



NYS Tug Hill Commission Year in Review October 8, 2026 Annual Dinner



October/November 2025



- Annual Dinner in Rome - Dairy and Chobani highlighted
- Outing with partner Tug Hill Tomorrow Land Trust
- NOCCOG and NorCOG/Salmon Rivers COG dinners held
- Welsh Ramble



December 2025/January 2026

- Leona's official retirement
- 2025 MetroCount Report
- Black River Initiative newsletter
- Snow, Winter Wildlife, and Nonprofit Bootcamp workshop series
- ATV Recreation workshop in Boonville



February/March 2026



- River Area, North Shore, and Salmon Rivers COGs meet
- COG Chairs meet
- Loss of Ben Coe





Local Government Conference 2026



May/June 2026

- CTHC meeting with DEC presentations
- Two-day budget training with Laird
- Black River Watershed Conference
- Remembering the region's history with Blount Lumber presentation and Florence Settlement field work



July/August/September 2026

- Commissioner/staff retreat in Osceola
- Woodsmen's Field Days seminars
- Little Salmon River and Fish Creek meetings
- SuperCOG – first time in eight years



Our Geography

- Purple line – legislated boundary: 59 towns and villages (only 3 not in a council)
- Town of Sandy Creek joined Salmon Rivers and village of Black River joined RACOG
- Ten towns and villages outside the boundary, in a council



By the Numbers – Issue & Technical Papers

- Issue and Technical Papers – 6 New or Updated

 - Ambulance Service in Rural NYS*

 - Municipal Cybersecurity: Quick Q&A Guide for Local Officials*

 - Municipal Tools for Local Roads Management*

 - Documents, Policies and Records to Have on File*

 - Large Lot Zoning*

 - Town Budget Process Overview*

- Two-Page Summaries – 5 New

 - ATV Recreation: Considerations for Municipalities*

 - Cybersecurity for Municipal Governments*

 - Planning for Solar Energy Projects*

 - Short-Term Rentals*

 - Solar/BESS Best Practices for Municipalities*

By the Numbers – Grant Writing Assistance

- 2025

Awarded in December 2025 – 3 of 5 CFA applications, all for salt storage facilities – Leyden, Turin, West Turin, for a total of \$1,056,647

- 2026

Submitted – 11

Awarded – 2, both for Carthage Park, total \$863,408

Not Awarded – 4

Pending – 5, three salt storage facilities, one culvert, fire building improvements

By the Numbers - Planning

- Adopted Comprehensive Plans – Albion, Ava, Rodman Denmark/Castorland/Copenhagen, Wilna/Carthage/Deferiet (9 communities)
- In Progress Comprehensive Plans – Annsville, Black River, Central Square, Champion/West Carthage, Richland/Pulaski, Trenton, West Monroe, Worth (10 communities)
- Adopted Zoning – Champion, Deferiet, Rodman, Watertown, West Turin (5 communities)
- In Progress Zoning – Constantia, Holland Patent, Lewis, Watertown, Vienna (5 communities)

Looking Ahead in 2027

- Energy, data centers, and recreation continue to be top priorities
- Support our councils and communities as new opportunities and challenges arise
- Continue to make progress on commission strategic plan goals
- **Monday, April 26 – Tuesday, April 27, 2027, Tug Hill Local Government Conference, Turning Stone Conference Center**