

CTHC Fall Meeting Held

OCTOBER 5, 2018



The Cooperative Tug Hill Council's (CTHC) annual fall meeting was September 27 at the Steak and Brew in Turin. Seventeen of the twenty-one CTHC towns and villages, several Tug Hill Commission staff and other guests attended.

Following approval of meeting minutes and financials, Chairman Roger Tibbetts presented the 2019 proposed budget. With the addition of four villages and one town to CTHC's membership during the past year and a half, dues are projected to

remain at current levels for several years. The proposed budget was approved.

Guest speaker Attorney Joseph Russell from Barclay Damon spoke on low volume and minimum maintenance roads, as well as issues with opening roads for ATV travel. Phil Street, the commission's Director of Planning, shared the commission's Local Leaders Survey results and an invitation to the commission's annual dinner. Matt Johnson, Senior Planner, presented mini-comp plans which were created for most CTHC towns by summer intern John King. Copies were provided to the towns for their review, and can provide the basis for more in-depth comprehensive plans if towns choose to move forward.

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THC Staff Tour Oneida Lake Area



Randy Jackson talks to commission staff.

The Cornell Biological Field Station at Shackleton Point, Fort Brewerton and Oliver Stevens Blockhouse Museum and Historic Park, and the David C. Webb Memorial Park at Taft Bay were stops on a full day staff meeting for the commission this week. Field Station Associate Director and Senior Research Associate Randy Jackson gave staff a tour of the extensive facilities and shared his deep knowledge of the Oneida Lake fishery and the changes that have occurred there over time. Sharon BuMann,

president of the Fort Brewerton Historical Society, gave a tour of the replica building, including a significant collection of historic items spanning 10,000 years of human activity at the site, and discussed future plans for the facility. Rip Colesante, town of Constantia councilman and long-time member of the town's parks and recreation committee, described the significant use of the beach and recreation facilities and also discussed wider Oneida Lake watershed issues.

A big thank you to all who shared their time and expertise with commission staff. See these websites for more information on each site:

<https://cbfs.dnr.cornell.edu/about/>

<http://visitoswegocounty.com/historical-info/virtual-photo-tour/fort-brewertonoliver-stevens-blockhouse-museum-historic-park/>

<http://townconstantia.org/parks.shtml>



The interior of the Oliver Stevens Blockhouse takes the visitor back in time.



Rip Colesante and staff at Taft Bay park..



Lake-effect Snow Workshop Presentation Available

Approximately 30 people gathered at the Sandy Creek Town Hall on September 24 to learn about the lake-effect research at SUNY Oswego. Students Matthew Seymour and Nicholas Rodick and Professor Scott Steiger presented, and their presentation is available at <http://www.tughill.org/services/training/workshops/>.

The talk included an explanation about how lake-effect snow forms, and why it occurs so commonly in our region east of Lake Ontario, as well as Lake Erie, during late fall and winter. Other areas in the world where lake effect is prominent include the Black Sea and the Sea of Japan. The researchers stressed that weather models and radar only get us so far with

predictions and forecasting – human observations on the ground are key. Researching lake effect snow at SUNY Oswego is important in helping hone forecasting techniques and in general, understanding the mechanisms that govern lake effect bands can help with modeling and forecasting lake effect snow bands. An interesting observation noted by the presenters is that the location of lightning during the winter season changed after construction of the Maple Ridge Wind Farm, with lightning now occurring more over the Tug Hill versus over Lake Ontario. This is due to the increased charge separation occurring where manmade objects are encountered inland.

Did You Know?

The Lake-effect Storm Prediction and Research Center (LESPaRC) is a SUNY Oswego student-run organization that forecasts for Central and Northern NY during the winter season of November to April. Forecasters are assigned one day of the week to produce forecasts, twice on that day (4x a day during Active Mode). Forecasts are currently delivered to the NYS Department of Transportation and a number of school districts. LESPaRC is a 24/7 operation that can be subscribed to. For more information contact Dr. Steiger, <https://www.oswego.edu/orsp/lake-effect-storm-prediction-research-center>.

FY 2018 Assistance to Firefighters (AFG) Grants Open

Federal Assistance to Firefighters (AFG) grants for FY 2018 are now open with a deadline of October 26, 2018. The AFG grant program allows applications in three areas 1) Operations and Safety; 2) Vehicle Acquisition and 3) Regional Projects. Each activity has its own eligibility requirements, grant documents for review are available at <https://www.fema.gov/welcome-assistance-firefighters-grant-program>. The program's goal is to enhance the safety of the public and firefighters with respect to fire and fire-related hazards.

Eligible applicants are fire departments; non-affiliated EMS agencies; and State Fire Training Academies. Applicants must have a Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number and be registered in the System for Award Management (SAM). Be aware that it can take up to 4 weeks after submitting your SAM registration for it to become active and then recognized by the Grants.gov system. Find more information on these requirements at <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/register.html>.

AFG grants require matching funds, determined by community size. In general, non-federal matching funds of at least 15% of the grant amount is required. There is an exception for communities of less than 20,000 residents, which means for most Tug Hill communities the match amount is 5%. There is \$315,000,000 in funding available and there are anticipated to be 2,500 awards.

Emerald Ash Borer Workshop November 14

Preparing for The Bad Bug—Emerald Ash Borer, Wednesday, November 14, Adams Municipal Building, 3 S. Main St, Adams, 13605.

- 8:30-8:45 am **Sign-In/Registration**
- 8:45-9:15 am **Emerald Ash Borer an Introduction**, Glen Roberts, DEC Forester. *EAB biology. What to expect. Tree Liabilities.*
- 9:15-10:15 am **Contracts**, Eva Brown, Onondaga County SWCD. *Ash tree removal contracts, and people interactions.*
- 10:15-10:25 am **Break**
- 10:25-11:25 am **The Fear of the Bug**, John Payton, Senior Supervisor, National Grid. *National Grid's proactive plan to keep the lights on. Perspective, removal plans and concerns.*
- 11:25-12:00 pm **Grants and Resources**, Mike Giocondo, DEC Forester. *DEC Urban Forestry Grants, and other grants.*

Please pre-register for the meeting by emailing or calling Mike Giocondo, michael.giocondo@dec.ny.gov, 315-376-3521.

SLELO PRISM Hemlock Wooly Adelgid Walk & Talk

Date/Time: Thursday, October 11th 10:30am-2pm (*Rain-date 10/12 same time*)

Location: Forest Park located at 10-24 Ripley Rd., Camden, NY 13316. (*Meet at the parking area.*)

Help Protect Forest Park: An invasive insect called Hemlock Wooly Adelgid (HWA) kills hemlock trees. Hemlocks are a key tree species and loss of hemlock populations would dramatically reduce the overall health of our forests and urban green spaces. Join us for this guided hike and learn about identification and early detection.



Please contact Megan Pistolese, SLELO PRISM Education/Outreach Coordinator at 315-387-3600 x 7724 or megan.pistolese@tnc.org

Bring your own bagged lunch/beverages and dress for the weather as the entire event is outdoors

Sustaining Your Community Vitality into the Future Workshop, October 29, JCC

The Jefferson County Department of Planning and the NYS Tug Hill Commission are co-sponsoring a land use training session on Monday, October 29, 2018, 6:30-8:30 PM, at Jefferson Community College, 1220 Coffee Street, Jules Center, Room 6-002, Watertown, 13601.

This workshop will offer insights into what is needed to plan for the future. Planning for the future to ensure your community remains vibrant and solvent is at the core of resiliency planning. In this workshop, we will discuss what financial and social factors local leaders should consider; what community resiliency is and how to plan for it; and funding options to conduct resiliency planning, or to undertake projects that make your community, services and facilities more resilient.

Presenter: Khris Dodson from the Syracuse University Environmental Finance Center

RSVP by Friday, October 26, Jefferson County Planning Department at (315) 785-3144, planning@co.jefferson.ny.us.

E-Waste Recycling Grants Available

The NYS Department of Environmental Conservation is offering a fourth round of grant funding from the Environmental Protection Fund for collection and recycling of eligible electronic wastes (e-waste).

Approximately \$900,000 is available to cities, towns and villages across the state to help them mitigate expenses. Approximately \$900,000 will be available for the 2018 funding period (January 1, 2018-December 31, 2018). DEC will accept applications beginning January 1, 2019 and no later than February 28, 2019. Municipalities may receive reimbursement of up to 50% of eligible expenses.

For more information, see <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8778.html>.

Park and Trail Partnership Grants Available

Parks & Trails New York (PTNY) anticipates opening up the fourth round of competitive grants through the NYS Park and Trail Partnership Program in mid September. The program is administered by PTNY, in partnership with the New York State (NYS) Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP), and with support from Governor Cuomo.

The Park and Trail Partnership Program is a \$500,000 capacity-building matching grants program funded through the NYS Environmental Protection Fund. The program is designed to:

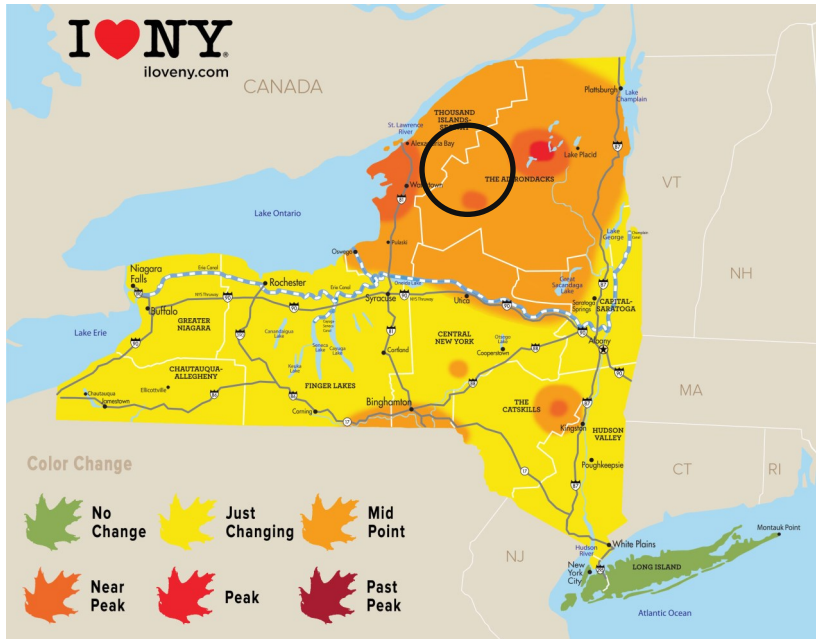
- Enhance the preservation, stewardship, interpretation, maintenance and promotion of New York State parks, trails, state historic sites and public lands.
- Increase the sustainability, effectiveness, productivity, and volunteer and fundraising capabilities of not-for-profit organizations that promote, maintain, and support New York State parks, trails, state historic sites and public lands.
- Promote the tourism and economic development benefits of outdoor recreation through the growth and expansion of a connected statewide network of parks, trails, greenways and public lands.

Prospective applicants are strongly encouraged to visit PTNY [website](#) for more information. **All final applications must be submitted by November 30, 2018.**

Discover Fall in the Tug Hill Region!

It's no secret that NYS has some of the best leaf peeping opportunities to offer. While the ILoveNY site boasts the autumn colors and places to see them, the Tug Hill Region remains a hidden gem for fall exploration and activities. After the Adirondacks have peaked and the colors are fading, Tug Hill offers unique opportunities to enjoy the changing colors of NY's forests.

Fall Foliage report week of October 3-9 <https://www.iloveny.com/things-to-do/fall/foliage-report/>



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

Visit us at:

Web: www.tughill.org

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/TugHillCommission

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

Electronic versions appear in full color!

Plan your visit to Tug Hill when foliage is at mid point or near peak for a great leaf peeping experience!

For the hiking and outdoor adventure enthusiast of all ages and abilities, some of the best places in the region to visit in the fall include [Tug Hill State Forest and the Inman Gulf trail](#), Winona State Forest, [Whetstone Gulf State Park](#), the Black River trail extending from Watertown to Black River, Poor's Island in Black River Village, [Salmon River Falls](#), the newly paved Salmon Riverwalk in Pulaski, [Salmon River Reservoir in Redfield](#), [Happy Valley Wildlife Management Area](#), Forest Park in Camden and hidden nature preserve trails throughout the region that are owned and maintained by the Tug Hill Tomorrow Land Trust.



Black River in the fall at Poor's Island in Black River Village.



Salmon River Falls in Altmar.