

# Summer 2021 Update

Warren County Planning Department

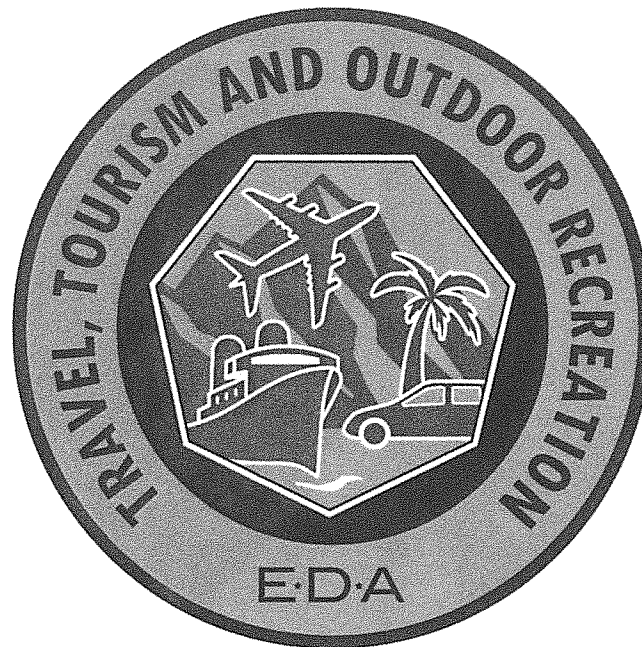
August 20, 2021



## **We submitted Six Consolidated Funding Applications**

In July, the Planning Department submitted 6 grant applications through New York's Consolidated Funding Application, totaling **\$787,000** in funding requests. Award announcements are typically made in December. Applications were submitted for:

- Warren County Recreation Economy Strategic Plan
- Warren County Aquatic Invasive Species Initiative
- Warren County Organics Management Plan
- Riverfront North Creek Park Improvements
- Warrensburg Wastewater Collection System Engineering Assessment
- Warren County Housing Needs Assessment Study



## **We're evaluating the US Economic Development Agency's "Travel, Tourism & Outdoor Recreation" American Rescue Plan Funding**

- \$240M for EDA Competitive Tourism Grants Competitive grants to fund in regions most adversely affected by damage to the travel, tourism, and outdoor recreation sectors from the coronavirus pandemic.
- Projects range from \$500,000 to \$10,000,000
- Local match is 20%
- We are evaluating the application requirements and administrative responsibilities before taking a hard look at potential projects
- [Click here to view webinar slides on this grant program](#)



**We're collaborating with the Lake Champlain  
Lake George Regional Planning Board on a  
variety of economic development and lake-  
saving projects**

- assisted with preparing GIS data for the [NTIA broadband application](#)
- continued work on the [Quantifying Phosphorous Reductions](#) project
- begun the preliminary work of developing online economic dashboards for the 5 county region as part of the Planning Board's [Business Retention and Expansion Program](#)
- assisting with the update of the region's [Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy \(CEDS\)](#), which is updated every 5 years and submitted to the US Economic Development Administration and serves as a guide for establishing regional goals and objectives, developing and implementing a regional plan of action, and identifying investment priorities and funding sources. A final CEDS report will be completed by the end of 2021.



**We've implemented real-time data collection for milfoil harvesting this summer on Lake George, as well as developed a dashboard for historic milfoil data**

- We used grant funds to purchase hardware and software, developed and tested the methodology in-house, and provided training to harvest crews before the start of the season
- Engaged agencies (Planning Department, LGPC, LGA, etc) can view data collection in real time
- The most accurate and comprehensive data we have ever had
- Improved efficiency for the harvesting crews
- Will allow tracking of progress from season to season
- Serves as a model for implementation on additional lakes (we have applied for funding for Schroon Lake)

Real-time milfoil dashboard is located [here](#)

Historic milfoil dashboard is located [here](#)



## **The success of the First Wilderness Letterboxing Trail has exceeded our wildest expectations!**

- 4000 passports distributed and an additional 1000 coming soon (thanks to Tourism)
- multiple visitors coming from out of state just to letterbox
- increased traffic at numerous destinations (Martin's Tree Farm, Chester Museum, Fish Hatchery, Stony Creek Mountain Days, etc)
- lots of positive comments: "We've done 31 challenges and this one is by far the best organized"; "this program should win an award"; "we have LOVED completing this during our extended school year with Special Ed students"; "we are having a wonderful time exploring the area, history and events"; "it was really well put together and a lot of fun. Coming from two educators as parents, you have our many thanks, respect and appreciation!"; "I have been visiting the area for 39 years and was thrilled to explore so many places I had never been to before"; "letterboxing got me to explore new places...it is for all ages to share the history of our area"; "I can't explain the giddiness I felt when I spotted the Letterbox outside the train depot. It was like finding a treasure."

Letterboxing website is [here](#)



**We're serving as an Advisory Committee member on the Lake George Septic System Review Committee and are reviewing approximately 66 applications for the septic replacement program**

- LGPC Septic Committee: There have been two meetings and the meeting materials and data being gathered throughout the process may be of value to the Warren County Special Committee on Septic.
- We've digitized and databased approximately 66 applications for the LG Septic grant funding. We'd like to get letters out to applicants by early September.
- We'll be working with local clean water advocates to request more funding for the septic replacement program.

# Horicon's Mill Pond

Take a walk or drive by some of Horicon's historic spots, they have a lot to offer!

**We're wrapping up our 2016 LWRP First Wilderness grant award with several history and map-focused projects**

- [walking tour](#) of the Mill Pond area in Brant Lake
- [new Town and County history website](#) to replace the bicentennial website
- updated maps and panels for the First Wilderness kiosks

