

The 18th Annual Adirondack Park Local Government Conference

Crowne Plaza Resort, Lake Placid, New York

April 15 & 16, 2015

*Presented by the NYS Adirondack Park Agency, Adirondack Association of Towns and Villages,
Adirondack Park Local Government Review Board, Empire State Development, NYS Department of State,
& NYS Department of Environmental Conservation.*

Preliminary Agenda Wednesday Afternoon, April 15th

1:00PM to 5:00PM

Crowne Plaza Resort, Olympic Rooms

Open to all who are interested

*There is no fee for the Wednesday sessions, however please complete the registration form
available at: http://apa.ny.gov/Local_Government/index.html*

	<i>Adirondack Forum</i>	<i>Training for Planning & Zoning</i>
1:00PM to 3:00PM	<u>Advantage Adirondacks</u> “Advancing Economic Opportunities Across the Adirondack Park”	Variance Review & Procedures Practical Pointers for Site Plan Review
3:00PM to 3:30PM	<i>☞ Refreshment Break ☞</i>	
3:30PM to 5:00PM	Announcement of the Adirondack Park Smart Growth Implementation Grant Awards	
5:00PM to ...	<i>☞ Social & Reception ☞</i> <i>Crowne Plaza Resort, Great Room</i>	

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Preliminary Agenda **Thursday, April 16th**

All sessions at the Crowne Plaza Resort, Lake Placid, NY

Adirondack Park Local Government Conference Sessions

7:45AM	Registration begins. Coffee & Tea with exhibitors provided in the Sky Room		
8:30AM to 9:00AM	Welcome & Introductory Remarks		
	<i>Track A</i>	<i>Track B</i>	<i>Track C</i>
9:00AM to 10:15AM	Biomass - Wood Energy Comes to the 21st Century	Community Projects & Events	Dealing with Difficult Players in the Planning and Zoning Game
10:15AM to 10:45AM	☞ Refreshment Break ☞		
10:45AM to 12:00PM	Tourism Promotion	Community Planning Alternatives & Preparedness	Enforcement of Zoning & Other Local Laws
12:00PM to 1:45PM	☞ Luncheon Program ☞		
2:00PM to 3:15PM	Funding Opportunities for Municipalities	Invasive Species - The Incoming, Ongoing Challenge	Case Law Update for Planning & Zoning
3:15PM to 3:30PM	☞ Refreshment Break ☞		
3:30PM to 4:45PM	State & Local Collaboration to Enhance Outdoor Recreation Opportunities	Broadband	

Also featuring:

APA Staff Q&A: 9:00AM to 4:00PM - APA staff from various divisions will be available to provide general information and answer questions about Agency jurisdiction and the project review process. Walk-ups are welcome.

☞ All refreshment breaks will be located in the Sky Room along with the exhibitors ☞

**Additional Registration Forms & updated information
available on the website: http://apa.ny.gov/Local_Government/index.html**

Register by April 1st for early registration discount!

**We look forward to seeing you at the Adirondack Park Local Government Conference!
Wednesday Afternoon & Thursday, April 15 & 16, 2015**

Detailed session descriptions on the following pages...

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WEDNESDAY *Session Descriptions*

◆ **Concurrent Sessions: 1:00PM-3:00PM** ◆

Advantage Adirondacks - “Advancing Economic Opportunities across the Adirondack Park”

Advantage Adirondacks is a project of the Adirondack Partnership to identify a specific set of programs and incentives that view “environmental and economic sustainability as mutually dependent and reinforcing.” The strategy is to enhance hamlets and communities, reduce dependence on State support and public sector employment, and create an increasingly self-sustaining Adirondack Park. The Partnership together with River Street Planning & Development consultant team will provide details on the plan and its implementation.

- **Bill Farber**, Chairman, Hamilton County Board of Supervisors
- **Margaret Irwin**, Owner, River Street Planning and Development
- **Brian Towers**, President, AATV

Training for Planning & Zoning Officials

Variance Review and Procedures

Variance review criteria from Town Law may be well known, but how exactly should a ZBA determine if a variance will have an adverse impact or if it is appropriate to include conditions on the approval? Local land use attorney Michael Hill with Miller, Mannix, Schachner & Hafner, LLC and APA staff will review the fundamentals of granting a variance and the potential pitfalls of the process.

- **Michael Hill, Esq.**, Miller, Mannix, Schachner & Hafner LLC

Practical Pointers for Site Plan Review

Join APA staff for a hands-on activity and professional discussion focused on of the basics of Site Plan Review. This session is intended to serve as a primer on how to read site plans, what to look out for and other considerations.

- **Shaun LaLonde**, Soil & Water Engineering Specialist, NYS Adirondack Park Agency
- **Ariel Lynch**, Environmental Program Specialist 2, NYS Adirondack Park Agency
- **Colleen Parker**, Environmental Program Specialist 3, NYS Adirondack Park Agency

❧ *Refreshment Break: 3:00PM-3:30PM* ❧

◆ **Smart Growth Awards: 3:30PM-5:00PM** ◆

Adirondack Park Smart Growth Implementation Grant Awards

DEC Commissioner will announce the recipients of the third round of Adirondack Smart Growth Grants. Adirondack municipalities will receive grant monies totaling \$400,000 to implement smart growth projects within hamlets, villages and town centers. Projects will include capital improvements, environmentally sound economic development projects and organizational capacity-building to advance key projects. These grants seek to capitalize on the collaborative planning efforts of communities and organizations in the Park.

- **Joe Martens**, Commissioner, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
- **Leilani Crafts Ulrich**, Chairwoman, NYS Adirondack Park Agency

❧ *Evening Social: 5:00PM...* ❧

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THURSDAY *Session Descriptions*

❧ *Registration Begins: 7:45AM* ❧

◆ **Welcome: 8:30AM-9:00AM** ◆

Welcome & Introductory Remarks

Leilani Crafts Ulrich, Chairwoman, NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Terry Martino, Executive Director, NYS Adirondack Park Agency

◆ **Session 1: 9:00AM-10:15AM** ◆

1A. Biomass - Wood Energy Comes to the 21st Century

Clean-burning, high-efficiency wood pellet boilers are populating the North Country, thanks in part to multi-State coordination by the Northern Forest Center and a regional initiative undertaken by Adirondack North Country Association. This session provides an armchair visual tour of programs in place, featuring close-ups on installed units at municipal buildings and other locations where biomass is now the heating source of choice.

- **Gerald Delaney**, Councilman, Town of Saranac
- **Kate Fish**, Executive Director, ANCA
- **Leslie Karasin**, Project Manager, Northern Forest Center
- **Fred Monroe**, Executive Director, Local Government Review Board

1B. Community Events and Projects

This presentation about local, multi-town and regional events and projects will go a long way towards answering that question “Why is the Park so special in 2015?”

- **Dan Kelleher**, Special Assistant for Economic Affairs, NYS Adirondack Park Agency
- **Wayne LaMothe**, County Planner/Director, Warren County Department of Planning and Community Development
- **Zoe Smith**, Director, Adirondack Program at Wildlife Conservation Society
- **John Spaeth**, Mayor, Village of Northville

1C. Dealing with Difficult Players in the Planning and Zoning Game

The planning and zoning review process is and presumably should be open and public, but “difficult players” sometimes hinder the effectiveness of application review. While it is usually impossible to eliminate or even control such individuals, we will discuss various ways to deal with them as effectively as possible. This discussion is itself sometimes frustrating and some may leave with more questions than answers, but it is usually interesting and sometimes provocative.

- **Mark Schachner, Esq.**, Miller, Mannix, Schachner & Hafner LLC

❧ *Refreshment Break: 10:15AM-10:45AM* ❧

Visit with Exhibitors in the Sky Room

◆ **Session 2: 10:45AM-12:00PM** ◆

2A. Tourism Promotion

Hear first from the Regional Office of Sustainable Tourism about their work with many towns and villages to leverage the Park’s great natural and culture features for the benefit of communities seeking to expand

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commercial opportunities. Learn next about DEC's effort to create recreational focused web pages for Forest Preserve units and conservation easement tracts in the Adirondacks that will identify all recreational activities and infrastructure available to the public and how to access them. The session concludes with an update by Adirondack Regional Tourism Council and AdWorkshop on the status of Phase 2 of AATV's Outdoor Recreation Web Portal and its integration with the DEC information and community events and how it will help bring visitors to your community.

- **Gavin Landry**, Executive Director of Tourism, Empire State Development
- **James McKenna**, Executive Director, Regional Office of Sustainable Tourism
- **Ronald Ofner**, Executive Director, Adirondack Regional Tourism Council

2B. Community Planning - Alternatives and Preparedness

Town of Inlet officials will describe a five-year history of their local law requiring inspection of a property's septic system prior to sale, and the requirement to repair any septic system failing to meet conditions of the law. The Adirondack Road Salt Alternative Working Group will provide guidance to communities seeking alternatives to the use of conventional road deicing materials. And NYS DEC staff will discuss how your community can reduce emissions, increase climate resilience, save money and protect community infrastructure by becoming a Climate Smart Community.

- **Dazzle Ekblad**, Climate Policy Analyst, Office of Climate Change, NYS DEC
- **John Frey**, Supervisor, Town of Inlet
- **Willie Janeway**, Executive Director, Adirondack Council
- **Dan Kelting**, School of Natural Resource Management & Ecology Faculty, Director of Adirondack Watershed Institute, Paul Smith's College
- **Randy Preston**, Supervisor, Town of Wilmington
- **Aimee VanWie**, Code Enforcement Officer, Town of Inlet

2C. Enforcement of Zoning and Other Local Laws

Municipalities have various regulations that are an extension of their police power, but which aren't necessarily enforced by the police: zoning; property maintenance; and noise regulations; for example. This session reviews how these regulations are enforced, with discussions concerning the relationship between the enforcement officer and the review boards, the effect of an appeal of an enforcement action to the zoning board of appeals, and judicial enforcement of violations. Code Enforcement Officers may receive 1 hour of In-Service Credit.

- **Catherine M. Hamlin**, Land Use Training Specialist 1, NYS Department of State
- **Natasha Esther Phillip, Esq.**, Associate Attorney, NYS Department of State

❧ Luncheon Program: 12:00PM-1:45PM ❧

Conference Recognition Award

Keynote: TBA

◆ Session 3: 2:00PM-3:15PM ◆

3A. Funding Opportunities for Municipalities

Whether you are planning for your community's future or are putting infrastructure in the ground, there are many potential sources of funding to explore. Learn what State programs are available that can provide funding resources to help make your project a success.

- **Jason Denno**, State Needs Coordinator, NYS Environmental Facilities Corporation
- **Stephen Hunt**, North Country Regional Director, NYS Empire State Development
- **Kyle Wilber**, Municipal Management Consultant, NYS Department of State

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3B. Invasive Species - The Incoming, Ongoing Challenge

Invasive species can be expected to continue to challenge many of our communities by undermining their ecological, recreational and financial assets. Much has been accomplished, however, in development of ways to remove these species and implement control measures capable of preventing new infestations of species known or not-yet-known within our area. This session will highlight efforts by New York State, regional organizations and local communities to control, manage and fund the ongoing work.

- **Ed Griesmer**, Executive Director, Adirondack Lakes Alliance
- **Fred Monroe**, Executive Director, Adirondack Park Local Government Review Board
- **Kathy Moser**, Deputy Commissioner, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
- **Brendan Quirion**, Coordinator, Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program

3C. Case Law Update for Planning and Zoning

Recent cases that pertain to land use will be summarized and their implications on land use regulation at the local level explored. Relevant opinions by the New York State Attorney General, Office of State Comptroller, and Committee on Open Government will also be reviewed. Code Enforcement Officers may receive 1 hour of In-Service Credit.

- **Natasha Esther Phillip, Esq.**, Associate Attorney, NYS Department of State

☞ Refreshment Break: 3:15PM-3:30PM ☞
Visit with Exhibitors in the Sky Room

◆ **Session 4: 3:30PM-4:45PM** ◆

4A. State and Local Collaboration to Enhance Outdoor Recreation Opportunities

The Great South Woods (GSW) Project is a planning effort focused on over 2 million acres of public and private lands in the southern Adirondacks. DEC and APA, with key partners, are engaging the recreating public, community officials and business interests in helping to plan: 1) a destination-based system of trails and other recreational assets for the Great South Woods; and, 2) improvements to the State's protective management of the region's exceptional natural resources and wild character. This session will review progress to date and how this approach should better connect communities to one another and to the Forest Preserve and Conservation Easement lands. Another recreational planning effort which is occurring simultaneously will also be presented. The Adirondack Community-based Trails and Lodging System (ACTLS) project is a new Park-wide initiative that seeks to connect communities in the Park with self-powered circuits traverses, and strategically-located front- and back-country places of lodging. Materials will also be available which diagram the processes used by the State to develop Unit Management Plans, State Land Master Plan Amendments and State Land Classifications. There will be an opportunity to ask staff questions about these processes.

- **Jack Drury**, Project Director, ACTLS
- **Abigail Larkin**, GSW Project Coordinator, SUNY College of Environmental Science & Forestry
- **Kathy Regan**, Deputy, Director Planning, NYS Adirondack Park Agency
- **Karyn Richards**, Forest Preserve Coordinator, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation

4B. Broadband

Universal access to broadband continues to be a major consideration in efforts to spur economic investment and heighten community satisfaction. On-going regional investment and recent announcements on State-wide approaches to expand access will be discussed, along with community-based initiatives that provide service to residents and visitors alike.

- **Ed Bartholomew**, President, Warren County Economic Development Corporation
- **Andrew Mahoney**, Executive Director, Adirondack Teleworks
- **David Salway**, Executive Director, Governor Cuomo's Broadband Program