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# 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.

## Training for Planning Boards and ZBAs

Phil Street, Director of Planning for the Tug Hill Commission, will hold a workshop on the 'nuts and bolts' of conducting business as a planning board or a zoning board of appeals (ZBA) on Thursday, October 8 at 7pm at the **Town Hall in Constantia** located at 14 Frederick Street in the hamlet of Constantia. Frederick Street runs parallel with NYS Route 49, and is between Redfield Street and County Route 23.

Workshop topics include conducting public meetings and public hearings, key points for meeting minutes, use of checklists, and project recordkeeping. This workshop is intended for planning boards and zoning boards of appeals, but should also be of value to those involved in, or interested in, local project review, such as code enforcement officers or town or village board members. This workshop is free and will be good for a two-hour training credit for planning board and ZBA members.

Please pre-register at [gwen@tughill.org](mailto:gwen@tughill.org) or 1-888-785-2380, with your name, e-mail address and phone number.

A two-hour planning board/ZBA workshop will also be held in the **Town of Lee** on October 22 at 6-8pm. Details on the topic will be announced in the October 9 issue of the Tug Hill Times.

## Regional Economic Development Councils Release Progress Reports

The three state Regional Economic Development Councils that cover their Tug Hill region (North Country - Jefferson & Lewis; Mohawk Valley - Oneida; Central New York - Oswego) have all released their 2015 progress reports. The can be found by navigating to <http://regionalcouncils.ny.gov/> and then clicking the appropriate region on the map. The progress reports include information on past Consolidated Funding Applications (CFA) funded projects and their current status, as well as each Council's goals for the future.

Announcements on pending CFA submissions are expected later this fall.

## Tug Hill Commission to Meet in Lewis

The next meeting of the Tug Hill Commission will be held Monday, October 19 at 10am in the Town of Lewis. Agenda items include an update on the executive director search, a review of community and regional projects, and a period for public comment.

## Executive Director Search Open

The Commission is accepting letters of interest and resumes for its executive director position through October 15, 2015. A full description of the position is available at [www.tughill.org](http://www.tughill.org). Materials from interested candidates should be sent to Mr. Jan Bogdanowicz, Chairman, NYS Tug Hill Commission, Dulles State Office Building, 317 Washington Street, Watertown, NY 13601.

## Commission Meeting Held In Amboy

The Tug Hill Commission held its September meeting at the Amboy Town Hall, hosted by Supervisor Barry Leeman. Prior to the meeting, Supervisor Leeman gave Commissioners and staff a tour of nearby Amboy Town Park, which has seen many improvements over the years. Most recently, the town built a pavilion with water and electric service, that provides a central location for local events such as family reunions and weddings. The park also includes a playground and basketball courts. Future amenities may include a walking trail and added facilities.



## Westward Waters UMP Public Meeting October 14

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) will hold a public meeting on the draft Westward Waters Unit Management Plan (UMP) Wednesday, October 14. Major highlights of the UMP include new and expanded public access roads, increased parking, improved campsites at several locations, a new vista and other upgrades to infrastructure which will enhance recreational opportunities for all throughout these pristine state lands.

**Date:** Wednesday, October 14, 2015

**Time:** 6:30-8:45pm

**Location:** Lowville Fire Hall, 5420 Parkway Dr.

The first half hour will be an open house format to allow people to informally discuss the draft plan with DEC staff. At 7 p.m., there will be a brief presentation of the draft plan highlights. Following the presentation, the public will have an opportunity to comment on the plan.

The Westward Waters Unit Management Area is comprised of 13 state forests, a Demonstration Area and a smattering of Forest Preserve detached lots. The unit is home to the Otter Creek Horse Trail Complex; Lake Bonaparte and Eatonville campsites, and boasts several fishing access sites, including those at Crystal Creek, Burdick's Crossing, Castorland, Beeches Bridge, Lowville, Glenfield, Denley Dam and Deer River.

The unit contains over 39,430 total acres of state-owned parcels located in the Lewis County towns of Croghan, Diana, Greig, Lyonsdale, New Bremen and Watson.

DEC will accept written public comments until close of business October 30. Written comments may be mailed to either Edwin Sykes, 7327 State Hwy 812, Lowville, New York 13367 or by e-mail at: [r6.ump@dec.ny.gov](mailto:r6.ump@dec.ny.gov).

The draft plan is available on DEC's website at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/91857.html>. Copies of the draft plan on compact disk (CD) can be requested by e-mail at: [r6.ump@dec.ny.gov](mailto:r6.ump@dec.ny.gov) and available at the following locations: DEC Region 6 office, 317 Washington Street, Watertown (315-785-2263), or DEC Lowville sub-office: Attn: Edwin Sykes, 7327 State Hwy 812, Lowville (315-376-3521).

## Tug Hill Commission Exhibits at DANC Landfill Open House



The Development Authority of the North Country (DANC) held an open house in late August to celebrate their 30th anniversary. The Commission, along with numerous other local agencies and non-profits, staffed informational exhibits for visitors at the open house. More about the DANC landfill in Rodman can be found at <http://www.danc.org/operations/solid-waste-management>.

## Site Plan Review Workshop Held in Central Square

Phil Street, Director of Planning for the Tug Hill Commission, conducted a workshop on subdivision review, site plan review and project review on Thursday, September 10 at the Central Square Village offices. Sixteen people, representing planning boards and zoning boards of appeal (ZBA) from five municipalities, attended this training session, which was good for a two-hour credit toward the four hour annual training requirement for planning board members and ZBA members.

## Long-Term Flood Resiliency for Communities Workshops

Syracuse University Environmental Finance Center is offering FREE workshops on Long-Term Flood Resiliency for Communities: A Watershed Management Approach

**Big Flats – October 14, 2015, 8:30am-2pm**

Big Flats Community Center, Great Room  
476 Maple St, Big Flats, NY 14814

**Skaneateles – October 16, 2015, 9:00am-2pm**

First Presbyterian Church  
97 E Genesee St, Skaneateles, NY 13152

The workshops are free and lunch will be provided. For more information or to register visit: <http://efc.syr.edu/homepage-3/> or contact Brad DeFrees at [badeefree@syr.edu](mailto:badeefree@syr.edu) or 315-558-8046.

## Jefferson County SWCD Holds Fall Tour

The Jefferson County Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD) held a fall tour of current projects for county legislators and other partner organizations, including the Tug Hill Commission, last week. The mission of the Jefferson County SWCD is to bring people, government agencies, and private interests together to manage Jefferson County's natural resources. This year's tour focused on a streambank project on Sandy Creek, improvements to recreational trails on county forestland, and agricultural nonpoint source projects. A video highlighting the day's stops can be seen on their website at <http://www.jeffersoncountyswcd.org/news/17-blog/72-fall-tour-2015>.

## Floodplain Management and Coastal Erosion Training

Friday October 2 from 9:30am-4:30pm  
West Carthage Fireman's Hall Meeting Room, 61 High Street, Carthage, NY 13619.  
RSVP by September 29 at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/101275.html>.

Contact us at:

**NYS Tug Hill  
Commission**

317 Washington St.  
Watertown, NY 13601

We are located on the  
6th Floor of the Dulles  
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## Stormwater Management Workshops

Cornell Local Roads program is hosting Stormwater Management workshops this fall:

Jefferson County - 9/29/2015  
Jefferson County Cooperative Extension  
203 North Hamilton Street, Watertown

Ontario County - 9/30/2015  
Ontario County Cooperative Extension  
480 N Main Street, Canandaigua

Oneida County - 10/1/2015  
Oneida County Cooperative Extension  
121 Second Street, Oriskany

Cost is \$50 per attendee. Workshops typically run from 8:30am-3pm. Sign-in starts at 8am.

For course and registration information please visit <http://www.clrp.cornell.edu/workshops/stormwater.html>.

For more information call 607-255-8033 or email [clrp@cornell.edu](mailto:clrp@cornell.edu).

## New Webinar Training Opportunities Available from CNY State Archives

The NYS Archives will offer several new webinars to assist towns and villages with managing their records. All webinars are one-hour and are FREE. State Archives is now using a more friendly webinar service (WebEx) that should not give attendees so much trouble when logging in. This should eliminate the JAVA update issues associated with previous service.

To register, please visit State Archive's new Workshop Schedule and Registration webpage at: [www.archives.nysed.gov/workshops/schedule](http://www.archives.nysed.gov/workshops/schedule). You will find a list of webinars and workshops arranged by date of presentation. There is a new registration process is much improved.

### Upcoming Webinars

Wednesday, October 14, 10-11am – Using Local Government Records for Local and Family History

Wednesday, October 28, 10-11am – Disaster Planning and Response

Wednesday, November 18, 10-11am – Maintaining an Inactive Records Storage Area

For more information contact: Kent Stuetz, Regional Advisory Officer, NYS Archives, 315-542-5909 or [kstuetz@mail.nysed.gov](mailto:kstuetz@mail.nysed.gov).