



April 13, 2012

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# Tug Hill Times

*Tug Hill Times* is published semimonthly by the Tug Hill Commission for its board members, staff and associates, and the local representatives of the region's communities.

## Oil and Stone Funded

CHIPS funding has been restored with oil and stone as a reimbursable road treatment, as recently advocated by Village of Parish Mayor Leon Heagle in his hearing testimony before the New York State Mandate Relief Council. This issue was first identified by Tug Hill Commission councils of government during State Senator Patty Richie's request for input from taxpayers and local governments.

## Northern Border Regional Commission Extends Deadline for Grant Submission

Applications are due to the NYS Department of State by **June 1, 2012**. Eligible applicants are local governments and nonprofit entities. All four Tug Hill counties are considered "distressed counties," which qualifies projects in those categories for up to 80% grant funding. Eligible projects must develop the transportation, water, sewer, energy, and telecommunications infrastructure of the region; assist the region in obtaining job skills and employment related education, as well as entrepreneurship, technology and business development; provide basic health care and other public services for those areas that are severely economically distressed and underdeveloped; promote resource conservation, tourism, recreation, and preservation of open spaces in a manner consistent with economic development goals; and, to promote the development of renewable and alternative energy sources. In order to score well, projects must be able to document how they retain existing jobs or create new jobs.

Application forms and additional information are available on the Department of State's website <http://www.dos.ny.gov/funding/>. In the meantime, contact Katie at the Commission offices with questions.

## Hydrofracking Informational Session

Oneida County has scheduled an educational forum on hydrofracking to provide area residents with the opportunity to hear both sides of the issue regarding hydrofracking. The event will be held at Mohawk Valley Community College's Utica Campus on Sherman Drive in the theater in the IT Building on **Saturday April 21 from 10:00 am until 1:00 pm**. Doors will open at 9:30 am. The theater holds up to 450 people, but in the event of overflow the event will also be aired in the Alumni College Center, adjacent to the IT Building.

## Tug Hill Private Forest Landowner Workshop and Woods Walk

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If you own wooded land in the Tug Hill Region and would like to learn how to maintain or encourage birds and other wildlife on your property and what you can do to take care of your land for future generations, you are encouraged to attend this workshop and woods walk. This workshop is free, but **registration is required** by emailing or calling Jillian Liner at ([jliner@audubon.org](mailto:jliner@audubon.org)) or 607-254-2437.

**When: Saturday, May 19th.** Arrive at 8:30 am for registration and refreshments. The workshop is 9:00 am - 11:30 am followed by a woods walk from 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm. Feel free to attend one or both! **Registration deadline is Tuesday, May 15th.** The event will take place at the NYSDEC Lowville office, 7327 St Route 812, Lowville, NY 13367. **Participants will learn about:** The wildlife commonly found in forests of the Tug Hill region, how different types of forests attract different kinds of wildlife, resources, tools and potential partners available to help you meet your goals and tour examples of habitat management.

### Workshops on Managing E-mails

Email is arguably the biggest electronic records management challenge many of us face. *What's a record? What's not a record? Do I have to keep it? How long? Can I just delete everything?* Over the next three months, workshops will present the newly revamped Managing Email Efficiently in six locations throughout Central New York. This is a fun and very practical workshop on managing email from a records management perspective. It will go way beyond the theoretical and provide very clear direction that everyone can use. There are some key filters that one can apply to email that will help you and your colleagues better manage this valuable digital asset making it your friend rather than the Sword of Damocles. Here are some of the topics that will be discussed:

- \*Simple method to classify emails (record from non-record, attachments vs. emails, etc.)
- \*Identify retention periods for emails that are records
- \*Variety of plans to file, maintain and preserve email records
- \*Security and access issues
- \*Developing email management policies and procedures.



If you would like to attend one of these events, please go to <http://iarchives.nysed.gov/WorkShops/workshopsServlet?owner=REG&cat=1>. Simply scroll down the workshop list until you see Managing Email Efficiently and click on the link representing the data and location you desire. You can also view the other State Archives workshops being offered statewide on this page. Below are two locations and dates where this workshop is being presented in the Tug Hill Region. If you have any questions about this workshop or how to manage e-mails efficiently, contact Kent Stuetz, NYS Archives, CNY Regional Office at (315) 542-5909.

#### Tuesday, May 22 – Lewis County

Supreme Court Chambers  
Lewis County Courthouse  
7660 N. State Street  
Lowville, NY 13367

#### Tuesday, June 12 – Oneida County

Oneida County Office Building  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room  
800 Park Avenue  
Utica, NY 13501

### North Country Technology Symposium

The North Country Technology Symposium will take place **Wednesday, May 23, 2012** at **Clarkson University** in **Potsdam, NY**. This symposium serves to increase adoption of information technologies among organizations, including business, health care, agriculture, community service and government. The symposium showcases technology at work today through interactive presentations, award recognitions and exhibitions. Attendees learn through the experience of others building a connected community of end-users and Information Technology practitioners. To learn more about the North Country Technology Symposium and to register go to [www.stlawco.org/nctechsposium/](http://www.stlawco.org/nctechsposium/).

## Dealing With “Junky” Yards and Messy Conditions

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The Jefferson County Department of Planning, NYS Tug Hill Commission and the Center for Community Studies at Jefferson Community College (JCC) are co-sponsoring a land use training session featuring Attorney Raymond A. Meier. The presentation will cover property maintenance issues associated with residential property, the reasons for local property maintenance laws, review of various types of regulations addressing the upkeep of private property, how the NYS Building Code deals with property maintenance and other issues associated with junk yards and messy conditions. The difficult process of enforcement will also be discussed.

**Date:** Thursday April 19, 2012  
**Time:** 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm  
**Place:** Jefferson Community College, Jules Center Amphitheater Room 6-002  
**RSVP:** Please call the Jefferson County Planning Department at (315) 785-3144 or email [planning@co.jefferson.ny.us](mailto:planning@co.jefferson.ny.us) to confirm your attendance.

If approved by your municipality, this workshop can provide two hours of training to meet the NYS Municipality Training Requirement.

## New Regulations in the Open Meeting Law - Training Session April 19th

In February 2012, an amendment to the Open Meetings Law was enacted that impacts governmental agencies such as municipalities and school districts and went into effect.

The new regulations have generated many questions from municipal clerks and municipal boards. The Local Government Education Committee of Oneida and Herkimer Counties has scheduled an informational session with Bob Freeman, Executive Director of the Committee of Open Government for NYS Department of State to answer questions about these new regulations as well other questions on FOIL and the Open Meetings Law.

The session will be held on **Thursday, April 19 from 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm** at the Kunsela Hall Auditorium at SUNYIT, Utica. There is a \$15 fee for the workshop and light refreshments will be served. Please make checks payable to the College Association. Registration forms and additional information can be found at <http://lgcc.org/content/Generic/View/16> or by calling 792-7270 at SUNYIT.

## New York State Governor’s Traffic Safety Committee Grants

Law enforcement agencies, local governments and state agencies, non-profit organizations registered with NYS are eligible for the following grants:

- **Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP):** Grants will fund overtime for enforcement of dangerous driving behaviors, including speed and distraction.
- **Buckle Up New York (BUNY):** Seat belt enforcement grants will provide overtime funding to participate in the statewide seat belt enforcement mobilization for 2013.
- **Child Passenger Safety (CPS):** These grants will support child passenger safety activities: fitting stations, training and education programs, child passenger safety check events and car seat distribution programs for low income families.
- **General Highway Safety Grants -- Programs for Local, State and Nonprofit Agencies:** The general grant is used by agencies to apply for funding to address a particular highway safety problem in their jurisdiction.

The grant applications are due **May 15, 2012**. For additional information, please contact New York State Governor’s Traffic Safety Committee, Phone: 518-474-5111. The grant announcement is online at [www.safeny.ny.gov](http://www.safeny.ny.gov).

## NYS Tug Hill Commission

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Please contact the  
Commission for assistance.  
Thank you!

### Earth Day in Watertown on April 30th



Come celebrate Earth Day at the Dulles  
State Office Building, 317 Washington  
Street, Watertown, NY 13601 from  
10:00 am until 4:00 pm on Monday,  
April 30th. The Tug Hill Commission  
will have a display and “mood pencils”  
to hand out. Other local agencies will  
have hands-on displays, activities and  
freebies. This is a free event and all are  
invited to attend.

## Oneida Lake Association Annual Meeting

The Oneida Lake Association will hold its annual meeting on  
**Wednesday, May 2 at 7:00 pm** at Cicero-North Syracuse High  
School, 6002 Route 31, Cicero, New York. Scheduled meeting top-  
ics include the state of Oneida Lake, New York State Department  
of Environmental Conservation plans for cormorant control this  
summer, tern restoration, and Oneida Lake educational initiatives.  
Doors open for the annual meeting at 6:00 p.m. More information  
about the Oneida Lake Association and the annual meeting is avail-  
able at [www.oneidalakeassociation.org](http://www.oneidalakeassociation.org).



## NYS GIS Conference Early Registration Extended

The NYS GIS Conference will be taking place from May 15<sup>th</sup> and  
May 16<sup>th</sup> the OnCenter in Syracuse. The deadline for the early bird  
registration for the conference has been extended to April 27<sup>th</sup>,  
2012. For more information and to register go to [http://  
www.esf.edu/nysgisconf/](http://www.esf.edu/nysgisconf/).

On May 15<sup>th</sup>, there will be workshops on such topics as Open  
Source GIS, Smartphone App Development, LiDAR, AutoCAD  
GIS, and Dealing with Data. On May 16<sup>th</sup>, there will be hands-on  
opportunities to play with technology at the “App Garden” and the  
“Technology Petting Zoo.” Sessions include: LiDAR: What's the  
Point?, Get Your Head in the Cloud, Crisis Response, and Think  
Spatially, Act Locally. Other highlights include presentations on  
Google Earth Pro, YouTown, ArcGIS Online, Crisis Response  
(Flooding in Vermont and New York), LiDAR, Cloud Computing  
and Asset Management. The keynote speaker, Jeff Howe, will give  
a talk on “crowdsourcing,” a growing trend which involves using  
volunteers or the public to help gather information, which could be  
useful to businesses and/or governmental agencies.

## The USDA and the US Forest Service Grants

The US Forest Service is accepting applications for the Community  
Forest and Open Space Program (CFP). The CFP is a grant program  
designed to protect community forests that: provide an area to re-  
create and enjoy nature; protect habitats, water quality and other envi-  
ronmental benefits; and provide economic benefits through timber  
resources. Individual grant applications may not exceed \$400,000.  
The program pays up to 50% of the project costs and requires a 50%  
non-federal match. Any municipal government, county government,  
or other local government with jurisdiction over local land use is eli-  
gible. **The grants are due May 15, 2012. Contact:** USDA Forest  
Service, phone: 202-205-8333 or website [www.fs.fed.us/spf/coop/  
programs/loa/cfp.shtml](http://www.fs.fed.us/spf/coop/programs/loa/cfp.shtml).