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Announcements

NYSERDA Energy Storage Webinar

New York's Inter-Agency Fire Safety Working Group (FSWG) is hosting an informational public webinar for local government officials navigating energy storage development in their communities



on May 7, from 3-5:00 pm. The FSWG will discuss critical fire safety considerations, regulatory updates, and best practices in the field, along with specific recommendations for local action.

The FSWG has been working to strengthen safety measures for lithium-ion battery energy storage systems throughout the State. This session will provide valuable insights into the work that has been done so far and highlight immediate actions that can be taken by Authorities Having Jurisdiction to ensure the safe and responsible development of energy storage in their communities. These measures are especially important during the interim period before the next iteration of the Uniform Code takes effect.

Click [here](#) to register. A question-and-answer period will follow the presentation, and the webinar will be recorded and posted on the [FSWG website](#) as soon as practicable.

More guidance for local governments, including a Battery Energy Storage System model law, can be found in [NYSERDA's Energy Storage Guidebook for Local Governments](#).

Towns: [Annsville](#) ~ [Ava](#) ~ [Boonville](#) ~ [Camden](#) ~ [Floyd](#) ~ [Forestport](#) ~ [Lee](#) ~ [Remsen](#) ~ [Steuben](#) ~ [Trenton](#) ~ [Vienna](#) ~ [Western](#)

Villages: [Boonville](#) ~ [Camden](#) ~ [Holland Patent](#) ~ [Remsen](#) ~ [Sylvan Beach](#)

Tug Hill Commission Meeting May 19



The Tug Hill Commission is scheduled to meet Monday, May 19 at 10:00 a.m. at the Town of Annsville Municipal Offices, 9196 Main St., Taberg NY. The meeting will include routine business of the commission, and a review of major projects and activities in the region. The public is always welcome to attend.

Federal Aid 101 Webinar, Thursday, May 22

Getting federal aid is only the first step in the process to complete a local project. To make a project successful, the local agency needs to understand the steps and the federal and state requirements. Join presenter David Orr, on Thursday, May 22, from 9:30am - 3:00pm as he walks through a federal aid project from start to finish, discusses the steps to a successful project, and reviews issues that have led to problems in the past. Ideally, attendees will learn the roles and responsibilities of the various parties involved as well as ways to reduce stress for themselves and the agencies that oversee the work.

There is no cost to attend the webinar, unless Professional Development Hours are sought, then there is a \$20 registration fee.

Click [here](#) for more information, to view the agenda, or to register.

Municipal Bootcamp Program: Environmentally Speaking - The Nuts & Bolts of SEQR, May 22



New York's State Environmental Quality Review Act impacts nearly every decision you'll face as a community development player. Getting SEQR right is critical to addressing development projects—whether you're working to advance a development, or to stop one that doesn't align with your community's value. On Thursday, May 22, at 6:00 pm, join the MRB Group and Hancock Estabrooks as they offer an hour long, no cost webinar focusing on the processes associated with SEQR review, and on what to do when you're faced with challenging SEQR questions.

This is the 5th session in a free annual training program geared to assist local governments, town officials, and planning and zoning boards. The program will include remote training designed to provide a comprehensive education that encompasses all aspects of municipal governance. Each program in the series will be provided remotely on the fourth Thursday of each month with subject matter experts from the MRB Group and knowledgeable attorneys from Hancock Estabrook.

For more information, to view the other scheduled sessions, or to register, click [here](#).

NYCOM Annual Meeting and Training School, May 28-30

The New York State Conference of Mayors is holding their annual meeting and training school May 28-30, at the Sagamore Hotel, in Bolton Landing. There are numerous concurrent relevant sessions, including: Albany Update, Public Employee Speech: What are the Limits?, FOIL and the Open Meetings Law, Administering Volunteer Fire Departments, Beyond Bidding: Understanding Municipal Procurement and Its Exceptions.



The full agenda, which includes a fireworks display, is available [here](#). There is a cost to attend. While the conference and training run from Wednesday afternoon through Friday morning, there are pricing options that include Thursday only, as well as the dinner reception on Wednesday, or the banquet on Thursday. General, registration, and hotel information are available [here](#).

More information is available on the NYCOM website, nycom.org.

Wastewater Treatment Process Control Concepts and Calculations



Join the Environmental Finance Center Network, and presenter Gregory Pearson, on Thursday, May 29, from 1 to 2 pm, for a no cost webinar that covers process control concepts and calculations necessary for wastewater treatment process control. Attendees will learn how to calculate Biochemical Oxygen Demand for wastewater influent and effluent flow, calculate F:M ratios and MCRT's for activated sludge process control, determine the retention time for lagoon wastewater treatment systems, calculate hydraulic and organic loading rates for trickling filter plants, as well as learn to describe the wastewater treatment process steps.

Don't miss out on this opportunity to strengthen your understanding of key process control concepts and sharpen the calculation skills essential for effective wastewater treatment operations.

Click [here](#) to register.

NOCCOG Global Positioning System (GPS) Mapping Program

GPS mapping services are offered to the municipalities of the Northern Oneida County Council of Governments (NOCCOG) at no charge. NOCCOG contracted employees will work with department heads or representatives to determine what data is to be collected and mapped. Collected information will then be provided digitally and can be updated at any time.

Most departments routinely manage vital infrastructure equipment (culverts, signs, valves) and other non-vital items (park equipment,) noting the maintenance, age, and replacement schedules. GPS service enables municipalities to efficiently collect and store this information, manage, analyze, and deliver data on-demand for a streamlined workflow. This offers municipalities the ability to integrate this information, making their record keeping accurate and up to date.

For information on how GPS mapping may be beneficial for your municipality, contact John Healt at (315) 941-2818, or email jhealt@tughill.org.

Highway Superintendents Annual School, June 2-4



The 78th Annual School for Highway Superintendents, sponsored by the Town and County Officers Training School, The Association of Towns of the State of New York and The NYS LTAP Center - Cornell Local Roads Program, will be held at Ithaca College, from June 2nd to the 4th.

Some of the 2025 Highway School topics include a Legal Panel, Pavement Preservation, Grants & Funding, ROW, Prioritizing Road Work, PPE, Preparing Bids & Specs, and Communicating with the Board.

Early registration ends on May 16th. After which, registration is only done onsite at an increased rate. Check-in and on-site registration will be available Sunday, June 1 from 3 - 5 p.m.

Attendees will automatically receive three credits in the highway category of the Association of Town's Certified Town Official Program. Attendees enrolled in the NYS LTAP Center - Cornell Local Roads Road Master Program will also receive credit towards Road Master levels III and IV when they earn their 5 or 10 year attendance award.

For more information or to register, visit the NYS LTAP Center - Cornell Local Roads Program Highway School website, [here](#).

Municipal Contractor Registration Requirements with the Department of Labor

As of December 30, 2024, all contractors and subcontractors submitting bids or performing construction work on public work projects or other projects covered by [Article 8 of the Labor Law](#) are required to register with the NYS Department of Labor (DOL) under [Labor Law Section 220-i](#).

DOL encourages all contractors and subcontractors to register as soon as possible to obtain a certificate of registration to avoid negatively impacting a bidding period or project schedule. For more information visit the NYSDOL [website](#).

Additionally, municipalities should confirm that any contractors or subcontractors performing construction work for their town or village are registered to avoid potential issues. As most contractors are already registered, it is simply a matter of the boards checking during the bidding process or requiring proof of registration in the original bid requests.

It is important to note that if work is being completed through an insurance claim, such as storm damage repair, does not exempt a municipality from following standard procurement procedures. Any work funded by an insurance claim that falls under Article 8 must still comply with public bidding requirements and the DOL contractor registration process.

To search the registry, click [here](#).

NYS Tug Hill MetroCount Program

Once again, the Tug Hill Commission is offering its MetroCount system to the municipalities in the Tug Hill region. The unit collects vehicle data for a section of road, providing insight into traffic flow and volume. The system can produce detailed speed reports and monitoring vehicle traffic, including axle-based classifications, gap and headway, as well as direction.

Deployment and analysis of the MetroCount roadside unit is available at no cost for any municipality. Commission staff will work with interested communities and set up the unit as directed. Data collection usually lasts about a week. The staff will then retrieve the unit, analyze the data and present a report to the municipality. Collected traffic data can be used to generate traffic summaries, histograms, and other filtered reports.

For more information or questions, contact Christopher Barboza, chris@tughill.org or 315-785-2389.

Municipalities interested in the program can complete the sign-up form [here](#).

Chobani Invests \$1.2 Billion in Oneida County to Build Third U.S. Dairy Processing Plant



Chobani recently broke ground on a new, \$1.2 billion, state-of-the-art plant at the “Griffiss Triangle” site, at the Griffiss Business and Technology Park. Oneida County had invested over \$6 million to make the area shovel-ready. The billion dollar investment is predicted to create over 1,000 good-paying jobs and boost the local economy.

The 150-acre open stretch of land will transform into a thriving center of food production, enabling Chobani to keep up with soaring product demand and create runway for new innovations. The 1.4 million square-foot facility is expected to create full-time jobs with competitive wages, an attractive benefits package, and access to a suite of on-site health and wellness amenities.

With capacity to produce over one billion pounds of high-quality dairy products per year, the new plant will house up to 28 production lines designed to process approximately 12 million pounds of milk per day. One of the largest buyers of raw milk in the state, Chobani purchases over a billion pounds of raw milk from New York State dairy farms each year. Once the new plant reaches full capacity, Chobani will purchase an estimated 6 billion pounds per year, creating additional economic opportunity and strengthening the state's dairy industry.

The livestream from the announcement is available to view [here](#).

Sylvan Beach Receives Grant for Water Infrastructure Improvements

The Village of Sylvan Beach is getting a \$51.1 million grant and a low-cost financing package for the planning, design, and construction of upgrades at the East Oneida Lake Water Pollution Control Plant.



Environmental Facilities Corporation (EFC) Board approved grants and financing to local governments from the Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Funds- a mix of federal and state dollars dedicated to financing community water infrastructure projects. The approval authorizes access to low-cost financing and previously announced grants to break ground for water and sewer infrastructure projects. The board approved more than \$175 million in financial assistance for water infrastructure improvement projects across New York State.

You can track projects that are benefiting from the Environmental Corporation at this [link](#).

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