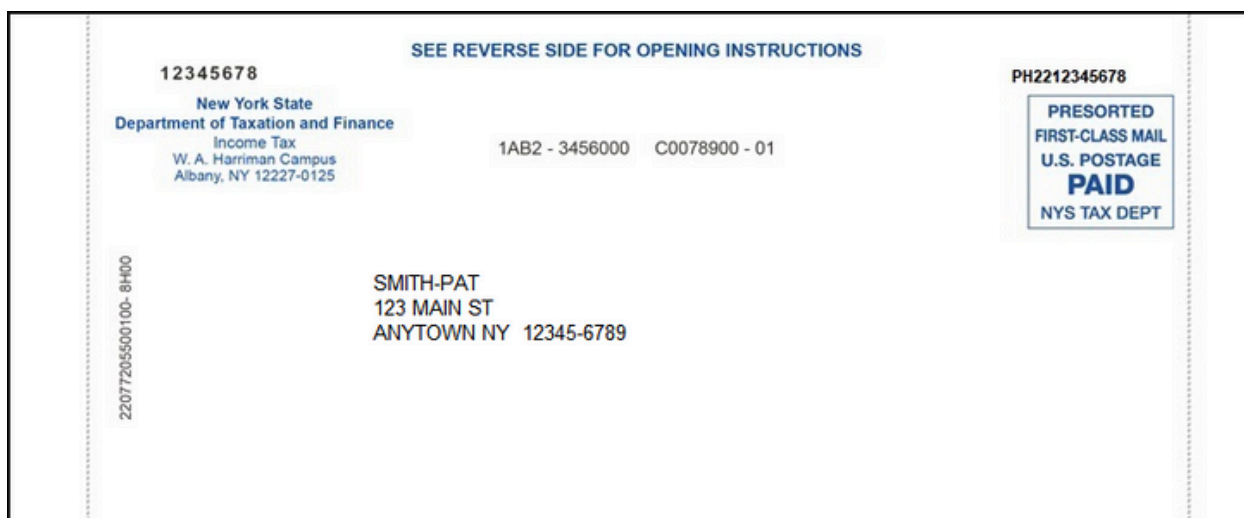
Filing status	2023 New York Adjusted Gross Income (Form IT-201 line 33)	Refund amount
Single	\$75,000 or less	\$200
	more than \$75,000, but not more than \$150,000	\$150
Married filing joint	\$150,000 or less	\$400
	more than \$150,000, but not more than \$300,000	\$300
Married filing separate	\$75,000 or less	\$200
	more than \$75,000, but not more than \$150,000	\$150
Head of household	\$75,000 or less	\$200
	more than \$75,000, but not more than \$150,000	\$150

Qualifying surviving spouse	\$150,000 or less	\$400
	more than \$150,000, but not more than \$300,000	\$300

When will I get my check?

We will begin mailing refund checks to eligible taxpayers at the end of September 2025. Over 8 million New Yorkers will receive refunds, and this large volume of checks will be mailed over a multiple week period. You may receive your check sooner or later than your neighbors, as mailings are not based on zip code or region. We **cannot** provide a specific delivery schedule, and our Contact Center representatives will not have additional information on the status of your check.

Watch your mailbox for a check that looks like this:



NYS DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION AND FINANCE

FOR MORE INFORMATION: <https://www.tax.ny.gov/pit/inflation-refund-checks.htm>

