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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Tug Hill Local Government Conference March 31 and April 1, 2025  
Turning Stone Event Center**

**Watertown, NY** – Local government officials across Jefferson, Lewis, Oneida, and Oswego counties and beyond can now register for the Tug Hill Commission's 34th annual Local Government Conference to be held at the Turning Stone Conference Center, 5218 Patrick Road, Verona, NY 13478. Registration and session information for both the Tuesday, April 1 full day of training and the Monday, March 31 afternoon focused sessions are now available on the commission's website at [tughill.org/localgovernmentconference/](http://tughill.org/localgovernmentconference/). At this website, you can navigate through a series of menus that detail hotel accommodations, session descriptions, and exhibitor and sponsorship opportunities. You can also call our office at 315-785-2380 if you have any questions.

The local government conference typically draws over 600 attendees and over 25 exhibitors, and provides training and networking opportunities for town supervisors, village mayors, town and village board members, clerks, planning and zoning board members, highway superintendents, assessors, and other government officials. Anyone is welcome to attend. Registrations can be completed on-line with credit card payment, or through the mail with a check.

There are three ways to take advantage of this year's conference and registration is required for each. First, the traditional main conference and concurrent sessions will take place Tuesday, April 1, 2025. Breakfast will be served at 7:30 a.m., opening remarks begin at 8:30 a.m., and concurrent session begin at 9:00 a.m. The conference concludes at 4:15 p.m. The regular registration fee is \$90 (\$180 after February 28, 2025). The full day features topics ranging from the role of the code enforcement officer, regulating short-term rentals, fire protection, siting and permitting of renewable energy projects, and DEC's new freshwater wetlands regulations. Several courses are eligible for credit in the [Association of Towns'](#) Certified Town Official (CTO) program.

Second, Monday afternoon, March 31, will feature two concurrent sessions from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. One afternoon session, organized with assistance from the [New York Conference of Mayors](#), features several speakers and is called **Tackling Vacancy, Blight, and Housing in Small Towns & Rural Communities**. The other is a **Budgeting and Accounting for Small Communities Mini-Course** with Laird Petrie and staff from the New York Government Finance Officers' Association. There is a \$25 fee for the afternoon sessions (\$50 after February 28, 2025).

Third, a reception, sponsored by our platinum sponsor, GYMO Architecture, Engineering & Land Surveying, will be held on Monday, March 31, from 5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. There is a \$20 fee for this event (\$40 after February 28, 2025). Hearty appetizers will be served, and a cash bar will be available.

If you are registering with a check, your registration sheet must be postmarked by February 28, 2025, to take advantage of the regular fee. If you are registering with a credit card, the regular fee is also honored until February 28, 2025. On or after March 1, 2025, all fees are doubled. No refunds will be issued after February 28, 2025.

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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.*