



EMC News

July 7, 2004

Volume 11, No. 7

TOWN OF NEWFIELD MUNICIPAL REPORT

Submitted by Cindy Seliger

Water District II update: The Newfield Water District II project is progressing. In June borings will be done to further design for the water tank placement. Land acquisition for the tank sites is underway, as well as planning and design for utility locations. The Archeological Study concluded there were no significant areas of importance/artifacts at any of the sites. The next few months will include more planning and design for various aspects of the project. The new Water District II design is based on a 96,000 gallon per day average demand; the existing water district is based on 100,000 gallon per day average demand. The new water district is planned to be up and running before the end of 2006.

Natural Cemetery: The Town of Newfield has been approached by Green Springs Natural Cemetery group about locating a natural cemetery in Irish Hill Rd. The group awaits approval from the State Supreme Court to operate, and apparently have support of the New York State Cemetery Association. Green Springs has been advised by their legal team that they do not need to obtain Town Board Approval; however, the group may need to receive the "Town's Blessing" for the project. Once the Supreme Court makes the decision, it is anticipated the group will approach the Town with a formal project for their review.

Shelter Valley Water System: The Town of Newfield has been approached by the Public Service Commission (PSC), the Tompkins County Health Department, and residents of the area served by the Shelter Valley Water System to take over operation of the water system. The owner of the system, Ernest Bury, no longer wants to operate it. However, he needs to obtain approval from the PSC to remove himself as operator, and submit plans detailing the future operation and maintenance of the system. In the meantime, the Health Department urged the residents of Shelter Valley to form a Water Board to address the various issues of finding a new operator for the system.

YOU ARE INVITED TO A HIGHWAY CLEANUP BREAKFAST PARTY!!

Submitted by Steve Nicholson

Saturday, July 17, 9 AM, at the corner of Warren Rd and Route 13. After feasting on bagels, donuts, coffee and juice, partygoers will have the opportunity to hike the nearby sections of Route 13, wearing yellow hardhats and orange vests.

Bright orange party favor bags will be given out, but they will be empty. Each guest is welcome to find as many treasures/trash as they can. Prizes will be given for most volume, most valuable, and most energetic. Please bring gloves and friends.

DISTRIBUTION OF EMC MINUTES – CHANGES MAY IMPACT YOU!

Submitted by Heather Filiberto

In an effort to improve the accuracy of information being disseminated, EMC members voted in June to change the way minutes are distributed. *How will this change impact you?*

EMC members will continue to receive the draft minutes with their regular meeting agenda packet.

Non-EMC members that are on the mailing list will no longer receive the draft minutes in your agenda packets. Instead, you will receive the final, adopted minutes the following month. For example, you should receive the final, adopted minutes from the June meeting with the August meeting agenda packet. In September, you will receive the final, adopted minutes from the July meeting.

The EMC mailing list includes about 60 people who are not members. These include county legislators, local mayors and town supervisors, local conservation advisory councils/ boards, and individuals that have expressed an interest in keeping up-to-date with the EMC.

more News! 

LEAD POISONING

Submitted by Steve Nicholson

From the Sierra Club's "Daily Scoop"

<http://www.sierraclub.org/scoop/>

"An epidemic of violent crime in late twentieth-century America could be tied to lead poisoning. That's the upshot of research commissioned by the Department of Housing and Urban Development which shows a close correlation between the use and eventual phase-out of leaded gasoline and the rise and fall of crime trends. How extensive was lead exposure? Scripps Howard reports "The post World War II use of leaded gasoline, which peaked in the 1970s, made lead poisoning virtually ubiquitous. Nearly 80 percent of children had lead levels in their blood that would exceed today's safety threshold of 10 micrograms per deciliter." But even more compelling is the finding that, "As lead pollution increased, so did violent crime of all kinds, including murder, rape and aggravated assault. ... Violent crime unexpectedly began to decline in the early- to mid-1990s, the same time that children who benefited from decreasing use of leaded gasoline were reaching their teens." It's not the first time lead poisoning has been tied to crime. A study of 1,000 children conducted by a New York law professor found that, among 3,000 other factors, lead poisoning was the best predictor of delinquent and violent behavior."

TOMPKINS COUNTY NATURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY – INTERACTIVE MAPPING TOOL ON-LINE!

Check out the new Natural Resources Inventory on-line at <http://gisweb.tompkins-co.org/nri/>.

This tool enables users to query, locate and analyze a variety of natural resources within Tompkins County. It is an invaluable resource to help identify natural features. You can create your own maps that show Unique Natural Areas, flood plains, streams, wetlands, and lots more.

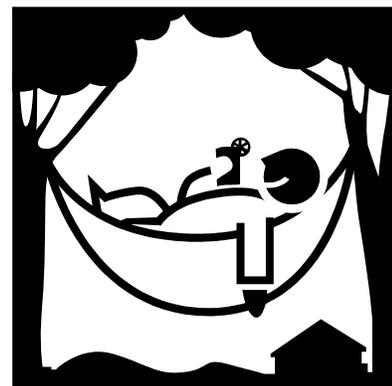
CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION OF TOMPKINS COUNTY DEVELOPING A DIRECTORY OF GREEN BUILDING

Danny Mulé, an intern at Cooperative Extension of Tompkins County, is compiling a Directory of Green Building for the Greater Ithaca-Tompkins County region. The directory will include all sorts of green builders -- architects, designers, energy installers, auditors, local lumber, among others. The business itself does not necessarily have to be a green business, but every listing in the directory will offer some sort of green building activity/product/service. If you are interested in being included in the directory, please contact Danny directly at:

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*Don't miss the EMC meeting
July 14, 2004.*

Take a break in August!!



*See you at the next EMC meeting
September 8, 2004 at 7:00pm!*