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Chautauqua County Lakes and Waterways Grant Applications Available



Pictured above is one of the successful 2015 Occupancy Tax Grants for Lakes and Waterways projects, which was completed on Goose Creek.

Article Contributed by
Chautauqua County
Department of Planning and Economic Development

The Chautauqua County Department of Planning and Economic Development has announced applications for the Chautauqua County 2017 Occupancy/ Bed Tax Grants for Lakes and Waterways are now available.

The Occupancy Tax Grants for Lakes and Waterways are funded through the county's five percent occupancy or bed tax for the rental of lodging units within the county. Two-fifths or two percent of the bed tax is used solely for the enhancement and protection of lakes and waterways in the Chautauqua County.

"While most New York counties collect an occupancy tax, Chautauqua County is unique in the way we reinvest the revenue to improve our lakes and waterways through the 2% program, which in turn attracts more tourism dollars," said Dave McCoy, Chautauqua County Watershed Coordinator. "There is simply no other program like it in New York State."

These grants provide \$500 to \$40,000 in funding for projects to be implemented from January 1 through December 31, 2017.

"Generally, projects located within the Lake Erie, Bear Lake, Cassadaga Lakes, Findley Lake and Chautauqua Lake watersheds are eligible," said Dave Spann, Chairman of the Chautauqua County Water Quality Task Force.

Applications may be submitted by various groups and organizations including; not-for-profits, governments, businesses and corporations, public and private schools, and all landowners of Chautauqua County. Successful projects funded under this program include but are not limited to: streambank, shoreline, or ditch stabilization; sediment retention basins; watergardens; buffer strips; and habitat improvement projects.

"We have funded some very beneficial and

creative projects since the Occupancy Tax Program's inception," said Chautauqua County Executive Vince Horrigan. "Through the program, we are making meaningful improvements to the water quality in our lakes and streams and we encourage Chautauqua County residents and agencies to apply."

"During the 2016 round we were able to fund nine projects for approximately \$200,000, which will be constructed this summer," said McCoy. "Those projects included riparian buffers and streambank stabilization projects."

Applications and instructions for the grant are available online at www.co.chautauqua.ny.us/519/Project-Funding; or www.planningchautauqua.com by clicking on the watershed management link and navigating to "2% Bed Tax Grants."

Completed applications are due by 4 p.m. on June 1, 2016 and should be mailed to: Mr. Dave McCoy, Watershed Coordinator, Chautauqua County Department of Planning & Economic Development, 200 Harrison St., Suite 300, Jamestown, 14701.

Submitted projects will be evaluated and ranked by the Chautauqua County Water Quality Task Force Waterways Panel. The panel's ranked list will then be provided in August 2016 to the Chautauqua County Legislature for its approval.

"The previous round of the 2% Lakes & Waterways Grant Program received just 19 applications, and with nine awards, the chances of winning are very high when compared to other non-local grant programs that might receive hundreds of applications," said Erin Brickley, Executive Director of the Chautauqua Lake and Watershed Alliance. "Grant awards range from \$5,000 to \$40,000, and although no matching funds are required, it's good to include private investment and in-kind services when applying for funding for larger projects."

For more information or assistance with the application process, contact Dave McCoy at (716) 661-8915, or by email at mccoyd@co.chautauqua.ny.us.

Luck of the Irish Cake Walk

Article Contributed by
Brookdale Lakewood

"Luck of the Irish Cake Walk is being held by Brookdale Lakewood to raise funds for Meals on Wheels. The event will take place on Wednesday, March 16th at 2:30 at Brookdale. Tickets are \$5.00 and can be purchased at the door. Join us as Tim Stockman plays good old Irish tunes while you stroll along on the shamrocks. When the music stops you get the prize that corresponds to the

number on your shamrock. Prizes of cakes, cupcakes, muffins, cookies, snow balls, neopolitans, pies and various pastries which have been donated by businesses throughout the county.

Meals on Wheels provides meals for our seniors throughout the county.

Brookdale Lakewood, located at 220 Southwestern Drive, Lakewood offers comfortable senior living with assistance in a loving environment.

For information call Brookdale at 665-2414.

Artone and Special Spaces

Article Contributed by
Artone

Artone is excited to sponsor Special Spaces of Buffalo! Readers who have never heard of Special Spaces, are encouraged to read about them at the link below. They are doing amazing things for amazing children - and Artone is fortunate enough to be a part of it!

With the Special Spaces program, Artone will be able to help Morgan from Stockton, NY. Morgan is 8 years old. Last March, Morgan received a bone transplant in her leg as a result of Ewings Sarcoma. She gets around pretty well considering not too long ago she had 51 staples and 12 pins in her leg!

Morgan is in need of a room renovation so her living conditions can suit her medical needs and give her a happy space of her own. Artone is going to do its best to give her just that! Artone is full of employees with many talents and big hearts. They feels right to extend that to Special Spaces. Twenty-six of Artone's team members, full of joy and excitement for Morgan, will be helping during this renovation.

Jamestown Gazette readers interested in covering this very special event can join in on Artone's next date with Morgan, March 12th, 2016. Final renovations and the reveal will happen on that date. Visit http://specialspacesbuffalo.org/?page_id=4563 for more information.

Students & Families Learn More About Cycles of Nature with Visit from Live Chicken



Article Contributed by
Jamestown Public Schools

Lincoln Elementary School students in Roslyn Sisley-Kazelunas, Wendy Lindstrom, Kimberly Knight, and Laurie Hind's second grade classes invited parents to spend a morning learning and experiencing a variety of activities to strengthen their child's knowledge of cycles of nature.

The second grade welcomed not only parents, but also community member, Victor Marcum from Marcum Farms. Mr. Marcum shared his knowledge of the life cycle of a chicken. This was one of the many cycles the students have been learning about during class. Marcum Farms is home to different

types of chickens and he was able to share his wealth of knowledge. Students and parents were also able to pet the chicken, candle an egg, and touch the chicken feed. Parents then returned to their child's classroom where they recorded facts they had learned, dissected a hard boiled egg, labeled the life cycle of the chicken with vocabulary words they had been learning, and created an art project to take home. The visit was the culminating activity of the "Cycle in Nature" unit taught in Listening and Learning.

"I truly enjoyed watching our students engage in their learning with their parents" said Mrs. Roslyn Sisley-Kazelunas. "The morning was a successful educational experience for all."