

August 12, 2011

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.

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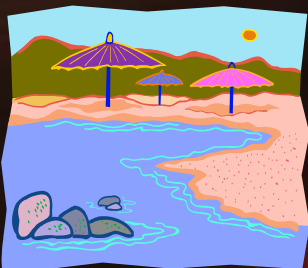
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Local Government Leadership Institute to Hold Training - *Living Within the Property Tax Cap: Innovative Strategies to Adapt to the New Fiscal Reality*

This Local Government Leadership Institute (LGLI) training is being given in Partnership with Plattsburgh University. It is only open to local officials from Clinton, Essex, Franklin, Hamilton, Herkimer, **Jefferson, Lewis**, St. Lawrence, Warren and Washington Counties.

The free LGLI session will take place on Thursday, August 25th at SUNY Plattsburgh, Angell College Center. Seating for the event is limited. To obtain registration information and for a complete agenda, go to <http://www.osc.state.ny.us/localgov/lgli/> and see "Upcoming Events" in the upper right corner of the page.

The event will feature panel discussions on the following topics: Sharing Strategies for Sustaining Fiscal Health and Property Tax Cap; Tools for Local Government Leaders. During this session, an overview of property tax cap legislation and the Office of the State Comptroller's statutory function will be covered. Guidance material such as Frequently Asked Questions and the Real Property Limit Calculation Form will be provided. An overview of multiyear financial planning to show the importance of planning under the tax cap will also be given. Finally, economic development and shared services grant opportunities will be shared.

Other training sessions on the property tax cap, not associated with the LGLI, will be held at a later time at locations throughout the state. These will be open to all, regardless of what county you are from.

**We will be sure to let you know when and where
you can attend as soon as we find out.**

Regional Economic Development Councils

Over the past few weeks Governor Andrew M. Cuomo has introduced "a new operating model for NYS government to stimulate regional economic development." Under the theme of "Open for Business" the Governor has created a process to bring all economic development functions to the table in each region of the state to collaborate on a plan for their future.

The process includes 10 Regional Economic Development Councils (REDCs) throughout the state. The Tug Hill Region is divided among three of these Councils.
("Economic Development" Continued on page 2)



cils: Jefferson and Lewis Counties in the Northern NY REDC, Oneida County in the Mohawk Valley REDC; and, Oswego County in the Central NY REDC. The goal of the REDCs is for regional stakeholders to form effective coalitions that develop, support and achieve common economic objectives.

By November, each REDC will develop a regional plan which defines strategies for addressing the most important economic issues and opportunities in the region. Through this initial five-year Strategic Plan, the REDCs will help drive regional and local development for years to come. State agencies participating in the REDCs have identified over \$1

billion dollars worth of new and existing program resources that can be used to support regional growth strategies in 2011-12. To access these resources, applicants will use the New York State Consolidated Funding Application (CFA), a single application for multiple state funding resources. This application will replace what previously were numerous individual applications that many of you have used in the past. Each REDC will also develop and endorsement standard to assist in recommending to the state agencies priority projects advance Regional Strategies.

At this stage, Tug Hill Commission personnel have attended the inaugural meetings of the three REDCs that include parts of the Tug Hill Region. Now, we turn to you, our Councils of Government and communities, to seek your input as to what role you would like to have the Commission have in relation to these REDCs and how we can best serve you and your community interests in this process. The process is quick and definitive. Over the next few days and weeks, we will have each of our Circuit Riders and key program staff contact the Councils of Government and seek their advice and input.

There are a lot of materials regarding the Regional Councils on the web site <http://nyworks.ny.gov>. Should you have any questions or want additional information on the Regional Councils, please do not hesitate to contact your Circuit Riders or our office at 1-888-785-2380.

CORRECTION - DEC Tree Grants Announced

In our last Tug Hill Times, we reported that three Tug Hill communities (Village of Prospect, Constantia Parks & Recreation and the Town of Forestport) successfully secured grant funding through NYSDEC’s Urban and Community Forestry Program. We should have also told you that the Village of Lowville also received a \$1,000 Quick Start award for tree planning. We apologize for the oversight!



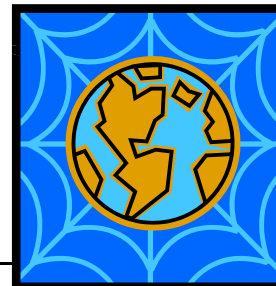
For more information on New York’s Urban and Community Forestry Program and the Cost-Share grants, visit DEC’s website at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/5285.html>.

Conference Focusing on Small Communities October 6-7 in Ellicottville



Entitled “Smart Management for Small Communities: Practical Resources for Governance,” the Syracuse Environmental Finance Center is hosting this conference October 6-7 in Ellicottville. The event will focus on the needs of municipal leaders and provide technical assistance, funding updates and practical skill-building sessions. Speakers will address pressing environmental topics, equipping attendees with the tools needed to address environmental challenges in small communities. For the full program and to register, click here <http://efc.syracusecoe.org/efc/events.html?skuvar=24>.

The Cornell Local Roads Program has announced their **Fall 2011 Workshop Series**. Although none of the workshops are held in the Tug Hill region, two are close by. *Snow & Ice Control* will be held in St. Lawrence County on September 20th and *Limited Legal Liability* will be held in Herkimer County on October 4th. For a complete listing of workshops in this series, go to www.clrp.cornell.edu/workshops/workshops.htm.

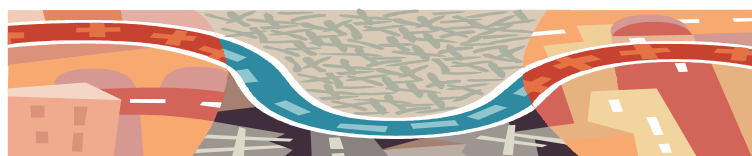


ADK North Country GIS Users Group Meeting

The ADK North Country GIS Users Group Meeting is next week! The event is scheduled for Wednesday, August 17th from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. at the SUNY ESF Ranger School in Wanakena, NY. The agenda is as follows:

9:30 - 10:00 am:	Arrive, coffee available
10:00 - 10:30:	DANC (Development Authority of the North Country) GIS Application - Dave Cook, DANC
10:30 - 11:00:	Consolidating and Organizing mapping viewers in the North County to save money - Mickey Dietrich, Tug, Hill Commission
11:00 - 11:30:	Tree Inventory work at St. Lawrence University - Carol Cady and Louise Gava, St. Lawrence University
11:30 - 12:00:	ARGIS - Adirondack Regional GIS -- and open source web map viewer - Steve Signell, SUNY ESF
12:00 - 1:00 pm:	LUNCH
1:00 - 2:00:	Managing Data in a Web Based Environment - What geospatial data managers can learn from an accomplished web publisher- John Warren, Adirondack Almanac
2:00 - 3:00:	Current Initiatives from Adirondack Park Agency, County, Local Government and Institutional GIS Users

If you are interested in attending, contact Mickey Dietrich at the Tug Hill Commission at (315) 785-2389 or email him at mickey@tughill.org. There may be room for carpooling to the event. The deadline to reserve lunch for \$10 at the Ranger School is August 9th. Otherwise, you will probably need to bring a lunch, since dining out is limited.



Technical Assistance Partnership Forum September 22nd in Syracuse

The Syracuse Environmental Finance Center is holding a Technical Assistance Partnership Forum (TAPF) on September 22nd, to include public infrastructure funding updates, as well as an overview of the new land bank legislation in New York, and what it means for local community leaders and technical assistants. The workshop will take place in conjunction with the Syracuse Center of Excellence's annual Symposium at the Oncenter Complex in Syracuse, NY. For the full program and to register, click here <http://efc.syracusecoe.org/efc/events.html?skuvar=25>.

NYS Tug Hill Commission

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Thank you!

WOODSMEN'S FIELD DAYS

The 64th Annual Woodsmen's Field Days is coming up August 19, 20 and 21! The rain or shine event will take place at the Boonville - Oneida County Fairgrounds, Route 294 in Boonville, NY. For a complete schedule of events and more info, go to: <http://www.starinfo.com/woodsmen/schedule.html>



Bob Sauer to Serve as Woodmen's Grand Marshall



The NYS Woodmen's Field Days Corporation recently announced that Bob Sauer of Camden will serve as the 2011 parade's honorary Grand Marshall. A graduate of the NYS College of Forestry in Syracuse, Bob served as the first forester on staff for Harden Furniture and worked as their senior forester until his retirement in 1999. He continues to work in the forest industry doing private forestry consulting work, mainly on Tug Hill.

Bob belongs to many professional organizations in the wood industry. He is an active member of the American Tree Farm, Empire State Forest Products Association, NYS Cooperating Consultant Forester Program and Society of American Foresters. Bob currently is a member of the Town of Camden Planning Board and ZBA, the chairman of the Region 6 Forest Practice Board, a board member for the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation Region 6 Open Space Advisory Committee, the NYS Timber Theft Advisory Board and Chairman of Northern Oneida County Council of Governments (NOCCOG). In 2003, Bob was named a Tug Hill Sage which recognizes him for his knowledge and wisdom related to the Tug Hill area.

Bob will lead the Woodmen's parade on Saturday August 20th and will receive a plaque honoring him for his many years of service to the forest industry.

Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwyrndrobwlllantysiliog

On a beautiful summer evening in July, a sign with the longest name for a train station was unveiled at the Remsen depot. The 58 letter sign is a gift from the Welsh government to the people of Remsen and it will remain permanently on the station platform.



The original sign stands on the station of a village on the island of Anglesey, Wales, the current home to the royal couple Prince William and Catherine Duchess of Cambridge. In the 1850's, three quarters of Remsen and neighboring town Steuben were Welsh settlers. It was the largest Welsh community in America and the new sign is in recognition of this heritage.

The Welsh government representative in New York, Catrin Brace, traveled to Remsen on the Adirondack Scenic Railroad to make the presentation to local officials. The unveiling ceremony was celebrated by an enthusiastic crowd, a band, speeches by local dignitaries, food with a Welsh flavor and people trying to pronounce the 58 word name.