Town of West Turin Adopts Special Areas Map

The Town of West Turin has become the first Cooperative Tug Hill Council Town to adopt an updated Special Areas Map since original maps were adopted in the 1990’s. On February 27, 2012, Commission staff gave a presentation on Special Areas and how the new maps had been created to a combined meeting of the Town Board and Planning Board. The Town’s wish to review the maps in a simpler and more interactive way led Commission staff to create an online map that users could manipulate by zooming and turning layers on and off, etc. On April 17th, Commission staff presented the Town with an ArcGIS online map and trained them how to use it, using internet access and computers available at the Constableville Library. The Town reviewed the map online and requested changes and corrections. Once the Commission made the changes and corrections, the Town adopted the new map on Monday July 9th.

Several other towns have begun the process of adopting their own revised maps. For general information about Special Areas or procedural questions about how to adopt a new map, etc. contact Phil Street, phil@tughill.org. For technical information about the data on the updated Special Areas maps or to schedule a meeting to go over the map in detail with the town board and planning board (if applicable) contact Katie Malinowski, katie@tughill.org.

Information about the Tug Hill Reserve Act, which gives legislative authority to Special Areas, is available on the CTHC website, http://tughillcouncil.com/PATH.htm.

Village of Camden’s Survey Results Are In

The Village of Camden’s comprehensive planning effort is moving along with the results of a village wide survey recently tabulated. The survey had a very respectable 36% response rate. Ninety percent of respondents reported being either “very satisfied” or “satisfied” with the quality of life in Camden. Respondents chose “retain and expand viable commercial activity in the village downtown” as the most important factor to the village’s future. Concerns raised by the survey were lack of recreation opportunities for adults and lack of public transportation. These results will inform the planning process that takes place over the next several months.
A conference call was held Friday July 6th on the status of the proposed transmission line for the proposed Galloo Island wind farm. Upstate NY Power Corporation, citing low electrical power prices, expiring tax credits and project uncertainty, has asked for another six to nine months of adjournment on their status report to see how these issues may or may not resolve themselves before they move forward.

Several landowners expressed frustration with the length of time Upstate has had to see the project to fruition and to secure a contract or customer for the proposed electricity to be transmitted over the proposed line. The project has been on the table for over three years and landowners and businesses are frustrated by not being able to expand their properties or make land use decisions because of the uncertainty of where the power line could be built. On the call, staff from the Department of Public Service raised the question of whether the company would consider withdrawing their application knowing the company could re-file in the future without prejudice. Also, it was acknowledged that because so much time has passed, materials submitted by Upstate in their application will likely have to be updated if the application again becomes active.

Since the call on July 6th, staff of the Public Service Commission has filed a motion titled, “Department of Public Service Staff's Reply and Cross Motion to Dismiss,” requesting that Upstate withdraw its application, without prejudice (meaning a new application could be submitted at any time in the future), due to the concerns raised by

(Continued on page 3)
The Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has adopted rules affecting deer and bear hunting in New York, to implement certain aspects of the state's Five-Year Deer Management Plan. The new rules include longer bow seasons, mandatory antler restrictions in more areas and other deer hunting changes. The adopted changes include:

- Beginning bowhunting season and the regular season for the Southern Zone in Westchester County (bowhunting only) on October 1 and establishing a late bowhunting season concurrent with the late muzzleloader season in the Northern Zone.
- Adjusting the Northern Zone season dates by opening the Northern Zone regular season for 44 days, beginning on the 2nd Saturday after Columbus Day.
- Allowing Deer Management Permits (DMPs, “doe tags”) to be used in all seasons in the Northern Zone.
- Expanding mandatory antler restrictions (3 points on one side minimum) into Wildlife Management Units (WMUs) 3A, 4G, 4O, 4P, 4R, 4S, and 4W, as called for in the Deer Management Plan.
- Adjusting bear hunting seasons to remain concurrent with deer seasons.

The full text of the adopted regulations is available at [www.dec.ny.gov/regulations/81317.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/regulations/81317.html). To understand DEC’s rationale for the adopted season changes, and to review DEC’s assessment of public comments on this rulemaking, see [www.dec.ny.gov/docs/wildlife_pdf/deerregapc2012.pdf](http://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/wildlife_pdf/deerregapc2012.pdf). Also, the 2012 deer hunting seasons can be found at [www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/28605.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/28605.html) and additional information about mandatory antler restrictions in New York is available at [www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/27663.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/27663.html).

**Commission Assists with Consolidated Funding Applications**

Four Tug Hill Commission staffers assisted with the preparation of five Consolidated Funding Applications in various funding categories. The Town of Turin (in cooperation with the Village of Turin) and the Village of Lyons Falls applied to the Clean Water State Revolving Fund to assist with funding for preliminary studies on wastewater treatment plants. The Town of Martinsburg applied to the NYS Office of Parks Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) for improvements to hiking trails throughout Whitaker Park. Included in the proposal are the installation of four scenic overlooks of Roaring Brook Falls located along the trail. The Town of Wilna also applied for funding from OPRHP to contract for professional Landscape and Architectural services to design an interconnected waterfront park at the “Crown Cleaners of Watertown, Inc Superfund Site” in the Village of Herrings. Commission staff also assisted Celtic Energy Farm with an application to Empire State Development for funds to purchase equipment for willow biomass operations to support ReEnergy and the recently announced Biomass Crop Assistance Program (BCAP), which is also described on the top of page 2.

**DEC Adopts Changes for Deer Hunting Regulations**

The Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has adopted rules affecting deer and bear hunting in New York, to implement certain aspects of the state's Five-Year Deer Management Plan. The new rules include longer bow seasons, mandatory antler restrictions in more areas and other deer hunting changes. The adopted changes include:

- Beginning bowhunting season and the regular season for the Southern Zone in Westchester County (bowhunting only) on October 1 and establishing a late bowhunting season concurrent with the late muzzleloader season in the Northern Zone.
- Adjusting the Northern Zone season dates by opening the Northern Zone regular season for 44 days, beginning on the 2nd Saturday after Columbus Day.
- Allowing Deer Management Permits (DMPs, “doe tags”) to be used in all seasons in the Northern Zone.
- Expanding mandatory antler restrictions (3 points on one side minimum) into Wildlife Management Units (WMUs) 3A, 4G, 4O, 4P, 4R, 4S, and 4W, as called for in the Deer Management Plan.
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For anyone interested in visiting one of the many waterfalls in the North Country, there is an online resource for you at [http://www.nnywaterfalls.com/index.htm](http://www.nnywaterfalls.com/index.htm). Waterfalls are listed alphabetically, by river, and by county. If you see that a waterfall is missing, there is a form to nominate an addition.

The website was initially created by David J. Schryver, a math teacher for 33 years in the Edwards-Knox Central School District of St. Lawrence County, New York. From the website: "After retiring in 2006, he started giving some thought to many of the waterfalls in the area. As a resident of the town of Edwards for over 30 years, he knew that there are at least a dozen named waterfalls within 15 miles or so of his home and he had never seen any of them. As he started to explore and research some of them, he discovered that there was very little information in print on waterfalls in Jefferson, Lewis and St. Lawrence counties, locally referred to as the tri-counties. There were a few Internet resources available, but even they were limited. Also, it was found that some of the information in print wasn't always completely accurate."