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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 12, 2026

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**Saving Ash Trees for Future Forests
Tug Hill Winter Wildlife Webinars Part 1, January 29**

WATERTOWN, NEW YORK – The Tug Hill Commission invites the public to join a webinar on Thursday, January 29 at 7 p.m. to learn about conservation and restoration efforts being conducted to preserve ash trees from the threat of the Emerald Ash Borer. Register for this webinar, as well as the other three in the 2026 series which will explore wolverines, pollinator gardens, and owls, at tinyurl.com/2026WWWRegistration and Zoom links will be sent along with the registration confirmation email.

The ***Saving Ash Trees for Future Forests: Combating the Threat of the Emerald Ash Borer*** webinar will highlight the conservation efforts being made by a collaboration of partners at Cornell Botanic Gardens to protect the ash tree from the detrimental effects of the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB), an invasive species that was first detected in the United States in 2002 and has since caused the death of tens of millions of ash trees across 38 states. Participants will have the opportunity to hear from Todd Bittner, director of natural areas for Cornell Botanic Gardens, and Keith Miller, an arborist at Cornell Botanic Gardens, about the research and planting of ash trees that may possess natural resistance to the EAB. The discussion will also include ways that citizen scientists can help restore ash trees to our forests, and strategies for protecting individual trees and reducing tree hazards.

This webinar is part of the Tug Hill Winter Wildlife Webinar Series, which explores the region's diverse wildlife and conservation efforts. Stay tuned for upcoming sessions the last Thursday of each month through April, including a discussion on wolverines led by Zoo New York's Steve Chorma on February 26, 2026.