



November 14, 2014

IN THIS ISSUE:

- SEQR 2-Hour Training in Parish
- Town of Wilna Technology Improvement
- NYS DEC Endorsed Training 4-Hour Erosion & Sediment Control
- Federal Emergency Management Agency Assistance to Firefighters Grants
- Headwater Stream Management Webinar
- NYS Communities Can Now Apply for Arbor Day Community Grants
- NYS Archives-Upcoming Grant Deadline
- Foundations of Scanning Historical Photographs Webinar
- New Grant Preparation Checklist On Tug Hill Website
- Emergency Preparedness Training



Tug Hill Times

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.

SEQR 2-Hour Training Scheduled in Parish

DECEMBER 1st

Parish Village Gym

2938 East Main Street, Parish

7:00-9:00 p.m.

The Commission will be conducting a two-hour State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQR) training session. This session will cover what planning and zoning officials must know about the SEQR process during site plan, special use and subdivision reviews, and appeals to the zoning board of appeals. There will be ample time for questions.

Please contact the at **Tug Hill Commission at 1-888-785-2380** to reserve a training packet.

Town of Wilna Technology Improvement

The Town of Wilna board recently purchased a large 80" overhead screen monitor to provide more cost effective and efficient equipment in viewing GIS Map Viewer, site-plans, parcel overlay, annual budget & departmental reports and general information presented for discussion.

Using wireless high speed internet service, Code Officer and Assessor, Robert Ball presented a brief overview to members of the Planning & Municipal Boards and residents at the regular schedule meetings. According to Jon Storms, Planning Board Chair and member of the Jefferson County Planning Board, "the large screen provides board members with an opportunity to review site plans with greater detail and clarity that can get lost in smaller 8" X 11" paper copies. Pair that with the newly installed high speed wireless internet service and we can download GIS Map Viewer for easy access to online digital maps and overlay parcel information on to digital maps for a more comprehensive review."

Enthusiastically embracing the purchase of the new monitor, Supervisor Paul Smith commented "that the monitor can be a cost saving tool to reduce the number of paper copies that have to be disseminated to members of the board. Members of the different boards can view shared information in a shared setting." Additionally, the board stated the importance of digital information to local officials and suggested that being able to view online webinars and training sessions.

NYS DEC Endorsed Training 4-Hour Erosion & Sediment Control

MONDAY, DECEMBER 8TH
8:30 am – 12:30 pm

Cost: \$75 per person - Includes one (1) Blue-Book "Lite"
Registration fees are non-refundable.
Deadline is *December 3*

Location: Italian-American Civic Assoc., 192 Bellew Avenue, Watertown, NY

Presented by: Steve Botsford, NYS DEC

Registration begins at 8:00 a.m. and participants will need a photo ID. Anyone arriving after 8:45 a.m. will not be allowed to attend. Each participant will receive a NYS DEC Stormwater training certificate upon completion. Certificates must be renewed every three (3) years.

For registration forms go to <http://www.jeffersoncountyswcd.org/>

For additional information call (315) 782-2749 or E-mail: cwatkins@centralny.twcbc.com

Federal Emergency Management Agency Assistance to Firefighters Grants

The **objective** of the FY 2014 AFG Program is to award grants directly to fire departments, nonaffiliated EMS organizations, and SFTAs for critically needed resources to protect the public, train emergency personnel, foster interoperability, and support community resilience. Fire departments and nonaffiliated EMS organizations may apply for each, any, or all of the five Operations and Safety component activities (i.e., Training, Equipment, Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), Wellness and Fitness, and Modification to Facilities), and Vehicle.

Deadline: December 5, 2014

<https://www.fema.gov/welcome-assistance-firefighters-grant-program>

Headwater Stream Management Webinar

[The Northeast Climate Science Center](#) is hosting a webinar on headwater stream management that may be useful to stream management stakeholders in the Tug Hill region. The webinar, which will be held on November 19 at 3:30 p.m. is entitled "Making decisions in complex landscapes; Headwater stream management across multiple agencies using structured decision making." Rachel Katz, a Postdoctoral Associate at the University of Massachusetts, is the keynote speaker for the presentation.

For more information:

<http://necsc.umass.edu/webinars/making-decisions-complex-landscapes-headwater-stream-management-across-multiple-agencies-us>

NYS Communities Can Now Apply for Arbor Day Community Grants

The NYS Urban Forestry Council announced funding is available for projects in small communities (population up to 65,000) to have an Arbor Day event and begin a community forestry program. This funding is provided by the USDA Forest Service and the New York State DEC Urban Forestry Program. Grant applications are due December 2, 2014.

Grants of up to \$1,000 will be awarded to communities or non-profits that work in partnership with municipalities to celebrate Arbor Day 2015 and form a shade tree committee within the municipality.

The intention of this grant is to help communities begin a community forestry program. Communities that are currently a Tree City U.S.A. are ineligible, as are communities that have any component of the Tree City U.S.A program such as a tree ordinance; a tree board and an inventory or a management plan. To apply for a grant, go to:

www.nysurbanforestrycouncil.com.

NYS Archives – Upcoming Grant Deadline

NYS Archives is offering an in-person workshop on the *2015-16 LGRMIF (Local Government Records Management Improvement Fund) Grant Application Information Session on 12/11/14 in Canton*. The deadline for 2015-16 LGRMIF grants is likely to be **February 2, 2015**. Now is the perfect time to start getting your potential grant application organized!

Their full workshop schedule can be found here: <http://www.archives.nysed.gov/a/workshops/index.shtml>

When released, the 2015-16 grant deadlines will be posted here: http://www.archives.nysed.gov/a/grants/grants_lgrmif.shtml.

Foundations of Scanning Historical Photographs Webinar November 18, Tuesday 2:00–3:00 p.m.

Photographic materials in all their variety are among the most difficult records to manage and make accessible. With the dawn of new digital technologies, you are now able to share your historical photographs with a wider audience and save wear and tear on the originals. Digitizing your photographic collections opens the door to creative and interesting applications never before dreamed possible. Consider the blossoming world of blogging, websites, e-publications, social media, and so forth as natural venues to share your visual historic treasures. But there are many issues to consider as one prepares for such an endeavor. This webinar will introduce the basic principles of scanning historical photographs.

This webinar will focus on:

- * What photographic materials you can scan and how
- * Selecting a scanner and software to use and how to get the best possible image from them
- * How to plan for and carry out a successful photographic imaging project step by step
- * State Archives technical standards for file format, image resolution, bit depth, and compression
- * Creation of metadata and descriptive information for images
- * Options to increase access to your digital images

To register for this webinar go to: <http://iarchives.nysed.gov/WorkShops/workshopsServlet?owner=LG&cat=05>

Contact us at:

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New Grant Preparation Checklist On Tug Hill Website

One of the most common requests staff receive at the Commission is assistance with grant applications. To help communities develop a successful project, Commission staff has prepared a checklist as a guide to the process. It can be found under Publications - White Papers, <http://www.tughill.org/publications/white-papers/>. Highlighted at the top of the checklist is "Strong project development, a well articulated need, and community support are all key to a successful grant application."

Staff has also been working to reorganize the website to make it more user friendly. Past issues of Tug Hill Times are available, as well as Commission meeting minutes. A new section has been added to compile commonly used grant sources, found at <http://www.tughill.org/publications/grant-programs/>. We are always looking for feedback on how we can make the website more useful, so feel free to send an email to tughill@tughill.org with your suggestions!

Save the date!



26th Local Government Conference

March 26, 2015

Mark your calendar it's coming!

Emergency Preparedness Training

An Emergency Preparedness training will be held November 20 at 6:00 p.m. at the Carthage Central High School auditorium, 36500 Route 26, Carthage.

The New York National Guard will host the training, along with experts from the Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services' Office of Emergency Management, the Office of Fire Prevention and Control, and local emergency management personnel. During the two hour training, participants will learn how to prepare for a potential disaster, including developing a family emergency plan and stocking up on emergency supplies. Participating families will each receive a free disaster preparedness kit for getting through the immediate aftermath of a disaster. The kit contains items such as a first-aid kit, face mask, a pocket radio with batteries, food bars and an emergency blanket. In addition, everyone who attends will receive a certificate of completion. The program will also have a skilled volunteer registry, where community members with specialized skills that are needed in an emergency can sign up. Preregistration is required. To sign up online, visit www.prepare.ny.gov or call the American Legion at 493-2787 or 221-0167.