

SEPTEMBER 8, 2017

## New and Beginning Farmer Listening Tour, Watertown, September 14

The NYS Department of Agriculture & Markets is conducting a listening tour around the state, to further their work of supporting the next generation of local farmers. On Wednesday, September 14, from 2 pm to 4 pm, a session will be held at Jefferson County BOCES, 20104 State Route 3 in Watertown. Partners across the state will share information about available resources, and a dialogue will be hosted to discuss the challenges faced by new and beginning farmers in NY.

To register, go to <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/new-beginning-farmer-listening-tour-tickets-36531112541>.



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## Mad River Wind Project Open Houses Scheduled, September 20 and 21



Avangrid Renewables has announced the next set of public open houses for the Mad River Wind Project, proposed in the towns of Redfield and Worth. The open houses are scheduled for Wednesday, September 20th at the Lorraine Fire Hall (20876 County Route 189, Lorraine) and Thursday, September 21st at the Redfield Fire Hall (4879 County Route 17, Redfield). The open houses run from 2-4 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. on both of the listed days.

According to the Mad River website ([www.avangridrenewables.us/madriver/](http://www.avangridrenewables.us/madriver/)) there will be “...several educational stations for more information on the project, permitting and environmental study process, interconnection study process, meteorology studies, and engineering and construction. A preliminary study layout of potential turbine locations will also be on display.” Representatives from Avangrid Renewables and experts in the subject area will be available to answer questions as well. Interested people are encouraged to attend and there is no fee for attendance at the open houses.

# 2017 Fall Training for Planning Officials

## PLANNING BOARD OVERVIEW

**Monday, September 18, 2017 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.**

To be held at Jefferson Community College, Jules Center Amphitheater Room 6-002, 1220 Coffeen Street, Wattertown, NY.

The Jefferson County Department of Planning and the NYS Tug Hill Commission are co-sponsoring this land use training session. RSVP's are strongly encouraged by Thursday, September 15th. Contact Jefferson County Planning Department at 315-785-3144 or email: [planning@co.jefferson.ny.us](mailto:planning@co.jefferson.ny.us) for more information.

## SOLAR ENERGY REGULATIONS & MOCK HEARING FOR SPECIAL USE PERMITS

**September 19, 2017 from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m.**

To be held in the Large Group Instruction (LGI) Room, Lowville Academy & Central School, 7668 State Street, Lowville, NY.

Lewis County Planning is sponsoring this land use training session. Contact the Lewis County Planning Department at 315-376-5422 or email [sue-kulzer@lewiscounty.ny.gov](mailto:sue-kulzer@lewiscounty.ny.gov) for more information.



## ***Reminder - NOCCOG and CTHC Annual Dinners September 28!***

The Northern Oneida County Council of Governments (NOCCOG) will hold its annual dinner and business meeting on Thursday, September 28th at the Delta Lake Inn, 8524 Fish Hatchery Road, Rome. In addition to the adoption of the 2018 budget, election of officers, and annual update, Chris Anderson from the New York State Association of Towns will be the guest speaker.

Cocktail hour will begin at 6:00 p.m. dinner will follow at 7:00 p.m.

Dinner cost is \$22 per person. Checks can be mailed to NOCCOG at 20 Glenridge Drive, Taberg, NY 13471. For more details and RSVP forms please contact Jennifer Armstrong-Symonds at [jarmstrong@tughill.org](mailto:jarmstrong@tughill.org), or 315-371-7612.

Cooperative Tug Hill Council (CTHC) will hold its annual fall meeting at the Tug Hill Hideaway, 1838 Fish Creek Road, West Leyden. Agenda items include review of the budget for 2018, discussion on renewal of the CTHC intermunicipal agreement, and the Resource Management Plan update. Speakers will be Marguerite Wells, Invenergy and Jenny Briot, Avangrid Renewables, with updates on wind projects. The meeting will close with supervisor topics and any other comments from the floor.

Cocktail hour will start at 6:00 p.m. with dinner at 7:00 p.m. and the business meeting to follow.

The dinner cost for guests is \$21, payable that evening. Attendance of the meeting portion of the evening is, of course, free. Reservations can be made by contacting Angie Kimball at [angie@tughill.org](mailto:angie@tughill.org), 315-599-8825 or 315-480-6857. Please RSVP by Friday, September 15.

## Fish Passage Grant Available, Due October 13

The US Fish and Wildlife Service Lower Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office announced the availability of funding for Fish Passage and Aquatic Habitat Restoration in New York and Pennsylvania's Great Lakes watershed. Between \$10,000 and \$100,000 is available per project, and focus areas include:

- 1) removing/bypassing dams and/or replacing/retrofitting culverts,
- 2) restoring riparian and in stream habitat,
- 3) protecting, restoring and managing coastal wetlands,
- 4) completing road stream crossing assessments and prioritizing barrier removal projects.



Eligible organizations include states, tribes, local governments, and not for profits. Proposals are due by October 13th, 2017. Please refer to the RFP for more information: [https://content.govdelivery.com/attachments/NYSDEC/2017/09/05/file\\_attachments/874491/LGLFWCO%2BHabitat%2BProgram%2BRFP2017.pdf](https://content.govdelivery.com/attachments/NYSDEC/2017/09/05/file_attachments/874491/LGLFWCO%2BHabitat%2BProgram%2BRFP2017.pdf)

## 2018 Health Watersheds Grants Available, Due February 1

The US Endowment for Forestry and Communities, a partnership of the US Environmental Protection Agency and the Natural Resource Conservation Service, announced the availability of funding through the 2018 Healthy Watersheds Consortium Grant Program. Up to \$3 million in funding is available. Awards are considered in the following 3 categories:

- 1) Watershed Action Projects - projects that fulfill components of an established watershed plan - 50,000 to 250,000 award size,
- 2) Building watershed protection capacity - grows the organizational capacity and partnerships needed for long term watershed protection - maximum of 150,000 per year,
- 3) Advancing the state of practice - Awards new experimental technologies, methods, strategies, or approaches to incentivize watershed protection that can be scaled to a broader level. 50,000 to 200,000 award size.

Eligible applicants include not-for-profit organizations, for profit communities, tribes, state and local government agencies, colleges and universities. Public-private partnerships are desirable. At least a 25% in-kind match is required. An informational webinar will be held on October 11th at 2pm. Proposals are due by February 1st, 2018. For more information, visit: <http://www.usendowment.org/healthywatersheds.html>

## Great Lakes Resilience Grants Due September 22



New York Sea Grant, in partnership with the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation has announced availability of funding for Great Lakes resilience projects. Up to \$25,000 per project is available from the NYS Great Lakes Basin Small Grants Program. Eligible projects must use a complete ecosystem-based approach rather than a single issue or single species focus, incorporate stake-holder participation, and address

key priorities in the New York Great Lakes Action Agenda to enhance community resiliency and ecosystem integrity through restoration, protection, and improved resource management. Not-for-profit organizations, county and local government or public agencies, municipalities, regional planning and environmental commissions, and educational institutions, including, but not limited to, public and private K-12 schools, colleges, and universities are eligible to apply. Applications are due by September 22, 2017. For additional information, please visit: <http://www.nysgproposal.org>



# Port Leyden Wastewater Improvement Project Ground Breaking Ceremony

Congratulations to the village of Port Leyden for getting their wastewater improvement project off the ground. This project includes the reconstruction of 12,000 feet of collection main via cured-in-place pipe lining, replacement of 1,400 feet of undersized transmission main, and the replacement of 60 deteriorated manholes. Also included are the replacement of the existing sand filter media, Imhoff tank improvements, pump station upgrades, siphon and valve replacement, and a new chlorination system at the wastewater treatment facility. This project was funded with a NYSDHCR-CDBG grant (\$600,000) and USDA RD Grant (\$549,000) and USDA RD Loan (\$1,663,000). In 2013, the Tug Hill Commission worked with the village to write and submit the grant application for the engineering study that led to these wastewater upgrades. Port Leyden Mayor Heather Collins, Assemblyman Blankenbush, BCA Architects and Engineers Principal Mickey Lehman, commission staff member Jennifer Harvill and other dignitaries were on hand for the ground breaking ceremony Thursday morning, September 7th to celebrate this exciting event.



## Contact Us

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

Electronic versions appear in full color!

## DEC Announces Lake Ontario Fisheries Meetings

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) announced that the public will have the opportunity to learn and ask questions about the upcoming 2018 Lake Ontario salmon and trout stocking at upcoming meetings. Interested Tug Hill residents are encouraged to attend the meeting on **Tuesday, September 12** from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Pulaski High School auditorium, 4624 Salina Street, Pulaski, Oswego County.

During the public meeting, staff from DEC will present information and the public will have the opportunity to ask questions. Background information about these meetings is available on DEC's website at: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/111196.html>.

Members of the public can provide comments via email to: [fwfishlo@dec.ny.gov](mailto:fwfishlo@dec.ny.gov). For further information, please contact Steve LaPan, New York Great Lakes Fisheries Section Head, at the Cape Vincent Fisheries Research Station, 315-654-2147.