

MARCH 1, 2019

## Complete Streets Presentation to Health Partners

On February 26, commission staff presented progress on the Complete Streets work to the North Country Health Compass Partners. The Compass partnership is composed of hospitals, public health agencies and community-based organizations in Jefferson, Lewis and St. Lawrence counties. The partnership's goals are to improve the health of the population, reduce the per capita cost of health care and improve the medical experience for patients.

The commission's role over the past year has been to coordinate Complete Streets efforts in Jefferson and Lewis counties. Work to date has included a Complete Streets survey of local officials and school district superintendents in Jefferson and Lewis counties; educational materials on Complete Streets; and two workshops featuring Mark Fenton, a national public health, planning, and transportation consultant, an adjunct associate professor at Tufts University's Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy, and former host of the "America's Walking" series on PBS television

Work is anticipated to continue in 2019 with Mark Fenton returning to the North Country to work directly with several communities, and adoption of Complete Streets policies by interested towns and villages.

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## Notary Public



Felicia Passino, Administrative Aide for the commission, was recently licensed as a notary public. If you have documents to be notarized, we once again have someone in-house that can provide that service for you.

To learn more about becoming a notary public go to <https://www.dos.ny.gov/licensing/notary/notary.html>

## 2019 LGC Only Four Weeks Away!

Have you registered for the conference yet? If not, you still have time! Early registration ends March 8th and this year's conference has a schedule with sessions for everyone. It's a GREAT time for networking and celebrating being a local leader.

\$50 Registration by March 8th

\$100 Registration March 9th to March 15th

\$150 Registration after March 15th

Day of conference registration, only form of payment accepted will be checks. No cash please.

No refunds will be issued after March 8th ~ No registrations by phone, fax, or email

### TWO EASY WAYS TO REGISTER

1. **Online:** Go to <https://lgc2019.eventbrite.com> to pay electronically. Online registration ends March 15th.
2. **Mail:** Go to [www.tughill.org/lgc2019](http://www.tughill.org/lgc2019), complete registration form, print and mail w/check or voucher.

# 480a Public Meetings in March

The NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) is holding a series of public meetings to provide stakeholders with the opportunity to offer input on the Forest Tax Law Program's Section 480a. The purpose of these meetings is to discuss areas of the program that could be improved including increasing compliance, reducing administrative burdens, and improving forestry outcomes.

The Forest Tax Law was enacted in 1974 to give forest landowners with 50 acres or more of qualifying land in New York State an incentive for the "continued production of forest crops." Currently, there are more than 3,400 forest landowners and more than 1.2 million acres of private forest land enrolled in the program. The changes under consideration would address the Real Property Tax Law Section 480a and would not alter the annual tax benefit, stumpage tax, commitment period or penalties for non-compliance.

Landowners and private consulting foresters participating in the 480a program and any interested parties are encouraged to attend one of the eight public meetings that will be offered across the state. DEC will also host a webinar for those who cannot participate in-person. Meetings closest to the Tug Hill region are:

**March 5, 2019, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.**

Martha Eddy Room, NYS Fairgrounds  
581 State Fair Blvd.  
Syracuse, NY 13209

**March 27, 2019, 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.**

DEC Region 6 Sub-Office  
7327 Rt. 812  
Lowville, NY 13367

For more [information on Forest Tax Law](#) and current regulations, interested parties can visit the DEC website. For more information about the webinar or to submit comments email, contact [bslmregs@dec.ny.gov](mailto:bslmregs@dec.ny.gov).

# Wilna Park Conceptual Designs

On Wednesday, February 27, consultant Saratoga Associates presented conceptual designs for two park sites in Wilna. The town plans to create two parks: one at the former Crown Cleaner's site in Herrings, and another in Natural Bridge. Different design options for each park were presented at the public meetings held at the Carthage Elks' Club, with opportunity for public comment. Poster boards highlighting the design options are available to be viewed at the Wilna municipal building for the next few weeks. Comments and feedback about the designs should be submitted by March 14 to Michele Capone from the Development Authority of the North Country, [mcapone@danc.org](mailto:mcapone@danc.org).

# NYS Solid Waste Management Plan Stakeholder Meetings

New York State's current solid waste management plan, [Beyond Waste](#), set forth a 10-year plan for solid waste management beginning in 2010. As 2020 gets closer, there is an opportunity to develop a new vision in handling the State's solid waste.

The NYS Department of Environmental Conservation will hold stakeholder meetings during February and March. The content of these meetings will include a brief overview of accomplishments, the current state of solid waste management, and pressing local issues. There will then be facilitated discussion focused on hearing meeting participants. The closest meeting to Tug Hill will be on March 20, from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm at the Dulles State Office Building in Watertown. Registrations are being handled through EventBrite, <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/state-solid-waste-management-plan-stakeholder-meetings-registration-55246392447>. Please contact [NYSSolidWastePlan@dec.ny.gov](mailto:NYSSolidWastePlan@dec.ny.gov) with any questions or registration problems.

Tug Hill Commission  
Lewis County Planning  
Lewis County Recreation, Forestry & Parks



# GRANTS GATEWAY WORKSHOP

Learn how to register, prequalify, search for grant opportunities and get an overview of applying for NYS grants through the Grants Gateway Website.

**March 19, 2019**  
**6:00 PM - 8:00 PM**

**Free & open to everyone! Especially you, non-profits!**

**Howard G. Sackett Technical Center**  
**5836 NY-12 Glenfield, NY 13343**

**RSVP**

Please email [jennifer@tughill.org](mailto:jennifer@tughill.org) OR  
[casandrabuell@lewiscounty.ny.gov](mailto:casandrabuell@lewiscounty.ny.gov)

Bringing your own laptop is encouraged, but not required.

## Spotted Lanternfly Workshop

**March 13 @ 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm at Constantia Town Hall, 14 Frederick Street, Constantia, New York**

Spotted lanternfly SLF (*Lycorma delicatula*) is an invasive pest from Asia known to feed heavily on a variety of crops especially tree fruits, vineyards, hops, maple, nut trees, and others.

SLF could impact New York's forests as well as the agricultural and tourism industries. You can help by keeping an eye out for SLF.

- Learn how SLF may impact your crops
- Learn to recognize SLF infestations
- Learn how to report observations using the iMapInvasives mobile app
- Learn of volunteer opportunities



To register, go to: <https://goo.gl/forms/TAIDxMLbcEHAWEI2> or contact Megan.pistolese@tnc.org 315-387-3600 x7724.

## Ninth Annual Black River Watershed Conference

Tuesday June 4, 2019

Aldersgate Camp & Retreat Center  
7955 Brantingham Road, Greig, NY

Peter Annin of the Mary Griggs Burke Center for Freshwater Innovation  
Northland College will present his keynote:  
**The Great Lakes Compact, A Decade of Lessons Learned**

# SAVE the DATE

## Contact Us

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If you would like to receive our newsletter electronically please email your request to [gwen@tughill.org](mailto:gwen@tughill.org) or call 1-888-785-2380.

Electronic versions appear in full color!

## New York Planning Federation Conference April 28-30, The Sagamore

Registration is open for the 2019 New York Planning Federation Conference. Information on the agenda and registration is available at <http://nypf.org/annual-conference/>. Topics include ethics, innovative planning, SEQR basics, case law updates, open meetings, natural resource planning, and more.

## Natural Gas Issue Paper Updated

An issue paper originally written in 2010 in response to the state-wide conversation taking place at the time regarding natural gas and hydrofracking, has been updated to reflect the outcomes of the discussion. Additionally, a few links to other resources have been updated. The paper can be found on the commission's website at <http://www.tughill.org/publications/technical-issue-papers/>.

## RACOG Receives Free Online GIS Licensing

Back in November, the River Area Council of Governments (RACOG) entered into a GIS Day contest. From that contest, RACOG was given free online GIS licensing from GIS Cloud, which will also help to provide development support. A link will be coming for the site in the near future. The site is currently under development and will be focused on highlighting the RACOG region. This will hopefully be a model that other regional groups can replicate.

