

Adirondack Park Local Government Day Conference

Tentative agenda as of March 16, subject to change.

Tuesday & Wednesday, March 24 & 25, 2009

at the

Crowne Plaza Resort & Golf Club

Grandview B Conference Room

Lake Placid, New York

Highlights

Tuesday, March 24, 2009

Program begins at 1 PM

Special session on Tuesday is open to all who are interested

No registration fees for the Tuesday session, however please register to ensure adequate facilities are available.

Welcome

Curt Stiles, Chairman, Adirondack Park Agency, and

Brian Towers, President, Adirondack Association of Towns and Villages

Special Program Session

Given the Federal Stimulus Program, the Tuesday afternoon session will include an expanded program to provide information on the many State programs available. The session will also include a report by DEC and APA on issues identified in the LGD survey for presentation topics; information on State sign laws and a presentation on the 511 Travel Information Service.

Social & Reception

Begins at 5:30 PM in the Crowne Plaza Resort Great Room

Tuesday, March 24, 2009 -- Detailed Agenda

1 PM - Welcome

Curt Stiles, Chairman, Adirondack Park Agency, and
Brian Towers, President, Adirondack Association of Towns and Villages

1:15 to 2 PM - Report on Requested State Agency Issues

DEC Boat Launches - Betsy Lowe, NYSDEC

DEC Air Regulations - Rich Wagner, NYSDEC

- Outdoor Wood Boilers

DEC State Land Issues - Rob Davies, NYSDE

- Open Burning Regulation

- Dillenburg Ruling
- State Land Acquisition
- Public Use of Easement Lands
- Unit Management Plans
- Snowmobile Trails - Use, Planning & Maintenance
- Sign Laws under ECL - Overview

Adirondack Park Agency

State Land Classification Process - Rick Weber,
APA

Sign Regulation – Mark Sengenberger, APA

DOT Right of Way Signs -

2 to 2:45 PM - 511 Travel Information Service

Todd Westhuis and Mary Harding, New York State Department of Transportation will present the 511 Travel Information Service that will be available throughout New York State and the greater New York City metro commuter area. 511 New York is a free, one-stop, all-encompassing telephone and Web service offering authoritative information on transportation services and conditions throughout New York State. It operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week. 511 NY provides dynamic information on traffic and weather conditions; a transit trip planner spanning multiple service providers with information on schedules, routes, and park-and-ride lots; carpool, vanpool and ride-share referrals; tourism links, bicycling information and more.

2:45 to 3 PM - Break

3 to 4:30 PM - Federal Stimulus Program

Tony Giardina, Secretary for Regional Affairs at the Governor's office will present an overview of the State efforts to implement projects in towns and villages in northern New York.

Matthew Millea, Acting President of the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation, will speak about "The Fight for Funding - Water and Sewer Finance -- Federal Stimulus and Beyond." Mr. Millea will be discussing how the economic recovery legislation increased funding for wastewater and drinking water projects via the State Revolving Fund programs. He will further discuss details on what manner these funds will be allocated to communities throughout New York State and the urgent need for continued Federal funding for our nation's aging water infrastructure.

Elizabeth Lowe, Regional Director, Region 5, Department of Environment Conservation, will discuss the funding opportunities for projects by DEC.

Mark Sengenberger, Director of Regulatory Programs, Adirondack Park Agency, will discuss the permitting process for those "Stimulus" projects requiring an Agency permit and steps towards an achieving a smooth regulatory review.

Other speakers TBA

On Display

- Report findings from the Adirondack Regional Assessment Project
- Telecommunication Towers Map for the Park

Social & Reception - Begins at 5:30 PM in the Great Room of the Crowne Plaza Resort

Join Adirondack Park Agency Chairman Curt Stiles, Adirondack Park Local Government Review Board Executive Director Fred Monroe, Adirondack Association of Towns and Villages President Brian Towers and local government officials, colleagues and staff from State Agencies for an informal get-together.

Adirondack Park Local Government Day Conference

Wednesday, March 25, 2009

Crowne Plaza Resort & Golf Club
Lake Placid, New York

Agenda

*Registration begins at 7:30 AM - Coffee and Tea provided
All sessions at the Crowne Plaza Resort and Golf Club, Lake Placid, NY
3-concurrent sessions (A, B, & C) plus GIS 1:1 Help Desk
Exhibitors and refreshment Breaks in the Sky Room*

Welcome & Introductory Remarks

8:30 AM

Local Government Day Conference Sessions

GIS Help Desk: all day 9 am – 4:45 pm

Join APA staff John Barge and Matt Kendall and Warren County Planning Office staff for a one to one help and training session on GIS. Arc 9 and ArcView 3 assistance will be provided for general questions and for specific projects. Bring along projects or data for tips or a list of questions you have. Walk-ups welcome and a sign-up sheet will be available to request specific appointment times during the day.

8:45 - 10 AM

(Concurrent Sessions)

A. Adirondack Park Regional Assessment Project – The Facts and Nothing but the Facts

Moderator: Brian Towers. In the past year, the Adirondack Park Regional Assessment Project conducted a community survey and collected data from towns and villages throughout the Park. The Adirondack North Country Association in partnership with the Adirondack Association of Towns and Villages and the towns of Arietta and Chester received a Quality Communities grant from the New York State Department of State to complete a planning inventory and analysis study on behalf of all municipalities located wholly or partially within the Adirondack Park. Committee members Brad Dake and Jim Martin will present data and trends from the report. While the vast amount of the information to be presented in this session will provide little opportunity for questions, their following session is intended to respond to questions.

B. Comprehensive Planning

Moderator: Keith McKeever. New York's zoning enabling statutes all require that zoning laws be adopted in accordance with a Comprehensive Plan. Although the Comprehensive Plan is the backbone for the local zoning law, it can be much more. John Clarke, Development and Design Coordinator for the Dutchess County Department of Planning and Development, provides examples of regional and community-scale planning and site design alternatives. As the principal author of Greenway Connections, he will also offer models to help communities develop a vision for their future and tools to achieve it by balancing economic development and resource protection objectives. A Comprehensive Plan can provide the bases for town growth and guide the community into their future. This session will provide guidance for those engaged in developing a Comprehensive Plan or looking to start the process.

C. Ethical Considerations for Decision Making by Planning and Zoning Boards

Moderator: Steve Erman. Join Mark Schachner, attorney with Miller, Mannix, Schachner & Hafner, LLC for a training session on the Ethical Considerations for Decision Making by Planning and Zoning Boards. Mark has extensive experience and knowledge and represents many Adirondack Towns in their land use actions.

10:30 - 11:45 AM

A. Broadband & Telecommunications – Access, Access, Access...

Moderator: Mark Sengenberger. The status of the wireless communications in the Park and access to broadband have topped the list of conference interest topics every year. In the last year several new towers have been installed in the Park and several more are planned. The technology is changing, installations and permitting are becoming more routine, and companies are turning to smaller markets that still lack coverage as a way to expand their business. Hear Elizabethtown Town Supervisor Noel Merrihew, on the town's process to get a new cell tower installed and its effects. Also, the NYS Office of Technology and Development Authority of the North Country will present plans to provide broadband access to wider regions of the Park.

B. Adirondack Park Regional Assessment Project – Questions?

Moderator: Robert Elliott. The information collected in the APRAP community survey is extensive. In continuing the APRAP report findings from the earlier session, this presentation will provide quick overview of the project and then open the session to questions from the audience. (See APRAP session from 8:45 AM.)

C. Planning and Zoning Case Law

Riele Morgiewicz, an attorney from the Department of State and Christopher Eastman will discuss the latest developments in state and federal courts in the area of land use. They will discuss current judicial trends in decision making, as well as how judicial decisions in other parts of the state impact local planning boards, zoning boards of appeals, and governing bodies. New and relevant opinions issued by the Attorney General, Comptroller, and Committee on Open Government will also be discussed.

Lunch: Noon to 1:30 pm

***Report on DEC Commissioner's Adirondack Steering Committee (AATV); and
Guest Speaker -- To Be Announced***

1:45 to 3 PM

A. APA New 2008 Regulations

Moderator: David Winchell. On December 31, 2008 five APA regulatory revisions took effect. The regulations provide definitions for the terms "Floor Space" and "Hunting and Fishing Cabin." They also affect APA subdivision jurisdiction "involving wetlands" and for "subdivisions along rights of way" and the "expansion of non-conforming shoreline structures." APA staff Brian Grisi and Rita Quinn will explain the new regulations, associated procedures, forms and transition guidance, and show examples to illustrate the new rules.

B. Municipal Programs to Conserve Energy Usage and Reduce Operating Costs

Moderator: Larry Phillips. Rhett Lamb, Planning Director in Keene, New Hampshire and Mike DeWein Technical Director for the Alliance to Save Energy will present opportunities and programs for communities to reduce their energy use. Rhett presented a program at The Wild Center last summer that was inspirational in illustrating the ways a small community can effectively alter its energy use to reduce its carbon footprint and benefit its bottom line by reducing the need for fuels and energy. Mike cites the tremendous potential to save energy, money and create jobs in communities around improving energy efficiency in our buildings. In working with the Energy Smart Park Initiative and allied businesses, he is promoting the development of Community Energy Efficiency Management and Managers who will provide a service and help empower communities to take advantage of energy efficiency. It is a timely message from two experts with experience and knowledge.

C. Site Plan Review and Special Use Permits

Presenters: Riele Morgiewicz and Christopher Eastman, NYS DOS. This course is an overview of the statutory authority to review site plans and special use permits. It will address the scope and content of a proper "site plan", as well as the status of special use permits as a zoning tool. Several design issues will also be addressed.

3:30 – 4:45 PM

A. Regional Tourism and Bringing it to Your Community

The Adirondack Museum and The Wild Center bring thousands of people to the center of the park every year. Not all communities can have an Adirondack Museum or a Wild Center, but they can benefit from their events and from their example. Local entrepreneurs have also created events drawing huge numbers of participants and spectators. This session looks at the opportunities and examples for expanding tourism and its related spending in your community.

B. Community Planning in Park

Moderator: James Connolly. Join Local Government Officials, Consultants and APA staff in a program and discussion of the many elements involved in community planning. APA staff will present information on amendments to the APA Land Use and Development Plan Map and approved local land use programs. Rob Camoin, of Camoin and Associates and Melissa McManus, Community Development Consultant, will discuss economic considerations in town planning. Roger Trancik of Urban Design Consultants and Bill Johnston, former Essex County Planning director, were principal authors of the original Hamlet Studies in the Park and are now engaged in preparing Hamlets 3 – A guide to hamlet expansion in the Park. They will present the tools communities need to plan for residential and commercial growth. A Town Plan can have many parts and serve many purposes. This session is designed to provide discussions on what can be achieved through town planning in the Park.

C. Enforcement of Zoning and other Local Laws

Presenters: Riele Morgiewicz and Christopher Eastman, NYS DOS. Municipalities make all sorts of laws, regulations, and rules, including junk car laws, site plan review, subdivision regulations, and zoning. This session will discuss the role of the enforcement officer in enforcing these regulations, from receiving complaints to sentencing or fining of violators. The session will address the relationship of the enforcement official to the zoning board of appeals. Enforcement actions will also be addressed, including responding to complaints, inspections of private property, and interaction with violators. The effect of a zoning appeal on the enforcement action, as well as judicial enforcement of violations will also be discussed.

We hope you had a great and productive day. Please complete the evaluation forms for sessions you attended and offer suggestions to help plan next year's event.
