



September 6, 2013

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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.

Remsen-Lake Placid Rail Line Public Meetings in September



The NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and the NYS Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) will hold four public meetings in September about the management of the Remsen-Lake Placid Travel Corridor, a 119-mile rail line in the western Adirondack Mountains and Tug Hill Region. Information and comments gathered from the public and stakeholder groups will help the commissioners of the two state agencies determine whether to amend the Remsen-Lake Placid Corridor Unit Management Plan. The plan, adopted by DEC and NYSDOT in March 1996, assesses the natural and physical resources along the 100-foot-wide corridor and identifies opportunities for public use. It guides how the corridor is used and managed.

The public meetings are scheduled for the following dates and locations:

- Monday, September 9, 6-9 p.m. at the Town of Webb Park Avenue Office Building, 183 Park Avenue in Old Forge
- Tuesday, September 10, 1-4 p.m. at the DEC Region 5 Headquarters, 1115 State Route 86, in Ray Brook
- Monday, September 16, 1-4 p.m. at the State Office Building, 207 Genesee Street, in Utica
- Tuesday, September 17, 6-9 p.m. at the Wild Center, 45 Museum Drive, in Tupper Lake

The sessions will include a presentation by the state agencies and informational stations where the public can give state agency staff their comments and ideas verbally or in writing.

Written comments also may be submitted by Sept. 25 to NYSTravelCorridor@dot.ny.gov, faxed to 518-457-3183, or mailed to Raymond F. Hessinger, Director, Freight & Passenger Rail Bureau, NYS Department of Transportation, 50 Wolf Road, POD 54, Albany, NY 12232.

The state acquired the Remsen-Lake Placid Travel Corridor in 1975 from the bankrupt Penn Central Railroad. The rail line was constructed in 1892 and was operated by New York Central Railroad and, later, Penn Central Railroad until freight service ended in 1972. NYSDOT manages the line in keeping with a Travel Corridor Unit Management Plan developed in conjunction with DEC. Approximately 100 miles of the corridor is located within the Adirondack Park. An additional 19 miles is located outside of the Park in the Tug Hill Region.

September 8, 2013





Sidewalk Construction Underway in Adams

New sidewalks are being installed in the Village of Adams, from the South Jefferson school buildings on U.S. Route 11 south toward the Adams Country Club. Funding for the project comes primarily from a NYS Department of Transportation Safe Routes to School grant that the Commission helped the Village apply for several years ago. Although the stand alone federally-funded Safe Routes to Schools program has been discontinued, the new federal Transportation Alternatives program will likely have it as an eligible funding categories. More information is available on NYSDOT's website <https://www.dot.ny.gov/divisions/operating/opdm/local-programs-bureau/srts> and at <http://www.saferoutesinfo.org/>.

Black River Trash Bash

The Black River, winding from Forestport to Dexter, is one of the North Country's most important natural resources. The Black River Trash Bash is a watershed-wide event to clean up along the River and document what litters its shores. Data will be compiled and sent to the American Littoral Society (ALS), which will use the data to devise strategies to combat pollution. We also hope to increase public participation in solving the problem of litter and pollution and to increase public awareness and appreciation of the River.

This event is being sponsored in part by the ALS, which conducts an annual world-wide beach cleanup day. The event is being organized locally by the Lewis County Soil and Water Conservation District and the Tug Hill Commission. Many thanks go out to Nirvana Spring Water and White's Lumber for their donations of water and gloves for the event. And many thanks go out to the captains of the cleanup sites. Please contact one of them below to find out how you or your community group can help!

Cleanup Site	Organization and Captain	Phone	Cleanup Date	Meeting Place
Lyons Falls and Port Leyden	Lyons Falls Alive (Rocky Fawcett)	348-9991	September 21, 10:00 am	Upper boat launch in Lyons Falls
Boonville	Adirondack Community Advisory League (Ian Klingbail)	942-2610	October 5, 8:00 am	Erwin Park
Watertown	Tug Hill Tomorrow Land Trust (Fawn Heins)	779-2239	October 5, 10:00 am	Waterworks Park
Greig	Lewis County Soil and Water Conservation District (Nichelle Billhardt)	376-6122	September 28, 9:00 am	Glenfield Boat Launch

Upcoming Webinar: Linking Sustainability, Food, Health and the Environment - Research, Outreach, and Education Implications for the Northeast

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The Northeast Regional Center for Rural Development is pleased to announce the above webinar to occur on September 13, 2013, 2:00 - 3:30 p.m.

This webinar will help:

- ◆ identify current efforts in research and extension that address how local and regional food systems impact public health, environmental sustainability and community well-being;
- ◆ identify and measure key indicators that determine whether there is positive change in the regional food system as a result of related projects or programs;
- ◆ identify key success factors, challenges and policy implications related to this issue; and
- ◆ improve research and extension integration across the region and help build stronger networks among land grant and related institutions in the Northeast.

Intended Audience:

This webinar is designed for research, teaching and extension professionals and practitioners engaged in work related to the Northeast regional food system.

Speakers:

- ◆ Kate Clancy (Moderator), School of Public Health, Johns Hopkins University
- ◆ Anne Palmer, Johns Hopkins Health Policy Center
- ◆ Jennifer Wilkins, Cornell University
- ◆ Carolyn Dimitri, New York University
- ◆ Jurgen Schwarz, UMD Eastern Shore
- ◆ Louise Mitchell, Health Care Without Harm and Maryland Hospitals for a Healthy Environment
- ◆ Anusuya Rangarajan, Cornell Small Farms Program
- ◆ Stephan Goetz, Northeast Regional Center for Rural Development

To Access Webinar:

Please register at: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/7035134243351101440>
After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

Participate Locally:

You are welcome to join Tug Hill Commission staff to view this webinar in our conference room. Please RSVP to Carla Malmgren by calling 1-888-785-2380 or via email at Carla@tughill.org.



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Barneveld Water is "Tasty"



The Village of Barneveld came in first place at the water taste test contest held at the Boonville Oneida County Fair earlier this summer, beating out other local villages, the City of Rome and the Mohawk Valley Water Authority. Barneveld went on to compete in the regional contest held in Syracuse. The region includes water systems from Watertown to Binghamton. Barneveld came in second in this contest. The final round of competition was at the state level at the New York State Fair. The village was one of the top 10 finalists competing in the championship round of the New York State Drinking Water Taste Test. The City of Rochester claimed the top spot.

The Village of Barneveld has done extensive work on the water system the last few years including a new filtration system, new collection well and additional new storage tank and will be completing fencing around the facility in the near future.

The Oneida County Health Department congratulated the village on their hard work providing great water to the customers of the Barneveld water system.

Reminders

SEQR Refresher and the New EAF Training Session at JCC September 11, 2013

A training session on SEQR and the new environmental assessment forms will be held Wednesday, September 11, 2013, 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm in the Jules Center Amphitheater, Room 6-002 at Jefferson Community College, 1220 Coffeen St., Watertown, NY. RSVPs are strongly encouraged by Monday, September 9th. Call Jefferson County Planning Department at (315) 785-3144 or email planning@co.jefferson.ny.us.

Training Session to be Held in Lowville for Planning Officials September 12, 2013

TOPIC # 1 - RURAL PLANNING (2 HRS) 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM
TOPIC # 2 - SPECIAL USE PERMITS (1 HR) 7:30 PM - 8:30 PM
SPEAKER: NYS Department of State, Division of Planning
SESSION SPONSOR: Lewis County Department of Economic Development and Planning

Sessions will take place in the Legislative Chambers of the Lewis County Court House, 7660 North State Street. RSVPs strongly encouraged by Tuesday, September 10th. Call Lewis County Planning at (315) 376-5422 or email syoung@lewiscountyny.org.

Local Government Conference at SUNY Potsdam Scheduled for October 15, 2013

The 22nd Annual Local Government Conference at SUNY Potsdam is scheduled for Tuesday, October 15, 2013. For more information and to register for the conference, go to www.potsdam.edu/localgovernment.