



**April 24, 2015**

**IN THIS ISSUE:**

- Grant Preparedness
- Black River Watershed Conference
- Local Zoning Permit and Building Permit Procedures Workshop
- Northern Border Regional Commission Grand Round Open; Deadline June 19
- NYS GIS Association Webinar: "Leveraging Mobile and the Cloud in GIS"
- Local Zoning and Building Permit Procedures Workshop
- Lowville Adopts Major Zoning Overhaul
- Training for Planning Board & ZBA Members
- Annual Cyber Security Conference
- Invasive Species Workshop
- Update: NYSDOB Tax Freeze Efficiency Plan Webinar



# Tug Hill Times

*Tug Hill Times* is published semimonthly by the Tug Hill Commission for its board members, staff and associates, and the local representatives of the region's communities.

## Grant Preparedness

Grant season is in full swing and many communities are wondering how they can take advantage of the many opportunities that are out there. The key to being successful in grant writing is having a well-developed project in advance of the grant deadline announcement. Putting together a project budget, generating community support, and researching all the details of your idea take time. Commission staff is available to help you through the process and to point you in the right direction. We also have a publication on our website to help you through the process: <http://www.tughill.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/09/1-Making-Successful-Grant-Application-Checklist-11-14-13.pdf>

## Black River Watershed Conference

Registrations begin Monday April 27th for the 2015 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Black River Watershed Conference. This year's conference will take place on June 3 at the Hayloft at Moonshine Farm, 6615 Buneo Rd., Port Leyden, NY 13343. The event is organized and hosted by the Tug Hill Commission, the Lewis and Jefferson County Soil and Water Conservation Districts and the NYS DEC Region 6. Sponsors include 5 Finger Lakes Lake Ontario Watershed Protection Alliance Counties (Jefferson, Lewis, Herkimer, Oneida and Hamilton) and the Beaver River Advisory Council. Sponsors help keep the conference affordable at just \$25 per person. This includes refreshments and lunch and the afternoon bus tour.

Registration on June 3rd begins at 8:00 am with speakers beginning at 8:20 am. Morning topics include Invasive Species, Green Infrastructure, Updates on Watershed Projects including an MS4 Update and Nutrient Management for Dumfries. At 1:00 pm, a bus tour will take attendees to the Black River Canal Museum, followed by stops in Lyons Falls, Port Leyden, the ReEnergy Plant in Lyonsdale and Conway Farm. The Hayloft is a beautifully renovated barn, but it is not climate controlled. We suggest dressing in layers according to the day's weather forecast. Please visit <http://hayloftatmoonshinefarm.com/> for more information about the location.

**You can register for the conference Monday April 27th - Friday May 22nd.** Registrations will be handled by Carla Luther at the Lewis County Soil and Water Conservation District (315) 376-6122. Please download a registration form and agenda at [www.tughill.org](http://www.tughill.org). If you have any questions, please contact Jennifer Harvill at 785-2392 or [jennifer@tughill.org](mailto:jennifer@tughill.org).

## Local Zoning Permit and Building Permit Procedures Workshop

Monday, April 27 6:30-8:30 pm Jules Center Amphitheater Room 6-002  
Jefferson Community College, 1220 Coffeen St, Watertown.  
For information call 785-3144 or email [planning@co.jefferson.ny.us](mailto:planning@co.jefferson.ny.us)

# Northern Border Regional Commission Grant Round Open; Deadline June 19

Established by Congress in 2008, the Northern Border Regional Commission (NBRC) is a working partnership between the federal government and the States of New York, Vermont, New Hampshire, and Maine. The mission of the NBRC is to fund economic development and infrastructure projects throughout designated counties in its four state service area.

Applicants must demonstrate through a sound, comprehensive business plan, based on hard data, proven methodology and reasonable forecasts acceptable to the NBRC, that the applicant is capable of maintaining the project after NBRC funding to assist the sustainability of the project and achievement of the level of service outlined in the project description.

## ELIGIBLE PURPOSES

- a. To develop the transportation infrastructure
- b. To develop the basic public infrastructure
- c. To develop the telecommunications infrastructure
- d. To assist its region in obtaining job skills training, skills development, and employment-related education, entrepreneurship, technology, and business development;
- e. To provide assistance to severely economically distressed and underdeveloped areas of its region that lack financial resources for improving basic health care and other public services;
- f. To promote resource conservation, tourism, recreation, and preservation of open space in a manner consistent with economic development goals;
- g. To promote the development of renewable and alternative energy sources.

The NBRC Economic and Infrastructure Development Program is **ONLY** available to participating member states, local governments (city and county), nonprofit entities, and Native American entities for projects within the NBRC region. **In New York**, the NRBC region is the counties of Cayuga, Clinton, Essex, Franklin, Fulton, Hamilton, Herkimer, Jefferson, Lewis, Madison, Oneida, Oswego, Seneca, and St. Lawrence. The grant requires a 50/50 match, except for distressed counties. In NY, distressed counties are Cayuga, Clinton, Essex, Franklin, Fulton, Herkimer, Lewis, Madison, Oneida, Oswego, St. Lawrence, and Seneca. The percent of qualified project costs matched by NBRC funds in distressed counties is up to 80%.

**The grant deadline is 4 pm on June 19, 2015.** New York's designated point of contact is Kyle Wilber, New York Dept. of State, Division of Local Government Services, [kyle.wilber@dos.ny.gov](mailto:kyle.wilber@dos.ny.gov), (518) 473-3355. Applications should be sent to:

New York Dept. of State  
Division of Local Government Services  
Attn: Kyle Wilbur  
99 Washington Avenue, 10th floor  
Albany, NY 12231-0001

Grant awards should be announced at the beginning of September, 2015.

The application package will be available shortly on DOS's website.



# NYS GIS Association Webinar: “Leveraging Mobile and the Cloud in GIS”

**Webinar Title:** Leveraging Mobile and the Cloud in GIS Webinar

**Date:** April 30<sup>th</sup> Webinar

**Time:** 11AM to 12PM Registration

**Link:** <https://nysgisa.clickwebinar.com/my-conference/register>

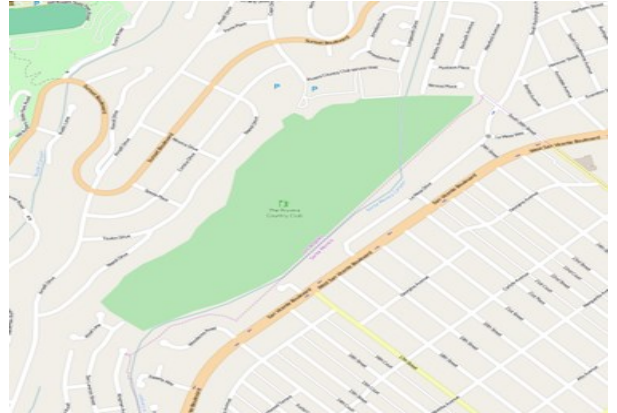
**Presenter Bio:**

Ragi Burhum (AmigoCloud / CEO): Ragi began his geospatial career over a decade ago as an engineer at ESRI, where he worked on the Geodatabase team creating, designing, and maintaining ArcGIS core components. At Microsoft, he worked on the main GIS data pipeline of Microsoft Flight Simulator. He ran a successful GIS consulting company in the Bay Area where he helped organizations like NVIDIA and CSR with their GIS challenges. In addition to founding GeoMeetup, the largest developer-centric geospatial Meetup in the world, Ragi is also heavily involved in Open Source GIS Software (he is an active OSGeo Charter member) and often contributes code to O.S. geospatial projects (e.g. as a committer in GDAL) that are the foundation of several Open GIS applications worldwide.

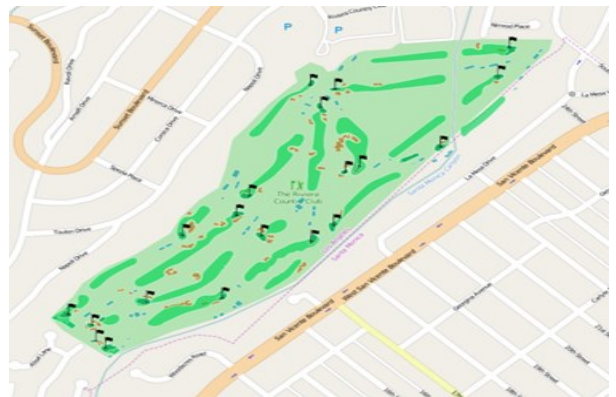
**Synopsis**

Nowadays, the smartphone in your pocket is completely underused in GIS workflows. Although it has Internet/Cloud connectivity and more parallel processing power than many "professional" devices, it is not uncommon to see it being used to play Candy Crush instead of cranking through parcel topology calculations. In this 45-minute webinar we will talk about how one can:

- Leverage emerging cloud technologies in our everyday work flows
- Connect external devices (e.g. sub-meter GPS/GLONASS receivers) to improve measurements.
- Collaborate with hundreds of users without breaking the bank
- Quickly deploy / collect data to/from your mobile device (think seconds - not weeks).
- Post process the data without installing any software
- Integrate this with you Enterprise workflows.



*Before Leveraging Mobile*



*After Leveraging Mobile*

## Lowville Adopts Major Zoning Overhaul

The Village of Lowville Board voted to adopt a revised zoning law March 11th. The comprehensive overhaul is intended to simplify enforcement and bring the law into better compliance with the village’s 2009 comprehensive plan. Revitalizing the downtown and ensuring quality development on the southern edge of the village are key components of the plan which will be implemented by the revised law. Representatives of numerous village boards and committees collaborated with staff from the Commission and the Lewis County Planning Department on the zoning project over several years.

Contact us at:

**NYS Tug Hill  
Commission**  
317 Washington St.  
Watertown, NY 13601

We are located on the  
6th Floor of the Dulles  
State Office Building.

Phone: 315-785-2380  
Toll Free within the  
region:  
1-888-785-2380

Email:  
tughill@tughill.org  
Website:  
www.tughill.org

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an email request to  
gwen@tughill.org  
or call  
1-888-785-2380.  
Electronic versions  
appear in full color!

## **Training for Planning Board & ZBA Members Set for May 21**

The Town of Ava has graciously offered to host a training for Planning Board and ZBA members in the Tug Hill region. The event will take place on Thursday, May 21<sup>st</sup> from 7 to 9 pm at the Ava Town Hall on Route 26. Tug Hill Commission Director of Planning Phil Street will provide the training, focused on variances and interpretations, with time for additional questions. Questions about the event can be directed to NOCCOG Circuit Rider Jennifer Armstrong at [jarmstrong@tughill.org](mailto:jarmstrong@tughill.org) or 371-7612.

## **Annual Cyber Security Conference**

18<sup>th</sup> New York State Cyber Security Conference  
10th Annual Symposium on Information Assurance  
June 2 - 3, 2015

Empire State Plaza, Albany, NY

For conference information and to register visit:

<http://www.its.ny.gov/annual-cyber-security-conference-june-2-3-2015>

## **Invasive Species Workshop June 10**

The St. Lawrence Eastern Lake Ontario Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management (SLELO PRISM) is holding an Eastern Lake Ontario Invasive Species Symposium on Wednesday, June 10, 2015 at Selkirk Shores State Park.

With a theme of "Site Restoration & Best Management Practices," there will be presentations on a variety of invasive species, including Eurasian water milfoil, feral swine, purple loosestrife, American chestnut, and more. Continuing education credits are also offered for NYS Licensed Pesticide Applicators via NYS DEC, Certified Foresters via Society of American Foresters, Certified Nursery & Landscape Practitioners via NYS Nursery and Landscape Association, Inc., and Arborists via International Society of Arborists.

You may register by contacting Rob Williams at: [rwilliams@tnc.org](mailto:rwilliams@tnc.org) or by phone at (315) 387-3600 ext. 25 by June 3rd. There is no cost for this event, however, seating is limited and pre-registration is required. No walk-ins please!

## **Update: NYSDOB Tax Freeze Efficiency Plan Webinar**

The NYS Division of the Budget's webinar on the Tax Freeze Rebate Efficiency Plans of March 3<sup>rd</sup> was plagued with technical difficulties.

The Division has apologized. They've posted a link to a recorded version of the March 3<sup>rd</sup> event at this site: <https://www.budget.ny.gov/govEfficiencyPlans/govEfficiencyPlans.html>. This location also provides a guidance document, frequently asked questions document, instructions for entering Efficiency Plan information into the web form, and sample certifications that must be submitted with your Efficiency Plan.

Please call (518) 465-7933 or email [info@nytowns.org](mailto:info@nytowns.org) with any questions or concerns.