

MARCH 10, 2017

Pending Legislation to Revise Boylston Justice Residency Requirement

Bills were recently submitted by Senator Ritchie and Assemblyman Barclay (S04076 and A05697) to revise the residency requirement for the town of Boylston justice. The bill is modeled after legislation that was enacted in 2015 allowing for a similar residency rule in the town of Lewis, which can now also draw judicial candidates from Osceola, West Turin or Leyden. The bill would amend Town Law and the Public Officer's Law, and has been referred to the local governments committees in both houses.

The town of Boylston, in Oswego County, has been unable to fill a town justice position for some time due to a lack of interested candidates from within the town. Currently, Judge Crast from Sandy Creek is temporarily appointed to administer the Boylston court. The bill, if enacted, will allow the town of Boylston to draw applicants from adjoining towns in Oswego County (towns of Orwell, Redfield, and Sandy Creek).

Representatives from each of the four towns, including board members and justices, as well as staff from Senator Ritchie's office and the Tug Hill Commission, met this week to review the legislation and answer questions.

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Black River Watershed Conference

Wednesday, June 14, 2017

View Arts Center

3273 State Route 28, Old Forge, NY 13420

Organized and hosted by the Jefferson, Herkimer and Lewis County Soil and Water Conservation Districts, NYS Tug Hill Commission and the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation Region 6. Visit www.tughill.org/projects/black-river-projects/ for previous conference agendas and presentations.

Contact Jennifer Harvill for more information at 315-785-2392 or jennifer@tughill.org. A full agenda and registration information will be available soon.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT CONFERENCE

**Deadline
Approaching!
Early registration at
\$50 ends March 15**

March 16 - 26th, registration cost \$100.

Registration forms available at
www.tughill.org/LGC2017

or

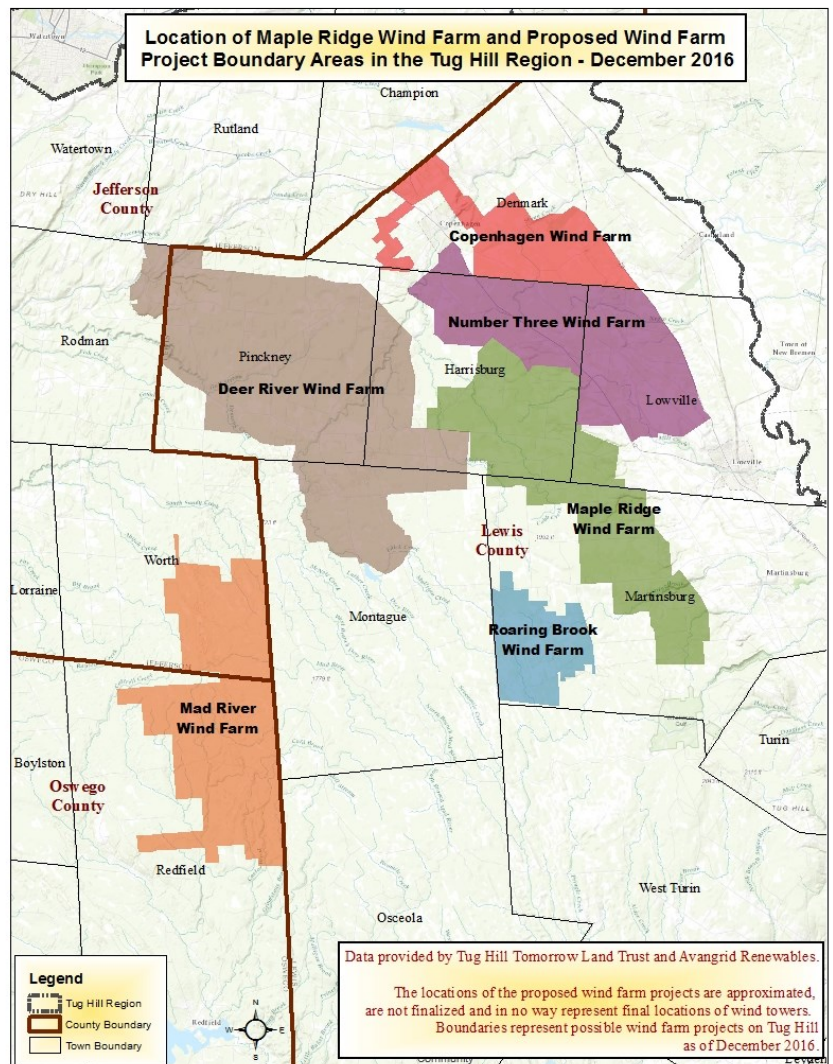
For electronic registration:
<https://lgc2017.eventbrite.com>

We're looking forward to seeing you there!

Wind Farm Open Houses held in Redfield, Pinckney

Opportunities for the public to ask questions about both the Mad River and Deer River Wind Farms were offered in Redfield and Pinckney this week. The Mad River Wind Farm, proposed in the towns of Redfield and Worth, would include up to 125 wind turbines to generate up to 350 MW of electricity, and would also require a greater than 10 mile transmission line to connect to the Volney – Marcy 345 kV line in the Camden area. The Public Involvement Plan (PIP) for the Mad River project was submitted on December 16, 2016. For detailed information about the project, see the project website at <http://www.avangridrenewables.us/madriver/> and the Department of Public Service (DPS) website, (<http://www.dps.ny.gov/>) under the Board on Electric Generation Siting and the Environment, Case 16-F-0713.

The Deer River Wind Farm, proposed in the towns of Harrisburg, Montague, and Pinckney, would generate up to 100 MW of electricity and is likely to interconnect in the town of Rodman. The PIP for the Deer River project was submitted on May 9, 2016. More information can also be found on the project website at <http://www.avangridrenewables.us/deerriver/index.html> and DPS Case 16-F-0267. New at the Deer River open house was a map of proposed tower locations.



Both wind farms are working through the Article 10 process, and the length of the transmission line for the Mad River project will trigger Article 7 as well. The commission's recent issue paper, The Next Generation of Wind Farms on Tug Hill (<http://www.tughill.org/publications/white-papers/>), provides information about all the various wind farm proposals and detailed information on Article 10.



On display at the Mad River Wind Farm open house on March 8, the poster above shows a projected timeline for the project.

Governor Announces NY Broadband Round II Awards

Governor Cuomo recently announced Round II awards for projects that will provide high speed broadband to homes, businesses and institutions in unserved or underserved areas across the state. The awarded projects support extension or improvement of broadband to residential, businesses and community anchor institutions (government buildings, healthcare facilities, and institutions of higher education, K-12 schools, and public safety locations). Awards impacting Tug Hill communities exceed \$6.5 million and include the following towns:

Town	Award	Total Investment	Number of Units
West Turin	\$ 550,384	\$ 687,960	312
Montague	\$ 455,125	\$ 568,890	258
Boylston	\$ 907,225	\$1,133,832	238
Redfield	\$ 514,619	\$ 643,140	135
Steuben	\$1,947,919	\$2,434,684	425
Western	\$1,189,703	\$1,487,065	217
Floyd	\$ 469,412	\$ 586,740	84
Remsen	\$ 275,988	\$ 344,916	78
Boonville	\$ 195,574	\$ 246,960	112

The New NY Broadband Program is administered by the New York State Broadband Program Office, a division of Empire State Development.

The Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) Portal accepted applications for Phase II of the New NY Broadband Program in November, 2016. Information on Phase II and the NYS Broadband Program can be found here: <https://nysbroadband.ny.gov/new-ny-broadband-program/phase-2> and award announcements from all NYS Regions can be found here: <https://nysbroadband.ny.gov/new-ny-broadband-program/phase-2>.

Reminder: State of Lake Ontario Meeting in Pulaski Monday, March 13

A reminder: the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation will be holding its 2017 State of Lake Ontario meeting on Monday, March 13, 6:30 p.m., at the Pulaski High School auditorium, 4624 Salina Street, Pulaski. The alternate date in the event of bad weather is Tuesday, March 14. Agenda items are scheduled to include the most recent Lake Ontario tributary creel survey. These meetings are open to the public.

Burn Ban Until May 14

The Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) reminds residents that with warming temperatures and dry conditions, residential brush burning is prohibited March 16 through May 14 across New York State.

DEC will post a [Fire Danger Map](#) rating forecast daily for the 2017 fire season on its website and on the [NY Fishing, Hunting & Wildlife App](#) available on DEC's website.

Currently, fire conditions in most of the state are low risk. New York first enacted strict restrictions on open burning in 2009 to help prevent wildfires and reduce air pollution. The regulations allow residential brush fires in towns with fewer than 20,000 residents during most of the year, but prohibit such burning in spring when most wildfires occur.

Jefferson County Soil and Water to Host Training

WHAT: NYS DEC Endorsed 4-Hour Erosion & Sediment Control Training

WHEN: Tuesday, April 18, 2017 from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm Registration deadline: 4/11/2017

COST: \$75 per person, non-refundable (Blue-Book "Lite" provided with each registration)

WHERE: Jefferson-Lewis BOCES, Administrative Building, Rooms A & B
20104 State Route 3, Watertown, NY

QUESTIONS: Call (315) 782-2749 or E-mail: cwatkins@JeffersonCountySWCD.org

For a registration form and more information:

<https://jeffersoncountyswcd.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/2017-registration-form.pdf>

Under the NYS DEC's Stormwater Permit GP-0-10-001, all developers, contractors and subcontractors must identify at least one trained contractor from their company that will be responsible for implementation of the SWPPP, and have at least one trained contractor on site on a daily basis when soil disturbance activities are being performed.

Contact Us

NYS Tug Hill Commission

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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.

Electronic versions appear in full color!

Main Street Boot Camp Workshop

Wednesday, April 19, 2017

9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Radisson Hotel, 200 Genesee Street, Utica

Homes and Community Renewal will host this Boot Camp workshop to provide an opportunity for community leaders and community development organizations to learn about Main Street revitalization concepts and tools. Session include topics on project funding sources, façade design, commercial district needs assessment and regional coordination. Sessions will feature project examples and best practices from commercial district revitalization activities from around New York State.

RSVP required as space is limited. Call Rachel at 518-473-9895 to register. Priority registration available for Mohawk Valley participants until March 16.

Asphalt Paving Principles Workshop

Cornell Local Roads is offering this workshop to help highway superintendents select paving alternatives, evaluate options and analyze costs. Topics include the fundamentals of a good road, materials selection, asphalt pavement failure types and causes, rehabilitation of asphalt pavements and inspection.

When : April 13 – 8:30 am - 3:00 pm.

Where: Oneida County Cornell Cooperative Extension
121nd St., Oriskany.