

August 2, 2019

## Commission Staff Assist with Grant Applications

Several organizations submitted grant applications for the July 26 Consolidated Funding Application deadline, with varying levels of assistance from commission staff.

- ⇒ The **town of Annsville** requested over \$245,000 from the Water Quality Improvement Program for a salt storage shed.
- ⇒ The **River Area Council of Governments/Village of West Carthage**, on behalf of 16 communities, requested over \$290,000 from the Local Government Efficiency program to support their LED lighting conversion project.
- ⇒ **Valley Snow Travelers** and **Winona Forest Recreation Association** each requested \$200,000 for new snowmobile trail groomers.
- ⇒ **Jefferson County** requested \$275,000 for a vacuum truck/street sweeper to support the Jefferson County Stormwater Coalition.
- ⇒ **Lewis County** requested \$50,000 from the Community Development Block Grant planning program to conduct a South Lewis Schools Reuse plan.

Funding announcements will be made late fall/early winter.

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## Deer River Wind Farm Public Meetings August 6

The examiners in the Deer River Wind Project's Article 10 Certification Proceeding (Case 16-F-0267) will hold public education and public statement hearing meetings on Tuesday, August 6, 2019 at the Lowville Academy & Central School District Auditorium at 7668 State Street, Lowville, NY 13367.

Afternoon Forum: 1:30 - 2:30 p.m.

Afternoon Public Statement Hearing: Starting at 2:30 p.m.

Evening Forum: 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Afternoon Public Statement Hearing: Starting at 6:30 p.m.

At the informational forum, the examiners will provide an overview of the Siting Board's certification process. Atlantic Wind will then present a brief summary of the proposed project and will have maps of the proposed project area available for viewing. Members of the public will then have an opportunity to pose questions about the process and the certification application pending before the Siting Board.

At the hearing, any person wishing to provide a public statement must complete a request card, and the examiners contact each person who has requested to provide a statement. Reasonable time limits may be set. Lengthy comments may be submitted in writing.

For more information, visit [www.avangridrenewables.com/deerriver](http://www.avangridrenewables.com/deerriver).



Fundamentals of Water  
and  
Wastewater Facilities  
for  
Municipalities

**October 29, 2019**  
**9:00 am - 3:00 pm**  
**Tailwater Lodge, Altmar, NY**

- Working with Engineering Firms on Capital Projects
- Available Funding for Water and Sewer Projects
- Setting Water and Sewer Rates
- Source Water Protection
- Succession Planning and Apprentice Program

# Tug Hill Commission and JCC Present Stream Sampling Findings August 14

SCI 199, "Interdisciplinary Science/Mathematics," is taught at Jefferson Community College (JCC) every spring. It was started by Pete Gaskin and Joel Lalone in 1994 with the goal of teaching about stream health, scientific sampling, and mathematical analysis. Students collect samples from local creeks and assess the streams using various techniques. They have collected data in the northwest part of Tug Hill and beyond, from Chaumont to Lowville to Sandy Creek. For several years, they worked with the Development Authority of the North Country (DANC) to sample Fish Creek, attempting to see if there was a significant difference downstream compared to upstream of the Rodman landfill.

This summer, JCC shared their data with the Tug Hill Commission, and intern John King has worked with the Tug Hill Commission staff and JCC professors to clean, analyze, and interpret the results. He will present information about the study's finding on **August 14<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 pm**, with time for questions at the end. A recording of the webinar will be made available on the Tug Hill Commission website. Financial support for John's internship at the commission has come from Jefferson County's "The Workplace" Summer Youth Employment Program.

Directions: Follow this link: <https://meetny.webex.com/join/emily.sheridan>. Participants can enter their phone number and the webex program will call them to connect audio, or they can call in for audio: 1-844-633-8697. Type in Meeting ID when prompted: 649908318.

## Planning Board and ZBA Members Training August 19

The town of Osceola is hosting training for any interested Planning Board and ZBA members on Monday August 19<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. at the Osceola Town Hall/Library, 2117 North Osceola Rd., Osceola. The Tug Hill Commission's Director of Planning, Phil Street will be conduct the free training. Contact CTHC Circuit Rider Angie Kimball at [angie@tughill.org](mailto:angie@tughill.org) or 315-599-8825 (home) or 315-480-6857 (cell) with questions or to register by August 16 so an adequate amount of the training materials can be made available. If approved by your town or village board, this class would provide two hours of training toward the annual four hours required for planning and zoning board members.

## TOWN BOARD BUDGET PROCESS AUGUST 28

Presented by:  
The Office of the State Comptroller Syracuse Regional Office

| Date                 | Location                                     | Time             | Register By |
|----------------------|--|------------------|-------------|
| Wednesday<br>8/28/19 | Albion Town Hall<br>15 Bridge St., Altmar NY | 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. | August 26   |



This training program will assist town officials in preparing their annual budgets. Topics to be covered include:

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

To pre-register, contact the Tug Hill Commission at 1-888-785-2380 or email [tughill@tughill.org](mailto:tughill@tughill.org).

Sponsored by:

Office of the State Comptroller Syracuse Regional Office NYS Tug Hill Commission  
Salmon Rivers Council of Government  
North Shore Council of Government

# Port Leyden Community Brainstorm Well Attended

Over 50 people attended a community brainstorming session in Port Leyden on Tuesday July 30. At the request of Port Leyden Mayor Heather Collins, commission staff partnered with Lewis County agencies to collect feedback from Port Leyden residents on issues in their community, ideas to address those issues, and wish list items for the future. The evening's results will be shared with the village board in a report over the next few months, and partner organizations will discuss how to move forward with implementation items.



**The next meeting of the Tug Hill Commission will be Monday, September 16, 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Cleveland Village Hall, 2 Clay Street, Cleveland, NY 13042.**

**The public is welcome to attend.**

## LED Streetlights Conversion Project

The River Area Council of Government (RACOG) LED streetlight conversion project has grown to communities outside RACOG and the Tug Hill region, with 16 municipalities participating in a project that will cut costs across the area.

The group has focused on a municipally owned option and has elected to go with the New York Power Authority (NYPA) for an aggregated LED conversion. The estimated yearly savings is \$211,164.95. The group is also looking to utilize smart controls for remote monitoring and maintenance as an asset management tool, which will also provide greater control of each individual light fixture. Smart control systems will also provide the capability to add advanced sensors. Examples of advanced sensors include water meter readers, increased Wi-Fi accessibility, temperature and humidity, vibration, or air quality monitoring.

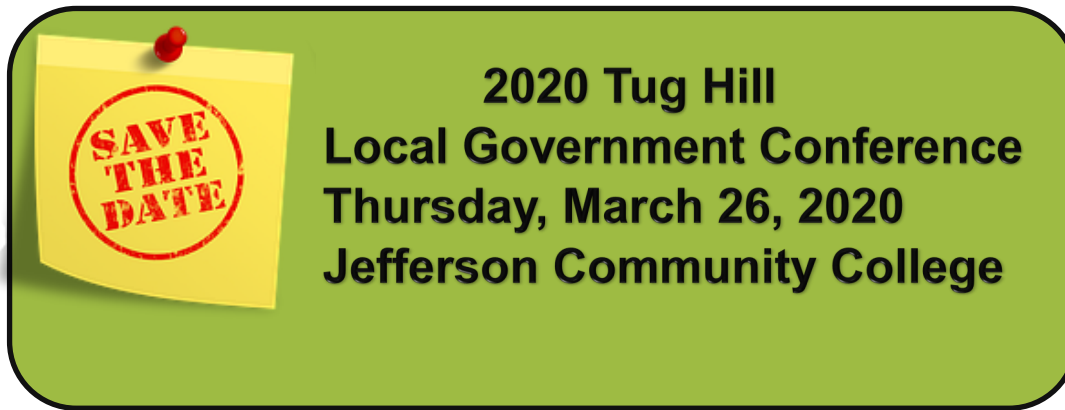
A design study will be done by Wendel Architecture & Engineering, consultant for NYPA, to assess each individual municipality to determine lighting needs, as well as what advanced sensors might be worth adding to a smart control system.

Due to the group's interest in smart controls and to offset project costs, the commission assisted with a Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) submitted last week through the Local Government Efficiency Grant (LGE) program for smart control purchase. The village of West Carthage took the lead on the CFA, on behalf of the 16 municipalities.



# Come Visit Us at the Development Authority Open House August 22

The Development Authority of the North Country will host its annual open house at the regional Materials Management Facility in Rodman on August 22 from 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. and the Tug Hill Commission will be there exhibiting. There will be guided bus tours and exhibits on birds of prey and recycling and lots of fun activities for the kids. Also, new this year, bring your hard cover books for recycling. More information here <https://www.danc.org/press-releases/development-authority-open-house-aug-22>.



## 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!

## August Single-Session Monitoring and Managing Ash (MaMA) Training Workshops August 3, 5, 6

The MaMA program of the Ecological Research Institute (see [www.MonitoringAsh.org](http://www.MonitoringAsh.org)) provides constructive actions to take at each stage of Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) invasion, including even pre-invasion and the final invasion stage. In this **free** workshop, you'll learn how to mitigate EAB damage and to detect naturally occurring EAB-resistant native ash, which provide great hope for ash conservation. You'll learn how to use MaMA's citizen-science projects, including the MaMA Monitoring Plots Network, which reaches from New England to the Midwest, and the MaMA Lingering Ash Search project, in which you report locations of trees that are likely EAB-resistant.

### When and where:

**Sat., 8/3, 1:00 -4:30 p.m.** Presented in collaboration with Tug Hill Tomorrow Land Trust. Meet at River of Life Fellowship Church, [9871 Number Three Road, Copenhagen, NY 13626](#) for lecture, followed by hands-on training at Joseph Blake Wildlife Sanctuary, Middle Road, Rutland, NY.

**Mon., 8/5, 1:00 -4:30 p.m.** Presented in collaboration with The Nature Conservancy. Meet at Sandy Island Beach State Park community room, [23 W. Shore Drive, Pulaski, NY 13142](#) for lecture; followed by hands-on training at Rainbow Shores Nature Conservancy Sanctuary, Pulaski.

**Tues., 8/6, 1:00 -4:30 p.m.** Presented in collaboration with Cornell Cooperative Extension Oneida County. Meet at CCE, [121 Second Street Oriskany, NY 13424](#) for lecture presentation and hands-on training.

Pre-registration encouraged; for registration or additional information, email [outreach@monitoringash.org](mailto:outreach@monitoringash.org) or call (845) 419-5229.

*All workshops funded by the St. Lawrence-Eastern Lake Ontario Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management (SLELO).*

