

JUNE 30, 2017

Boylston Justice Court Legislation Signed Into Law

The town of Boylston, faced with difficulty in finding qualified candidates to fill its justice position, worked with their elected representatives Senator Ritchie and Assemblyman Barclay, to expand their residency requirement to include both the town of Boylston and the three adjacent towns in Oswego County - Orwell, Redfield, and Sandy Creek. Legislation was introduced in May 2017, and signed by the Governor yesterday, June 29.

The enacted legislation amends Town Law at section 23 by adding a new subdivision, 31, to waive the residency requirement as it relates to the selection of town justice in the Town of Boylston, in Oswego County. It also amends the public officers law at section 2 to add a new subdivision, 66, to exempt the town of Boylston from the requirement that an individual be a resident of the political subdivision or municipal corporation of the state for which he or she shall be chosen, or within which his or her official function is required to be exercised. Further, this section requires that the individual selected to hold office of town justice in the town of Boylston reside in a town which adjoins such town and which is in the county of Oswego.

This effort was modeled by similar legislation enacted in 2015 that expanded the residency requirements in the towns of Osceola and Lewis.

In This Issue

- Boylston Justice Court
- Lee Begins GIS/GPS
- Black River Trash Bash
- Champion Comprehensive Plan
- Redfield Holds Hearing
- NYSEDA Wind Energy Guide
- SLELO PRISM
- Boonville GPS Mapping
- Great Lakes Basin Grants
- Microsoft Windows XP
- Electronic Waste Grants
- Walmart Foundation

Town of Lee Begins GIS/GPS Mapping Project

The town of Lee began implementing its GIS needs assessment this spring, with the purchase of an EOS Arrow Bluetooth GPS and a tablet to begin an inventory of their assets. Their GIS will use the Tug Hill Commission's centralized online database for storing and updating data from the field. This data will also be used in QGIS, a free GIS desktop application, as well as through the commission's GIS Cloud platform for displaying and accessing data online.

The town's only initial cost was for the Bluetooth GPS and tablet with a data plan. The town wanted to own a GPS to give them the ability to keep their inventory up-to-date on a regular schedule and to use it to relocate assets, especially during the winter months. The commission is providing training, data hosting and the GIS Cloud platform free of charge.

Additionally, through a partnership with the commission and the Syracuse University Environmental Finance Center, Lee is using an intern to assist with initial inventory of their assets. The intern started on June 28th and will spend a couple days each week helping with data collection.



Alexandra Tornell Logan

Making Plans for the 2017 Black River Trash Bash: *Clean Water Starts With You*

The eight annual Black River Trash Bash is right around the corner, and this year's volunteers will be receiving a special gift for their hard work! The 2017 Trash Bash will be taking place on a date you pick in September or October this year. As you meet with your organizations this summer, please take a look at your calendars and let me know when you'd like to hold your event. It can be anywhere in the Black River watershed during the months of September and October. If you can think of another organization that might want to participate or for more information, contact Jennifer Harvill at 315-785-2380 or jennifer@tughill.org.

Last year, 57 Black River Trash Bash participants from Lyons Falls Alive, South Lewis Central School, Adirondack Communities Advisory League, Lewis County and Jefferson County Water Quality Coordinating Committees, American Society of Civil Engineers Student Club at SUNY Poly in Utica, and Haderondah 4H Club in Old Forge collected 400 pounds of trash and recyclables from the Black River shoreline. To illustrate the type and quantity of trash items collected, here are just a few examples from the data cards turned in by last year's volunteers: 1,600 cigarette butts, 422 food wrappers, 72 pieces of construction materials, 72 tobacco wrappers, 177 beverage cans and bottles, and 32 diapers. Of the 405 pounds of trash removed from 6 miles of shoreline, 24 pounds were recycled and diverted from the landfill for recycling.

Last year's Black River Trash Bash contributed to the following statewide: In 2016, 6,645 volunteers, coordinated by the American Littoral Society, cleaned and documented 66,830 pounds of debris along more than 230 miles of New York State's shoreline.

Champion Plan Nearing Completion

The town of Champion is entering the home stretch on the development of an updated comprehensive plan. The plan, developed by a committee made up of planning board members, town board members and other representatives from the community, is intended to prioritize capital investments and provide direction for future development within the community. The plan provides a framework for the existing zoning and land subdivision controls and will help assure that growth will be in accordance with existing plans for future water, sewer and road development. The plan builds off a RACOG wide comprehensive planning effort completed in 2009.

Redfield holds Zoning Commission Hearing

The town of Redfield recently appointed a zoning commission to draft their first zoning law for town board review. The zoning commission held a public hearing on their first draft on June 27th, attended by about 20 citizens. According to New York State law, first zoning laws must be drafted by a zoning commission which must hold at least one hearing on the proposal before transmitting it to the town board. The town board must then hold at least one hearing on the proposal before adoption of the law. The Redfield zoning commission will now consider the concerns and suggestions brought up at the public hearing before finalizing their recommendation to the town board.

NYSERDA publishes *New York Wind Energy Guide for Local Decision Makers*

This guide will help local decision makers and other community members prepare for and understand wind energy development. The sections, which include topics such as site selection, land agreements, local role in planning and permitting, birds and bats and public safety and setbacks, provide objective information on wind energy basics and the processes, regulations, and other important considerations involved in siting wind farms. You can download the *New York Wind Energy Guide for Local Decision Makers* in sections. Five of the eight sections are currently available, with the remaining three to be available in the next few weeks. Visit <https://www.nyserra.ny.gov/Researchers-and-Policymakers/Power-Generation/Wind/Large-Wind/New-York-Wind-Energy-Guide-Local-Decision-Makers> to access the guide.

SLELO PRISM Symposium a Success!

Over 100 participants, eleven presentations, five exhibits, plenty of sunshine and hundreds of hours of planning resulted in another highly successful Eastern Lake Ontario Invasive Species Symposium. On June 7th partners of the SLELO PRISM hosted the third Symposium which attracted participants from all over New York State and Canada. Experts presented on topics ranging from international ballast water regulations to local invasive species projects. Continuing education credits were provided to many participants to include: NYS DEC pesticide applicators license, the Society of American Foresters (SAF), the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) and Certified Nursery & Landscape Professionals (CLNP).



Exhibits from the New York State Invasive Species Research Institute, Department of Environmental Education, Office of Parks, Recreation & Historical Preservation, The Sentinel Plant Network and SLELO PRISM offered outreach materials and provided information. Many thanks to the SLELO education and planning committee, partners who volunteered the day of the event and to Douglaston Salmon Run, Selkirk Shores state park, and The Nature Conservancy Central & Western Chapter for making this event a success. Please follow the link below for additional information: <http://www.sleloinvasives.org/learn/educational-material/>.

Village of Boonville GPS Asset Inventory

The village of Boonville has been using the QGIS mapping application for the past few years to create maps of their assets. Their asset data was collected through a GPS inventory completed by a land surveyor several years ago. Since then, they have been using an older model GPS unit to keep their inventories updated, assisting with projects and relocating existing data. Recently, the village purchased and set up an EOS Arrow Bluetooth GPS unit that will be linked to a smartphone. They will be utilizing the commission's online database service and their GIS Cloud application at no cost.

Other Tug Hill communities interested in learning more about getting started with their own GIS/GPS system can contact Mickey Dietrich at (315) 785-2380 or mickey@tughill.org. There may also be opportunity over the next few months for an intern to assist with some data collection.

Great Lakes Basin Small Grants Program

New York Sea Grant & NYSDEC New York's Great Lakes Basin Small Grants Program is requesting proposals for projects that benefit the environment and economy of New York's Great Lakes basin. Go to <http://seagrant.sunysb.edu/articles/t/new-york-s-great-lakes-basin-small-grants-program-2017-request-for-proposals-grants-policies-funding-opportunities-current-rfps> for complete information.

Grants of up to \$25,000 will be awarded for projects that implement Goal #7 of the Great Lakes Action Agenda: "Enhance community resiliency and ecosystem integrity through restoration, protection, and improved resource management." It is anticipated that a total of \$200,000 will be awarded to 8-10 proposal requests. Eligible projects may include project planning, design, and/or implementation, information management, tool development, demonstration projects, and targeted outreach and education initiatives to support management actions as they relate to Goal #7. Deadline: September 22, 2017.

Microsoft Releases New Security Patches for Windows XP

For any municipalities still using computers running Windows XP or Vista or Windows 8, you know that Microsoft ended support for these operating systems and is no longer providing updates. Still, with the recent round of new security threats, Microsoft has taken the unusual step of providing patches for these versions. They did so in May, and they have done so again in June.

If you are running a newer version of Windows (7, 8.1, or 10), you will get the necessary security update through the usual Windows Update process. However, if you are still using one of these older versions of Windows, you will need to download and run the necessary patch manually.

The necessary patches can be found at:

<https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/help/4025687/microsoft-security-advisory-4025685-guidance-for-older-platforms>

This TinyURL will take you to the same page: <http://tinyurl.com/june2017patches>

Microsoft still encourages users to “upgrade to a supported platform.”

Electronic Waste Assistance Grants Available

The NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) continues to make available grant to offset costs e-waste recycling. Approximately \$1.7 million of the original \$3 million fiscal year 2016-2017 appropriation remains available to municipalities to help offset costs associated with the collection and recycling of e-waste. Municipalities may receive reimbursement of up to 50% of eligible expenses incurred for the recycling of e-waste between April 1, 2017 and December 31, 2017. The application deadline is January 31, 2018. Application materials, guidance documents, and important information for Electronic Waste Assistance Grants are available on [DEC's website](#).

For questions about E-Waste Assistance Grants, email RecyclingGrants@dec.ny.gov or contact DEC at 518-402-8678.

Walmart Foundation

The Walmart Foundation <http://giving.walmart.com/apply-for-grants/local-giving> is accepting applications through its Community Grant Program. Through the annual program, grants of up to \$2,500 will be awarded to support local nonprofit organization within the service area of individual Walmart stores. Grants will be awarded in the areas of hunger relief and healthy eating, sustainability, women's economic empowerment, and/or career opportunities. To be eligible, an organization must hold current tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)(3), (4), (6) or (19) of the Internal Revenue Code; be a recognized government entity: state, county, or city agency, including law enforcement or fire departments, that are requesting funds exclusively for public purposes; be a K-12 public or private school, charter school, community/junior college, state/private college or university; or a church or other faith-based organization with a proposed project that benefits the community at large. Deadline: Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis until December 31, 2017.

Contact Us

NYS Tug Hill Commission

317 Washington Street
Watertown, NY 13601

Phone: 315-785-2380

Toll Free within the region:

1-888-785-2380

Email: tughill@tughill.org

Visit us at:

Web: www.tughill.org

Facebook:

[www.facebook.com/
TugHillCommission](http://www.facebook.com/TugHillCommission)

If you would like to receive our newsletter electronically please email your request to gwen@tughill.org or call 1-888-785-2380.