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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 7, 2020

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2020 Virtual Black River Watershed Conference Registration Open

WATERTOWN, NY - Join the NYS Tug Hill Commission, the Lewis, Jefferson, Hamilton and Herkimer County Soil and Water Conservation Districts, and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) as they present this free series of webinars in conjunction with the annual Black River Watershed Conference. The in-person conference, originally scheduled in June, was canceled. This information is also available on the commission's website at tughill.org/projects/black-river-projects/black-river-watershed-conference/.



Tuesday, September 29, 2020 · 3:00 – 4:30 p.m.

10 Years of Progress in the Black River Watershed, Emily Sheridan, NYSDEC Eastern Great Lakes Watershed Coordinator

Highlights from a new report on the Black River Initiative's Ten Years of Progress will be presented, evaluating the implementation of watershed management plans throughout the region.

To register: us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_0sLxnjgmRIqoWUA_IlzBeA

Tuesday, October 6, 2020 · 3:00 – 4:30 p.m.

Emerald Ash Borer, Christine Watkins, Jefferson County Soil & Water Conservation District, and; ***Lewis County Fairgrounds Green Infrastructure Project***, Nichelle Swisher, Lewis County Soil & Water Conservation District

To register: us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_UeC0seCzRyWo2dx9WzbCKA

Wednesday, October 7, 2020 · 3:00 – 4:30 p.m.

The State of Hamilton County Lakes: A 25 Year Perspective, Caitlin Stewart and Jaime Parslow, Hamilton County Soil & Water Conservation District; and ***Japanese Knotweed***, Katherine Whitcomb & Bob Tilbe, Herkimer County Soil & Water Conservation District

To register: us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_QT8OG-F_RFCCUe5xU2DbkA

Tuesday, October 13, 2020 · 3:00 – 4:30 p.m.

Early History of the Black River, Peter Hayes, Constable Hall & Dr. Laurie Rush, Ft. Drum Cultural Resources

Dr. Rush will introduce the history of the Black River from an indigenous perspective, examining its importance as a key waterway connecting peoples of the Eastern Seaboard and the Maritimes with peoples of the Midwest and the Great Lakes. She will also touch on some of Jefferson County's earliest and most important European settlers and developers. Mr. Hayes will discuss the transition of land ownership from the Treaty to Fort Stanwix to the Macomb Purchase. Particular emphasis will be given to William Constable's role in the purchase, survey and initial selling of the land. The early development of the land will be illustrated by the efforts of William Constable Jr., James LeRay de Chaumont, and Hezekiah Pierrepont – who collectively left us Constable Hall, the LeRay Mansion and the Pierrepont Manor.

To register: us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_i3-bEmZvTHy46bu-K3CGsA

Tuesday, October 20, 2020 · 5:00 – 6:30 p.m.

Geology of the Black River Watershed - Part 2, Dr. Chris Ebey, Jefferson Community College

Join us for a paleo-safari! The geologic history of the western half of the Black River Watershed records dramatic changes in ecology and biology. From top predators like nautiloids to familiar creatures like trilobites to exotic, mysterious bryozoans, we will learn how to identify common fossils, how these animals lived and how they shaped the Black River.

To register: us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_scOGedUmRve1ceuXs2QQEg

Tuesday, October 27, 2020 · 3:00 – 4:30 p.m.

Black River Dam Relicensing: Who is FERC and How to Get Involved, Emily Carter and Allyson Conner, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

To register: us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_TZ48eadYTOyMFYe1MI3bnQ

Thursday, October 29, 2020 · 3:00 – 4:30 p.m.

Floodplain Regulation for Local Review Boards, Patricia Burke and Christopher Eastman, NYS Department of State

The essence of good planning is to develop areas most suitable to the environment and existing infrastructure, avoiding sensitive areas such as steep slopes, wetlands, and floodplains. With increased storm intensity and years of building in flood prone areas, natural floodplains have been disrupted, resulting in severe damage to flood prone areas. This presentation includes an overview of regulating development around flood plains, with a discussion of the National Flood Insurance Program, and trends in resiliency planning.

To register: us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_gs1eENq4RHylTR1_X4b_Mw

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The New York State Tug Hill Commission is a non-regulatory state agency charged with helping local governments, organizations, and citizens shape the future of the region, especially its environment and economy. The commission uses a grassroots approach to build local capacity and provide technical assistance in land use planning, community development, and natural resource management.