

JANUARY 18, 2019



Linda Garrett and Katie Malinowski with portraits of Ben Coe and Doug Barclay at the NY State Museum.

Venerable Folks of Tug Hill Exhibit Travels to Albany

Tug Hill traveled to Albany on January 12 through the Venerable Folks of Tug Hill display at the NY State Museum's Great Places and Spaces event. Commission executive director Katie Malinowski and Tug Hill Tomorrow Land Trust executive director Linda Garrett answered the question "Where is Tug Hill?" several times, and shared information about the region with visitors throughout the afternoon.

The Venerable Folks display is available to travel to other locations, both in Tug Hill and throughout the state. If you have an idea of a public space that would be appropriate for the display, please contact the land trust or the commission.

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The Tug Hill Commission will meet Monday, January 28 from 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. at the Parish Village Gym, 2938 East Main Street (State Route 69), Parish, NY 13131 . The public is welcome to attend.

NYS Executive Budget Released – Highlights

Governor Cuomo released his FY 2019-2020 budget proposal earlier this week. The full set of budget documents can be reviewed at <https://www.budget.ny.gov/pubs/archive/fy20/exec/index.html>.

Budget proposal items of interest to Tug Hill communities include:

- Making the property tax cap permanent
- Adjusting AIM payments to towns and villages, only making AIM payments to towns and villages that have "AIM reliance" equal to two percent or greater
- Continuing state matching funds to county-wide shared services plan implementation
- Continuing funding of PAVE NY and BRIDGE NY
- Continuing state program to expand broadband in underserved areas
- Continuing state investment in clean water infrastructure
- Continuing Regional Economic Development Council program
- Renewing the Environmental Protection Fund at \$300 million, including the Army Compatible Use Buffer program
- Continuing funding of the Tug Hill Commission

Hemlock Woolly Adelgid Workshop February 15

Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (HWA) is an invasive insect that kills hemlock trees. Although not yet known to be the Tug Hill region, hemlocks are a key tree species and loss of hemlock populations would dramatically reduce the overall health of our rural forests as well as urban green spaces. Learn how to identify hemlocks, observe for HWA, and report observations by attending an upcoming free public workshop on Friday, February 15th from 10:30am-2:30pm at Whetstone Gulf State Park. For more information and to register: <http://www.sleloinvasives.org/event/hemlock-woolly-adelgid-workshop-survey/>. Participants are asked to bring their own bagged lunch/beverages and to dress for the weather, as there will be an outdoor field session.

Highway Summer Intern Program

The Cornell Asset Management Program (CAMP) summer intern project helps municipalities implement a pavement management system for local highway networks while providing college students, assisted by a municipal employee, with a valuable work experience. The program work includes students collecting pavement inventory and condition data, and creating a five-year maintenance plan for municipalities using our Cornell Asset Management Program-Roads and Streets (CAMP-RS) software. The project provides your municipality with a way to overcome some of the time constraints that limit the implementation of a pavement management system. Students get practical experience that will help them after they graduate from college.



Municipalities: Municipalities should send a letter on municipal letterhead to the Cornell Local Roads Program by February 28, 2019, stating their intent to participate in the program. By sending the letter, the municipality agrees it will meet all the responsibilities listed on page 3 of the [CAMP brochure](#), and will have the necessary equipment before the training held in late May. The letter should state if the municipality will be recruiting the student.

For more information on the CAMP program, visit <https://www.clrp.cornell.edu/trainingevents/interns.html> or contact Geoff Scott, P.E., Technical Assistance Engineer with the Cornell Local Roads Program at (607) 255-2806 or grs78@cornell.edu.

New York Main Street (NYMS) Application Exit Conference Webinar February 6

On February 6, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. New York Main Street (NYMS) program staff will conduct an application exit conference webinar. It will review the content of the 2018 NYMS application, identify common deficiencies in unsuccessful applications, and provide tips for improving an application. This presentation is designed to provide detailed feedback for unsuccessful 2018 applicants. All prospective applicants should participate to prepare for the 2019 Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) round.

Register online, here: <https://meetny.webex.com/meetny/onstage/g.php?MTID=e6a01fa1b7d480db040599f1ec2b51631>

The webinar will not be recorded, but the presentation PDF will be provided to the full registration list.

Given the volume of applications received and competitiveness of the program, program staff are unable to provide one-on-one feedback for applicants. To get the most out of the webinar, prior to the session closely review the application materials submitted and then compare to the examples and tips provided during the presentation.

For more information, contact Patricia O'Reilly, Assistant Program Director, NYS Homes and Community Renewal, 620 Erie Blvd. West, Suite 312, Syracuse, NY 13204, (315) 478-7179 ext. 205, patricia.oreilly@nyshcr.org, www.nyshcr.org.

All About the Grants Gateway

Although it seems far off, later this spring the next deadline for Consolidated Funding Applications (CFA's) will be announced. Now is the time to get your ideas for projects rolling! Whether you are a municipality or a non-profit organization, in order to apply for a CFA, you will need to get familiar with the Grants Gateway.

The Grants Gateway website has a new look and feel! Please check it out at <https://grantsmanagement.ny.gov/>. Of particular interest is the **Resources for Grant Applicants** page at <https://grantsmanagement.ny.gov/resources-grant-applicants>. All you need to know about applying for NYS grants through the Grants Gateway is available here.

Free live webinars are offered at <https://grantsmanagement.ny.gov/live-webinars>:

- Every Tuesday and Thursday: *Registration and Prequalification Processes.*
- Every Tuesday and Thursday: *Applying for a grant on the grants gateway.*
- Every Monday: *Contract management.*

In addition to live webinars, there are instructional videos available 24/7 at <https://grantsmanagement.ny.gov/videos-grant-applicants>. Videos include:

- *Register Your Organization*, which assists you with the Grants Gateway registration process.
- *Get Prequalified*, which assists with the Grants Gateway Prequalification process. The target audience for this video is nonprofit organizations.
- *Apply for a Grant*, which assists with the Grants Gateway application process.
- *Request Payment*

We cannot stress enough the importance of getting registered (and if you are a non-profit, prequalified) on the grants gateway. The commission can assist you with grant writing, but if you are awarded funding, we are limited in our ability to support the grant administration process and the bulk of that will fall on the municipality or organization. Please be prepared!

Invasive Species Management Grants Available

NYSDEC is currently accepting applications for Terrestrial and Aquatic Invasive Species Management projects. Approximately \$3,000,000 in grant funding from the New York State Environmental Protection Fund (EPF) is available. The minimum grant amount is \$11,000, and maximum grant amount is \$100,000, with a 25% match requirement. Eligible projects include:

- Boat Steward Education and Outreach/Voluntary Inspection,
- Boat Decontamination Stations,
- Physical and Mechanical Removal,
- Chemical Treatment - Herbicides and shading,
- Biocontrol Release- Grass carp and herbivorous insects,
- Terrestrial and Aquatic Invasive Species Research, and Lake Management Planning.

Applications must be submitted in the Grants Gateway by **3:00 PM on Friday, February 15, 2019**. For more information: <https://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/115742.html>

The Role of a Local Government Records Management Officer Webinar

Congratulations, you are an RMO! Welcome to the role of Records Management Officer. This webinar will explain why this essential position exists, what its key responsibilities are, and how you and others in your organization can work together to build and maintain a strong records management program.

This session is being held on **Wednesday, January 23, 2019 at 10 AM**.

To register: <http://www.archives.nysed.gov/workshops/schedule/the-role-of-a-records-management-officer-webinar-wws-2019>

Tug Hill Featured in SLELO Video

The St. Lawrence Eastern Lake Ontario Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management (SLELO PRISM) recently released a video about their conservation efforts in Jefferson, Lewis, Oneida, Oswego, and St. Lawrence counties. The video features great drone panoramas of Lake Ontario, the Salmon River, and the Tug Hill core forest.

<https://youtu.be/5preUh4Z7o8>

New Drinking Water Source Protection Program

The NYS Department of Environmental Conservation and the NYS Department of Health, in consultation with the Departments of State and Agriculture and Markets, have created a statewide program to help municipalities develop and implement protection plans for their drinking water sources. Communities with public water supplies to apply for this new [Drinking Water Source Protection Program \(DWSP2\)](#).

NYS will partner with up to 30 communities to: update drinking water assessments, develop plans to protect public water supply source water areas, and assist municipalities with plan implementation. The state will hire a consultant to work with the communities, and there will be no out-of-pocket costs to participating municipalities for plan development.

To apply, visit the [Drinking Water Source Protection Program Applicants webpage](#) and complete the [online application](#). **Applications are due February 15, 2019.**

2019 Arbor Day Community Grants Due March 7

The **NYS Urban Forestry Council** has funding currently available for small communities to have a 2019 Arbor Day tree planting event and to establish a community-based forestry program. Please note, this is not part of the NYSDEC's community tree grants.

Grants of **up to \$1,000** will be awarded to communities or non-profits that work in partnership with communities to celebrate Arbor Day 2019 by both **planting a tree or trees and forming a volunteer tree committee or tree board within the municipality**. To be considered for a grant or to get more information, visit <http://nysufc.org/> for complete grant materials. You will also find contacts and other web resources at this website. There is a link at the top right-hand-side of the page.

Besides planting trees, **the intent of this grant is to help promote and establish a meaningful community forestry program**. Communities that are currently a Tree City USA or those that have any component of the Tree City USA program, such as a tree ordinance, tree board, tree inventory or management plan are **ineligible**. **Previous NYS Arbor Day Community Grant recipients are also ineligible.**

Eligible expenses may include, but are not limited to: trees, mulch, soil, stakes (if necessary for the site), printing of a program and advertising to publicize the event. Values for in-kind or in-house labor, equipment, supplies, etc. can be included as part of your budget.

Applications are due by 5:00 pm on **March 7th, 2019** and award recipients should be notified by the third full week of March.

Contact Us

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

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