

JULY 15, 2016

Erie Canal – Mohawk River Historic Water Trail Public Meeting Held

The Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor and its consultant, C.T. Male Associates, held a series of public stakeholder meetings recently, including a meeting in Rome, about development of an Erie – Mohawk Historic Water Trail. At the meeting, the meeting sponsors solicited input from the public, municipalities, and other organizations on development of a water trail for paddlers – those traveling by canoe, kayak, rowboats, or SUPs – on the portion of the Erie Canal and Mohawk River from Sylvan Beach eastward to the Albany area, a trail 128 miles long.

The sponsors were specifically interested in where paddlers liked to paddle, and where they avoided; areas of interest along the corridor; access to services; potential future sites and uses of interest; areas of safety concern; formal and informal water access locations; and underdeveloped or inappropriate water access locations. This information will be used toward possible development of a water trail guide such as been done on other water trails, and possible development of resources to enhance the water trail experience.

The Erie Canalway National Heritage Commission and its consultant is still seeking comments on this project, which can be submitted via e-mail to eriewater-trail@ctmale.com.

The Erie Canalway National Heritage Commission can be found on the Internet at www.eriecanalway.org.

More information about the Erie – Mohawk Historic Water Trail and the workshops can be found at www.eriecanalway.org/find-resources/workshops and www.eriecanalway.org/explore/boating/water-trail.

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Charming Small Communities in Upstate NY

Upstate NY has listed 10 charming small towns worth visiting for a day. Included in the list are the villages of Holland Patent and Remsen that are in Oneida County and are located in the Tug Hill region.

To find out more about these places or to plan a visit go to: <http://www.newyorkupstate.com/things-to-do/2016/05/small-towns-upstate-ny-charming-visit-day-trip.html#0>



Emerald Ash Borer Found in Rome, NY - Forest Landowner Workshop Being Planned

Emerald ash borer (EAB) has been confirmed for the first time in Oneida County by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and the USDA Animal Plant Health Inspection Service. The EAB is a small but destructive beetle that infests and kills North American ash tree species, including green, white and black ash. Damage from EAB is caused by the larvae, which feed just below the ash tree's bark. The tunnels they create disrupt water and nutrient transport, causing branches, and eventually the entire tree, to die. Adult beetles leave distinctive D-shaped exit holes in the outer bark of the branches and the trunk. Other signs of infestation include tree canopy dieback, splits in the bark, and extensive sprouting from the roots and trunk. Infested trees may also exhibit woodpecker damage from larvae extraction.

An informational meeting for forest owners is being tentatively planned for August 17 from 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm at the Town of Lee Municipal Building. Officials from DEC will be on hand to present information on EAB and to answer questions you might have about your property. Please check our website for a complete agenda as we get closer to the date. Please RSVP by August 12th to Jennifer Harvill jennifer@tughill.org or 785-2380.

Forest landowners can request a DEC Forester visit their woodlot and develop a free Forest Stewardship Plan. This plan would address the landowner's objectives and discuss how the arrival (or proximity) of EAB could impact the owner's forest resources. Forest owners can schedule a site visit by contacting their local DEC Forestry office. To learn more about EAB, as well as efforts to reduce its negative impact and save trees, visit DEC's website: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/7253.html>.

NYS DEC Asking for Public Input on Unit Management Plan for Adirondack Foothills

The NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) is looking for input on a draft Unit Management Plan (UMP) for the Adirondack Foothills. The area is made up of six state forests, twenty-one detached parcels of forest preserve, and one Office of General Services parcel. These properties are located in the Oneida County Towns of Boonville and Forestport and the Herkimer County Towns of Norway, Russia and Salisbury. The UMP will guide future management of these State Lands over the next ten years.

The draft Adirondack Foothills UMP documents are available on DEC's website at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/97049.html>. Copies are also available in electronic format on CD and may be requested by calling (315) 866-6330.

DEC will accept public input on the draft UMP at an open house on **July 20 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.**, at the following location:

Town of Trenton Public Meeting Room
8520 Old Poland Road
Barneveld, NY 13304

In addition to the open house, public comments can be submitted by mail or email to:

Senior Forester Mary Kay Allen
NYS DEC
225 North Main Street
Herkimer, NY 13350
Email: r6.ump@dec.ny.gov

All comments must be received by **September 1, 2016**. DEC will review these comments as it finalizes the UMP for the Adirondack Foothills.

Information on Drought/Hydrologic Conditions

With this summer's warm, dry weather, many people and communities are concerned about potential drought conditions. Here is a list of websites with information that you may find useful.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

<https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/sotc/drought/201605> - Palmer Drought Index

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

http://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/water_pdf/droughtmancoord.pdf - New York Drought Management Coordination Annex

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/5011.html> - DEC Drought homepage

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/5014.html> - DEC drought management regions

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/5017.html> - DEC current drought conditions

United States Geological Survey

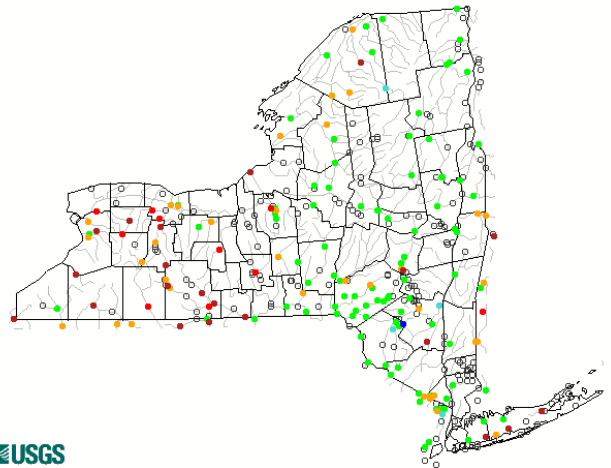
<http://waterwatch.usgs.gov/index.php?m=dryw&r=ny>)USGS 7-day streamflow - NY map

http://waterwatch.usgs.gov/index.php?m=mv01d_dry&r=ny&w=map - Monthly streamflow - NY map

<http://ny.water.usgs.gov/projects/duration/duration28day6.html> - Hydrologic conditions by NY drought region. (Click within for specific streams and groundwater wells for current conditions and departure from normal by drought region).

Additionally, Cornell Cooperative Extension's Disaster Education Network has extensive resources available to help you address questions or concerns regarding water scarcity or potential drought. These resources are available at - <http://eden.cce.cornell.edu/disasters/Pages/Drought.aspx>.

Thursday, July 14, 2016 11:30ET



2016-17 Justice Court Assistance Plan (JCAP) Grants Available

The Justice Court Assistance Plan (JCAP) grants for 2016/17 are now available. The Unified Court Systems budget includes \$2.5 million in JCAP funding for this fiscal year, with the maximum grant amount per Court at \$30,000. Courts can apply for funding in many areas including office equipment and furniture, security equipment and court room and court facility improvements and renovations. The application must be filed by Justice Court personnel, so if boards are aware of an area needing funding, they should coordinate with their Court personnel to submit an application. The deadline to apply is **October 13, 2016**. The majority of the application must be submitted online, with the signature page, board resolution, estimates and the Courts budget being either mailed, emailed or faxed in. Court personnel will be able to access the page which includes the fax number, email address and the user name and password to access the application by visiting the Town and Village Courts webpage at www.nycourts.gov/courts/townandvillage. If you need assistance completing the application process, you can contact the Office of Justice Court Support at 1-800-232-0630 or contact your circuit rider.

BRIDGE NY Funding Applications Due September 9

The New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) is soliciting candidate projects for funding under the new BRIDGE NY program. The BRIDGE NY program provides enhanced assistance for local governments to rehabilitate and replace bridges and culverts. Particular emphasis will be provided for projects that address poor structural conditions; mitigate weight restrictions or detours; facilitate economic development or increase competitiveness; and/or reduce the risk of flooding.

Eligible applicants are any city, county, town, village or other political subdivision authorized to receive and administer State and federal transportation funding. Bridge projects must be on a public roadway; eligible for federal aid; and shall follow the federal aid process. Culvert projects must be on a public highway and shall follow the State-aid process.

NYSDOT is soliciting projects for the first two years of the new BRIDGE NY program (State Fiscal Years 2016-17 and 2017-18). A total of \$200 million - \$100 million in each fiscal year - in enhanced funding under BRIDGE NY will be awarded. Project sponsors will be required to submit a one-page summary for candidate bridge and culvert projects detailing the scope, schedule and costs of the proposal. NYSDOT is committed to working with municipal sponsors to expedite this award process to ensure that the benefits of this investment accrue to the public as soon as possible.

- For bridge projects, the maximum project award is \$5.0 million for any single project and may include design/engineering, right-of-way, construction and construction inspection costs. Any costs beyond an authorized project award shall be the sole responsibility of the project sponsor. NYSDOT will provide up to 95 percent of the project costs, not to exceed \$5.0 million.
- For culvert projects, project awards will be between \$100,000 and \$1.0 million for any single project and may include design/engineering, right-of-way, construction and construction inspection costs. In addition to rehabilitation and replacement, culvert relining projects may also be eligible. Any costs beyond an authorized project award shall be the sole responsibility of the project sponsor. NYSDOT will provide 100 percent of the project costs, not to exceed \$1.0 million.

Projects selected for funding under the BRIDGE NY Initiative will be evaluated based on the resiliency of the structure, including such factors as hydraulic vulnerability and structural resiliency; the significance and importance of the bridge including traffic volumes, detour considerations, number and types of businesses served and impacts on commerce; and the current bridge and culvert structural conditions.

More details, including submission documents and regional contact information, is available at <https://www.dot.ny.gov/bridgeny>.

Contact Us

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Electronic versions appear in full color!