

January 18, 2013

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appear in full color!

January 21, 2013





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.

Commission Meets in Boonville

Tug Hill Commission Members had their annual organizational meeting in Boonville, Wednesday January 16th. This was the first meeting led by Commission Chair Jan Bogdanowicz along with newly elected Vice Chair Michael Yerdon and Secretary Thomas Boxberger. While much of the agenda was organizational for the 2013-14 terms, the Commission Members did have a thorough briefing on economic development efforts in the Village and Town of Boonville. Boonville Mayor Michael Kramer discussed the efforts of the Boonville Economic Development Committee on encouraging dialogue over the past year on various downtown projects as well as the recent acquisition of the Ethan Allen plant by Bowers Lumber. The former plant will house a hardwood processing mill operated by Bowers Lumber and has also allowed for some leasing opportunities on the site such as that for Climax shipping and storage. According to Mayor Kramer "It is extremely encouraging to see these locally based industries take on a site that has been abandoned for several years." Mayor Kramer also credited Ethan Allen for working with the Village and these private sector investors. While it is always difficult to lose 100's of jobs from a manufacturer like Ethan Allen, the Mayor credited the company for being very cooperative in helping to see the site reused for other activities.

Tug Hill Commission Members also heard updates regarding several projects in the region including a Phase 2 of the Joint Infrastructure Management Initiative which will focus in large measure on Oneida County; the Regional Economic Development Council and recent funding announcements and priorities for 2013; and, several grant awards throughout the Tug Hill Region. The next meeting of the Commission will be on March 27th in Watertown, the evening before the Commission's 2013 Local Government Conference at Jefferson Community College.

Local Government Efficiency Program Announces Next Funding Round

Chief elected officials were recently sent letters from the Department of State to announce the next competitive round of Local Government Efficiency (LGE) grants. This year local governments can apply for assistance to:

- Consolidate and reorganize local government structures, consolidate services between local governments, revise city or county charters to include functional consolidations, implement shared or cooperative services between local governments, and regionalize the delivery of services.
- Implement the internal reorganization of service delivery for local governments that have had an operating deficit in each of the last three years or that have been unable to limit growth in the property tax levy to fewer than two-percent in each of the last three years.

This year, the LGE program is funded with \$4 million and municipalities may receive a maximum of \$200,000 per project. Each application must demonstrate the financial savings that will accrue to the local government and its taxpayers from the project, provide a positive return on public investment, and demonstrate progressive and measureable management improvements that will result from project implementation. The submission deadline is 4:00 p.m. on March 13, 2013.

Applications are available on the Department of State website at:

http://www.dos.ny.gov/funding/ or by calling 1-800-367-8488. You may also contact the Commission for project or application assistance by calling 1-888-785-2380 or via email at tughill@tughill.org.

TREE PRUNING

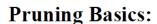
WORKSHOP

Saturday, January 26, 2013 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Adams Municipal Building

Speakers:

Glen Roberts, NYS DEC Forester

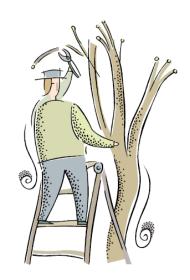
Sue Gwise, Cornell Cooperative Extension of Jefferson County



- Why, when, and how to prune small trees.
- Outdoor, hands-on pruning session; dress accordingly.
 - Bring hand pruners and small saws.

For more information contact:

Liz Walker, Chair, Village of Adams Tree Committee (315) 232-4359 or walker@twcny.rr.com





203 North Hamilton Street, Watertown, New York 13601-2948 P. 315-788-8450 F. 315-788-8461 E. jefferson@cornell.edu W. ccejefferson.org

USGS Shares Information with Town of Adams

To assist the Town of Adams with recent efforts to find a new municipal water source for its Adams Center water district, the Commission organized a meeting of the town, its engineers, and experts from the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) this past Wednesday. For the past several years the Commission and USGS have worked to advance knowledge of how the Tug Hill Aquifer system functions. Much of the field work to date has been done in the northern part of the aquifer in the Adams area. It is hoped that the discussion and data provided to the town will help inform their work to find a productive groundwater source. Water supply has been an issue in the Adams area for the past few years, as low winter snowpack has decreased the amount of recharge going into the aquifer during the spring, resulting in low water tables and emergency conservation measures in the summer.

For more information about the Tug Hill Aquifer, a short summary and interactive map are available on the Commission's website at http://www.tughill.org/services/natural-resource-management/ or call Katie at the Commission offices.

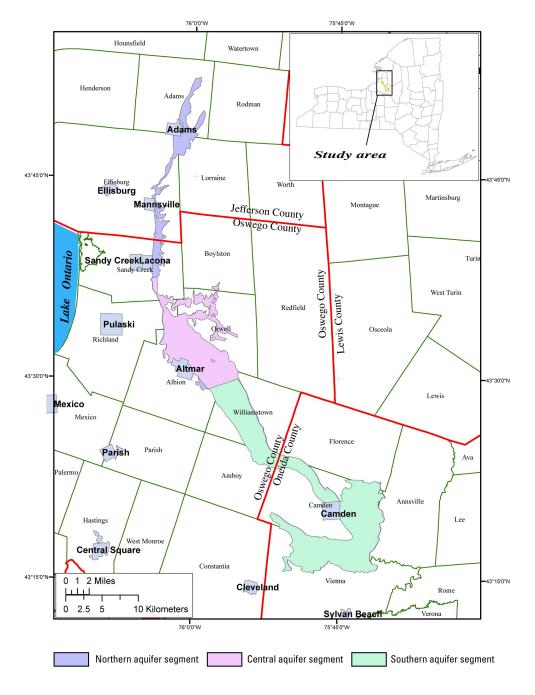


Figure 1. Location of the Tug Hill glacial aquifer proposed study area, and northern, central and southern, aquifer segments.

Contact us at:

NYS Tug Hill Commission

317 Washington St. Watertown, NY 13601

We are located on the 6th Floor of the Dulles State Office Building.

Phone: 315-785-2380 Toll Free within the region: 1-888-785-2380

> Email: tughill@tughill.org Website: www.tughill.org

Assisting communities and citizens for over 39 years.





Tug Hill Trivia???

How many downhill ski areas are there in the Tug Hill region and what are their names?

The **FIRST** person to email the correct answer will receive a **FREE** registration to the 2013 Local Government Conference on March 28!!

Send your answer to gwen@tughill.org

If you have already registered and are the winner, your registration will be reimbursed.

Oneida County Tourism Launches Mobile App

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Oneida County Tourism has announced that they have launched The Gateway Region mobile App. The App is fee and compatible with iPod Touch, iPhone, iPad and Android devices. It can also be downloaded through the App Store to your mobile devices. The App provides a simple, convenient and comprehensive guide to the region's history, attractions, events, weather, and a wide variety of lodging, shopping and dining options. You will also be able to download maps and driving directions to your destination.

Central NY Agri-Tourism Marketing Program

The Mohawk Valley will receive \$270,000 in state aid to kick start the Central NY Agri-Tourism Marketing Program. Oneida County Tourism submitted the

Consolidated Funding Application in 2012 for the 10 counties participating in the program. The money was initially classified incorrectly when the grant application awards were announced in December. It took some time after the grant announcement for the participating counties involved to realize the grant was approved. The grant request was for \$541,500.

Agri-tourism includes farm markets and specialty produce, guided farm tours, wildlife and fishing events such as birding and guided hunts, "how to" experience for products, artisan cheese trails, "learn to" workshops, dining experiences such as farm-to-table, beverage trails, seasonal products, and floriculture.

It also builds on the buy local effort (CNY Fresh, the Flavors of Central NY) – a program designed to encourage residents in the area to buy local foods. The CNY Fresh campaign focuses on the region's geography, local cultural identity, agricultural production and other unique attributes to encourage increased

consumer awareness and recognition of locally produced goods. This will lead to increased sales and economic development in the region.

The program was to cost \$579,000 of which \$541,000 was requested through the grant. The award was only about half that amount. Organizers will be meeting to discuss whether to modify the plan to suit the funding or seek additional funding.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Association of Towns Annual Conference February 17 th – 20 th , 2013 in New York City For more conference information go to: www.nytowns.org or contact AOT at (518)465-7933			TRIBAT SATURDAT			
				NY Planning Federation Annual Confer- ence April 21 st – 23 rd , 2013 at the Gideon Put- nam Resort & Hotel		
<u></u>	7	7		24 Gideon I	Putnam Roa ings, NY 12	
			For more conference information go to: www.nypf.ort or contact NYPF at (518)512-5270			