

Positively Greene

COUNTY-WIDE UPDATE



GreeneGovernment.com

GreatNorthernCatskills.com

GreeneCountyEDC.com

InvestInGreene.com

FilmInGreene.com

September 2021

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Get Better Connected Broadband Survey Successfully Completed



Over the past 90 days, Greene County residents and businesses have been encouraged to respond to a survey on the accessibility and affordability of broadband internet service at their locations. This survey has provided valuable insight into the quality and cost of service specific to each of our 14 Catskill Mountain, Rural Valley, and Historic Hudson River Towns. Responses to the survey surpassed the target goal by an additional 50% with approximately 1,200 locations participating. The information contained in these responses will help county leadership determine the best ways to allocate forthcoming Federal funding to help everyone in Greene County Get Better Connected. Follow the progress of this initiative at <https://www.greenegovernment.com/greene-broadband>.

Flint Mine Solar Approved by State Siting Board



On August 5, the New York State's Board on Electric Generation Siting and the Environment approved the Flint Mine Solar LLC application to construct a utility-scale solar facility in the Towns of Athens and Coxsack. The project will consist of approximately 1,638 acres; about 516 acres of which will be the generating facility with a total generating capacity of up to 100 megawatts (MW). The remaining acreage will consist of approximately a 297 acres conservation area for grassland wintering raptors and approximately 825 acres that will not be developed. According to Flint Mine LLC the facility will produce an amount of electricity roughly equivalent to the average annual electricity needs of the 21,000 homes in Greene County. It is estimated that the project will create 490 manufacturing, supply, and construction jobs. The power generated will connect to National Grid electric utility. The Flint Mine solar facility has been approved by the NY State Siting Board, however it is not endorsed by Greene County government. Another 50-megawatt solar facility proposed by Hecate Energy in Coxsack is still pending and may be heard by the State Siting Board in September.



Greene County Real Estate Market Booming

Strong buyer demand and shrinking available inventory continue to bolster a seller's market throughout the county. Last month new listings were up 21% over the previous year. Closed sales were up almost 43% and homes for sale declined by over 1/3. Greene County had the most significant median home price increase in the region, going from \$200K in the first half of 2020 to \$285K through Q2 of this year – a net gain of 42.5%. Comparatively, home prices in Columbia County rose 40%, Sullivan 31%, Dutchess 25%, Ulster 24% and Orange 19%. Additionally, the Town of Hunter is #15 on the Upstate NY growth list, with its population increasing by over 11% since the 2010 census.

TOURISM



Zoom Flume Water Park Featured in The New York Sherpa Show!

During a very hot day in June The New York Sherpa, Josiah Brown, visited the Zoom Flume Water Park to film his season 2 opening show. The New York Sherpa Adventure Show launched in 2020 and features top New York State attractions. The purpose of the video was to help promote one of Greene County's top attractions that, due to the pandemic, were not able to open in 2020. Check out the season 1 opener that includes the "top three rides that can't be missed." <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i9xgWQXWao4&t=1s>

An Insider's Guide to September Events in the Hudson Valley



There is so much to do in the Hudson Valley!! Greene County events for September are featured in the "Things to Do" in the Hudson Valley Magazine. <https://hvmag.com/calendar/>



Hudson River Valley Ramble Includes 4 Events at Thomas Cole House

Celebrate the history, culture and natural resources of the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area by taking part in the Hudson River Valley Ramble. Enjoy the amazing landscape, communities, and trails throughout the region. Check out the 2021 event listings for the Hudson River Valley Ramble at <https://www.hudsonrivervalleyramble.com/ramble/events>.



Catskills Resorts that Keep the Retro Vibe Alive

Greene County resorts and lodging properties were featured in the Albany Times Union on Thursday, August 26th. It featured interviews from Peter Nussbaumer of Riedlbauer's Resort in Round Top, Brian Wagner of Catskill Mountain Lodge, and Margaret Hasenkopf Dukarm of The Crystal Brook Resort. Read the full article: <https://www.timesunion.com/hudsonvalley/travel/article/Catskills-resorts-that-keep-retro-vibe-alive-16411124.php>

PLANNING

Annual Ag District Review – Requests for Inclusion



Greene County Economic Development, Tourism and Planning along with the Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board (AFPB) will be conducting its annual review of Greene County's Agricultural District No. 124 in accordance with Article 25-AA of the Agriculture & Markets Law. From October 1, 2021 and through October 30, 2021 there will be a thirty (30) day open enrollment period during which any municipality whose territory is in Agricultural District No. 124, any State Agency or any landowner within or adjacent to the district may request an addition to the district. Any proposed addition(s) must be filed with the Greene County Department of Economic Development, Tourism

& Planning, 411 Main Street, Catskill, N.Y. 12414 within the thirty (30) days specified. At the end of the thirty (30) day period, the Greene County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board (AFPB) will meet to review the proposed additions. A public hearing will be held on the proposed additions and recommendations of the AFPB. The dates and times of the AFPB meetings and public hearing will be posted on the Greene County Government website at <https://www.greeneconomy.com/departments/planning-and-economic-development/agricultural-programs-and-resources/district-no-124>

Greene County Department of Economic Development, Tourism & Planning

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