

W.M. Patrick Madden
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For Immediate Release
April 20, 2018

Mayor Madden Announces City to Celebrate “Troy Earth Week”

TROY, NY – Mayor Patrick Madden today announced the City of Troy will observe the first-ever “Troy Earth Week,” a multiple day event to encourage public engagement in local Earth Day activities and highlight the City’s ongoing efforts to promote neighborhood beautification, renewable energy, sustainability, climate smart initiatives, and environmental preservation. Beginning Friday, April 20 through Friday, April 27, the week-long initiative includes the annual Earth Day neighborhood cleanup program and various community events to promote public awareness and civic participation in Earth Day programs.

Mayor Patrick Madden said, “Troy Earth Week is part of our effort to promote broader public engagement on the issues of environmental protection and how our community can contribute to helping our planet. We have made significant investment in renewable energy technology and environmental sustainability programs as part of our ongoing efforts to strengthen our community and world. The City of Troy is proud to take the lead on protecting our natural environment through climate smart initiatives to build healthier neighborhoods and create a cleaner, greener future for our community.”

Citywide Neighborhood Cleanup

Troy Earth Week will kick off with the City’s annual citywide cleanup event to coincide with Earth Day weekend. During Earth Day weekend (April 20 – 22), hundreds of residents, families and business owners will come together to improve community parks, green spaces and neighborhoods across the city. Troy residents are encouraged to join an existing project in their neighborhood.

For more information on Troy’s Earth Day cleanup, or to view a full list of neighborhood cleanup projects, please visit the [City of Troy’s Earth Day page](#).

Climate Smart Initiatives

With a growing number of electric and hybrid vehicles hitting the roads each year, the City of Troy is offering drivers a new place to “fuel up” in the Collar City. On Monday, April 23, at 11:00 a.m., the City of Troy and the Capital District Transportation Committee (CDTC) will hold a ribbon cutting ceremony for its first electric vehicle charging station installed in the 5th Avenue Parking Garage in downtown Troy. The charging station was made possible through a grant through CDTC with the support of the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA).

Renewable Energy

On Tuesday, April 24, the City of Troy will celebrate the completion of phase one of the community’s first solar energy array with a ribbon cutting ceremony at the Frear Park Ice Arena. Mayor Madden will be joined by representatives from NYSERDA and Monolith Solar to mark the completion the 2.1 megawatt system. The array provides 20 percent of the City’s annual electric usage, with an approximate savings of \$200,000 annually – an expected \$2M in total savings over the next 10 years. The City will make an additional announcement pertaining to the City’s continued investment in renewable energy during the event.

Arbor Day

The City of Troy, Capital Roots, and the Troy Street Tree Advisory Committee Board will celebrate Arbor Day on Friday, April 27 with a tree planting on Federal Street (near the Green Island Bridge) to focus attention on the importance of street trees and the benefits they provide to the urban environment. The event will highlight a city-wide planting that will take place later this year supported through a NYS Department of Environmental Conservation’s (NYSDEC) Urban and Community Forestry program grant.

50 trees will be planted this fall as the final phase of the project is implemented. The first planting took place in October 2016 with the installation of 50 trees throughout the City of Troy. Capital Roots is partnering with the City of Troy for the planning and implementation of the tree planting program.

Civic Engagement

Additional activities have been scheduled coinciding with Troy Earth Week to promote expanded public engagement around environmental conservation, including:

- **Earth Day Block Party**, on Saturday, April 21 (1:45 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.) presented by the Downtown Troy Business Improvement District. The event offers an afternoon of family fun with Earth Day themed activities and live music. Suggested donation is \$10 per person to support the Downtown Troy BID’s “Raise.Plant.Grow” Tree Initiative to plant up to 150 trees in downtown Troy. More information is available on the [BID Facebook page](#) or www.downtowntroy.org

- **Troy Zero Waste** will offer family-friendly activities at their Sustainability Table during the Troy Waterfront Farmers' Market on Saturday, April 21, including shadow puppet storytelling, a recycled t-shirt shopping bag workshop, and gardening discussion. More information is available at www.facebook.com/troycompost/ or <http://xtroy.org/zerowaste/>
- Downtown Troy BID's **Street Tree Planting Project** seeks volunteers to participate in a street painting project to bring attention to urban trees. Participants will use stencils to paint tree leaves in what would be the shaded area of a full grown tree around recently planted trees in promotion of the Raise.Plant.Grow tree initiative. Volunteers must be over the age of 16. More information is available at www.downtowntroy.org
- **Troy Night Out**, the monthly arts and cultural event, will celebrate Earth Day with special activities and vendors located throughout during Downtown Troy promoting environmental themes from 5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. More information at www.downtowntroy.org/troy-night-out/

More information and a full schedule for Troy Earth Week programs and activities can be found at www.troyny.gov/community/earth-day/

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