

Genesee/Finger Lakes REGIONAL REVIEW

NEWSLETTER OF THE GENESEE/FINGER LAKES REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

Volume 3, Number 3, Fall 2006

The Answer, My Friends, is *Planning* for the Wind...

PILOT PROGRAM TO HELP MUNICIPALITIES ADDRESS
WIND PROJECT DEVELOPMENT OFFERED BY NYSERDA

Regional Planning Councils Will Provide Increased Technical and Educational Services
to Local Governments as a Result of Pilot Program

The Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council has provided assistance with energy-related programs to the region for several years through the **New York Energy SmartSM** Communities Program. The **New York Energy SmartSM** Communities Program creates networks of organizations and agencies that contribute to energy-focused neighborhood projects. The program shares economic, environmental and social benefits through energy efficiency and the diversifying of energy resources.

Now, G/FLRPC is working with NYSERDA through an associated one-year pilot program to support the State's regional planning councils in their efforts to assist their member counties and their municipi-

ties with land use issues related to wind energy development.

Peter R. Smith, President and CEO of NYSERDA states, "Wind project development is a recent advancement that localities have had to contend with; and often local governments do not have the resources to adequately address land use issues associated with the development. NYSERDA is offering a pilot program to train and assist regional planning councils so that they can provide information and assistance to local municipalities that face zoning and planning issues associated with wind project development."

New York has many geographic regions that have the requisite resources for wind development, and

municipalities that become home to these projects face several challenges. They must deal with siting and logistics related to large construction projects; understand this new technology and its development in their community; as well as contend with procedural and related land use issues.

While some wind development information is available to localities, such as the "Tool Kit" on NYSERDA's www.powernaturally.org website, many municipalities seek direct objective assistance and information. This assistance can be helpful to county, planning, zoning, and other town boards responsible for

Continued. Please see 'Wind' on Page 3

Upcoming Events

November 17, 2006 - **Fall Local Government Workshop**, Genesee River Restaurant and Reception Center, Mount Morris (see brochure inside for more details)

TOO MANY EVENTS TO FIT HERE! MANY, MANY MORE EVENTS LISTED INSIDE ON PAGE 5

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CALL 585-454-0190, EMAIL US AT GFLRPC@GFLRPC.ORG, OR VISIT US ONLINE AT WWW.GFLRPC.ORG

Planning Leads to Results:

Recent Implementation Funding Based on Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council Projects

The Region receives implementation funding as a direct result of many of the planning projects and programs at G/FLRPC. The following is a list of several recent examples:

Cayuga Lake Watershed Restoration & Protection Plan (Watershed Management Plan). To read the Plan and more about the process visit www.gflrpc.org/Publications/CayugaLake.htm

- Six Mile Creek Stream Restoration - \$650,000
- Virgil Creek Stream Restoration - \$500,000
- Genoa/Lansing Town Line Road Roadbank Stabilization - \$22,000
- Salt Point Habitat Protection - \$140,000
- Cayuga Lake Road Roadbank Stabilization - \$120,000

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). To read the plan and more about the process visit www.gflrpc.org/ProgramAreas/EconomicDevelopment/CEDS.htm. Implementation funds awarded based on inclusion in CEDS: Upgrades necessary to manage the wastewater treatment process at Garlock Sealing Technologies plus the retention of 450 jobs

Electronic Field Study Image Library & Software Project – \$1.1 million in upgrades for multi-county high resolution digital aerial imagery libraries.

Finger Lakes Energy Smart Program. To read more about the program visit www.gflrpc.org/ProgramAreas/EnergySmart.htm. The following grants and loans were provided:

Small Business Energy Audits

- Victor Fire Department
- Village of Victor Village Hall and Department of Public Works
- Charles A. Rogers Enterprises, Inc.
- Turner Automotive
- Town of Victor Highway Garage
- Grayson Chiropractic Associates
- NEO Technologies
- Shantz Associates Inc
- Cornell Cooperative Extension, Ontario County
- Photovoltaic Installation in City of Rochester residence

Identification & Analysis of the Riparian Corridor in the Black & Oatka Creek Watershed. To read the project reports and more about the process visit www.gflrpc.org/Publications/RiparianCorridor.htm. Implementation funds awarded based on the report - Oatka Creek Stream Stabilization & Habitat Restoration: \$37,272, Black Creek Streambank Stabilization Project: \$60,285

Town & Village of Arcade All-Hazard Mitigation Plan. To read the Plan and more about the process visit www.gflrpc.org/Publications/ArcadeAllHazard.htm.

- Storm sewer along Mill Street- \$28,800
- Stream bank repair near Wastewater Treatment Plant- \$20,000
- Purchased and removed four houses in flood plain along Water Street and Main Street- \$200,000
- Purchased and removed one commercial building in flood plain along Main Street- \$108,000
- Purchased land and are currently constructing three flood control dams to the west of Park Street- \$457,240

Recent Regional Revolving Loan Fund Approvals:

- Northern Biodiesel (\$200,000, leveraging 1,512,586) – Assistance with start-up of a company that will produce biodiesel fuel from virgin and waste vegetable oil.

*Continued. Please see 'Results' on
Page 3*

Walking the Walk... Grant Opportunity for Trail Development

Parks and Trails New York's *Healthy Trails, Healthy People* program—Funded in part by a grant from the Healthy Heart Program of the New York State Department of Health—enables Parks and Trails New York (PTNY) staff to provide technical assistance to communities in areas of trail development with the goal of helping New Yorkers develop more active communities and an enhanced quality of life through the creation of multi-use trails.

Applications are available for the fourth year of the program with special interest in communities that are at the initial stages of trail development and would like some help with getting started. More

details about the program and an application form can also be found at the website listed at the end of this article.

Potential applicants are encouraged to call Parks and Trails New York to discuss their project before submitting an application. The application deadline for 2007 is **November 17, 2006**.

Parks and Trails New York launched its *Healthy Trails, Healthy People* program early in 2004. Presently they are working with fifteen projects around the state including the Moody Hiking Trail in the Town of Gorham in Ontario County

Parks and Trails New York is a non-profit organization with more than twenty years experience working to expand, protect, and promote a statewide network of parks, trails and open spaces for all to use and enjoy. Their role in making this network a reality is to guide the development of local, grassroots groups and to foster partnerships among trail and park stakeholders.

If you have any questions about the *Healthy Trails, Healthy People* program or wish more information, please call 518-434-1583 or email fgotcsik@ptny.org. You may also want to sign up for our free, bi-monthly Parks & Trails E-NEWS.

www.ptny.org/greenways/hthp.shtml

Wind (continued)

making land use decisions and need additional educational materials to make informed decisions on this important matter.

NYSERDA's pilot program will provide technical training and assistance to regional planning coun-

cils so that they may better provide wind energy information and assistance to county, municipal boards, elected officials, industrial development agencies, code enforcement offices, and other municipal staff. The end result will allow re-

gional planning councils to be more responsive to the needs of municipalities and provide them with up-to-date, reliable, and accurate information on wind development so that they can assist their member counties and their munici-

For more information and resources on the Wind Pilot program visit:

www.gflrpc.org/Wind.htm

For more information on the Finger Lakes Energy Smart Communities program visit:

www.gflrpc.org/ProgramAreas/EnergySmart.htm or contact Mark Denecke at mdenecke@gflrpc.org

Results (continued)

- HF Technologies (\$70,000, leveraging \$1,387,500) – Assistance with relocation to Rochester of a portion of the company's operation which is currently located in China.
- My Brands (\$125,000) – Assistance with infrastructure software and web site expenses including inventory control, storefront for order entry and web site and financial recordkeeping and reporting.
- WECO Metals (\$100,000, leveraging \$6,800,000) – Assistance with in the purchase of the assets and real estate for expansion
- Grizzly's Custom Cutting (\$70,000, leveraging and addition \$45,000) – Assistance with purchase of equipment for business expansion



Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council

Fall 2006 Local Government Workshop

Friday, November 17, 2006

Genesee River Restaurant and Reception Center, Mount Morris

Fall Local Government Workshop Co-sponsored By:

NYS Department of State (NYSDOS) • NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC)
Landmark Society of Western New York • New York State Data Center
Genesee County Planning Board • Livingston County Planning Department
Monroe County Planning & Development Department
Ontario County Planning Department & Board • Orleans County Planning Board • Seneca County Planning Board
Wayne County Planning Board • Wyoming County Planning Board • Yates County Planning Department

Workshop Registration

Individual: \$40.00 Vendor/Exhibitor: \$300.00

All registrations include continental breakfast & buffet lunch

PLEASE REGISTER BY NOVEMBER 10, 2006

NO REFUNDS AFTER NOV. 10 - There is a separate fee for attorney credit

Who should attend?

Municipal Board Members • Elected Officials
Planning Board Members

Zoning Board of Appeals Members

County and Municipal Employees • Enforcement Officers
Planners • Land Use Professionals • Attorneys • Consultants
Concerned Citizens

Genesee River Restaurant and Reception Center

134 Main St, Mount Morris, NY 14510, 585-658-2949

Directions

From Points West:

Various ways to Rt 36 south into Mt. Morris. Reception Center is on the left just past the Genesee River.

From Points North, South, and East:

Various ways to I-390. Take Exit 7, turn left onto Rt 408 west into Mt. Morris. Turn right onto Main St (Rt 36). Reception Center is on the right just before the Genesee River.



Time	Session A	Session B	Session C
8-9	Registration, Continental Breakfast, Exhibits		
9-10	A1 (9-11) Planning Board Overview, DOS This session will address the powers and duties of town, village and city planning boards and commissions. Administrative and regulatory roles of the planning board will be discussed, including comprehensive planning, site plan review, special use permits, subdivision review, the role of the board in making recommendations to the zoning board of appeals, the importance of board procedures, referral to the county planning agency, and making findings. (CEO, CLE, and AICP credit)	B1 (9-11) Local Regulation of Wind Energy Systems, DOS This session will address the adoption of local laws to regulate both large and small wind energy systems. We'll also discuss the environmental, aesthetic, and economic issues of interest to local governments. Finally, we'll discuss applicable state and federal regulations and programs relating to wind energy systems.	C1(9-10) An Introduction to Historic Preservation Planning, Cynthia Howk, The Landmark Society of WNY Learn about the effective elements of local historic preservation planning and how they can help you plan a more effective strategy to recognize, protect and rehabilitate the historic built environment in your community. Topics will include economic redevelopment, grants, government landmark programs, who does what (public/private agencies), local ordinances, and the Certified Local Government program.
10-11			C2 (10-12) Zoning for Agriculture, Maria Rudzinski, Ontario County Planning and Jim Duval, Genesee County Planning Local preservation of farmland can be challenging. Background on zoning and agriculture will be provided and two techniques will be presented that municipalities have developed to use zoning laws to preserve agricultural land.
11-12	A2 (11-12) Regulation of Rental Housing in Residential Neighborhoods, DOS The conversion of owner-occupied housing to rental housing can often result in a decline in neighborhood property values, as well as the quality of life of people who live in the area. Problems associated with student housing, short-term rentals in resort areas, and landlord neglect have no one-size-fits all solution. Topics include the municipal toolbox to address rental housing, use of property maintenance laws and inspections; enforcement of the Uniform Fire Safety and Building Code; zoning for student housing, including definitions of "family"; licensing of landlords; and other strategies for making good neighbors	B2 (11-12) Land Use Moratoria, DOS Moratoria temporarily suspends development while communities consider changes to their comprehensive plans or its land use regulations. Discussion will include how moratoria are enacted, what development is suspended, who can get exceptions, and how long they can last.	
12-1	Lunch, Exhibits		
1-2	A3 (1-3) Zoning Board of Appeals Overview, DOS This course will address the powers and duties of zoning board of appeals and its interrelationships with enforcement officials, the municipal planning board, and county planning agencies. The statutory requirements relating to the issuance of use and area variances, handling of zoning interpretations, board procedures and findings will be discussed. (CEO, CLE, and AICP	B3 (1-3) Financial & Legal Aspects of Wind Siting, Kenneth W. Bond, Esq., Saurie, Sanders & Dempsey LLP, Dan Spitzer, Esq., Hodgson Russ LLP Discussion will include how large wind is financed, financial implications to landowners and local governments, what are the incentives, who is involved and what are the legal implications.	C3 (1-2) Improving Addresses for the 2010 Census, Robert Scardamalia, NYS Data Center An accurate Census depends on accurate addresses. Representation in Albany and Washington depends on an accurate Census. The 2010 Local Update of Census Addresses (LUCA) program is local gov't's ONLY opportunity to impact the quality of the Census and it starts next Spring. The program and how local govts need to prepare to the Census Bureau will be discussed.
2-3			C4 (2-3) Outdoor Wood Boilers, DOS Outdoor wood boilers (aka outdoor wood-burning furnaces) have recently become a popular alternative for home heating. However, there are environmental & health concerns, which present new challenges for local govts. Tools and tips to assist municipalities in meeting these challenges will be discussed. (CEO credit)
3-4	A4 (3-5) ABCs of PUDs (Planned Unit Developments), DOS A Planned Unit Development District (PUD) is a flexible zoning tool which can allow for a variety of housing types, recreational opportunities, shopping services, and employment opportunities in a new development. Instructors will talk about how this tool is used by municipalities, and the pros and cons of using it.	B4 (3-5) Environmental Issues and Process, Jack Nasca, NYSDEC and others Discussion will include implications of some of the environmental issues of large wind and the SEQRA and EIS process.	C5 (3-5) Community Design - A How To, Jason Haremza, AICP, G/FLRPC There has been growing interest in how new development looks, functions and fits into communities. New Urbanism, form based codes, build-to lines... what do all these terms mean? Learn how to get beyond the pictures and use your existing zoning, site plan review, and subdivision laws to get better designed development.
4-5			

Registration Form - Fall 2006 Local Government Workshop

Name: _____

Municipality/Company/Organization _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone Number (w/Area Code): _____ Email: _____

Please Circle the sessions you will be attending:

A1 A2 A3 A4
 B1 B2 B3 B4
 C1 C2 C3 C4 C5

Registration Fee:
 \$40 per individual, \$300 per vendor/exhibitor

Please make checks payable to:
 G/FLRPC

NO REFUNDS AFTER NOVEMBER 10

Mail, Fax, or Email Registration To:

Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council
 50 West Main St, Suite 8107
 Rochester, NY 14614
 Email: gflrpc@gflrpc.org Fax: 585-454-0191

Questions and Information: David Zorn, 585-454-0190 x14, dave.zorn@gflrpc.org

Finger Lakes Energy Smart Communities *Kernels of Information About Ethanol*

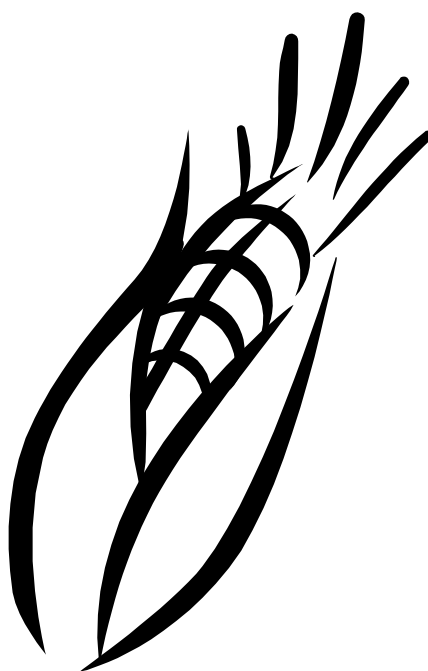
by Mark Denecke

As energy prices increase and our global energy picture becomes more complex, ethanol has been generating a lot of news and fueling plenty of speculation. Lend me your ears, as we shuck away the husks to reveal a few kernels of information about this emerging fuel source.

Two ethanol plants have been proposed for the Genesee/Finger Lakes region (Shelby and Romulus) and three more are being planned nearby (Buffalo, Fulton, and Venice). Ethanol is any grain alcohol -- not just that produced from corn. It can also be produced from wheat, potatoes, soybeans, sugar cane, willows, corn stalks and crop waste, and paper and pulp waste.

Ethanol is used as an additive to unleaded gasoline, not as a fuel in its own right. These mixed fuels are written as "E10" or "E85", the number being the percentage of ethanol present in the gasoline. The addition of ethanol to unleaded gas helps oxygenate the fuel, increases the octane rating and reduces emissions. As an oxygenate, ethanol is fast-replacing MTBE, a chemical which is banned in several states because it easily leaches into groundwater and can have a negative effect on human health. All vehicles that run on unleaded gas can utilize the 10% ethanol formula of gas. E10 is used at approximately one third of gas stations in this country, particularly in the Midwest. It is also

used widely in urban areas to meet clean air goals. A designated Flexible Fuel Vehicle (FFV) is necessary to utilize E85, the 85% ethanol product. More FFV's are being manufactured for private and fleet vehicles to use E85.



To make ethanol from corn, the starch in corn is turned into sugar, which is fermented to alcohol. Corn is the main feedstock for ethanol in this country, primarily due to its abundance and low price. Around the world, sugar cane and sugar beets are most commonly used for ethanol. Ethanol production also creates valuable by-products like distillers dried grains (a high-protein feedstock) and carbon dioxide (for bottling and dry ice). The proposed plant in Venice (Cayuga County) plans to distill

vodka, in addition to ethanol.

Cellulosic ethanol uses a different stock and a slightly different process. There are no commercial plants yet functioning, however the lower net energy use of this form of ethanol holds much promise. It can be made from willows, grasses, corn stalks and other crop waste, as well as pulp and paper waste. The process uses an enzyme to break down the component sugars, which are then fermented and distilled to form ethanol, using less heat (and in turn energy). Energy is additionally saved because trees and grasses require less energy and resources to grow than corn and can be harvested annually without replanting.

Every energy source we use has its tradeoffs. Using more diverse sources of energy and producing our energy in a distributed fashion helps to keep our energy safe, efficient, and reliable. As our shared energy future becomes more complex (and more expensive), there are two very important steps you can take to be prepared. Number one, consider reducing your energy consumption (related to conserving gasoline -- try carpooling and combining trips, consider public transportation). Second, learn about where your energy comes from. It may sound trite, but where energy is concerned, being an educated consumer does pay off.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- September 25-26, 2006. **Empire Energy and Environmental Exposition**, Syracuse. Visit www.e4ny.com for more information.
- September 27, 2006, 6:30PM. **Community Partnerships: Achieving Success and Savings through Intermunicipal and Regional Cooperation**, New York State Department of State Interactive Satellite Teleconference, various locations throughout the region. For more information visit www.qualitycommunities.org/
- September 28, 2006, 6:30PM. **Wondering about Wind: Helping Local Governments Deal with Wind Power**, Mark Denecke, Finger Lakes Energy Smart Coordinator presenting at the Finger Lakes Institute, Geneva. For more information visit <http://fli.hws.edu> or call 315-781-4382
- October 8-11, 2006. **68th Annual New York Planning Federation, Planning & Zoning Conference**. Saratoga Springs, NY. For more information visit www.nypf.org or call 518-270-9855
- October 16, 2006. **Co-Funding for Water & Sewer Infrastructure Projects**, presented by the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation, Inn on the Lake, Canandaigua. For more information visit <http://www.nysefc.org> and click on Free Co-Funding Workshops
- October 20, 2006. **Finger Lakes-Lake Ontario Watershed Protection Alliance Watershed Workshop**, Camp Asbury, Silver Lake, New York. For more information email blander@rochester.rr.com or call 585-313-7119
- November 5-7, 2006. **NYSERDA Energy in Schools Conference**, Rochester. Visit www.nyserda.org for more information.
- November 8-10, 2006. **Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Workforce Conference**, Hudson Valley Community College, Troy. For more information visit: www.hvcc.edu/energyconference/program.php
- November 9, 2006. **Planning a Future for Farms in Western New York**, presented by the Western New York Land Conservancy and the American Farmland Trust, Genesee Community College, Batavia. For more information visit www.wnylc.org or call 716-687-1225
- November 17, 2006. **22nd Local Government Workshop**, Genesee River Hotel and Conference Center, Mt. Morris. For more information visit: www.gflrpc.org/ProgramAreas/AdditionalServices/Workshops/Fall2006/Fall2006.htm

Recent Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council Publications

- *Identification & Analysis of the Riparian Corridor in the Black & Oatka Creek Watersheds* - www.gflrpc.org/Publications/RiparianCorridor.htm
- *Municipal Law Review and Analysis in the Black & Oatka Creek Watersheds* - www.gflrpc.org/Publications/ControllingSediment/Assessment/ReviewAnalysis.htm
- *Assessment of Ordinances and Practices in the Canandaigua, Cayuga, and Conesus Lake Watersheds* - www.gflrpc.org/Publications/LocalLaws/Assessment/AssessmentIndex.htm
- *Protecting Water Resources through Local Regulation: A Manual for New York Municipalities* - www.gflrpc.org/Publications/LocalLaws/Guidebook.htm
- *2006 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy* - www.gflrpc.org/Publications/CEDS/2005-06/0506CEDS.htm
- *2005 Land Use Monitoring Report* - www.gflrpc.org/Publications/LandUseMonitoring.htm

"A Sense of Place"

Stories about the things that make our Region unique.

Travelers on Rt. 31 in Albion, Orleans County, may pass by Mt. Albion Cemetery without paying much attention to the monuments peeking at the road from behind the cemetery's ornate fence.

However, this unique Victorian cemetery, which covers over 100 acres and is the final resting place of some 18,000 people, is one of the County's most beautiful and historic sites. Like other 19th century cemeteries in the region, Mt. Albion was once used as a public park. The cemetery's landscaped grounds are a picturesque jumble of hills, ridges, terraces, valleys, and glens. This topography is further enriched by the cemetery's array of funerary monuments. Obelisks and urns, temples and columns, and an assortment of fine sculpture and statuary adorn the grounds.

The cemetery's focal point is a 68 ft. tall Medina sandstone tower at the top of the highest hill. Built as a memorial to the 463 Orleans County soldiers who died in the Civil War, this tower is open to the public and features an observation platform with spectacular views of the surrounding countryside. One would be well advised to pause for a few quiet moments and immerse themselves in the cemetery's arcadian surroundings.

Sources:

www.rootsweb.com/~nyorlean/cemmtalbn.htm
www.usgennet.org/usa/ny/state/orl/ch14.html

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Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council is a public entity that serves its nine member counties* with planning, economic development, data resources, and other program areas.

**Genesee, Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Orleans,
Seneca, Wayne, Wyoming, and Yates*

Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council
50 West Main Street, Suite 8107
Rochester, NY 14614
www.gflrpc.org

Telephone: 585-454-0190

Fax: 585-454-0191

Email: gflrpc@gflrpc.org

Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council
50 West Main Street, Suite 8107
Rochester, NY 14614

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