

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE PUBLIC MEETINGS ANNOUNCED Towns of Rochester & Wawarsing NY Intermunicipal Natural Heritage & Open Space Plan Thursday, 10/20/16 7:00 p.m. – Ellenville Town Hall, 2 Elting Court, Ellenville NY Friday, 10/21/16 6:30 p.m. Rochester Town Hall, 50 Scenic Road, Accord NY

The Towns of Rochester and Wawarsing are developing a shared set of natural heritage and open space plans, supported through a grant from the Hudson River Estuary Program, of the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation. Building on recently completed natural resource and open space inventories for each Town, this project will identify and design actions that the Towns, each and together, can take to protect and improve important ecological, water, agricultural, historical, scenic, recreational and cultural resources, systems and places.

The eight-member Project Team and the Town's respective Environmental Conservation Commissions (ECC) invites Wawarsing and Rochester citizens to meet with the Team and its consultants: John Mickelson and David Church. Learn about the project and share what places and features you feel that the two towns should protect for future generations. Relay your vision, natural heritage concerns or open space needs and exchange thoughts regarding town policies or actions that the new Plan might adopt.

Two 90-minute public meetings will be held on back-to-back nights, <u>Thursday, October 20</u> for Town of Wawarsing residents and <u>Friday, October 21</u> for people living within the Town of Rochester. The same data and material will be presented each night, with each meeting designed to provide ease of access to town residents and all other interests. All are welcome to attend either or both meetings.

For more information, please contact Carl Chipman, Town of Rochester Supervisor (845) 626-3043 For background, context and project information, see: <u>http://tinyurl.com/TOWTOR-NHOSP</u>