

Positively Greene

COUNTY-WIDE UPDATE



GreeneGovernment.com

GreatNorthernCatskills.com

GreeneCountyEDC.com

InvestInGreene.com

FilmInGreene.com

December 2020

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Camping World's Gander RV & Outdoors Opening in New Baltimore



An outdoor adventure retail brand-behemoth will be opening their doors just south of NYS Thruway Exit 21B at the former Boat-n-RV site as early as the end of this month. This major new business in Greene County will attract buyers from underserved markets in the Capital Region, Upper Hudson Valley and Western Massachusetts with their wide selection of RVs & camping necessities, bringing additional revenue and employment opportunities to our communities.

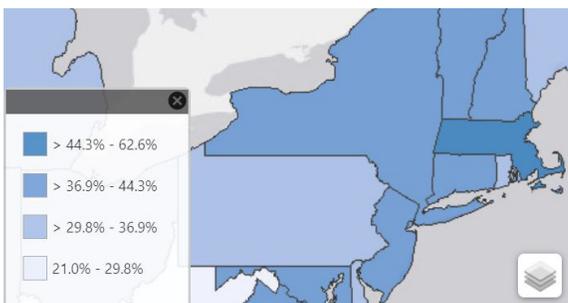
Holiday Pop-Up at 430 Main St., Catskill to Continue into 2021



Kaaterskill Market, an online purveyor of sustainable home goods, teamed up with Catskill Mountain Woodworking to take a 3-month lease of the storefront in the 400 block of Main Street for the 2020 holiday shopping season. Growing in-person sales have enabled them to extend their lease and brick & mortar presence well into 2021.

Read the Success Story at <https://updates.investingreene.com/kaaterskill-market>.

Teleworking Remains Strong in NYS



Based on survey-data from the US Census Bureau, the number of New Yorkers working from home continues to be above 40%. In week 18 of the survey, some 5.46 million residents are participating in telework, down 3.4% from 5.75 million 5 weeks previous, but still 3 points higher than the national average. This data supports the reality that US Jobs that can be accomplished remotely, will continue to be done that way, and those holding those positions are free to locate wherever they chose. The low population density of Greene County communities is ideally suited to attract remote workers.

TOURISM

New York State Releases 2019 Tourism Economic Numbers



Each year New York State releases data analyzing the economic impact of visitors in the state. According to the study, travelers spent \$1.6 billion in the Catskills in 2019 supporting 19,938 jobs. Of that, \$192 million was spent in Greene County, a 4.1% increase, supporting 3,378 jobs. For the region 14.1% of all labor income and 17.1% of all employment is generated by tourism. Greene County is most dependent upon tourism with 14.6% of all labor income and 23.2% of all employment sustained by visitors. Tourism in the Catskills generated nearly \$187 million in state and local taxes. Were it not for tourism-generated state and local taxes, the average household in the region would have to pay an additional \$1,400 to maintain the same level of government. In Greene County, residents would have to pay an additional \$1,333 per household.

New York State Tourism Industry Association Hosts Tourism Conference

Greene County Tourism attended the Virtual NYSTIA Tourism Conference that kicked-off with an inspiring opening statement from Lieutenant Governor Kathy Hochul. Other notable speakers were Jack Johnson from Destinations International, Adam Sacks from Tourism Economics, Huntley Lawrence from Port Authority NY & NJ, and Ross Levi from ILNY. The conference highlighted the current state of the tourism economy and provide scenarios of the recover as we enter into 2021. It also highlighted successes of the tourism sector and identified reasons for why New York regions succeed over others.



PLANNING

Comprehensive Recreation Plan Released by CWC



The final Greater Catskill Region Comprehensive Recreation Plan was recently released by the Catskill Watershed Corporation (CWC). The plan offers a strategic vision with actionable steps to increase public recreational access in

the Catskill Park with many projects and programs that can help promote tourism and economic development in Greene County. In addition to CWC the plan was prepared by the Catskill Center, the NYS State Department of Environmental Conservation, and the New York City Department of Environmental Protection.

Read the full plan at <https://cwconline.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Greater-Catskill-Region-Comprehensive-Recreation-Plan.pdf>

2020 Ellen Rettus Planning Achievement Awards

Projects in three Greene County municipalities were recognized as 2020 awardees at the November full session of the Greene County Legislature. Awards went to the Cairo Town Board, The Catskill Village Board and Hickory Hill Market in the town of Windham. To view pictures of the winners and their respective Legislators, as well as overviews of each project, visit <https://www.greenegovernment.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/2020-Planning-Awards.pdf>

Public Hearing Scheduled on Ag District 124

In accordance with NYS law, a public hearing will be held on Wednesday 12/16/20 at 6:25pm in room 403 of the Greene County Office Building in Catskill on proposed modifications to Agricultural District No. 124 based on the 2020 annual district review.

Further information can be found at: <https://www.greenegovernment.com/notices/notice-of-public-hearing-on-requests-for-inclusion-of-lands-in-ag-district-no-124>

Greene County Department of Economic Development, Tourism & Planning

Warren Hart - Deputy County Administrator • 518-719-3290 • business@discovergreene.com

Great Northern Catskills
of Greene County
tourism@discovergreene.com

Follow Us on Social Media:



Greene County Economic
Development Corporation
info@GreeneCountyEDC.com

Follow Us on Social Media:



Buy In Greene | Invest In Greene
info@buyinggreene.com

Follow Us on Social Media:

