

## Conservationist Highlights Commission's 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

AUGUST 24, 2018



The August 2018 issue of the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation's magazine, *Conservationist*, includes a story by Tug Hill Commission Executive Director Katie Malinowski about Tug Hill. Featuring community-led conservation in the East Branch of Fish Creek and Salmon River watersheds, the article also describes the Tug Hill region and the commission's work. Created by New York State legislation in 1972 with the first meeting held in April of 1973, the commission is unique in its grassroots approach that uses collaboration and consensus-building to achieve shared goals.

### In This Issue

- Commission's Anniversary
- Commission Retreat
- THC New Issue Paper
- SEQRA Basics Workshop
- Town Budget Training
- Historic Markers
- Cornell Local Roads Workshop

For more information about *Conservationist*, see <https://www.dec.ny.gov/pubs/conservationist.html>. To read the entire article about the Tug Hill Commission, go to <http://www.tughill.org/>.

## Retrieving at Commission Retreat

Following the August 20 Tug Hill Commission meeting, the board and staff were treated to a Labrador retriever demonstration by Alan and Gwen Pleasant, owners of the award winning Black River Retrievers. With their winter training location in North Carolina, the Pleasants discovered the perfect training facility for the summer months in the Montague/Pinckney area of Tug Hill several years ago. The business currently trains 22 dogs using a variety of fields and ponds on their large acreage. Several dogs out of the facility have won national championships.



A big thank you to Black River Retrievers for hosting the Tug Hill Commission!

# Tug Hill Commission Releases New Issue Paper - Cemetery Abandonment and Municipal Responsibilities

Abandoned public cemeteries become the responsibility of the town in which they are located. Taking over an abandoned cemetery is often a confusing and worrisome issue for a town. This paper explores the issues towns often face regarding abandoned cemeteries, as well as some information on other burial considerations that fall under municipal jurisdiction.

The new issue paper from the Tug Hill Commission, ***Cemetery Abandonment and Municipal Responsibilities***, can be used by local governments to learn more about their responsibilities when a cemetery is abandoned and how to help cemeteries in their jurisdiction from becoming abandoned in the first place. The paper can be found at <http://www.tughill.org/publications/technical-issue-papers/>.

## STATE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY REVIEW ACT (SEQRA) BASICS



Monday, September 17, 2018 from 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM  
JEFFERSON COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
1220 Coffeen Street  
Jules Center, Room 6-002  
Watertown, NY 13601

This introduction to the State Environmental Quality Review Act includes an overview of the environmental assessment form (EAF), Type I, Type II, and Unlisted actions and the sequence of making a positive or negative declaration on a project's potential to have an adverse impact on the environment. The relationship between the administration of local regulations and SEQR will also be discussed.

**You are strongly encouraged to RSVP by Friday, September 14th. Please register online.** You may also call Jefferson County Planning Department at (315) 785-3144 or Email: [planning@co.jefferson.ny.us](mailto:planning@co.jefferson.ny.us).

### AGENDA

6:30-6:35 pm - Welcome and Opening Remarks

6:35-8:30 pm - Presentation by Christopher Eastman & Jennifer O'Donnell, followed by Q&A

Christopher Eastman is manager of the Local Government Training program at the New York Department of State.

Jennifer O'Donnell is a Local Government Specialist with the New York State Department of State, Division of Local Government Services.

If approved by your municipality, this workshop can provide two (2) hours of training to meet the NYS Municipality Training Requirement.

Co-sponsored by the Jefferson County Department of Planning and the NYS Tug Hill Commission.

For a map of the college, driving directions, or parking requirements: <http://www.sunyjefferson.edu/about-jcc/campus-map>



## TOWN BUDGET TRAINING

PRESENTED BY LAIRD PETRIE, NYS OFFICE OF THE STATE COMPTROLLER

Designed to assist town officials in preparing annual budgets.

Topics include:

- Overview of the budgetary responsibilities of town officials
- How to develop a structurally balanced budget
- Key elements of the annual budget
- Tools for assisting town officials in the budget process
- Monitoring and amending the annual budget
- Operating within the 2% tax levy cap
- Question and answer period

---

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2018**

**6:30-8:30PM**

**REGISTRATION BEGINS AT 6PM**

**TOWN OF SCHUYLER**

**2090 STATE ROUTE 5, UTICA NY, 13502**

---

Sponsored by the Local Education Committee of Herkimer & Oneida Counties.

For more information and to register contact Jennifer at [jarmstrong@tughill.org](mailto:jarmstrong@tughill.org)  
or 315-371-7612 or [www.lgec.org](http://www.lgec.org).

## Historic Markers in New York

The foundation launched its Historic Roadside Marker Program in 2006 to erect markers in towns and villages within Onondaga County. In 2010, the program was expanded to other counties in New York including Cayuga, Cortland, Madison, and Oswego, as eligible grant recipients. The following year the program was expanded to include Erie and Genesee counties. In April 2012 they expanded the program to include all municipalities and 501(c)(3) organizations as eligible grant recipients.

As of March 2018 the foundation has funded over 495 Historic Markers in 53 New York counties! The participation and enthusiasm for this program has proven that communities want to preserve their local history, and this foundation wants to help.

For more information about the foundation and this grant program, go to [www.wgpfoundation.org/](http://www.wgpfoundation.org/).

## Contact Us

**NYS Tug Hill Commission**  
317 Washington Street  
Watertown, NY 13601

Phone: 315-785-2380

Toll Free within the region:  
1-888-785-2380

Email: [tughill@tughill.org](mailto:tughill@tughill.org)

Visit us at:

Web: [www.tughill.org](http://www.tughill.org)

Facebook:

[www.facebook.com/TugHillCommission](http://www.facebook.com/TugHillCommission)

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!

## Cornell Local Roads Program Conflict and Delegation Workshop

**When: September 11**

**Where: Cornell Cooperative Extension of Jefferson County, 203 North Hamilton Street, Watertown, NY 13601.**

**Who Should Attend:**

Highway and public works officials, crew supervisors, foremen, and others interested learning conflict resolution and delegation skills.

**Instructor: Jim Sheridan**, Senior Management, Consultant, Cornell University

### Topics

- Learn steps to resolving conflict
- Understand the risks associated with not managing conflict
- How to appropriately delegate responsibility and authority
- How to give effective instructions and ask appropriate questions to check for understanding
- Learn to recognize common delegation pitfalls and what to do about them

For more information and to register: <http://clrp.cornell.edu/workshops/Conflict.html>