



DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION AND CONSERVATION

211 Route 416, Montgomery, New York 12549-2420

TEL: (845) 615-3830 - FAX: (845) 457-4906

www.orangecountygov.com

www.orangecountynyparks.com

Edward A. Diana
County Executive

Richard L. Rose Jr.
Commissioner

NEWS

November 21, 2011

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For more information, contact Tamara Moson
tmason@orangecountygov.com, 845.615.3828

OC Parks Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony and Unveiling of "Holiday Lights in Bloom" to be Held December 1

GOSHEN - Orange County Executive Edward A. Diana and Commissioner Richard L. Rose of the Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation are pleased to announce that the "Holiday Lights in Bloom" display will kick off in conjunction with the Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony on Thursday, December 1 at 7 p.m. at the Orange County Arboretum located within Thomas Bull Memorial Park.

The Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony is a free holiday event that will feature live music, yuletide treats and refreshments, and fun for the whole family. Santa and Mrs. Claus will arrive on a fire truck to greet children, listen to their "wish lists", and pose for photos. The highlight of the evening will be when Santa throws the switch to light up the 20 foot tree and the tens of thousands of holiday lights that will illuminate the Arboretum.

Despite the winter chill, the Arboretum will be "blooming" with beautiful, garden-themed light features in the forms of flowers, animals, and insects. Children, and adults alike, will be charmed as they stroll through the Arboretum paths under trees lit with twinkling lights and delight in identifying the many different flowers and critters that light up the gardens. This year, in observance of the tenth anniversary, the lights will expand into the 9/11 Memorial Garden which will be decorated in patriotic colors and feature a large light display of Old Glory.

The "Holiday Lights in Bloom" program is free and open to the public on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays from 5 to 8 p.m. from December 1 through December 24 and then daily from 5 to 8 p.m. December 26 through January 1 (closed Christmas Day). Volunteers from The Friends of the Orange County Arboretum will be on hand in the Ottaway Education center to serve visitors free hot cocoa, sell handmade holiday crafts, and answer questions about the Arboretum. Be sure to make visiting this "ever growing" event part of your family's holiday traditions.

For more information, please contact Tamara Moson at 615-3828, email tmason@orangecountygov.com or Tom Quinlisk at 457-4910, email tquinlisk@orangecountygov.com or visit www.orangecountynyparks.com

PARKS, RECREATION AND CONSERVATION ADVISORY BOARD

George Wontz, Chair

Debra Corr, Vice Chair

Wilbur Higgins

Fred Dana, Jr.

Ernesto Tirado

Nolly Climes



Orange County Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation Chair George Wontz, Orange County Executive Edward A. Diana, and Parks Commissioner Richard Rose join Mrs. Claus and Santa at the County's annual tree lighting ceremony at the Orange County arboretum. This year's tree lighting will be held at 7 p.m. on December 1.



DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION AND CONSERVATION

211 Route 416, Montgomery, New York 12549-2420

TEL: (845) 615-3830 - FAX: (845) 457-4906

www.orangecountygov.com

www.orangecountynyparks.com

Edward A. Diana
County Executive

Richard L. Rose Jr.
Commissioner



The Holiday Lights in Bloom display will also be illuminated on December 1. Free and open to the public, the display features hundreds of lights that create a winter wonderland throughout the arboretum grounds.

PARKS, RECREATION AND CONSERVATION ADVISORY BOARD

George Wontz, Chair

Debra Corr, Vice Chair

Wilbur Higgins

Fred Dana, Jr.

Ernesto Tirado

Nolly Climes