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Oswego County

NEW YORK

VISITOR GUIDE



**LAKE ONTARIO
NATIONAL
MARINE
SANCTUARY**
p. 26

**PUBLIC
LAND**
CHART
p. 44

SPEEDWAYS
p. 54

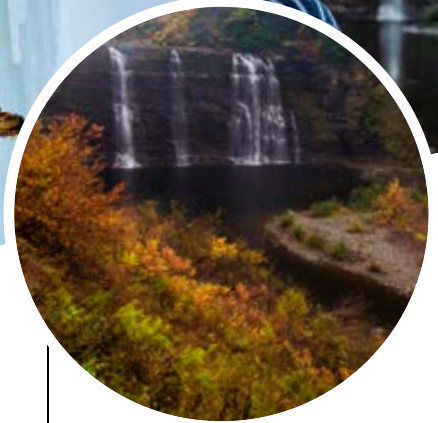
www.visitoswegocounty.com

SALMON RIVER FALLS

Nestled 19 miles upstream from its namesake river, Salmon River Falls Unique Area is a crown jewel in Oswego County's great outdoors. Featuring a 110-foot waterfall overlooking a steep gorge, the scenic park offers seasonal and year-round trails for guests of all experience levels to enjoy – along with birding, fishing, snowshoeing and cross-country skiing. It's also a renowned destination for experienced ice climbers. Get your gear out and camera ready for an outdoor adventure!

WATCH THE VIDEO ON YOUTUBE

@oswegocountytourism



dec.ny.gov/lands/63578.html

FOUR SEASONS OF FUN

Salmon River Falls Unique Area in Orwell is 112 acres of land with a spectacular 110-foot waterfall – all managed by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC).

Open year-round, the park includes an accessible Upper Falls Trail, a challenging Gorge Trail and great ice formations on the cliff face for winter climbers.

Spring rain and snowmelt create an impressive show over the falls while summer blooms with native plants and wildlife. A kaleidoscope of color peaks late September to mid-October and winter brings hearty adventurers to enjoy the falls' icy shimmer.

See p. 9, 41, 44 for four seasons of fun on other public lands.



TABLE OF CONTENTS

CALL OUR HOTLINE AT: 1-800-248-4FUN (4386) FOR THE LATEST FISHING REPORT



p. 50



p. 13



p. 19

GENERAL INFORMATION	PAGE	FAMILY FUN	PAGE
Welcome	6	Unique Attractions	35
Seasonal Trip Planning	9	Beaches	36
Major Events	10-13	Camping	38
ARTS & CULTURE	PAGE	THE GREAT OUTDOORS	PAGE
Art Centers and Stages	17	Outdoor Recreation	41
		Hidden Gems	43
HISTORY	PAGE	Public Land	44-47
Historic Sites	21, 24	MOTORIZED SPORTS	PAGE
Forts	22	Snowmobiling	50
		ATVs and Motocross	52
NICHE ACTIVITIES	PAGE	Speedways and Racetracks	54-57
Birding	25	FISHING	PAGE
Diving	27	Locations and More	58-62
Cycling	28	BOATING	PAGE
Golf	29	Overview	64
		Oswego Canal	68
Agritourism	PAGE	Oneida Lake	70
U-pick Locations plus	32		



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40 Airport Dr., Fulton NY

COUNTY AIRPORT

The Oswego County Airport in Volney serves nearly 120,000 residents along with many national and international companies located in and near the county. The general aviation facility accommodates most private and charter aircraft and assists visitors upon arrival. Fuel, overnight tie-down and hangar space is available.

Oswego County's renowned recreation areas are just a short drive away. Visitors can skip the delays and hassle of larger commercial airports by arranging to have their charter captain, hunting guide, friend or rental car waiting when they arrive!

The airport office is open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays and the airport lounge is open 24 hours a day. **For details, call 315.591.9130 or visit oswegocounty.com/airport**



Call: +1.315.349.8233

ORDER A FREE GUIDE

Oswego County's angling opportunities are unmatched in New York State! Head to Lake Ontario for your chance at catching trophy trout, salmon or walleye. Discover the wilderness of the Tug Hill Plateau and do some fly fishing in a freestone stream.

visit us online at: VISITOSWEGOCOUNTY.COM/FISHING

WELCOME

Uniquely situated in Central New York, Oswego County is here to offer scenic natural beauty, year-round outdoor adventure, centuries of fascinating history and a welcoming experience to new and returning visitors.

Discover abundant natural resources such as the majestic 110-foot Salmon River Falls Unique Area or reel in a true fish story all your own in our world-class fisheries! Explore 400 years of maritime heritage and learn about the only American shelter for refugees of the Holocaust during World War II. Sample our hometown hospitality at one of our many family-owned restaurants, shops and accommodations.

Whether you enjoy quiet relaxation or revel in thrills and excitement, you'll find it all in Oswego County! This guide is just the beginning, be sure to contact us for more information!



Daniel Breitweg
DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF TOURISM



Contact Us

OSWEGO COUNTY TOURISM OFFICE

46 E. Bridge St.
Oswego NY 13126
315.349.8322



Photo By Austin DeMott

ON THE COVER PHOTO CREDIT

Nearing sunset at the West Pierhead Lighthouse. Photo by Austin DeMott.

Oswego County
NEW YORK

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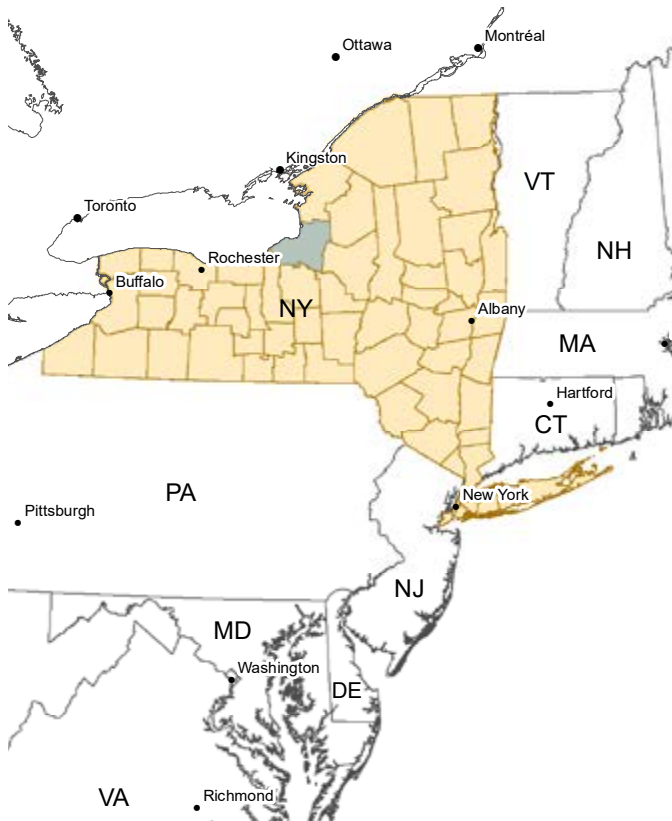
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DISCLAIMER: This guide was developed as a marketing tool and is meant to provide an overview of the tourism opportunities in Oswego County, New York. Oswego County Tourism does not specifically endorse any attraction, outfitter, property, advertiser, or location. Nor does Oswego County Tourism accept any liability for trips to the area based on the contents of this guide. Additionally, users should always refer to the NYS DEC for any specific questions regarding regulations.

ABOUT OSWEGO COUNTY

Visit Us Online For More Information: visitoswegocounty.com



Established in 1816 through an act of the New York State Legislature, Oswego County occupies 968 square miles on the southeastern shore of Lake Ontario. It is comprised of two cities, 10 villages and 22 towns. Twenty-five districts make up the Oswego County Legislature which works to deliver a variety of services and ensure a high quality of life for residents. Business and educational opportunities also abound here.

The county is easily accessible by land, air and water. Interstate 81 and NYS Rte. 481 pass through the county, which is located just north of I-90 – the New York State Thruway. The Oswego County Airport sees more than 25,000 take-offs and landings each year and the 23-mile Oswego River Canal is part of the New York State Canal System and the historic Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor.

Situated between Great Lake Ontario, the Tug Hill Plateau and Oneida Lake, Oswego County is rich in natural beauty. The region's unique geography provides a wide array of year-round recreational experiences for residents and visitors alike. In addition, Oswego County offers fascinating history, family-friendly festivals and welcoming hospitality!

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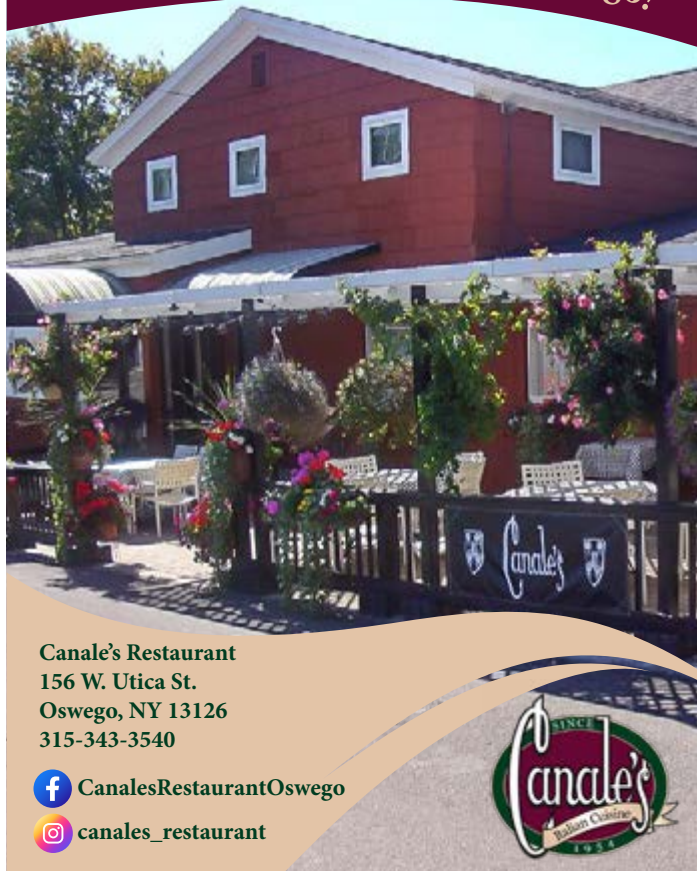


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IT'S EASY TO LOVE
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FORT ONTARIO STATE HISTORIC SITE
OSWEGO

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FOUR SEASONS OF FUN

KEY	
	Location or Weather Dependent
	Prime
	Off Season

Activity	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC
Tributary Fishing												
Ice Fishing												
Snowmobiling												
Cross Country Skiing / Snowshoeing												
Maple Season												
Derby Hill / Birding												
Charter Fishing												
Motorsports												
Golf												
ATV												
Canoeing / Kayaking												
Camping												
Beaches												
Berry Picking												
Apple / Pumpkin Picking												
Christmas Tree Picking												

POPULAR ANNUAL EVENTS

Oswego County is home to fun, family-friendly events that entertain residents and visitors alike all year.

Dig into the past at Fort Ontario State Historic Site with a variety of family-friendly events. Explore living history encampments, join memorial ceremonies and enjoy the thrill of a ghost hunt at the old stone fort on a crisp autumn night.

Check out hot cars on hot summer nights in Pulaski with Salmon River Cruise Nights, hosted by the Pulaski Boylston Snowmobile Club. Immerse yourself in local musical talent with Porchfest in Oswego and Fulton. Musicians are invited onto residents' porches to perform lively music to neighbors and passersby.

Bring the kids to Fulton for Big Truck Day which offers more than 50 vehicles for them to explore. The Fulton Fall Festival features live music, entertainment, activities, food trucks and more. Step back in time to celebrate a Christmas Open House at the Fort Brewerton Historical Society.

No matter the season or the reason, there's always something fun to do in Oswego County! For a current calendar of events, go to www.visitoswegocounty.com.

**FOR A FULL
CALENDAR OF EVENTS:
VISITOSWEGOCOUNTY.COM**

Oswego County Tourism
46 E. Bridge St.
Oswego NY 13126
315.349.8322



January / Pulaski NY

SALMON RIVER WINTER FESTIVAL

Winter fun for the whole family! Build a snowman and enjoy arts and crafts. Take a nature walk or snowmobile ride and visit the historical society and arts center. Be the judge in food contests and listen to great bands at local venues.



February / Fulton NY

GREAT EASTERN WHITEOUT

Join the winter excitement at the largest vintage and antique snowmobile show and swap meet in the Northeast. With sleds of all kinds, this event draws a variety of winter recreation enthusiasts.



January / Boylston NY

STONE WALL CLASSIC

Coined as the Northeast's signature snowshoe event, this race features a mass start of well over 100 snowshoers – all competing on one of the most relentless courses in the world. An unforgettable event for participants and spectators alike.



February / Boylston NY

WINONA FOREST TOURATHON

For over 40 seasons, the Tourathon has met its promise to delight Nordic skiers from across the U.S. and beyond. Lake effect snow and professional grooming equipment provide race participants with unrivaled conditions. The event offers 12.5k, 25k and 50k races.



March / Boylston NY

IDITAFAT

Beyond a doubt, the IditaFAT distinguishes itself from other races. A true fat bike event, tires less than 3.5 inches will not be allowed to compete. The IditaFAT offers distances of 12k, 25k or 50k, depending on course conditions.



March / Boylston NY

SNOFATSHU

The SnoFatShu duathlon begins with a snowshoe leg of approximately 5k, followed by 10-20k of fat bike trail racing heaven (distance depends on snow conditions) and a final 5k snowshoe lap. Racers compete solo or on a team.



Spring / Mexico NY

DERBY HILL MIGRATION

On average, 40,000 raptors are counted here during the annual northern migration, making Derby Hill one of the best spring hawk-watching sites in North America. Along with 15 species of raptors, impressive numbers of waterfowl and other birds can also be sighted here.



Memorial Day Wkd / Fulton NY

MEMORIAL DAY SALUTE

The proud tradition of commemorating Memorial Day begins with a morning parade from the East side to the Fulton War Memorial. Throughout the day and night activities honor the occasion, including family entertainment and beautiful fireworks.



May / Oswego NY

WATERFRONT FESTIVAL

Part of National Safe Boating Week, this event allows visitors to explore the Historic Maritime District. Tour the H. Lee White Maritime Museum, view its collection of watercrafts, learn about boater safety and upcoming events on the waterfront.



July / Oswego NY

FORT ONTARIO ENCAMPMENTS

Re-enactors assemble at Fort Ontario State Historic Site for living history events that feature period-appropriate games, cooking, crafts, antique weapons and artillery, camp life and demonstrations.



July / Brewerton NY

FIREWORKS ON THE RIVER

The day starts with an annual outdoor craft and vendor festival, combined with a Kid Zone at the Riverfront Park in Brewerton and the "Blessing of the Fleet" on the NYSDEC pier. Later, enjoy fireworks over the Oneida River at dusk.



July / Lake Ontario

PRO/AM FISHING TOURNAMENT

Launching from the port of Oswego, the Little Salmon River in Mexico and Port Ontario at the mouth of the mighty Salmon River, professional and amateur fishing teams angle to land hefty steelhead, salmon and trout – and maybe even break a record!



July / Fulton, Minetto, Oswego

OSWEGO PADDLEFEST

Kayakers and canoeists are encouraged to enjoy the unique beauty of the historic Oswego River and Oswego Canal by traveling through four canal locks. Paddlers launch from Fulton or Minetto, either ending in Minetto or at Wright's Landing Marina in the city of Oswego.



July / Oswego NY

OSWEGO HARBORFEST

Oswego's Harborfest is an admission free festival featuring music on multiple stages throughout the city of Oswego. Add food, craft and retail vendors, the midway and Gucci Brothers' fireworks spectacular, and this four-day event has something for everyone!



August / Fulton NY

FULTON JAZZ FESTIVAL

Enjoy four fun-filled nights of amazing music, great food, and good times. Fulton Jazz Festival brings you the very best in jazz, from world-renowned artists to local talent, in three waterside locations – along the Oswego Canal or on the shores of Lake Neatahwanta.



August / Sandy Creek NY

OSWEGO COUNTY FAIR

Since 1858, the Oswego County Fair has provided fun for the whole family! Enjoy children's activities, live music, dairy and poultry shows, 4-H presentations, tractor pulls, a demolition derby, amusement rides and a variety of food and sales vendors.



August / Boylston NY

WINONA DEERFLY TRAIL RUN

If trail running is a mini-adventure, the annual DeerFly Trail Run delivers with a variety of trails and terrain. The well-marked and fully maintained course is just over four miles. Novice and experienced runners alike will enjoy the comradery and experience this race offers.



Labor Day Wknd / Oswego NY

BUDWEISER CLASSIC WKND

The Budweiser International Classic 200 is one of the oldest, most storied and prestigious events in supermodified racing. Held on Labor Day weekend each year, the event culminates a week-long celebration of racing and other track activities.



September / Central Sq NY

CENTRAL SQUARE APPLE FESTIVAL

Kick off the fall season at this annual event which has celebrated everything apples for more than 35 years! It features crafts, entertainment, demonstrations, games, amusement rides and a variety of food and fun for the entire family.



October / Oswego NY

CNY PUMPKIN FESTIVAL

Check out the fall festival that has it all in Washington Square (East) Park. The annual event features kids' activities, amusement rides, vendors, crafters, fresh produce, food, pony rides and pumpkins of all sizes. Fun for the whole family!



October / Phoenix NY

PHOENIX LOCKTOBERFEST

Celebrate the fall harvest season on the Oswego Canal! The festival features music, food vendors, street performers, local artisans and fun family activities. Adults can enjoy locally brewed craft beers, wine tastings, cider, wine slushies and more.



October / Oswego NY

SUPER DIRT WEEK

Super DIRT Week is "Racing's Biggest Party!" The event showcases the best drivers in the Northeast and mid-Atlantic as they tackle the historic "Steel Palace" – Oswego Speedway. An annual pilgrimage for thousands of race fans from across the U.S. and Canada.



HARBORFEST FIREWORKS

Every year, Grucci Brothers' fireworks spectacular lights up the sky on the last full night of Oswego's Harborfest. The visually stunning display captivates viewers with choreographed pyrotechnics, seamless transitions and popular soundtracks. A sixth-generation, family-owned company, Grucci Brothers have delighted audiences around the world since 1850. Applauded for their artistry and scientific innovation, Grucci Brothers are double Guinness World Record holders who have displayed over Olympic games, presidential inaugurations and other celebrations around the globe.

See p. 10-13 for a full list of "Popular Events" in Oswego County.



Various Parks, Oswego NY

THE FAMILY EXPERIENCE

Since 1988, Oswego Harborfest has grown from a small local event celebrating the Port City to a regional festival attracting roughly 75,000 people.

Always admission free, Harborfest has something for everyone. From music performances to attractions to a thrilling midway, people of every age will find something to enjoy.

Craft and merchandise vendors are a shopper's delight and delectable treats are sure to satisfy any appetite.

The crowning feature of this four-day festival is a spectacular firework display engineered by the world-famous Grucci Brothers.

See p. 34 for more "Family Fun"

ARTS & CULTURE

COLOR YOUR WORLD

OSWEGO COUNTY offers a variety of opportunities to experience the arts and stretch the bounds of your creativity.

The Art Association of Oswego offers free art exhibitions as well as low-cost art classes. There are options for learning to paint or sculpt that perfect piece of pottery. Stop by the center for its “Art with Coffee” program to enjoy a morning beverage while creating your next masterpiece.

The Salmon River Fine Arts Center in Pulaski hosts classes for everyone from youth to seniors. Learn how to throw clay, draw or paint under the guidance of talented instructors. The Center also hosts exhibits throughout the year featuring the work of local artists.

The Art Scene at CNY Arts Center in Fulton is the place to be for a wide variety of arts programming that ranges from visual to culinary. Classes are available for beginner to experienced students. The Center hosts theatrical shows and provides opportunities for people to participate and attend theatre workshops to craft their acting skills.

The Oswego Players is one of the longest-running community theatre groups in New York State. Whether on stage or behind it, the participants are local community members dedicated to providing shows that are sure to delight all who attend.

SUNY Oswego also provides a creative atmosphere. It is home to the Tyler Hall Art Gallery, which features interdisciplinary exhibits from college students, faculty and staff. It is also home to ARTSwego, a catalyst for high quality arts programs that often showcase national and international artists. Serving as a bridge between the college and the community, its programming offers something for everyone.

Discover Oswego County's mural trail – including Dr. Mary Walker.

**River's End Bookstore
Oswego NY**





BRIDGE STREET MAKERS

20 Bridge St., Pulaski
315.529.5705

bridgestreetmakers.com

Various types of art classes for people of all ages and skill.



THE ART SCENE AT CNY ARTS CENTER

121 Cayuga St., Fulton
315.598.2787

cnyartscenter.com

Community arts center engages public with classes, camps, theatrical productions and more!



KALLET THEATER

4842 N. Jefferson St., Pulaski
315.298.0007

kallettheater.com

Focal point for the Pulaski community hosting various events and community activities.



OSWEGO CINEMA 7

138 W. Second St., Oswego
315.343.6361

oswego.zurichcinemas.com

Local movie theater offers the latest in films and entertainment for all ages.



OSWEGO MUSIC HALL

41 Lake St., Oswego
315.695.6477

oswegomusichall.org

Coffeehouse atmosphere features quality touring musicians, singers and songwriters of many genres.



OSWEGO OPERA THEATER

P.O. Box 3039, Oswego
315.343.4803

oswegooperatheater.com

Annual fully staged musical productions involving local musicians and venues throughout Oswego.



SALMON RIVER FINE ARTS CENTER

4848 Jefferson St., Pulaski
315.298.7007

salmonriverfineartscenter.com

Fine arts center enriches community with classes, exhibits and competitions in various mediums.



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Fort Ontario State Historic Site
Oswego NY



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Perfect Summer Getaway, Oswego
County, NY - Fort Ontario, sandy...
8 months ago



Catch Monster Salmon - Great Lakes
Fishing, Tips From the Captains. Lake...
1.3K views - 8 months ago



Fishing North Sandy Pond, Monster
Bass, Pickerel, Perch and More - Sa...
439 views - 8 months ago



New York State's Tug Hill Region
(enter) - Featuring Locations...
1 year ago



Steelhead Fishing Tips, Featuring All
Seasons Sports (Dec. 2021) - Pulaski...
1.5K views - 1 year ago



Fall Salmon Run Fishing Tips,
Featuring Fat Nancy's Tackle Shop...
5.3K views - 1 year ago



Return of Super DIRT Week -
ring The Oswego Speedway...
0:46



I Love NY - Visit Lake Ontario,
Featuring Ft. Ontario, sandy beaches...
1:33



Over 100 Miles of Trails! ATV on the
Tug Hill and Beyond - Featuring...
0:46

LOCAL HISTORY

GLOBAL IMPACT



OSWEGO COUNTY'S rich heritage is told in museums and historic sites across the county.

Fort Ontario is the only U.S. military site to play a part in every American campaign – from the French and Indian War in the colonial era to deployments in the Middle East.

It served as the Fort Ontario Emergency Refugee Shelter during World War II when nearly 1,000 Holocaust refugees came to Oswego as guests of President Franklin D. Roosevelt. It's been said that this is where the Holocaust first came to America because citizens and the press first heard personal accounts of Nazi persecution from its victims. Stories of the war and its atrocities then went from the back to the front pages of newspapers. Learn more about the only U.S. refugee shelter of WWII at the Safe Haven Holocaust Refugee Shelter Museum.

The Town of Oswego was the home of Dr. Mary Edwards Walker, who served in the Civil War and became the first and only woman to be awarded the U.S. Congressional Medal of Honor to date. Walker was also a women's rights activist, abolitionist, and the second woman to obtain a medical degree in the U.S.

Many recognitions have been bestowed upon Dr. Walker throughout the years, including a liberty ship named S.S. Mary Walker in her honor, a U.S. Postal Service stamp with her image on it, and a 900-pound bronze statue of her placed in her hometown. In 2023, a U.S. Army Garrison Regional Training Center in Virginia was renamed Fort Walker in honor of the doctor's heroism on the battlefield. Dr. Walker also appears on the U.S. quarter as part of the U.S. Mint's 2024 American Women Quarters Program. Visitors can view Dr. Walker's Medal of Honor at the Richardson-Bates House Museum in Oswego, NY.

Oswego County's residents have long played a role in shaping American history. From a position in Mexico, NY, Revolutionary War hero and American spy Silas Town overheard British Brig. Gen. St. Leger's plans to attack Fort Stanwix in Rome, NY. He was able to forewarn the troops, thus staving off the attack and possibly changing the tide of the war.

More recently, Oswego native Noel Francisco served as Solicitor General of the United States from 2017 to 2020, becoming the first Asian American to be confirmed to the post.

Discover Oswego County's fascinating history at a variety of museums! While some may operate seasonally, many are open to visitors year-round.

Abolitionist, Gerrit Smith, was the benefactor of the Oswego Public Library. City of Oswego Oswego NY

BLACK HISTORY AND THE ABOLITION MOVEMENT

While early census records for Oswego County indicate a small number of Black residents among its population, their impact was profound.

From Revolutionary War soldier Henry Bakeman, one of the largest black landowners in the state, to Edward “Ned” Sherman, elected president of the village of Cleveland, possibly making him the first black mayor in the state. Minister and former enslaved person Samuel R. Ward became the first black nominee for vice president of the United States at a National Liberty Party Convention in Oswego. Dr. George Franklin Grant, descended from Oswego barber Tudor E. Grant, was the second black graduate of Harvard Dental School and the first among its faculty where he patented a prosthetic dental device. Interestingly, he also invented and patented the golf tee.

Despite these accomplishments, the struggle to end slavery continued – either through political activity or by assisting freedom-seekers on the Underground Railroad. Slavery was gradually abolished in New York by 1827, but the introduction of the Fugitive Slave Act of 1850 caused new uncertainty throughout the country. African Americans moved to Canada in greater numbers and Oswego County, with friendly shipping agents and two ports of departure, was uniquely positioned to be the last stop on the freedom trail.

A turning point came in the “Jerry Rescue” of October 1851. Escaped slave William “Jerry” Henry was arrested in Syracuse, NY under the federal Act. Hundreds of abolitionists arrived to break him out of jail. From there, he was taken to Mexico, and later to Oswego where he crossed into Canada. By challenging the ability of the federal government to enforce the Fugitive Slave Act, local abolitionists helped make Central New York a haven for freedom-seekers.

Oswego County’s history demonstrates the value its people placed on freedom. Learn more about this critical chapter of American history at the Starr Clark Tin Shop and Underground Railroad Museum in Mexico, NY.



UNDERGROUND RAILROAD SITES

Oswego County has more well-documented Underground Railroad sites than most other counties in New York State – 14 of which (listed below) are on the National Register of Historic Places. Many sites are private homes and not open to the public; however, there are some places (*marked*) where visitors can go to learn more about this important chapter of American history. For a full list of sites, go to the attractions tab on our website at www.visitoswegocounty.com.

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BRISTOL HILL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

3199 NYS Rte. 3, Fulton

BUCKOUT-JONES BUILDING

7 W. Bridge St., Oswego

DANIEL AND MIRIAM PEASE HOUSE

261 Cemetery Rd., Oswego

EDWIN W. AND CHARLOTTE CLARKE HOUSE

80 E. Mohawk St., Oswego

HAMILTON AND RHODA LITTLEFIELD HOUSE

44 E. Oneida St., Oswego

JOHN AND HARRIET MCKENZIE HOUSE

96 W. Eighth St., Oswego

JOHN B. AND LYDIA EDWARDS HOUSE

144 E. Third St., Oswego

MARKET HOUSE

159 Water St., Oswego

NATHAN AND CLARISSA GREEN HOUSE

98 W. Eighth St., Oswego

OSWEGO PUBLIC LIBRARY

120 E. Second St., Oswego

ORSON AMES HOUSE

3330 Main St., Mexico

RIVERSIDE CEMETERY

4024 Co. Rte. 57, Oswego

STARR CLARK TIN SHOP

3250 Main St. Mexico



New York State Trail

HAUNTED HISTORY

New York State's Haunted History Trail highlights a collection of eerie, haunted places steeped in decades of history. Keep your senses tuned for strange and unusual activity as you explore Oswego County's stops on the trail – Fort Ontario State Historic Site, Starr Clark Tin Shop and Underground Railroad Museum and Casey's Cottage.

Take a guided Haunted Oswego Tour to learn about the specters that haunt the streets, tunnels, homes and businesses around the Port City. You'll hear stories that have flourished by word-of-mouth over the years. These tales are sure to enchant and entertain you – and perhaps send a chill up your spine!

For more information visit hauntedhistorytrail.com/about/oswego-county



FORT ONTARIO

1 E. Fourth St., Oswego NY

The fourth and current Fort Ontario State Historic Site shows the fort as it was between 1863-1872. There are two guardhouses, a powder magazine, a storehouse, an enlisted men's barracks, an Army office building and unfurnished officer's quarters.

The fort had been destroyed and rebuilt during the French and Indian War, the American Revolutionary War and the War of 1812. It served as an Army hospital during World War I and a refugee shelter during WWII before being decommissioned in 1946.



FORT BREWERTON

9 U.S. Rte. 11, Central Square NY

Known as the "pre-historic capital of New York State," the Oneida Lake and River area was home to Indigenous Americans for thousands of years, as these waterways were important east-west travel routes.

In the mid-18th century, the British also consid-

ered the strategic location ideal and, with permission from the Iroquois League, constructed an eight-point star fortification that housed approximately 130 soldiers and their supplies. The original fort no longer exists, but earthen embankments outline its location on the site.



BIRTHPLACE OF U.S. REFUGEE POLICY

REFUGEES FIND 'SAFE HAVEN' AT FORT ONTARIO, OSWEGO, NY

By Historian Paul Lear

Upon establishment of the War Refugee Board (WRB) by order of President Franklin D. Roosevelt on January 22, 1944, the United States became the first country with a refugee policy. The WRB was tasked with providing rescue and relief to the remaining Jews of Nazi-occupied Europe. WRB urged America's allies to accept refugees in their countries and territories, but received little cooperation when the U.S. failed to set an example by establishing its own camps. Nazi officials also mocked the allies for their hypocrisy and antisemitism and cited the United States for its discrimination of African-Americans and other minority groups.

To demonstrate that the U.S. was serious about helping the Jews of Europe, President Roosevelt chose Fort Ontario in Oswego, NY as the site of an "emergency refugee shelter." On August 5, 1944, nearly 1,000 Holocaust victims, who all signed papers agreeing to return to Europe when the war ended, arrived at Fort Ontario. Many had applied for visas to emigrate to the U.S. and were awaiting a decision. Some had relatives living in America, and others had children serving in the U.S. military. Few had homes or families to return to.

The Fort Ontario refugees were the focus of a national controversy on the part of anti-immigration, antisemitic and anti-refugee members of Congress and American citizens who opposed their entry into the country from the start and tried to force them back to Europe when the war ended. Despite efforts on their behalf by sympathetic WRB officials, private agencies, Oswegonians, the refugees' families and influential friends such as Eleanor Roosevelt, it took 18 months before a solution was found to the dilemma at Fort Ontario. On December 22, 1945, President Harry S. Truman directed the Secretary of State and Attorney General in a general order to adjust the status of the Fort Ontario refugees and allow those who wished to remain in the U.S. to stay.

The Fort Ontario refugees were the first group of refugees allowed into the U.S. outside the quota system based on national origins established with the Immigration Act of 1924. Historians have long considered the 1948 Act of Congress allowing the admission of 250,000 displaced Europeans from WWII, and another 400,000 people after that, to be the first refugee legislation enacted by the U.S. government. Many who have re-discovered the Fort Ontario Emergency Refugee Shelter now consider it to be the true birthplace of U.S. Refugee Policy.



www.safehavenmuseum.com

SAFE HAVEN HOLOCAUST REFUGEE SHELTER MUSEUM

Safe Haven Holocaust Refugee Shelter Museum is a short walk or drive from Fort Ontario State Historic Site in Oswego, NY.

It occupies an original quartermaster building and preserves the stories of nearly 1,000 European refugees who arrived as "guests" of President Franklin D. Roosevelt during the Holocaust.

Renovated in 2020, the museum features an introduction movie, artifacts, video screens, and stations telling refugees' stories—from their European beginnings to their struggles under Nazi occupation and eventual "rescue" at Fort Ontario leading to a life of freedom in America.

HISTORIC SITES

BRIDGE HOUSE MUSEUM

55 State St., Phoenix
315.695.1308
www.bridgehousebrats.com

BRISTOL HILL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

3199 NYS Rte. 3, Fulton
315.593.1114
www.facebook.com/bristolhillucc

CASEY'S COTTAGE

Mexico Point Park, Mexico
315.963.7657
www.mexicopointpark.com

CENTRAL SQUARE COMMUNITY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

3125 East Ave., Central Square
315.676.2682
villageofcentralsquare-ny.us

CENTRAL SQUARE RAILROAD MUSEUM

132 Railroad Ave., Central Square
315.675.8688
villageofcentralsquare-ny.us

CLEVELAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

6 North Street Rd., Cleveland
315.675.8225
facebook.com/
ClevelandHistoricalSociety/

FORT BREWERTON/OLIVER STEVENS BLOCKHOUSE MUSEUM

9 U.S. Rte. 11, Central Square
315.668.8801
www.fortbrewerton.net/

FORT ONTARIO STATE HISTORIC SITE

1 E. Fourth St., Oswego
315.343.4711
www.fortontario.com

H. LEE WHITE MARITIME MUSEUM

1 W. First St. Pier, Oswego
315.342.0480
hlwmm.org

HALF-SHIRE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

1100 Co. Rte. 48, Richland
315.298.2986
www.halfshire.org

HANNIBAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY

162 Oswego St., Hannibal
315.564.5650
facebook.com/100069351671199

JOHN WELLS PRATT HOUSE MUSEUM

177 S. First St., Fulton
315.598.4616
pratthousemuseum.org

MEXICO HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM

65 S. Jefferson St., Mexico
315.963.3129
mexiconyhistoricalsociety.com

OSWEGO COUNTY HISTORIAN AND RECORDS CENTER

394 E. River Rd., Oswego
315.349.8460
oswegocounty.com

OSWEGO TOWN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

2320 Co. Rte. 7, Oswego
315.343.2586
townofoswego.com

PULASKI HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM

3428 Maple Ave., Pulaski
315.298.4650
pulaskihistoricalsociety.org

RICHARDSON BATES HOUSE MUSEUM

135 E. Third St., Oswego
315.343.1342
rbhousemuseum.org

SAFE HAVEN HOLOCAUST REFUGEE SHELTER MUSEUM

2 E. Seventh St., Oswego
315.342.3003
www.safehavenmuseum.com

SALMON RIVER LIGHTHOUSE

5 Lake Rd. Extension, Port Ontario
757.287.0426/315.509.4208
salmonriverlighthousemarina.com

SCHROEPEL HISTORICAL SOCIETY

486 Main St., Phoenix
315.695.6880
facebook.com/
SchroeppelHistoricalSociety

SPY ISLAND

Mexico Point Park, Mexico
315.963.7657
www.mexicopointpark.com

STARR CLARK TIN SHOP AND UNDERGROUND RAILROAD MUSEUM

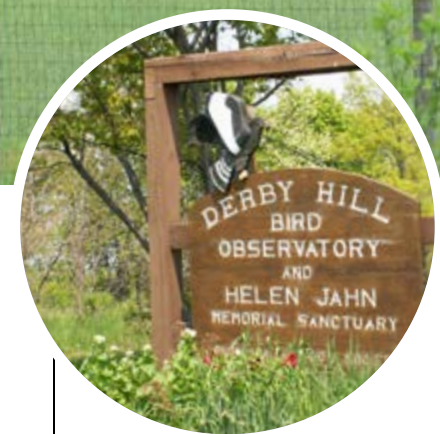
3250 Main St, Mexico
315.963.7853
mexiconyhistoricalsociety.com/
tin-shop.html

WEST MONROE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

2355 NYS Rte. 49, West Monroe
315.676.7414
facebook.com/100057654361361

WEST PIERHEAD LIGHTHOUSE

Oswego Harbor, Oswego
315.342.0480
hlwmm.org



BIRDING

Various Locations, Oswego County NY

Diverse woodland habitats, pristine wetlands and expansive shorelines make Oswego County an excellent year-round birding area. With five locations listed as “Important Bird Areas” with Audubon New York, a state office of the National Audubon Society, there are plenty of sites to spot a variety of bird species.

At Derby Hill Bird Observatory, migrating raptors, waterfowl and songbirds soar above the bluff overlooking the southeastern shore of Lake Ontario. Happy Valley Wildlife Management Area is a diverse habitat of ponds, fields and forests where birders can spot woodland birds, songbirds and some waterfowl and raptor species. Toad Harbor Swamp is a wetland area on the north shore of Oneida Lake where warblers, heron and waterfowl can be found.

Many bird species can be found along the Oswego River Canal, including the elusive osprey and bald eagle. Migratory waterfowl and gulls congregate in the Oswego Harbor and near the dams in Oswego, Minetto, Fulton and Phoenix.

36 Grand View Ave., Mexico NY

DERBY HILL

One of the premiere hawk migration areas in the northeastern United States, Derby Hill Bird Observatory counts an average 40,000 raptors as they migrate northward each spring. Hawks, eagles and vultures are the main attraction, but impressive numbers of snow geese, red-winged blackbirds, common grackles, blue jays and Baltimore orioles can also be seen migrating here.

Sanctuary headquarters are located at the top of the hill on a bluff overlooking Lake Ontario. A series of trails run south from there – across fields, a swamp and woodlands. There is a boardwalk through the wet area and trails are open year-round.

For details, go to
onondagaaudubon.com/derby-hill-bird-observatory/



Counting on wind currents
and blues skies.
Derby Hill Bird Sanctuary
Mexico NY

NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY

In June 2024, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) officially designated Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary, a 1,722-square mile area in the southeastern corner of Great Lake Ontario. Supported by Oswego, Cayuga, Jefferson and Wayne counties and the City of Oswego, the designation recognizes the area's cultural, historical and archaeological significance and provides a national stage for education, research, recreation, tourism and heritage preservation.

Lake Ontario is a unique resource that remains as vital today as it was to the area's early inhabitants. Ancestors of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy fished, traded and traveled along its shores and tributaries. With the arrival of European settlers, the area continued to serve as a major maritime trade and transportation route, playing a pivotal role in westward migration, upper lake trade and the development of the U.S. interior.

The Oswego Canal, flowing into Lake Ontario, served as a gateway to Canada for those seeking freedom from slavery. Overlooking the lake, Fort Ontario Emergency Refugee Shelter served as America's only "safe haven" for victims of the Nazi Holocaust during World War II. The "Port City" of Oswego remains the first U.S. port of call on the Great Lakes, moving over one million tons of products each year.

Lake Ontario continues to be a popular destination for outdoor recreation. World-renown for its superb fisheries, Oswego County attracts thousands of anglers each year. Visitors also enjoy camping, boating, paddling or exploring the area's rich heritage, including guided boat tours to one of the two unique lighthouses within the county.

Beginning and experienced divers find many opportunities for underwater exploration! Within the boundary of Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary, there are 41 known shipwrecks, one known aircraft and dozens of other underwater archaeological sites. Forgotten shipwrecks, hidden in these cold fresh waters, are among the best preserved in the world, offering everyone a chance to learn, share and connect to the past.

Designed to promote sustainable use and enhance public access and activities, Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary introduces no new restrictions on sportfishing, scuba diving, boating, commercial shipping or dredging.

For more information, visit sanctuaries.noaa.gov/lake-ontario.





Exploring a maritime graveyard.
NYS David W. Mills Submerged Cultural Preserve and Dive Site
Lake Ontario, NY

Photo Courtesy of NOAA

visitoswegocounty.com/scuba

DIVING IN LAKE ONTARIO

Oswego County offers fascinating underwater expeditions for any diver!

Check out Ford Shoals, home to at least five shipwrecks, including the David W. Mills, New York State's first Submerged Cultural Preserve and Dive Site on Lake Ontario! The Mills was a 19th-century cargo vessel that ran aground in dense smog in 1919. The ship was unmovable, and a violent storm tore it apart. Divers can also explore more recent wrecks, such as the Mary Kay (1988) and the Harborfest Houseboat (1993).

Interested in learning more about Oswego County's shipwrecks and marine history? Visit the H. Lee White Maritime Museum in Oswego, which highlights 400 years of nautical heritage in its captivating exhibits and collections.



CYCLING

Various Locations, Oswego County NY

Oswego County is an ideal destination for cycling enthusiasts, offering a diverse range of landscapes and trails that cater to all types of riders. Whether you're interested in a scenic tour along the Great Lakes Seaway Trail or exploring off-road terrain in the Winona State Forest or Great Bear Springs Recreation Area, the county has something for everyone.

For those who enjoy rugged adventure, Oswego County offers hundreds of miles of trails perfect for mountain biking and fat tire biking. Riders can tackle everything from easy paths to challenging, winding trails.

For a thrilling off-road experience, cyclocross races take place in the fall, featuring a mix of terrain like grass, dirt, mud, sand, and sometimes snow. These races involve sharp turns, steep banks, and obstacles such as tree roots and hurdles, adding an exciting challenge for cyclists. Oswego County is a cyclist's playground with plenty of opportunities to explore its natural beauty and charming towns.

[facebook.com/murdockssports](https://www.facebook.com/murdockssports)

JOIN GROUP RIDES

Greg Mills, owner of Murdock's Bicycles and Sports, organizes group rides for mornings and Taco Tuesday rides in the evening. Rides are posted in advance on www.facebook.com/murdockssports.

CYCLING RESOURCES

JOHN & JOHNS BIKE AND SKATE SHOP

52 W Bridge St., Oswego
315.216.4849
[facebook.com/johnandjohns](https://www.facebook.com/johnandjohns)

MURDOCK'S BICYCLES AND SPORTS

177 W. First St., Oswego
315.342.6848
www.murdockssports.com

USA CYCLING

The national governing body for cycling in the United States.
Usacycling.org 719.434.4200

IMBA (INTERNATIONAL MOUNTAIN BICYCLING ASSOCIATION)

Supports mountain bike riding, trail building, and advocacy.
www.imba.com 303.545.9011

NYSBRA (NEW YORK STATE BICYCLE RACING ASSOCIATION)

Promotes and preserves all types of bicycle racing in New York State.
nysbra.com

**BERKSHIRE
HATHAWAY**
HOMESERVICES

CNY REALTY

50 W Utica Street • Oswego

GOLF

Various Locations, Oswego County NY

Oswego County is home to some of Central New York's most picturesque and beloved golf courses and driving ranges. Whether you're a beginner or an experienced golfer, the county offers a range of courses with lush greens and beautiful views, from serene waterside locations to rolling fairways. You can enjoy a relaxing round of golf, whether you're looking to sink a birdie on an easy par three, face the challenge of a par five, or simply practice your swing at a driving range. In Oswego County, it's always tee time.

Interestingly, Oswego County is linked to golf history through George Franklin Grant, an Oswego native who had a lasting impact on the sport with his invention of the wooden golf tee. Before this, golfers would build mounds of wet sand to elevate the ball. In 1899, Grant received the world's first patent for his golf tee and his design still serves as the template for wooden and plastic tees used by golfers today.

GOLF COURSES

BATTLE ISLAND STATE PARK

2150 NYS Rte. 48, Fulton
315.593.3408
parks.ny.gov/golf/5/

GLENWOOD GOLF COURSE

694 Toad Harbor Rd., West Monroe
315.676.3114
facebook.com/GlenwoodGolfCourse

THE ELMS GOLF CLUB

2 Country Club Lane, Sandy Creek
315.387.5297
theelmsgolfclub.com/

GREENVIEW COUNTRY CLUB

20 Whig Rd., West Monroe
315.668.2244
greenviewcountryclub.com

EMERALD CREST GOLF COURSE

3989 NYS Rte. 3, Fulton
315.593.1016
facebook.com/EmeraldCrestGolf

STREAMSIDE RV PARK AND GOLF COURSE

800 Co. Rte. 28, Pulaski
315.298.6887
www.streamsidecg.com

EVERGREEN HILLS GOLF COURSE

285 Co. Rte. 20, Oswego
315.216.4639
www.evergreenhillsgolfbfc.com

STONE CREEK GOLF CLUB

229 NYS Rte. 104A, Oswego
315.343.2996
stonecreekgolfoswegony.com

TAMARACK GOLF CLUB

2021 Co. Rte. 1, Oswego
315.342.6614
www.golftamarack.com/

SCAN



Summer
homes and
seasonal
stays

1.800.248.4386 | www.visitoswegocounty.com



AUTUMN ADVENTURES IN OSWEGO COUNTY

Oswego County has many u-pick locations to choose from for a day of family fun! Pictured is the pumpkin trebuchet at the Parish Pumpkin Patch, located at Little Salmon Farm. The pumpkin patch features u-pick pumpkins, a corn maze, hayrides, and the Barley Bin bar. The pumpkin patch is open fall weekends from mid-September through Halloween. Outside of fall, the farm produces maple syrup, grows a variety of fruits, vegetables, plants, and flowers, and hosts creative workshops.

See p. 32-33 for a list of u-pick locations.



Parish Pumpkin Patch, Parish NY

EXPERIENCE FALL

Oswego County is the ideal fall getaway destination! Enjoy colorful foliage, visit an orchard or pumpkin patch for u-pick, or attend festive autumnal events held each year.

Optimal viewing spots of vibrant autumn colors include the Little John and Happy Valley wildlife management areas in eastern Oswego County. Head to the Salmon River Falls Unique Area in Orwell for breathtaking views of fall colors surrounding a serene 110-foot waterfall. The area also features a scenic gorge and hiking trail, perfect for exploring and getting spectacular photos.

With numerous u-pick options, Oswego County is a hotspot for agritourism. Pick apples or pumpkins, and many spots have storefronts with local goods, allowing visitors to bring a taste of Oswego County home.

AGRITOURISM

OSWEGO COUNTY

Winter, spring, summer or fall, Oswego County has it all! Sample local products from maple syrup and honey to berries, apples and pumpkins. At the end of the year, spruce up your holiday with an elegant fresh pine wreath. Farms across the county yield bountiful harvests throughout the year. You'll find plenty of seasonal u-pick farms and produce stands on rural roads and byways – even farmers' markets in nearly every community.

CHRISTMAS TREE FARMS	CHRISTMAS TREE FARMS	FARM STANDS AND MARKETS	FARM STANDS AND MARKETS
<p>Austin Tree Farm 221 Baldwin Rd., Fulton 315.598.9794</p>	<p>H & H Trees 1430 Co. Rte. 28, Pulaski 315.882.5814</p>	<p>Appledale Orchards 5987 NYS Rte. 3, Mexico 315.963.3628</p>	<p>Garden and Grove 460 Co Rte 22A, Sandy Creek 315.387.5553</p>
<p>Beckwith Family Christmas Tree Station 189 Mill St., Hannibal 315.564.5479</p>	<p>Leonard's Evergreens 70 Dunham Rd., Hannibal 315.564.5798</p>	<p>Apple Grove Farm applegrovefarm.com</p>	<p>Godfrey's Last Stand 1232 NYS Rte. 264, Phoenix 315.539.7291</p>
<p>Candee's Tree Farm 211 Hilltop Dr., Phoenix 315.657.6861</p>	<p>Molly Johns Farm 4239 NYS Rte. 69, Mexico 315.963.8660</p>	<p>Behling Orchards 114 Potter Rd., Mexico 315.963.7068</p>	<p>Molly Johns Farm 4239 State Route 69, Mexico 315.532.7161</p>
<p>Chengerian's Tree Land 84 Merritt Rd., Fulton 315.678.2046</p>	<p>Ontario Orchards 7735 NYS Rte. 104, Oswego 315.343.6328</p>	<p>Brannan Farm & Roadside Market 1731 NYS Rte. 48, Fulton 315.593.0787</p>	<p>Oliver B. Paine Greenhouses 125 S. Granby Rd., Fulton 315.592.2773</p>
<p>Emerald Mist Tree Farm 1484 Rathburn Rd., Oswego 315.343.4799</p>	<p>Stony Hill Acres 1685 NYS Rte. 264, Phoenix 315.409.9528 or 315.409.8117</p>	<p>C & J Farms & Greenhouses 280 Lower Rd Constantia 315.623.9905</p>	<p>Ontario Orchards 7735 NYS Rte. 104, Oswego 315.343.6328</p>
<p>Goodman's Christmas Tree Farm at Liberty Acres 38 Church Rd., Phoenix 315.729.7071</p>	<p>Three Seasons Farm 429 Drybridge Rd., Mexico 315.298.6332</p>	<p>Fowler's Farm Market 8576 NYS Rte.104, Hannibal 315.564.7592</p>	<p>Phoenix Flower Farm 2620 Lamson Rd Phoenix 315.695.2377</p>
<p>Grace Farms 78 Gunther Rd., Central Square 315.668.1195</p>	<p>CREAMERY</p> <p>Comley's Country Creamery 103 Fraser Rd., Mexico 315.963.7172</p>	<p>COMMUNITY-SUPPORTED AGRICULTURE (CSA)</p> <p>Grindstone Farm 780 Co. Rte. 28, Pulaski 315.298.4139</p>	<p>Stoney Meadow Farm 129 Co. Rte. 63, Oswego 315.342.8058</p>
<p>Granger's Christmas Tree Farm 380 Tubbs Rd., Mexico 315.963.3480</p>	<p>Ingersoll Farms 111 Owens Rd., Fulton 315.602.6151</p>	<p>Fruit Valley Orchard 507 Bunker Hill Rd., Oswego 315.342.3793</p>	

HONEY PRODUCERS

Hives of Howard
52 Singleton St., Oswego
315.591.4234

Jacob the Beekeeper
98 McCloud Rd., West Monroe
315.877.8945

MAPLE SYRUP PRODUCERS

Maple Help Stock Farm
207 Hurlbut Rd., Mexico
315.963.7558

Maple Hollow Farm
1309 Co. Rte. 85, Hannibal
315.564.7133

Pondview Lodge
323 Stone Hill Rd.,
Williamstown
315.430.2004

**Willow Creek Farm
Maple Syrup**
390 Lakeshore Rd., Fulton
315.591.2308

Yardley Maple
524 Co. Rte. 64, Mexico
315.380.1416

**Willow Creek Farm
Maple Syrup**
390 Lakeshore Rd., Fulton
315.591.2308

U-PICK

Appledale Orchards
5987 NYS Rte. 3, Mexico
315.963.3628

Behling Orchards
114 Potter Rd., Mexico
315.963.7068

Enwright Orchard
307 Co. Rte. 25, Oswego
315.561.1986

Fruit Valley Orchard
507 Bunker Hill Rd., Oswego
315.342.3793

Godfrey's Last Stand
1232 NYS Rte. 264, Phoenix
315.593.7291

Guppy's Berry Farm
512 Co. Rte. 26, West Monroe
315.625.7920

**Morrigan Farm
U-Pick Blueberries**
459 Co Rte 22A
913.222.4253

Riverside U-Pick
323 Pendergast Rd. Phoenix
315.591.5976

Stan's Berry Patch
208 Co. Rte. 84, West Monroe
315.668.7159

U-PICK

**U-pick Blueberries at Basciani
and Sons Farms**
379 Atkinson Rd Pulaski
315-298-4204

**Uncle Eric's U-Pick
Organic Blueberries**
31 Ward Dr., Parish
315.374.7761

Wiltse Farms
134 Avery Rd., Constantia
315.623.9288

FARMERS' & ARTS MARKETS

**Central Square
Farmers' Market**
Cross Roads Park, State Route 49
June – August
Saturdays and Sundays
9 a.m. – Dark

**CNY Arts Center
Community Arts Market**
121 Cayuga St.
June – September
Saturdays 8 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Fulton Farmers' Market
Canalview Parking Lot, State Route
481
June – mid-October
Saturdays 8 a.m. to noon

Hannibal Farmers' Market
96 Durbin Rd.
Mid-June - October
Saturdays, 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Oswego Farmers' Market
West First St.
June – mid-October
Thursdays 4:30 – 8 p.m.

Pulaski Farmers' Market
South Park, N. Jefferson Street
June – September
Fridays 4 – 8 p.m.

**WINERIES, DISTILLERIES
AND BREWERIES**

6 Acres Farm Brewery
412 Fort Leazier Rd, Mexico
315.806.2002

**Ashley Lynn Winery
& Leon's Farm Market**
4142 NYS Rte. 104, Mexico
315.963.3262

Bella Fattoria Winery
180 Wiltsieville Rd., Hannibal
315.564.7506

**Eleven Brewing Company
at the Cellar Door**
17 W. Cayuga St., Oswego
315.216.6613

**Eleven Brewing Company
at LD's on the River**
4838 N. Jefferson St., Pulaski
315.509.4254

Grace Tyler Estate Winery
1180 NYS Rte. 49, Constantia
315.382.5830

Junco Brewing Company
37 Cemetery Rd., Oswego
423.637.9748

Lock 1 Distillery
17 Culvert St., Phoenix
315.934.4376

MAKING FAMILY MEMORIES

WITH FOUR SEASONS of fun, Oswego County is a great destination for a family vacation. Come play in our backyard!

For a real family adventure, check out Thunder Island Amusement Park in Fulton. The fun begins with go-karts and miniature golf, continues with a monster splash in the water park and wraps up with a fun zipline experience.

Head over to Breitbeck Park in Oswego for a full day of family fun. The park features paved trails, a playground, splash pad and ground sprays for hot summer days. Challenge the family in mini golf before relaxing around a firepit to watch a spectacular sunset.

Fire up your friends and family and head over to AAA Paintball Park in Constantia to color the fields with some fun competition. For a different adrenaline rush, stop by Oswego's Skatepark at East Linear Park to work on your powerslide or kickflip.

For indoor family fun, pick up a spare at Lakeview Lanes in Fulton and Lighthouse Lanes in Oswego. Grab your swimsuit and towel and enjoy year-round fun at the Splash Indoor Water Park Resort in Oswego.

When the temperatures drop, grab your skates and head to an ice rink such as Crisafulli, Cullinan or SUNY Oswego in the Port City, Fulton Community Ice Arena or the Haldane Memorial Arena in Pulaski.

Explore the history of the Port City with your choice of walking tours. The Oswego Food and History Tour includes bites from local restaurants along with history tidbits, while the Oswego Haunted Tour provides spine-tingling, spooky fun.



Kids can catch raindrops while learning how weather works.

Children's Museum of Oswego
Oswego NY



SHINEMAN PLANETARIUM

SUNY Oswego, 223 Shineman Hall, Oswego
natalia.lewandowska@oswego.edu
Weekly planetarium shows on the SUNY Oswego campus held September through May.



CHILDREN'S MUSEUM OF OSWEGO

7 W. Bridge St., Oswego
315.216.6387
cmoo.org

A fun and innovative space for children of all ages to learn.



LIGHTHOUSE BOAT TOURS

41 Lake St., Oswego (Wright's Landing Marina)
315.342.0480
hlwmm.org

Tour the Oswego West Pierhead Lighthouse weekends June through September.



MIDWAY DRIVE-IN THEATRE

2475 Co. Rte. 48, Fulton
315.343.0211
midwaydrivein.com

Open on weekends from May through October with double and triple features.



TRI-R-KARTS SUPER GOLF

7352 NYS Rte. 3, Pulaski
315.298.7223

Family fun in Pulaski with go-karts, miniature golf, and ice cream.



YOGI BEAR'S JELLYSTONE MINI GOLF

601 Co. Rte. 16, Mexico
315.963.7096
jellystonecny.com

Visit Jellystone for some fun in the summer sun with a round of mini golf.



OTHER ATTRACTIONS

No matter the age or the season, we've got fun activities for everyone in the family – all year long! For a list of additional attractions, visit the official tourism website: visitoswegocounty.com.

BASK IN THE SUMMER SUN

OSWEGO COUNTY summers positively sparkle! Bright sunny days and warm weather offer the perfect opportunity to head to a local beach.

Forty-three miles of Lake Ontario shoreline, combined with the majority of the north shore of Oneida Lake – the largest lake located entirely within New York State – offer residents and visitors alike plenty of recreation opportunities on or near the water.

There are four major public beaches on these two lakes, and all have mostly white sandy beaches and picnic areas for people to enjoy a day of fun in the sun. See opposite page for details about Sandy Island Beach State Park in Sandy Creek, Selkirk Shores State Park in Pulaski, Mexico Point State Park in Mexico and David C. Webb Memorial Park at Taft Bay in Constantia.

With hundreds of smaller lakes, ponds and rivers, Oswego County has a multitude of aquatic outlets. Check out the Salmon River Reservoir which has a small sandy beach and boat launches. Deer Creek Marsh Wildlife Management Area provides a pebble shore for visitors to enjoy a hearty picnic or paddle on Great Lake Ontario.

Marinas on North Sandy Pond give boaters access to sandy beaches and water recreation, while those on Oneida Lake provide the opportunity to visit Frenchman’s Island, a 26-acre landmass with a dock and an abandoned lighthouse. Formerly a New York State Park, the property is now maintained by NYSDEC.

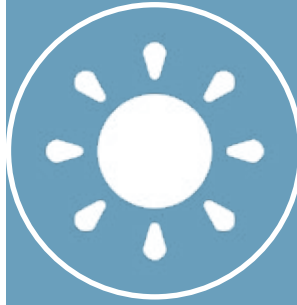
In addition to various day beaches, many family-owned waterfront campgrounds also offer beach or water access. They include Ontario Shores RV Park in Richland, North Bay Campground in Fulton and Voda’s Constantia Cove in Constantia.

Waterfront dining options also abound in Oswego County! Motor up to a dock at The Waterfront Tavern in Brewerton or Kyle’s Wigwam Restaurant in Pulaski. Enjoy sunset dining at Rainbow Shores Restaurant in Pulaski or Rudy’s Lakeside in Oswego.

To explore summertime adventures, go to visitoswegocounty.com/beaches.



Building summer dreams with a bucket full of sand.
Sandy Island Beach State Park
 Sandy Creek NY



MEXICO POINT PARK

Mexico Point Park is perfect for a peaceful barbecue, fishing, or enjoying nature with a hike or swim in Lake Ontario. It's not just a scenic spot, but also rich in history. The park features Spy Island, the final resting place of Silas Town, an American spy and Revolutionary War hero. It also hosts Casey's Cottage, a former carriage house restored in a medieval style, which is listed on New York State's Haunted History Trail. The park offers a blend of nature, history, and a touch of mystery, making it an intriguing place to visit.

SANDY ISLAND BEACH STATE PARK

Sandy Island Beach State Park is part of the Eastern Lake Ontario Dune and Wetland System, a protected ecosystem, offering stunning views and recreational opportunities. Walkovers and viewing platforms allow visitors to explore and photograph the lakeshore without damaging the fragile environment. The upper plateau features shaded grassy areas with individual barbecue grills, along with a pavilion and community room for hosting small gatherings. The park's white sandy beach is ideal for relaxing and enjoying sunny weather.

SELKIRK SHORES STATE PARK

Selkirk Shores State Park in Pulaski is open to visitors for day use in the 2025 season; however, it is closed for camping as improvements are made. So, grab your boots or bike and enjoy a trail system with a mix of level paths and small hills. Come winter, bring your snowshoes, or rent them at the park office. Fishing is permitted off the large concrete pier and visitors are welcome to pack a lunch and enjoy the shaded picnic area.

DAVID C. WEBB MEMORIAL PARK AT TAFT BAY

David C. Webb Memorial Park at Taft Bay in Constantia, located on the north shore of Oneida Lake, is a great spot for a family-friendly day of relaxation and recreation. With a white sandy beach perfect for swimming and sunbathing, the park also provides convenient amenities like a bathhouse and pavilions for small gatherings, plus barbecue grills. For active fun, it features a playground, volleyball net, and sporting courts.

CAMP

UNDER THE STARS

OSWEGO COUNTY offers a diverse array of camping experiences, with over 30 public, private, and New York State campgrounds that cater to all types of campers. Whether you're seeking peaceful solitude or fun family activities, there's a campground to match your preferences. With thousands of camping sites, you can choose from spacious RV sites equipped with all the comforts of home, rustic wilderness settings perfect for tent camping, or something in-between like a rustic cabin, cozy cottage, or a park-model trailer with water access and modern amenities.

Whether you prefer camping by the water, in the woods, or near a golf course, you'll experience the warmth of hometown hospitality at these family-friendly campgrounds.





Camping is "s'more" fun with the
whole family!
Yogi Bear's Jellystone Park
Mexico NY



OSWEGO SPEEDWAY

Home of the Supermodifieds



Racing Saturday Nights
May - September



oswegospeedway.com



facebook.com/oswegospeedway



oswegospeedway@gmail.com



x.com/oswegospeedway



315-342-0646



[@officialoswegospeedway](https://instagram.com/officialoswegospeedway)

Paradise found. —
Camp Zerbe
Williamstown NY

THE GREAT OUTDOORS

WITH THOUSANDS of acres of state forests and wildlife management areas, Oswego County is rich in natural beauty. These, combined with several nature parks and environmental education centers, offer an array of recreational opportunities in every season for outdoor enthusiasts.

Few areas in the Northeast offer the quality and diversity of fishing found in Oswego County. From trolling on Lake Ontario for trophy salmon, trout and walleye to fly-fishing for wild brook trout, the angling opportunities available here are unmatched. Ice fishing, fly-fishing, seasonal charter and drift boat tours make fishing a year-round thrill in our waters.

Dozens of wildlife viewing areas dotted across the county offer you the perfect birding spot. Visit Derby Hill Bird Observatory in Mexico – a prime location in the U.S. for hawk watching during the spring migration.

Come summer, watch a bald eagle glide over the horizon, sail your boat against the orange glow of the sunset and paddle the rippling river or serene pond waters.

Winter is no exception for outdoor recreation in Oswego County. With the highest recorded snowfall east of the Rocky Mountains, the Tug Hill region offers exceptional conditions for exploring the great outdoors. Put on your snowshoes or cross-country skis and embark on a back country journey through the snow-covered wilderness. Warm up your snowmobile and head for the many trails intertwined throughout the county. Ice climbers head out to Salmon River Falls for a real adrenaline rush.

Lakes, rivers ponds, forests, trails and open hills are just some of what nature has to offer here. With such dynamic geography, Oswego County is an outdoor enthusiasts' dream!





The Eastern Lake Ontario Barrier Beach and Wetland Complex stretches as far as the eye can see.
**Deer Creek Marsh WMA
Richland NY**

Photo By Mic-Anthony Hay

TOP PICKS: HIDDEN GEMS

TUG HILL PLATEAU

The Tug Hill region boasts many opportunities for outdoor activities. Oswego County Nature Park at Camp Zerbe has trails to Lake Lorraine, a scenic kettle hole lake formation, along with educational displays about local wildlife. Klondike State Forest is a great location for hunting, fishing and wildlife viewing.

ONEIDA LAKE'S NORTH SHORE

Oneida Lake is the largest lake located wholly within New York State and most of its waters are part of Oswego County. Head to the lake for a day of fishing and enjoy dinner at one of its lakeside eateries. Learn more about the area's history by visiting the Fort Brewerton Historical Society.

LAKE ONTARIO SHORELINE

Spend a summer day swimming at one of our pristine beaches or reel in a real fish story at one of the dozens of angling spots available along the shore. End the day by relaxing in front of a breath-taking sunset as it paints the horizon of Great Lake Ontario with incredible colors.

SALMON RIVER CORRIDOR

Well-known for fishing, other activities abound here. Book a stay at the Salmon River Lighthouse, one of the few lighthouses on the Great Lakes that offer accommodations. Enjoy a nature walk on the Riverside Trail, which runs along the Salmon River in Pulaski. Ice climbers can head out to Salmon River Falls for a frozen adventure.

OSWEGO RIVER

The Oswego River communities offer a lively atmosphere, featuring riverside dining, outdoor concerts, and leisurely walking opportunities. Local shops enhance the experience by providing unique goods, creating a chance to support the community. Whether seeking a relaxing day or an active outing with music and shopping, there's something for everyone along the Oswego River.



visittughill.com

TUG HILL REGIONAL GUIDE

The free Tug Hill Recreation Guide highlights the area to visitors and promotes recreation on and around the Tug Hill Plateau. It is the work of a partnership between the 1,000 Islands International Tourism Council, Lewis County Chamber of Commerce, Oswego County Tourism, Oneida County Tourism, the Tug Hill Commission and the Tug Hill Tomorrow Land Trust.

Nestled between Great Lake Ontario and the Adirondack Park, the Tug Hill region provides the perfect playground for year-round outdoor recreation. Thanks to lake effect snow, the area is popular for snowmobiling, cross-country skiing and snowshoeing. During the warmer seasons, it's a great place for hiking, kayaking and exploring its wilds.

For a free guide, go to www.visittughill.com



www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/7792.html

RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES BY STATE DEC LANDS

French explorer Samuel de Champlain described Oswego County's landscape as "a very pleasing and fine country, watered by numerous small streams, two small rivers which empty into said lake [Ontario] and a number of ponds and prairies." His description still holds true four centuries later.

Explore our great outdoors with these activities. Go to www.dec.ny.gov for more information about the state's Motorized Access Program for People with Disabilities. NYSDEC primitive camping regulations apply and snowmobile access is restricted to town roads in most Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs). For an interactive trail map, go to www.visitoswegocounty.com.

DEC LANDS	ACCESSIBLE RECREATION	HUNTING & TRAPPING	FISHING	CROSS COUNTRY SKIING & SNOWSHOEING	HIKING	PRIMITIVE CAMPING	CAR TOP BOAT LAUNCH	SNOWMOBILING	ACREAGE
Altmar State Forest		X	X			X		X	926
Battle Hill State Forest		X	X			X		X	1738
Chateaugay State Forest		X	X	X	X	X		X	4014
Curtiss Gale WMA			X						46
Deer Creek Marsh WMA	X	X	X		X		X		1771
Hall Island State Forest		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	2079
Happy Valley WMA		X	X		X		X	X	8898
Kasoag State Forest	X	X	X	X	X	X			1057
Klondike State Forest	X	X	X	X	X	X			875
Little John WMA		X	X					X	7918
Lower Salmon River State Forest		X	X		X		X		1700
O'Hara State Forest	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	1402
Orton Hollow State Forest	X	X	X			X			507
Salmon River Falls Unique Area	X		X	X	X				112
Salmon River State Forest		X	X	X	X	X		X	2763
Sandy Creek State Forest		X	X			X			538
Stave Mill State Forest		X	X	X	X	X			3127
Stone Hill State Forest	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	1025
Three Mile Bay WMA		X	X				X		3966
Trout Brook State Forest		X	X			X			622
West Osceola State Forest		X	X	X	X	X		X	1900
Winona State Forest	X	X		X	X	X		X	9233

ALTMAR STATE FOREST

Altmar State Forest encompasses 926 acres of land. Enjoy hunting, trapping, fishing, hiking and snowmobiling within the rustic environment of this property. Primitive camping is allowed. Two snowmobile trails in the forest cover just over a mile. With a dense, wild and relatively undisturbed landscape, the forest provides an excellent habitat for many different species of plants and animals.

BATTLE HILL STATE FOREST

Battle Hill State Forest is made up of 1, 738 acres best suited for hunting, fishing, trapping and nature viewing. Primitive camping is allowed, but there are no trails or amenities. The Mad River and the north branch of the Salmon River wind through the forest providing good fishing opportunities along the riverbanks. This densely wooded forest offers the perfect cover for many game species.

CHATEAUGAY STATE FOREST

Chateaugay State Forest covers an area of 4,014 acres on the edge of the Tug Hill Plateau. Eight miles of marked trails offer opportunities for hiking, snowshoeing and cross-country skiing. Please note that the trails are not maintained or groomed. Orwell and Pekin brooks offer excellent fishing opportunities and primitive camping is allowed.

CURTISS GALE WMA

Curtis Gale Wildlife Management Area (WMA) covers 46.3 acres and lies between the eastern side of the Oswego River and County Route 57. The property was donated to the NYSDEC and deed restrictions do not allow hunting, trapping or tree cutting on the land. The primary focus of a WMA is to manage wildlife, its habitat and associated recreation.

DEER CREEK MARSH WMA

Deer Creek WMA's 1,771 acreage is a combination of various wetlands that includes a bog and cattails and an extensive barrier beach and sand dune system. This prominent feature separates and protects the marshland from the effects of Great Lake Ontario. The primary focus of a WMA is to manage wildlife, its habitat and associated recreation.

HALL ISLAND STATE FOREST

Hall Island State Forest encompasses 2,079 acres along the south shore of the Salmon River Reservoir. Fourteen miles of trails cross-cross the property from east to west, making it great for hiking and snowmobiling. It's also a great location for hunting, fishing and camping.



Get back to nature on the edge of the
Tug Hill Plateau.
Chateaugay State Forest
Orwell NY

HAPPY VALLEY WMA

Happy Valley WMA is 8,898 acres of outdoor adventure. While reforestation and past farming activity changed much of the original forest, its terrain remains generally flat, making it a haven for hiking and biking. And, with an average yearly snowfall of 125 inches, snowshoeing and cross-country skiing are a must!

Town roads provide good access to ample populations of waterfowl, white-tailed deer and a various small game species. Be sure to follow all NYSDEC regulations while enjoying these robust hunting and trapping grounds. Other popular activities include paddling and fishing in Mosher, Whitney and Long ponds. The primary focus of a WMA is to manage wildlife, its habitat and associated recreation.

KASOAG STATE FOREST

Kasoag State Forest is a 1,057-acre remote woodland dotted with eskers – steep ridges left behind by glaciers. Enjoy birding, fishing, hiking, hunting, trapping, snowshoeing and cross-country skiing. Primitive camping is allowed. There is a partial trail that allows people with mobility impairments motorized access with the required permit.

KLONDIKE STATE FOREST

Klondike State Forest is made up of 875 acres of diverse landscape for fishing, hunting, trapping and nature viewing. Primitive camping is also allowed and a multi-purpose trail is perfect for a summer hike or snowshoeing and cross-country skiing when the snow falls. It also allows people with mobility impairments motorized access with the required permit.

LITTLE JOHN WMA

Little John WMA is 7,918 acres on the northwest slope of the Tug Hill Plateau. It's rolling topography has narrow swampy areas, small depressions and less than 200 acres of open fields and ponds. Fishing, hunting, trapping and wildlife viewing are all enjoyed here. The primary focus of a WMA is to manage wildlife, its habitat and associated recreation.

LOWER SALMON RIVER STATE FOREST

The Lower Salmon River State Forest is 1,700 acres of land acquired by the NYSDEC from a settlement agreement with the local power company. The transfer of this property, located adjacent to the Lower Salmon River, ensures the protection and public access of this pristine natural resource. Recreational activities enjoyed here include fishing, hunting, trapping, hiking, paddling and wildlife viewing.

O'HARA STATE FOREST

O'Hara State Forest is 1,402 acres perfect for hunting, trapping and fishing. Come winter, enjoy snowshoeing, cross-country skiing and snowmobiling. Primitive camping is allowed and there is a partial hiking trail which is seasonally maintained. It also allows people with mobility impairments motorized access with the required permit.

ORTON HOLLOW STATE FOREST

Orton Hollow State Forest is made up of just 507 acres, but this rugged and rustic land is a good place for fishing, hunting, trapping and wildlife viewing. Primitive camping is allowed. There is a single short trail that allows people with mobility impairments motorized access with the required permit.

SALMON RIVER FALLS UNIQUE AREA

Salmon River Falls Unique Area's 112 acres includes a 110-foot waterfall, a scenic gorge area and a trail network. The accessible Upper Falls Trail features two overlook areas. The strenuous Gorge Trail is a series of switchbacks down the steep cliff face to the gorge. Winter activities include snowshoeing and cross-country skiing. Registration is required for ice climbing.

SALMON RIVER STATE FOREST

Salmon River State Forest's 2,763 acres is referred to as "Little America" for its carefully preserved natural beauty. An abundance of wildlife provides fishing, hunting and trapping opportunities. Other activities include hiking and wildlife viewing as well as snowshoeing, cross-country skiing and snowmobiling come winter. Primitive camping is also allowed.

SANDY CREEK STATE FOREST

Sandy Creek State Forest encompasses 538 acres of remote wilderness on the edge of the Tug Hill Plateau. Hunting, trapping and wildlife viewing are all popular activities here. Primitive camping is allowed and, while there are no designated recreation trails in this forest, there is a fishing access site with parking on Cummings Road.

STAVE MILL STATE FOREST

Stave Mill Forest is made up of 3,127 acres of dense woodlands. Outdoor enthusiasts can enjoy hunting, trapping and wildlife viewing. Hiking and primitive camping are allowed, although there are no designated recreation trails. Kenny Brook provides excellent fishing and a picturesque backdrop for a picnic. Winter activities include snowshoeing and cross-country skiing.

Calling on wild birds this crisp fall morning.

Deer Creek Marsh WMA
Richland NY



Photo By Max Inchausti

STONE HILL STATE FOREST

Stone Hill State Forest's 1,025 acres of primitive woodland is ideal for hunting and trapping. Fishing and primitive camping are both allowed and winter recreation includes snowshoeing, cross-country skiing and snowmobiling. There is a half-mile hiking trail that allows people with mobility impairments motorized access with the required permit.

THREE MILE BAY WMA

Three Mile Bay WMA is 3,966 acres located just north of Oneida Lake. Phillips Point provides fishing access to the lake and hunting and trapping are permitted here. It is a state designated bird conservation area thanks to its abundance of spring migrating waterfowl. The primary focus of a WMA is to manage wildlife, its habitat and associated recreation.

TROUT BROOK STATE FOREST

Trout Brook State Forest is made up of 622 acres of secluded and scenic woodlands. Hunting, trapping and wildlife viewing are all popular activities here. Its namesake Trout Brook winds along the western edge of the property. There are no trails in this forest, but primitive camping is allowed.

WEST OSCEOLA STATE FOREST

West Osceola State Forest is comprised of 1,900 acres of remote, primitive woodland for fishing, hunting, trapping and wildlife viewing. Primitive camping is allowed. While there are no designated trails, hiking is permitted on the property. Snowshoeing and cross-country skiing provide great winter fun and a local snowmobile trail passes through the area.

WINONA STATE FOREST REC AREA

Winona Forest Recreation Area encompasses 9,233 acres across northern Oswego and southern Jefferson counties. It boasts over 30 miles of cross-country ski trails, nearly nine miles of snowmobile trails – some designated NYS Snowmobile Corridor Trails – and plenty of public access with almost 10 miles of roads and four parking lots.

In close proximity to the Tug Hill Plateau, the forest is renowned for its annual snowfall and home to several winter events and competitions. In addition to snowshoeing, cross-country skiing and snowmobiling, the park also welcomes fat bike riders, hikers and horseback riders. Primitive camping is allowed on three designated campsites on Bargy Road. Hunting and trapping are also permitted here.

For details, go to www.winonaforest.com



The crisp fresh air, hard-packed snow and quiet solitude of the forest beckons.

Winona State Forest
Boylston NY

Photo By Brad P. Smith

POPULAR WINTER SPOTS

WINONA FOREST REC. AREA

Winona State Forest recreation area is a winter playland! Record snowfalls lay the base for impeccably groomed trails for cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, fat bike riding and snowmobiling. Home to a variety of races, including SnoFatShu – the first snowshoe/fat bike duathlon of its kind in the U.S.

GREAT BEAR REC. AREA

This pristine area between Phoenix and Fulton is on the east bank of the Oswego River and features a network of trails and an old canal lock. With plenty of lake effect snow, cross-country skiing and snowshoeing are great fun here! Trails are non-motorized and not groomed, so outdoor adventurers are advised to proceed with caution.

HAPPY VALLEY WMA

This wildlife management area boasts a relatively flat terrain and an average yearly snowfall of 125 inches, making snowshoeing and cross-country skiing here a must! Other activities to enjoy include: seasonal hunting and trapping, and year-round nature viewing.

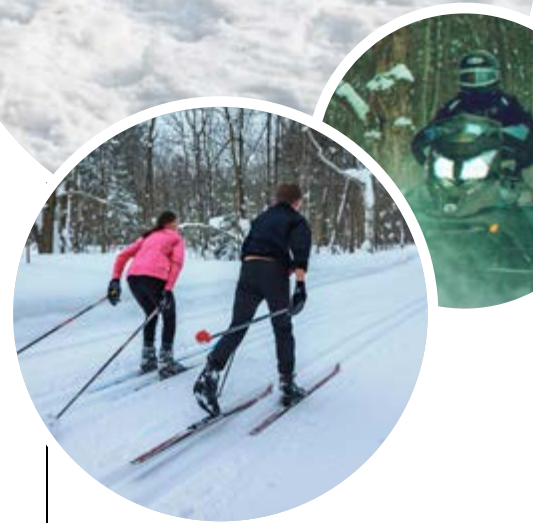
RICE CREEK FIELD STATION

No matter the season, there's always a reason to visit Rice Creek Field Station. Dedicated to research and education, the facility and grounds are open year-round to the general public free of charge. Guided nature walks are held twice monthly throughout the year and junior naturalist walks are held monthly.

OTHER LOCATIONS

Oswego County Nature Park at Camp Zerbe offers two half-mile non-motorized trails for hiking, snowshoeing and cross-country skiing.

The Amboy 4-H Environmental Education Center has three miles of marked hiking trails, which are also used for snowshoeing and cross-country skiing.



visitoswegocounty.com

WINTER TRAILS REPORT

Before you grab your snowshoes and cross-country skis – or warm up your snowmobile – check out the Oswego County Winter Trails Report for updates on your favorite trails.

Oswego County Tourism collects and posts trail conditions and weather predictions from local snowmobile clubs and frequently used winter recreation areas.

Go to www.visitoswegocounty.com and click on the winter trails report for a complete trails report without having to visit each individual club or venue website.

To hear the winter trails report, call 1.800.248.4FUN (4386) and press 3.

FRESH POWDER IN THE SNOWBELT

RENOWNED as a winter wonderland, Oswego County is the perfect destination for snowmobilers to enjoy the season. The fun begins after the close of big game hunting season – which typically starts in early December – and continues through March, sometimes even into April!

Thanks to lake effect snow coming off Great Lake Ontario, the average snowfall around the Tug Hill Plateau area is over 180 inches – yes, that’s 15 feet! This weather phenomenon occurs when cold winter winds come down from the north and cross over the warmer waters of the Great Lakes, creating localized snow bands which drop fresh powder over the region.

All that snow offers plenty of coverage for Oswego County’s extensive trail network which includes roughly 400 miles of official snowmobile trails. Of these, 245 are designated as Class A Corridor Trails – major travel routes connecting to over 10,000 miles of trails across the state and providing access to popular destinations, services and businesses. With well over a dozen trail heads and parking areas, visitors will find easy trail access to this network.

This network offers plenty of options for trail rides, from quick jaunts to long-range runs. A mix of long, wide straightaways and rolling curves, trails wind through snow covered forests and around frozen ponds to offer riders a peaceful getaway. From the wild backcountry to groomed routes, everywhere you look the scenery is nothing short of incredible.

Trails are maintained by dedicated volunteers from area snowmobile clubs who work year-round to ensure a safe and enjoyable experience for all riders. They groom the trails, remove obstacles and debris, post signs and make necessary repairs. They publish a trail map every year highlighting local services and businesses and plan community events, giving people the opportunity to learn more about the sport.

Riders can help ensure trail safety by wearing NYSDOT-rated or SNELL-certified helmets, following trail rules and best practices. Know your signals and relay them to other sledders. Observe signage and safe speeds. Respect wildlife and other trail users.

Snowmobiles must be registered and insured to operate on public and private property. Visitors who register their sleds in their home state can use the “New York State Registration for Out-of-State” service to get a 15-day registration they can use immediately. Don’t forget the state’s Free Snowmobile Weekend, held annually the first full weekend of March. Snowmobile registrations are waived for Canadian and out-of-state riders during those two days; however, sleds still must be registered in the home state.

Whether it’s for a day or a season, warm up your sled and take to the trails in Oswego County this winter.

See p. 40 for a list of public lands that allow snowmobiling.

Riding through a pow cloud on a brisk winter day.
Winona State Forest
Boylston NY



TRAIL STEWARDS

BECOME A MEMBER TODAY!

The Oswego County Snowmobile Association is a strong partner in promoting snowmobiling. Comprised of 10 clubs, the group advocates for the sport while supporting local communities. Its membership is made up of volunteers and supporters who contribute to ensure that riders have a fun and safe snowmobiling experience in Oswego County.

Show your support by joining one of these clubs. Your membership will help maintain trails and continue other activities that highlight the importance of snowmobiling in Oswego County.

OSWEGO COUNTY SNOWMOBILE CLUBS

OSWEGO COUNTY SNOWMOBILE ASSOCIATION

4971 Co. Rte. 17, Redfield, 13437
108 Baum Rd., Hastings, 13076
315.964.2561

REDFIELD SNOWMOBILE ASSOCIATION

752 Co. Rte. 17, Redfield, 13437
315.599.7762
redfieldsnow.com

FULTON AREA SNOW TRAVELERS, INC.

P.O. Box 434, Phoenix, 13135
315.727.5257
fastsnowclub.org

SQUARE VALLEY TRAIL BLAZERS

P.O. Box 846, Central Square, 13036
315.668.9945
squarevalley.net

KASOAG TRAILBLAZERS

P.O. Box 164, Williamstown, 13493
315.420.8931
www.kasoagtrailblazers.net

STERLING TRAIL TAMERS

P.O. Box 155, Sterling, 13156
315.591.1156
sterlingtrailtamers.blogspot.com

MEXICO TRAIL RIDERS, INC.

P.O. Box 564, Mexico, 13114
315.593.5297
www.mexicotrailriders.com

VANDERBILT SNOWMOBILE CLUB

P.O. Box 332, Constantia, 13044
315.466.6830
vanderbiltsnowmobileclub.com

PULASKI-BOYLSTON SNOWMOBILE CLUB

5001 N. Jefferson St., Pulaski, 13142
315.298.3522
pbsnowmobile.club

WINONA FOREST RECREATION ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 26, Pulaski, 13142
315.657.3480
winonaforest.com

GEAR UP & RIDE

ATV & MOTOCROSS

ENJOY A “down and dirty” outdoor adventure on ATV/UTV trails and motocross racetracks in Oswego County.

Two ATV clubs maintain over 100 miles of trails to ensure fun, safe riding for everyone and maintain environmentally-sound trail networks. Trails run through forests, fields and mud bog areas, over bridges and small hills and along old railroad beds. Whether following a flat, easy path or a more challenging and invigorating trail, each ride is a scenic adventure.

In northern Oswego County, club trails, picnic areas and camping sites are open to members only. Individual and family memberships are available, as are day passes for riding in September. Southwestern trails cross both public and private lands and club membership is strongly encouraged. A trail map is provided with each single and family membership.

Joining a club is a great way to meet other riders and learn more about this fun, family-friendly activity. To sign up or find out about club events and activities, see the opposite page for contact information. Please note that all ATVs and UTVs must be registered and insured to use the trail system. Out-of-state papers are honored.

Amp up the adventure with competitive racing or professional training on a prime motocross track. A physically demanding and mentally challenging sport, motocross sends riders over rough terrain with hills, jumps and other obstacles for them to navigate. No two courses are alike and Oswego County is home to two racetracks and a training course.

Whether you prefer motoring through the great outdoors on an ATV or UTV, or the thrill of two-wheeled racing excitement on a challenging obstacle course, Oswego County is a great place to ride.

Getting “down and dirty” in the berm.

Thornwood MX
Williamstown NY





Photo By Robert Kenney



OSWEGO COUNTY ATV CLUB

P.O. Box 55, Altmar
315.298.3312

oswegocountyatv.org

Club has over 100 miles of ATV/UTV trails in northern Oswego County open to members only. Single and family memberships are available as well as day passes in September. Members work to maintain environmentally sound trails.



OSWEGO VALLEY ATV CLUB

P.O. Box 153, Hannibal
315.297.3374

oswegovalleyatvclub.com

Club offers 38 miles of ATV/UTV trails in southwest Oswego County with old railroad bed trails that are part of the National Rails-to-Trails System. Machines must be registered and insured. Single and family membership packages available.



THORNWOOD MX

1108 Stone Hill Rd., Williamstown
315.420.9613

thornwoodmx.com

All skill levels are welcome to compete on this 0.8 mile-motocross racetrack. Upstate Motocross races are scheduled one Sunday a month, May through August, with a final race in October. The track is open to racers and spectators for a fee.



MOTOMASTERS MX

3098 NYS Rte. 11, Mapleview
315.668.7195

facebook.com/motomasters.mx

At just over a mile, this natural terrain motocross racetrack welcomes all riders. Monthly races are scheduled April through July, with a vintage weekend in August and final race in September. The track is open to racers and spectators for a fee.



THE COMPOUND MX

371 S. Granby Rd., Fulton
315.529.9708

thecompoundmx.com

Motocross training facility gives riders an authentic practice experience. Its track is both challenging for experienced riders and forgiving for beginners learning their craft. Open Wednesday through Saturday, riders can enjoy a fun ride, take private lessons or join a season-long training program.

Outlaw Weekend!
Fulton Speedway
Fulton NY

START YOUR ENGINE

FROM DIRT TO ASPHALT,

oval tracks to obstacle courses, Oswego County is home to heart-pounding racing action!

The green flag flies on Friday nights at the 1/3-mile dirt track at Brewerton Speedway. The “D-shaped Demon” roars to life with big blocks, Sportsman, Mod Lite and four-cylinder Super Stock cars on the racing schedule from May through October. Each year, the season closes with Hurricane Harvey – a Super DIRT Week special race.

Head over to Fulton Speedway on Saturday nights for more dirt track fun. The 3/8-mile track features big block modified, Sportsman, novice Sportsman and RUSH late models April through September. The season wraps up with the annual \$20,000-to-win Milton CAT Outlaw 200 at the end of September.

If asphalt drives your need for speed, head to Oswego Speedway’s “Steel Palace.” Small block, 350 and big block supermodifieds take to the 5/8-mile track May through September. Asphalt season ends Labor Day weekend with the annual Budweiser International Classic. The event features supermodifieds, asphalt modifieds from the Whelan tour and Super Stocks vying for the checkered flag and the title of Classic champion.

In October, Oswego Speedway transforms from the “Steel Palace” to the “Clay Palace” for “racing’s biggest party” – Super DIRT Week! The week-long event draws thousands of fans and hundreds of competitors to Oswego for high-stakes, high-banks racing. Drivers lay it all on the line for the 200-lap finale on the Sunday afternoon of DIRT week.

Racing in Oswego County includes go-karts, micros and quarter midget cars. Youth racers take off at the Oswego County Quarter Midget Club, known as the “Claytona,” where races are scheduled Sundays, April through October. Many have risen through the quarter midget ranks to have successful racing careers at larger area racetracks. Go-kart racing heats up at Oswego Kartway, known as “The Bull Ring.” Located behind Oswego Speedway, go-karts tear round the track Friday evenings from spring to early fall.

For two-wheeled racing action, go to p. 52-53 to learn about motocross in Oswego County. We are home to two racecourses, one in Williamstown and another in Mapleview, along with a professional training facility in Fulton.

Whether it features two or four wheels, Oswego County’s tracks have something for motorsports competitors and fans alike.





BREWERTON SPEEDWAY

60 U.S. Rte. 11, Central Square
315.668.6906

www.brewertonspeedway.com

Weekly dirt track racing on the "D-Shaped Demon" each Friday, May through October.



FULTON SPEEDWAY

1603 Co. Rte. 57, Fulton
315.593.6531

www.fultonspeedway.com

Saturday night racing on the 3/8-mile dirt track, April through September.



MOOSE MOUNTAIN RACING

1895 US Rte 11 Hastings
315.481.1315

[facebook.com/moosemountainracingclub](https://www.facebook.com/moosemountainracingclub)

A recreational club featuring Winged Outlaw, go-kart and lawn mower racing.



OSWEGO SPEEDWAY

300 E. Albany St., Oswego
315.342.0646

www.oswegospeedway.com

350, small block and big block supermodifieds tear up the asphalt every Saturday, May through September.



QUARTER MIDGET CLUB

60 Howard Rd., Fulton
315.559.0750

[facebook.com/oswego.qmc.1](https://www.facebook.com/oswego.qmc.1)

Quarter midget track for youth racers. Sunday races April through October.



OSWEGO KARTWAY

300 E. Albany St., Oswego (off City Line Road)
315.342.0646

www.oswegospeedway.com

Several competitive go-kart classes race every Friday from spring to fall.



SUPER DIRT WEEK

Oswego NY

The famed “Steel Palace” at Oswego Speedway transforms into the “Clay Palace” for Super DIRT week, “racing’s biggest party!” Fans and competitors from three countries and 18 states flock to Oswego County for a full week of racing excitement.

Practice and qualifying races start things off early in the week as racers head to local tracks, such as Brewerton Speedway, where they’ll earn the last guaranteed spots for the weekend’s big races.

The excitement ramps up on Wednesday when the cars take to the clay track for the final four days of heart-pounding action. The grand finale is the 200-lap, \$50,000-to-win race on Saturday afternoon.. For a different view, make your way to the back grandstand area to see working pit areas for each racing team.

The grounds of Oswego Speedway welcome the community of campers, haulers, race fans and competitors that follow the event. With food venues, entertainment and parties going into the evening, there are plenty of fun activities for race fans when the track cools off.



superdirtweek.com

DIRT WEEK PARADE

As excitement builds for Super DIRT Week, the fun begins for spectators and race fans with a parade of race cars through the city of Oswego. On Wednesday, cars run from Oswego Speedway and take a lap through the city before winding their way back toward the track – delighting hundreds of community members lining the area streets.

For more information about “Popular Events” see p.10-13.

The heat is on as drivers race toward the finish line.

**Oswego Speedway
Oswego NY**





OUTLAW RACING

Fulton NY

Fulton Speedway hosts its annual extravaganza of speed, the Milton CAT Outlaw Weekend at the end of September. Considered one of the crown jewels in DIRT racing, the event draws many of the top names in the sport to battle over the title of Outlaw champion.

The multi-day event brings around 250 race teams from all over the Northeast to compete in seven different racing divisions. The weekend culminates with the \$20,000-to-win Milton CAT Outlaw 200 and Industrial Tire of CNY Sportsman Shootout – a 50-lap special.

Held the weekend before NAPA Super DIRT Week, the Outlaw 200 is considered its unofficial kick-off event. Hundreds of campers and many of the participating race teams make the short trek from Fulton to Oswego after Outlaw Weekend to follow “racing’s biggest party!”

One of the last remaining 200-lap modified feature events, Outlaw Weekend is one of the Northeast’s most popular events for racing fans.



Dirt Track Racing

FULTON & BREWERTON

Fulton Speedway and Brewerton Speedway highlight dirt track racing at its finest in Oswego County. Experience ground-thumping excitement as engines roar to life and cars slide around turns kicking dirt up into the stands – making fans truly part of the race.

Brewerton's “D-Shaped Demon” welcomes drivers and fans Friday nights May through October, while Fulton Speedway hosts races Saturday nights April through September.



Kicking up excitement for dirt track racing fans.
Fulton Speedway
Fulton NY

HOOKED

ON ADVENTURE

OSWEGO COUNTY is the place to fish all year long! Well known for the annual Salmon Run in the fall season, Oswego County offers a host of other fisheries that pick up when the run is over. Winter weather brings on steelhead and ice fishing. Offering several areas of thick ice, Oneida Lake and Sandy Pond are ideal locations for safe ice fishing.

After a long, cold winter in the depths of Lake Ontario, brown trout are on the move. The action heats up in the southeast corner known as Mexico Bay where the water is shallow and quick to warm. This attracts bait fish which, in turn, attract the big browns and other game fish – making it a great spot to reel in a premium spring catch.

Come summer, thousands of anglers flock to Oswego County for incredible and diverse fishing experiences. Lake Ontario holds healthy populations of Chinook and coho salmon, brown trout, lake trout, rainbow trout and the elusive Atlantic salmon. In addition, large and small mouth bass can be caught along the Oswego River, while other Lake Ontario tributaries yield ample walleye, Northern pike, carp and brown trout. Oneida Lake is well known for its incredible walleye, yellow perch and bass fishing opportunities.

With more than 50 licensed charter captains and river guides operating out of marinas and boat launches in Oswego County's waters, there is no shortage of expertise to help novice anglers reel in a real fish story.

See p. 67 for a list of marinas & boat launches.

A bird's-eye view of drift boat in the hallowed "Bovines"
Salmon River
Altmar NY



WATCH OUR FISHING PLAYLIST ON YOUTUBE

@OSWEGOCOUNTYTOURISM



Charter Fishing

FAMILY CHARTER FISHING

Fishing is for everyone – kids, parents, grandparents! Whether fishing for the first time or a lifetime – get the whole family together for a charter fishing trip. Although some charter captains prefer children to be 12 years or older to board, many will allow kids as young as 6 to join this incredible experience. Check with the charter captain for rules specific to their vessel.

What to bring:

- Drinking water (hydration is critical!)
- Sunscreen and a hat
- Sunglasses or protective eyewear
- Motion sickness prevention aids
- Jacket or sweatshirt (it's windy on the water!)
- Fishing license for anyone 16 years or older
- Snacks
- A cooler to take home your catch



SALMON RIVER

Pulaski, Altmar, Orwell, Redfield, NY

Offering some of the best sportfishing in the country, the Salmon River stretches 17 miles from the Lighthouse Hill Reservoir in Altmar to Port Ontario where it empties into Great Lake Ontario. Twelve miles of public fishing rights along the river invite anglers the world over to test their skills against this mighty fishery.

Anglers reel in Chinook and coho salmon, steelhead, brown trout, Atlantic salmon as well as small and large mouth bass. Averaging 10 to 15 pounds, Chinook salmon caught here are large, aggressive fighters and pose a challenge to anglers who dare to drop a line.

This recreational fishery is sustained by NYSDEC's robust fish stocking program. Each year, the agency releases over one million pounds of fish into public streams, rivers, lakes and ponds across the state. Locally, several varieties of fish – including Chinook and coho salmon, steelhead and brown trout – are reared at the Salmon River Fish Hatchery in Altmar.

2133 Co. Rte. 22, Altmar NY

SALMON RIVER HATCHERY

Built in 1980, the Salmon River Fish Hatchery in Altmar stocks about 3.5 million trout and salmon each year. These include Chinook and coho salmon fingerlings and coho salmon and steelhead yearlings.

Fish are stocked in over 100 public waters, such as Lake Ontario, for two main purposes – to restore native species to waters they formerly occupied and to enhance recreational fishing. The hatchery now provides most of the fish for the multi-million dollar Lake Ontario fishery.

Weather permitting, the hatchery is open to the public from April 1 to Nov. 30. An annual open house takes place on the fourth Saturday in September. To learn more, go to www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/21663.html or call **315.298.5051**.



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WWW.FULTONSPEEDWAY.COM**



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Oswego County NY

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OSWEGO RIVER

Phoenix, Fulton, Minetto, Oswego, NY

Ranking as Lake Ontario's second largest tributary, the Oswego River stretches approximately 23 miles from its convergence with the Seneca and Oneida rivers at Three Rivers Point to the port of Oswego.

It offers two distinct fisheries – a natural fish habitat with limited human involvement south of the Varick Dam to Three Rivers Point and, from its mouth to the Varick Dam, year-round fishing adventure as Lake Ontario's various fish species move in and out with the seasons.

The fall run begins with king and coho salmon entering the river to spawn. By late October, the river also contains brown trout and hungry steelhead following the salmon's eggs. Plentiful all winter, brown trout and steelhead come to feed, bask in the river's warmer temperatures and spawn in the spring.

The cities of Fulton and Oswego have public fishing access along the river. In Fulton, there is a park with a hard surface launch ramp on the east side. In Oswego, a concrete walkway and railing line both sides of the river. Parking, restrooms and fish cleaning stations are also nearby.

Create and Follow a Plan

SAFETY FIRST

BEFORE ENTERING THE RIVER:

- It is mandatory to wear a U.S. Coast Guard-approved life vest. Life jackets can be borrowed from the Oswego City East Side Fire Station, 35 E. Cayuga St., Oswego.
- Wear boots with cleats or non-slip soles
- Understand the dangers associated with the river
- Know your limitations
- Plan your exit strategy

WHILE IN THE RIVER:

- Stay alert to water levels
- Exit the river immediately if the water begins to rise, the siren sounds or lights flash
- Obey posted warning signs and voice alerts
- Never fish alone
- Consider using a wading staff

Help keep the river clean. Carry in/carry out trash and all of your belongings.



Steelhead can be found up to the Varick Dam.

**Oswego River
Oswego NY**

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Oswego since 1946**



78 Co. Rte. 89, Oswego, NY

315-343-2671

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315.591.4578



CRUISE INTO THE SUNSET

OSWEGO COUNTY has a long history as a major port and shipbuilding center. The industry thrived in the Oswego Harbor for more than 200 years with the building of schooners, tugboats, steamboats, canalboats and other boats. The oldest freshwater port in North America, the port of Oswego still welcomes ships from around the world as the first U.S. port of call on the Great Lakes.

With hundreds of lakes, rivers, streams and ponds, miles of shoreline and dozens of marinas and boat launches, Oswego County has countless water recreation opportunities for residents and visitors alike.

Enjoy the summer breeze on Oswego Harbor with an Oswego Sunset Tiki Tour. Each boat takes up to six people for a two-hour excursion led by a licensed captain. Guests are permitted to bring snacks and drinks onboard as they marvel at the famous Lake Ontario sunset. Landlubbers may prefer to reserve a Tiki Party Dock instead. This provides a similar tropical experience and allows more guests to join the party as it stays docked at the marina.

Float back in time for a tour of the Oswego West Pierhead Lighthouse and learn about its history from knowledgeable guides. The boat departs from Wright's Landing Marina with up to six passengers. Offered by the H. Lee White Maritime Museum, the tours last approximately two hours including transit and give people the chance to enjoy breathtaking waterfront scenery while learning about the area's rich maritime heritage.

Captain your own boat into the sunset or rent a kayak for a harbor paddle. Launch into the north shore playland or experience the still waters of the reservoir. **See p. 67 for information about marinas and launch sites** to start your aquatic adventure.

For another view of the water, try "locking through" the Oswego Canal, part of the New York State Canal System. Boaters, kayakers and canoers alike enjoy this truly unique experience as well as the scenic vistas and friendly hospitality of the canal communities. **See p. 68 for more information on the Oswego Canal.**

Keep boating safety a top priority while exploring Oswego County's waters. Follow New York State boating laws, take a boating safety course, wear a personal flotation device and never use intoxicants while boating. Check the weather forecast before setting out and inform someone where you will be boating and when you plan to return.

See p. 67 for a list of marinas & boat launches.

Let your troubles drift away.
Oneida Lake
West Monroe and Constantia NY





Photo By Demetri Andritsakis

Sandy Creek NY

SANDY POND

Located in northern Oswego County, Sandy Pond welcomes visitors to enjoy this unique habitat. Made up of north and south ponds, it's essentially a large bay off Lake Ontario. Sandy Pond is part of the 17-mile stretch of the Eastern Lake Ontario Barrier Beach and Wetland Complex which includes Sandy Island Beach State Park.

Residents and visitors enjoy great swimming, fishing and fun recreation at Sandy Pond. Pack up the family and picnic at the beach. Spend the afternoon paddling around the pond or viewing the many bird species. Cap off the day by watching an incredible sunset from a white sandy beach.

Immerse yourself in the great outdoors and experience all that Sandy Pond has to offer. The possibilities are as endless as the horizon.



Lake Ontario is known for its sunsets, but so is Oneida Lake!
Oneida River
Central Square NY

Photo By Austin DeMott

MARINAS & LAUNCH SITES

43° North Marina

8 Weber Rd., Central Square
315.676.3531

Altmar Drift Boat Launch

Co. Rte. 52, Altmar
607.753.3095

Angler's Bay

812 NYS Rte. 49, Cleveland
315.675.3662

Bayview Marina

24 Lakeshore Rd., Pulaski
315.761.9033

Burt Goodnough's Marina East, Inc.

9245 NYS Rte. 3, Sandy Creek
315.387.5894

Canal Landing Marina

141 S. First St., Fulton
315.598.4399

Catfish Creek & Flying Fish Charters

118 Chase Dr., New Haven
315-963-7310

Caughdenoy Marina

10316 Caughdenoy Rd., Central Square
315.668.8146

Charley's Boat Livery

82 McCloud Rd., West Monroe
315.668.6341

Clark's Marina

803 Lake St., Pulaski
315.298.5832

Compactor Pool Drift Boat Launch

Co. Rte. 2A, Pulaski
607.753.3095

Deer Creek Boat Launch

NYS Rte. 3, Pulaski
607.753.3095

Dowie Dale Campground-Marina

470 NYS Rte. 104B, Mexico
315.402.2496

Greene Point Marina, LLC

206 Greene Point Rd., Mannsville
315.387.3513 / 315.387.5226

Indian Point Landing

NYS Rte. 481 N., Fulton
315.592.2474

Johnson Bay Marina

136 McCloud Rd., West Monroe
315.561.3909

Mexico Point State Boat Launch

245 Co. Rte. 40, Mexico
315.298.5737

Mike's Marina East & West

266 NYS Rte. 104B, Mexico
315.963.3119

North Sandy Pond Boat Launch

Doreen Dr., Sandy Creek
607.753.1551

North Sandy Pond Marina & Campground

3303 Co. Rte. 15, Pulaski
518.569.3737

NYS DEC Boat Launch

Orwell Jackson Rd., Orwell
607.753.3095

NYS DEC Boat Launch

Orwell CCC Rd., Orwell
607.753.3095

NYS DEC Boat Launch

Co. Rte. 17, Redfield
607.753.3095

Oswego Marina

3 Basin St., Oswego
315.342.0436

Pine Grove State Boat Launch

7101 NYS Rte. 3, Pulaski
315.298.4939

Pineville Drift Boat Launch

Sheepskin Rd., Pulaski
607.735.3095

Riverview Park in Town of Minetto

6 Community Dr., Minetto
315.343.2393

Salmon Country Marina & Campgrounds

58 Mexico Pt. Dr. W., Mexico
315.963.8049

Salmon River Lighthouse & Marina

5 Lake Rd. Ext., Pulaski

Sandy Pond Marina & Campground

3303 Co. Rte. 15, Sandy Creek
518.568.3737

Seeber Shores Marina

18 Marina Rd., Sandy Creek
315.686.8177

Spruce Grove Marina Mobile Home Park and Campgrounds

1193 NYS Rte. 49, Constantia
315.623.9436

Three Mile Bay Boat Launch

8764 NYS Rte. 12E, Constantia
315.785.2263

Winter Harbor Marina

604 Co. Rte. 37, Central Square
315.676.9276

Wright's Landing Marina

29 Lake St., Oswego
315.343.8430



THE OSWEGO CANAL

Phoenix, Fulton, Minetto, Oswego, NY

The Oswego Canal played a vital role in the settlement of Oswego County and early American history. After establishing the county in 1816, its leaders made completing the canal one of its first priorities. Completed in 1828, the Oswego Canal connected the Erie Canal to Great Lake Ontario and created a gateway to upper lake trade and migration.

Barges and packet boats carried farm products, commercial goods and passengers, as well as the innovations, ideas and the social movements that shaped 19th century America. Thousands of people worked in mills and factories along the canal which provided a means of escape for fugitive slaves and a strategic route for carrying supplies, arms and men in colonial wartime.

Over the years, the canal was reconstructed. Electronic machinery replaced hand-operated devices on the locks and today it is used primarily for recreation such as fishing, paddling and pleasure-boating.

hlwmm.org

OSWEGO COUNTY PADDLEFEST

Kayakers and canoeists appreciate the unique beauty of the historic Oswego River as they travel through two Oswego Canal locks. Participants launch in Fulton and Minetto and paddle their way into Oswego Harbor to Wright's Landing Marina.

See p. 10-13 For a list of major events.

LOCK	LOCATION	PHONE	DEPTH	DISTANCE
Lock 1 to Lock 2	Phoenix	315.695.2281	10.2 Feet	9 miles (54 min.)
Lock 2 to Lock 3	Fulton	315.592.4155	17.8 Feet	.6 miles (4 min.)
Lock 3 to Lock 5	Fulton	315.592.5349	27.0 Feet	6.5 miles (39 min.)
Lock 5 to Lock 6	Minetto	315.343.5232	18.0 Feet	3.3 miles (20 min.)
Lock 6 to Lock 7	Oswego	315.343.9001	20.0 Feet	.7 miles (4 min.)
Lock 7 to Lock 8	Oswego	315.343.6304	14.5 Feet	.4 miles (2 min.)
Lock 8 to Outlet	Oswego	315.343.0280	10.4 Feet	1.2 miles (7 min.)

CANAL COMMUNITIES

Various Locations Along Southwestern Oswego County NY

The current Oswego Canal opened in 1917 to align with the Oswego River, which flows north into Lake Ontario. It is 24 miles long with seven locks - interestingly, there is no Lock 4. From Oneida Lake, the canal passes through Phoenix, Fulton, Minetto and Oswego before merging with Great Lake Ontario.

The canal helped shape these communities by delivering people, goods and ideas at every stop and this bond remains strong today. Come celebrate the canal with various events, historical exhibits, museums and unique eateries.

“Lock through” the canal and explore the cities, towns and villages nestled along its banks. Learn about its heritage and revel in its architecture – from a former drawbridge in Phoenix to the sweet smell of chocolate in Fulton. From the industrial beauty of the Minetto Bridge to a 1925 canal boat in Oswego. Discover remnants of original canal locks and nourish your explorer spirit by dining canal-side. Enjoy hometown hospitality all along the Oswego Canal!

ONEIDA LAKE

Begin your journey on the historic Oswego Canal at Three Rivers Point, where the Oneida, Seneca and Oswego rivers all converge. The lakeside communities of Brewerton, Caughdenoy, Central Square, Hastings, Mallory, West Monroe, Constantia, Bernhard's Bay and Cleveland all reflect the region's colorful history, small town charm and beautiful vistas. **See p. 70 to learn more about the Oneida Lake area.**

PHOENIX

When you arrive in Phoenix, you'll be greeted with a warm welcome from the Bridge House Brats. This group of community-oriented kids dedicates their summer to helping boaters with small errands like grocery pick-ups, dog-walking, and meal delivery from local restaurants. Visit the bridge house to discover more about the former drawbridge. Henley Park is the perfect spot for some scenic relaxation and hosts various community events, including summer concerts. As you head toward Fulton, keep an eye out for remnants of the old Erie Canal, like the former Hinmansville Lock, visible on the east bank of the Oswego River.

FULTON

The city of Fulton provides spectacular views of the Oswego Falls from the Oneida Street bridge. Explore a variety of restaurants, unique shops, beautiful parks and other amenities within walking distance of the canal. The Canal Landing Gazebo hosts free music and the CNY Arts Center is open for classes as well as browsing art displays, listening to concerts and watching theater performances.

MINETTO

Relax in Minetto's Riverview Park on the west side of the river. The park features a beautifully manicured landscape with picnic tables and a serene view of the architecturally stunning Minetto Bridge. Other amenities include a bathhouse and a convenient car-top boat launch. Traversing the canal, you can see the cellar entrance to a maze of caverns that were once used by the former Brosemer Brewery to store and transport beer.

OSWEGO

In the city of Oswego, specialty shops, attractions and restaurants line both sides of the Oswego River. Scenic riverside walkways in the downtown area provide calming relief from the bustle of city streets. Stroll along the river to a lakeside park or enjoy riverfront dining against the backdrop of a spectacular sunset. Browse a farmers' market for fresh produce, listen to local musicians playing near the water or drop a line for excellent shoreline fishing.

Rich in history, the Port City is also home to several local museums and historic sites of national significance (**see p. 19-24**). Visit Fort Ontario State Historic Site, Safe Haven Holocaust Refugee Shelter Museum, H. Lee White Maritime Museum and the Richardson-Bates House Museum. Travel with a tour guide to learn more about the sights, sounds and tastes around you. Indulge in a food and history walking tour or take the haunted history walking tour – if you dare!

Enjoy great events featuring live music, crafts, vendors and food (**see p. 10-13**). Outdoor recreation opportunities abound, with miles of hiking, biking and running trails, as well as kayak, canoe, paddleboat and water bike rentals at Wright's Landing Marina.

YOU'LL FIND IT ALL ON THE NORTH SHORE

At Nearly 80 Square Miles,

Oneida Lake is the largest lake located entirely within New York State. Named for the Oneida Nation of the Iroquois League, the lake's rich heritage dates back thousands of years.

Learn about this early history at the Fort Brewerton / Oliver Stevens Blockhouse Museum. View historical artifacts and picnic on the earthen embankments of the original fort, which was shaped like an eight-pointed star positioned toward cardinal compass points.

An integral waterway for commerce, Oneida Lake's north shore was home to many prominent industries, including glass making. During the 19th century, much of the window glass in American homes was manufactured here. Local sand gave glass such an exceptional brilliance it was used by Corning Glass Works to make the lens for Palomar Observatory in California, once the world's largest telescope.

Known as the "Walleye Capital" of New York State, Oneida Lake remains a prime fishery. In the spring, these freshwater fish can be found in the lake's shallow waters near spawning areas and tributaries before heading out to deeper waters in the summer.

Walleye are the primary focus at NYSDEC's Oneida Lake Fish Culture Station in Constantia. Between 200 and 300 million eggs are collected and reared each year to stock the fishery with walleye fry and advanced fingerlings. The facility also cultivates tiger musky and works to restore rare or threatened fish species such as lake sturgeon. Other varieties of fish found in Oneida Lake include large and smallmouth bass, Northern pike and yellow perch.

In recent years, nationally televised fishing tournaments put Oneida Lake into homes across America, affirming the quality of this fishery. They include the Outdoor Channel's Ultimate Match College Tournament and ESPN's Bassmaster Memorial.

Charming restaurants, public and private water access sites, marinas and tackle shops all dot Oneida Lake's north shore, attracting water recreation enthusiasts from around the region. Motor out to Frenchman's Island to explore 28 acres of serene beauty, paddle in and out of dozens of coves along the shoreline or enjoy warm hospitality and a savory meal with refreshing lakeside views.

Motor up to enjoy waterfront dining with a brilliant sunset.

Oneida Lake
Central Square NY



TOP ACTIVITY PICKS

FISHING

Oneida Lake is a prime spot for walleye, bass and yellow perch. Throughout the summer, a number of bass fishing tournaments come to the lake and in the winter, the north shore of Oneida Lake is a great spot for ice fishing. The Big Bay area freezes early and gives cold-weather anglers a great spot to find panfish.

BOATING

Part of the New York State Canal System, Oneida Lake offers boaters the chance to motor along the 21.5 mile historic Erie Canal from Sylvan Beach to Brewerton. There are also several launch sites and marinas available along the north shore and Oneida River channel for water access. **See p. 67 for a full list of marinas.**

SUNSETS

Take time to sit back and watch a beautiful sunset from the shores of Oneida Lake. Enjoy the view at Lakeview Park in Cleveland or the David C. Webb Memorial Park at Taft Bay in Constantia. For a truly serene viewing experience, head out on the lake and watch the sun set from a spot on the water!

SWIMMING / RECREATION

Have some fun along the north shore of Oneida Lake. Visit David C. Webb Memorial Park at Taft Bay in Constantia for a swim along the sandy shoreline or enjoy a game of beach volleyball, basketball, tennis or baseball. Head into nature with a trail walk. The playground is a must for kids.

FOOD & BEVERAGE

Relax and enjoy a delicious meal from one of the eateries along the north shore. Satisfy your sweet tooth at a unique breakfast shop, take in a game over a hearty lunch or immerse yourself in a sunset dining experience on Oneida Lake.



3 Hatchery Rd., Constantia NY

ONEIDA LAKE HATCHERY

Built in 1992, the NYSDEC Oneida Fish Cultural Station in Constantia annually produces about 6,000 pounds of fish to stock Oneida Lake and other public waters.

Walleye are the primary focus of the facility's rearing program. Every year, staff collect and cultivate anywhere from 200 to 300 million eggs from Oneida Lake to effectively stock the fishery with walleye fry and advanced fingerlings. The hatchery rears the statewide supply of tiger muskellunge (muskie) and works to restore rare or threatened fish species such as lake sturgeon, paddlefish and round whitefish.

The Oneida Lake Hatchery is open to the public from April 1 to September 30. **For more information, call 315.623.7311.**



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Enjoy our Clarion Hotel & Suites Riverfront or Best Western Plus, and great on-site restaurants GS Steamers and La Parrilla on the Water!

From thrilling water slides to luxurious accommodations with stunning riverfront views, there's something for everyone.

Whether you're planning a family getaway, romantic retreat, or adventure with friends, our convenient location ensures an unforgettable experience.



TOP 10 PICKS

Oswego County offers a host of attractions and activities to enjoy throughout the year. Check out these “Top 10 Picks” – sure to soothe the soul, satisfy curiosities and thrill adventure-seekers.

Featured prominently on this list are our abundant natural resources – prime for birding, boating, snowmobiling, scuba diving and more. Take a hike, grab a paddle or strap on your snowshoes to explore this scenic wonderland.

Explore Oswego County’s fascinating heritage. Learn about the people and places that helped shape our communities and left their mark on the pages of American history. Take a driving tour of our historical mural collection or enjoy a walking tour with a local history guide.

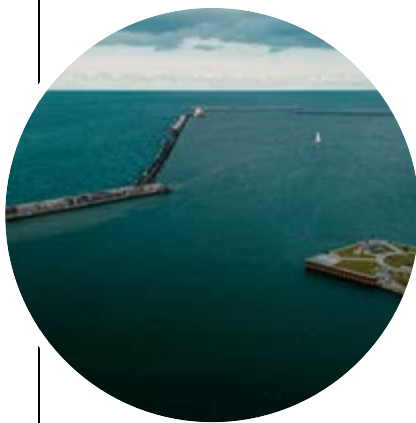
Kick up the excitement with miles of ground-thumping racing, hours of guided fishing and days of camping adventure. Explore uncharted territory on the Tug Hill Plateau, stir up some fresh powder in the backwoods or enjoy the thrill of racers trying to climb “Lucifer’s Ladder.”

Whether you love to explore the outdoors, uncover history or expand your horizons, you’ll find the opportunity in Oswego County.

FOR INFORMATION, CONTACT US:

**OSWEGO COUNTY
TOURISM OFFICE**

46 E. Bridge St.
Oswego NY 13126
315.349.8322
visitoswegocounty.com



Oswego Harbor, NY

LAKE ONTARIO

Lake Ontario, its tributaries and inlets provide endless recreation opportunities. Paddle the Oswego Harbor and Sandy Pond, watch wildlife at Derby Hill and Deer Creek or relax on the white sandy beaches of Mexico Point and Sandy Island to take in breathtaking sunsets.



Port Ontario, NY

SALMON RIVER

The Salmon River provides both peaceful serenity and thrilling adventure. Battle the rushing rapids on this Class III river and catch your breath on its calming currents. Hike the Salmon River Falls Unique Area and visit the Salmon River Fish Hatchery.



Chateaugay Forest, Orwell NY

TUG HILL/ PUBLIC LAND

Located between Great Lake Ontario and the Adirondack Mountains, the Tug Hill region is 2,100 square miles of year-round outdoor adventure. Summer fun turns to breathtaking fall foliage which becomes a winter wonderland with record snowfalls.



NYSDEC Dock, Cleveland NY

ONEIDA LAKE

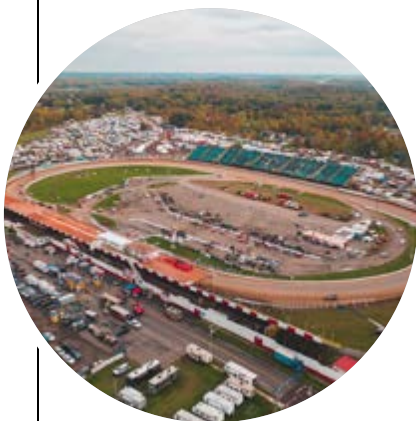
Dozens of restaurants, marinas and boat launches line the north shore of Oneida Lake making it a haven for boating and recreation. Cruise part of the historic Erie Canal, explore Frenchman’s Island or drop a line into the waters of New York’s “Walleye Capital.”



Starr Clark Tin Shop, Mexico NY

HISTORIC SITES

Explore our rich heritage in museums and historic sites across Oswego County. Learn about the Oswego Canal, the Underground Railroad and the only U.S. shelter for Holocaust survivors. Visit Fort Ontario to witness military life from the 18th century to today.



Brewerton, Fulton, Oswego

RACETRACKS

Start your engines and get your heart thumping with the thrill of the race! From high-powered supermodifieds to dirt-kicking big blocks, from go-karts to motocross, racing is in our veins. Legendary speedways dot the landscape with weekly racing schedules.



Various Locations

UNIQUE CAMPING

Choose from thousands of campsites! From rustic wilderness to calming waterfronts, experience camping in your own style. Take on the challenge of tenting in the backwoods or enjoy all the comforts of home in a spacious RV or cabin rental.



Salmon River, Altmar NY

GUIDED FISHING

Experience the thrill of charter fishing on Great Lake Ontario or the beautiful Oneida Lake. Fish for trophy salmon, trout and steelhead on a guided trip on the world-famous Salmon River, the Oswego River or other Lake Ontario tributaries.



Various Locations

CANOEING/ KAYAKING

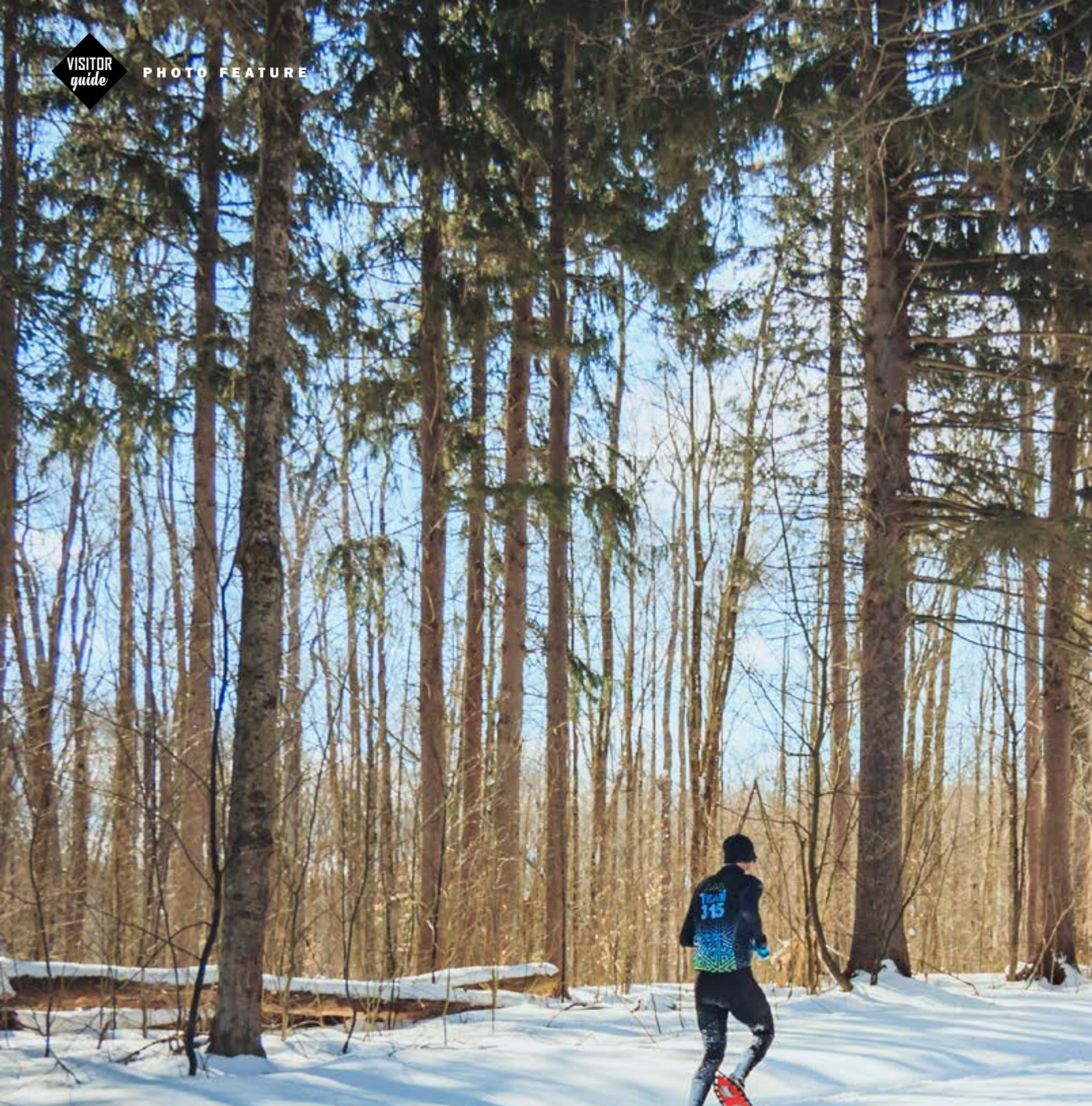
Miles of scenic waterways provide opportunities for paddlers of all skill levels. Boat safely as you look for historic landmarks, "lock through" the Oswego Canal and watch for bald eagles and blue heron along our pristine rivers and reservoirs.



Winona Forest, Boylston NY

MOTORIZED TRAILS

With the highest snowfall east of the Rocky Mountains, the Tug Hill Plateau beckons snowmobile enthusiasts from across the region. When the snow melts, ATV riders look forward to exploring extensive family-friendly trail networks across Oswego County.



AN ABUNDANCE OF PUBLIC LAND

Oswego County has some of the highest snowfall totals east of the Rocky Mountains, making it a haven for winter enthusiasts. Winona State Forest, located in the foothills of the Tug Hill Plateau, is a prime spot for adventurers to get in on this action! Come join in the fun in northern Oswego County by exploring the well-groomed trail network in this vast winter wonderland. Enjoy fat bike riding, snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, snowmobiling, dog sledding and more!

See p. 9, 41, 44 for four seasons of fun on other public lands.



Winona Forest, Boylston NY

DOG SLED RACING

People from across the eastern corridor of the United States and Canada are drawn to the trails at Winona State Forest recreation area thanks to lake effect snowfall, which provides ideal conditions for dog sled racing, or mushing.

Every year, the Pennsylvania Dog Sled Club presents the Tug Hill Challenge, a two-day internationally-sanctioned event. The dog sled race is open to all skill levels and various sled team sizes. It includes other races such as skijoring (cross-country skiing with a sled dog), fat bikejoring (fat biking with a sled dog) and the canicross (cross-country running with a sled dog).

Residents and visitors of Winona State Forest will often see mushers out on the trails practicing for the next race or enjoying the beauty of an Oswego County winter.

The Perfect Retreat for Families, Friends, and Adventures!



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- RV Sites to enjoy the outdoors with access to all lodge amenities
- Free Wi-Fi, Walking Trails, In-Ground Pool, and Pavilion for gatherings
- The perfect location to unwind or prepare for your next fishing adventure on Lake Ontario



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