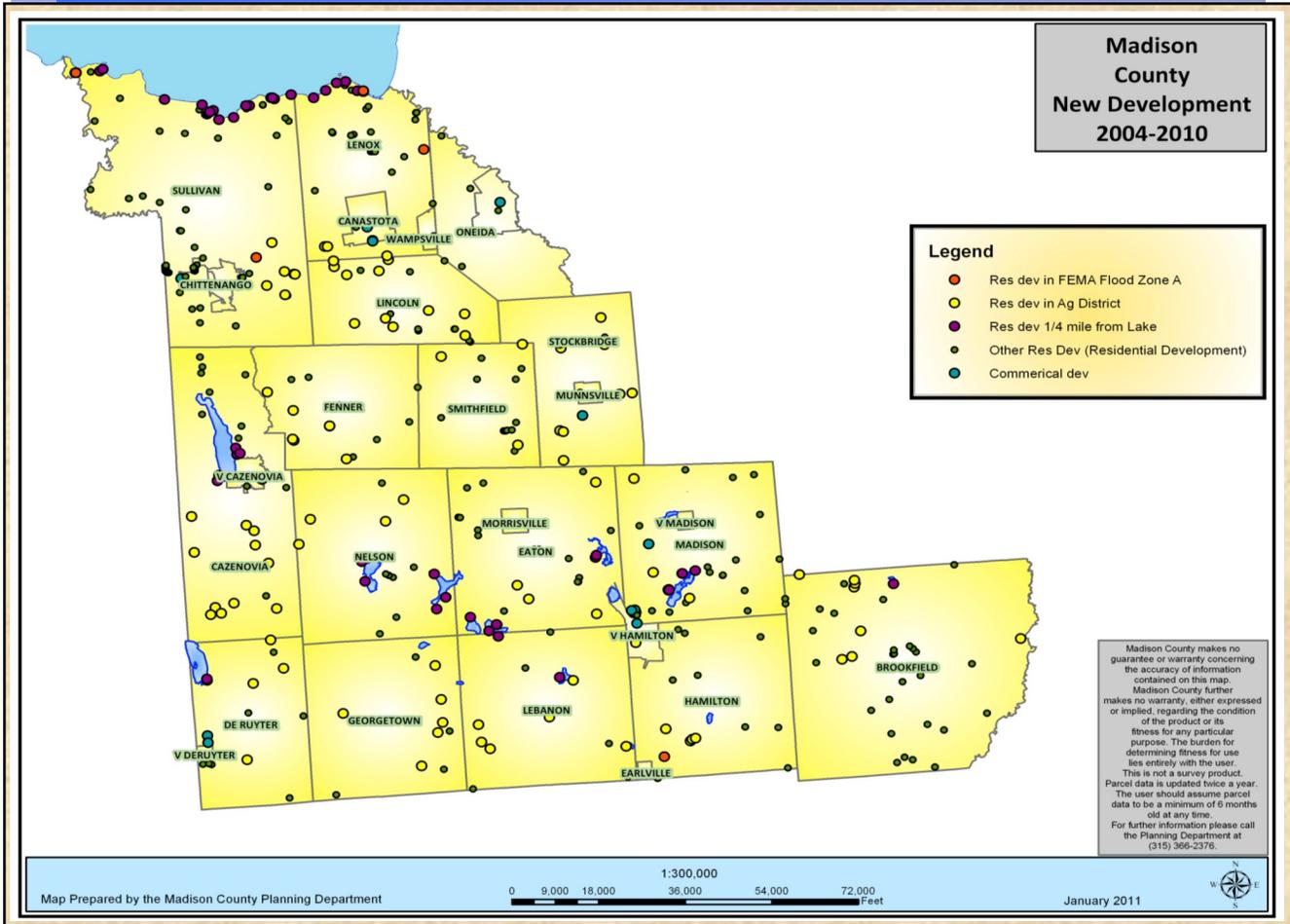


2011 Annual Report

Madison County Planning Department



It may seem paradoxical to hold that a policy of building restriction tends to a fuller utilization of land than a policy of no restriction; but such is undoubtedly the case. The reason lies in the greater safety and security to investment secured by definite resources.

- Edward M. Basset, lawyer and father of zoning

Planning Department Staff

Director: Scott Ingmire

Planner: Mary Ellen Rose

Associate Planner: Jim Petreszyn

Senior Planner: Jamie Hart

Office Asst. III: Gwen Williamson



2011 brought yet another change in staff as we said goodbye to Caroline Hunt and wished her well on her retirement.

Since the year 2006, the number of positions in Planning has decreased from 9 down to 5. The staff continues to excel as our numbers dwindle and adjustments to increased work loads are readily accepted. Doing more with less has become not only the reality, but the incentive for excellence, and a challenge that has been met with much success.

If there is no struggle, there is no progress.

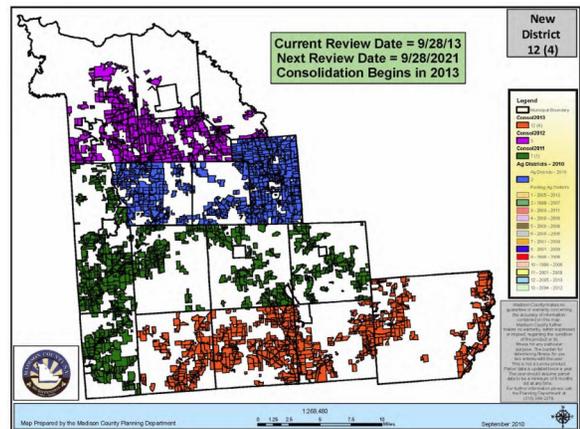
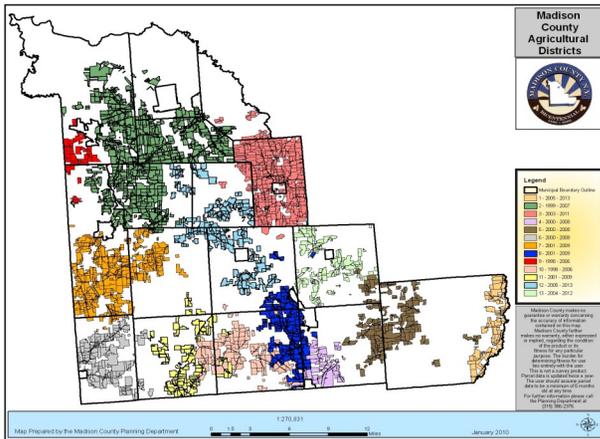
Frederick Douglass



Agricultural Protection and Development



The Department has been working with the Department of Ag & Markets on a consolidation effort moving from 13 districts to 4 districts. The four districts will be based on Town boundaries to allow for a more coherent division. The consolidation down to 4 districts will be completed by 2013.



With the mailing of over 3000 Agricultural Districts surveys, approximately 1/3 were returned by September of 2011. The survey information was compiled into the database and a recommendation report was presented to the Agricultural Farmland and Protection Board and then to the Planning Committee for approval by the BOS. The completed materials will be submitted to NYS Ag & Markets in 2012 for the final approval of the County's recommendations for the consolidation of Ag District 2.

In October during the open enrollment period for Madison County Ag Districts, 10 applicants submitted Ag District surveys requesting inclusion into various districts. There were 25 parcels consisting of approximately 933 acres requested for inclusion. In November, we submitted our recommendations to the Ag & Farmland Protection Board receiving their approval on inclusion of all parcel submittal requests. This will be approved by the Board of Supervisors in January for final submittal to NYS in early 2012.

Climate Change Innovation



In August 2010, the Planning Department submitted Madison County as an applicant for the Climate Change Innovation Program (C2IP) administered by the Central New York Regional Planning & Development Board (CNY RPDB). Madison County was chosen by CNY RPDB for the program and is now one of nine communities receiving technical and financial assistance to develop policies and strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and promote clean energy alternatives. C2IP is a three year program that upon completion awards participants with funding in the form of a grant up to \$30,000 for feasibility studies or demonstration projects that enhance energy efficiency. This program was created as a sub grant to the US EPA Climate Showcase Communities Program. Several steps are required to complete C2IP. To date these efforts have been completed:



1) U.S. EPA Portfolio Manager- Madison County created a Portfolio Manager account in December 2010. In early 2011, energy consumption for County government buildings was entered into this program to understand energy use for each government building including.

The Madison County Veterans Building was qualified for Energy Star and is now listed on the Energy Star registry.



2) U.S. EPA Energy Star Pledge Driver - Madison County became an official member in January 2011.

75 Madison County residents have taken the Energy Star Pledge



3) NYSDEC Climate Smart Communities – On February 10, 2011, Madison County adopted a resolution (no. 35-11) to join the New York State Climate Smart Communities



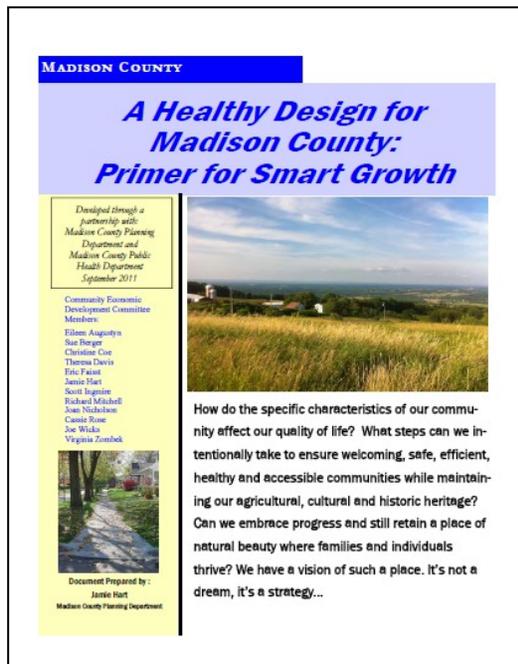
4) ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability- Madison County joined ICLEI July 2011. Information continues to be collected to complete the county's first green house gas inventory using ICLEI's Clean Air and Climate Protection (CACP) software.



5) DOE CESP Academy- Madison County was selected to participate in the Department of Energy's Community Energy Strategic Plan (CESP) Academy in July 2011. The program was postponed but is planned to recommence this summer. The intent is to help Madison County develop its first Community Energy Strategic Plan.

Smart Growth

A Healthy Design for Madison County: Primer for Smart Growth



A Healthy Design for Madison County: Primer for Smart Growth was completed in late September. This document was developed by the Community Economic Development (CED) Committee – a partnership between Planning, Public Health and other key agencies – and is a response to local government requests for more guidance to better understand and implement the concepts of Smart Growth. The Primer is based on the document developed by International City/County Management Association (ICMA) entitled *Putting Smart Growth to Work in Rural Communities*, but it is tailored specifically to Madison County. The Primer includes several sections and identifies 4 goals, each with strategies, tools and local examples to help get the goal accomplished:

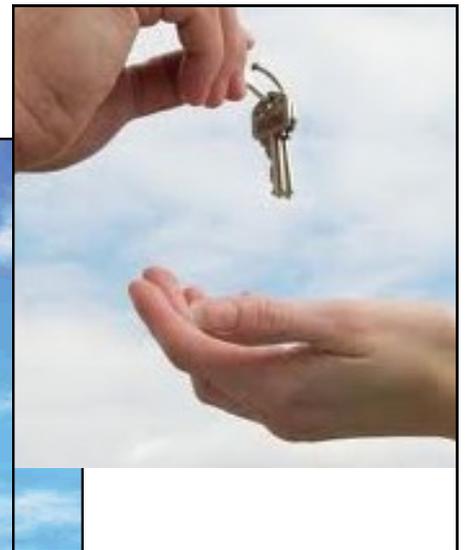
- Introduction – Defines Smart Growth and explains each of the 10 principles of Smart Growth
- Challenges – Identifies five trends happening in Madison County involving new development, population growth, rural landscape, public health, and demographics to indicate why implementing Smart Growth is crucial
- Goal 1: Help Existing Places Thrive – This goal centers around taking care of and building on existing assets and investments.
- Goal 2: Support the Rural Landscape – This goal focuses on creating an economic climate that enhances the viability of working lands and conserves natural lands
- Goal 3: Create Great New Places – The strategies identified for this goal work to help build vibrant and enduring neighborhoods and enhance the quality of life in our communities.
- Goal 4: Make Livable Communities for All Ages – This goal identifies concepts like “aging in place” and provides guidance on how to create more livable communities for all residents to live, work, grow up and grow old.

The Primer represents a “springboard” for Madison County with which we will move the ideas for smart growth forward and is intended to be an educational resource for municipalities and local officials. 100 hard copies were printed and distributed to each city, town, and village office. An electronic copy of the Primer is also available on the Planning Department’s website.

First Time Home Buyers

The 2009 Grant was closed out in September 2011 with 20 families closing on homes using \$364,000 in grant funds and \$34,600 in program income funds (recaptured through sale of homes purchased under FTHB program). Under the 2010 grant, five closings using \$93,779 in grant funds, were completed. One grant included \$4,999 for home repairs. Five additional applicants were approved and looking for homes. The 2010 grant must be completed and closed out by August of 2012.

The program is designed to help young families and individuals overcome the costs associated with closing on a home, and to help pay down a portion of the mortgage. Home ownership improves social and personal stability, provides an opportunity for sound financial investment, it improves borrowing power, and can even have positive effects on the educational attainment of children living in the home. We are proud to partner with CAP in offering this program!

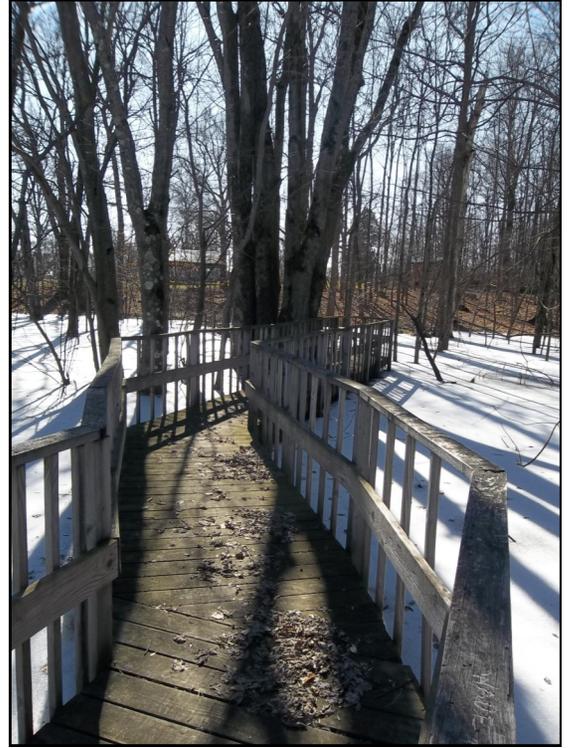


Welcome Home!



Parks & Recreation

Madison County Parks had many visitors in 2011. The Parks were reserved 34 times for a variety of events, including: birthdays, picnics, reunions, graduation parties, weddings, snowshoeing, amateur radio event, scouting, and many more. The **Trapper's Fur Rendezvous** 4-day event in July is always a resounding success with over 400 people attending, some of them enjoying the serenity of an overnight stay at Nichols Pond Park. Based on reservations made with the Department, Nichols Pond Park had 1190 visitors and Oxbow Falls Park saw 930 visitors, but many more drop-in visitors stop by for a few hours of beauty in our Madison County parks.



Nichols Pond Park in Winter

County Parks Go Green with renewable energy!



Clockville Creek does more than provide a scenic backdrop for disc golf, hiking and other outdoor activities as it winds its way through the 124-acre Oxbow Falls Park in the town of Lincoln. The small stream's moving waters will now generate enough electricity to power new bathrooms at the county park through a micro-hydroelectricity project that alternative-energy advocates say is the first of many across New York state.

New Restroom facilities were installed at both Oxbow Falls Park and Nichols Pond Park this year!



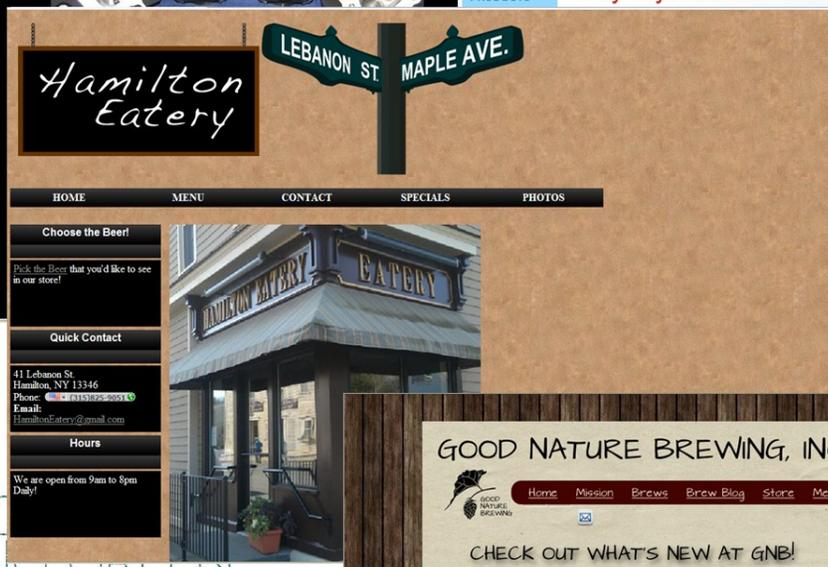
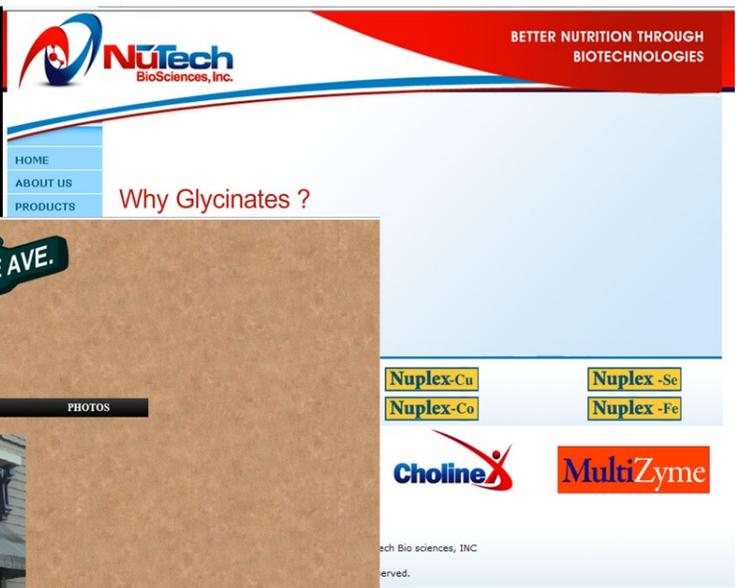
Small Business Assistance

Though awarded in late 2010, our Microenterprise grant with the State office of Housing and Community Renewal went into full swing in 2011. \$200,000 was awarded to provide Microenterprise grants to 6 small businesses in Madison County. The program is specifically tied to job creation, with a focus on jobs for those with low to moderate income. As first time awardees, we worked closely with the State and the Madison County Center for Economic Development (CED) to put together a robust program to serve Madison County. Though leads trickled in slowly at first, once word got out about the program, we had great success in recruiting suitable small businesses (largely due to the hard work of Kipp Hicks and Mike Magnusson of the CED).

Grants have been awarded to:

Good Nature Brewing, Inc. - Hamilton
 Hillside Motorcycle and Machine - Stockbridge
 Hamilton Eatery - Hamilton
 NuTech Biosciences Inc. - Oneida
 Budget Spray Foam, LLC - Madison
 Ad Group Media Management - Hamilton

<http://www.goodnaturebrewing.com/Index/Enter.html>
<http://www.hillsidecycle.com/>
<http://hamiltoneatery.com/>
<http://www.nutechbiosciences.com/>
<http://budgetsprayfoam.com/index.html>



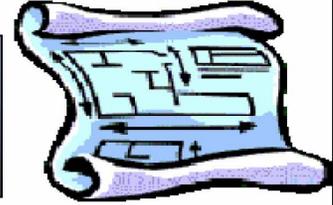
Planning and Zoning Institute

TRAINING CREDITS

* Please Note - This is an excerpt from a training offered in 2011. We will provide training opportunities in 2012 which will be announced in the near future.

NOT

PLANNING AND ZONING INSTITUTE



****New York State law requires all Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals members to complete a minimum of four hours of training per year! ****

WHO: Local planning, zoning, and other officials from Madison and surrounding Counties.

WHERE: Room 103, Crawford Hall
Morrisville State College (see attached map)

WHEN: Wednesday, September 28th, 6:00-9:00 PM

WHAT: Wind & Solar Ordinances, Stormwater Regulations
3 training hours!!!

COST: FREE ! (but space is limited)

HOW: To register, call MC Planning Dept at 315-366-2376
Or email Jamie Hart: Jamie.Hart@co.madison.ny.us by Sept 26th.

Introduction by :

Part 1: Wind and Solar Ordinances— To be presented by *Chris H. Carrick*, NYSERDA Energy Smart Communities Coordinator, from CNY Regional Planning and Development Board. Some topics will include ...

Part 2: Stormwater Regulations— To be presented by *Kathy Betruch* from CNY Regional Planning and Development Board. Topics featured will be ...

Also, *Scott Ingmire*, Director and *Jamie Hart*, Planner from Madison County Planning Department will be available to discuss ...



Transportation

The Madison Transit System Reborn!

General Information

	FARE	
Fixed Route	\$3.00	
Route Deviation	\$3.00	
Dial-A-Ride	\$6.00	
Intra-city (within any village/city)	\$1.50	
Seniors	Half Fare	
Persons with Disability	Half Fare	
Student	Half Fare	
Children under 5	Free	
Monthly Pass	\$45.00	

Route Deviation Service

The Madison Transit System will deviate from the route not more than 3/4 mile to get those individuals who cannot get to a scheduled stop. Please call for reservations by the end of regular business hours the day prior to the needed ride.

Dial-A-Ride Service

Dial-A-Ride service is offered throughout Madison County. Service is available between the hours of 6:00 AM and 1:00 PM.

Reservations are required

For more information, call 315-824-1260.

Bad Weather?

Tune to WMCR 1600 AM/106.3 FM
For reports of Madison Transit delays or cancellations

Madison Transit System

Bus # 1

Oneida-Wampsville



Wherever Life Takes You

Madison Transit System
PO Box 606
Wampsville, NY 13163

Operated by Birnie Bus

FOR MORE INFORMATION
CALL:
315-366-2376
or
315-824-1260

Visit Our Website:
www.ridemts.org

Though not starting service until January 2012, the planning for a reinvented Madison Transit System was in full force in 2011. With over 70 stops and 100 hours of service per week we've tried to provide opportunity for as many potential users in Madison County as possible, within the confines of a limited budget and the State and Federal rules governing the system.

MADISON TRANSIT SYSTEM



Station #	Station Name	Address	Stop 1	Stop 2	Stop 3	Stop 4
1	Wampsville	Wampsville	1:00 AM	1:15 AM	1:30 AM	1:45 AM
2	Wampsville	Wampsville	1:30 AM	1:45 AM	2:00 AM	2:15 AM
3	Wampsville	Wampsville	2:00 AM	2:15 AM	2:30 AM	2:45 AM
4	Wampsville	Wampsville	2:30 AM	2:45 AM	3:00 AM	3:15 AM
5	Wampsville	Wampsville	3:00 AM	3:15 AM	3:30 AM	3:45 AM
6	Wampsville	Wampsville	3:30 AM	3:45 AM	4:00 AM	4:15 AM
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68	Wampsville	Wampsville	8:15 PM	8:30 PM	8:45 PM	9:00 PM
69	Wampsville	Wampsville	8:30 PM	8:45 PM	9:00 PM	9:15 PM
70	Wampsville	Wampsville	8:45 PM	9:00 PM	9:15 PM	9:30 PM



Directors Note

Yet again, 2011 proved to be an exciting and transformative year for the Planning Department. Though in my opinion, we were busier this year than ever before, we managed to accomplish a significant number of new projects and initiatives, in addition to our normal duties. From the installation of restrooms (one outfitted with a micro-hydro power system at Oxbow Falls) at both County parks, the completion of a Smart Growth Primer in Madison County, to the first step toward consolidation of our agricultural districts, staff in the Department played an integral role in many significant projects. The Planning Department strives to serve the residents of the County in many ways that are often under the radar: assistance with comprehensive plans, organizing and offering training sessions for municipal officials, creating maps that serve as visuals for local decision making and appear in numerous publications, the tabulation and summarization of Census data and answering various requests for information from municipalities and the public.



We pride ourselves on being adaptable and resourceful, and though many things we are asked to help the County with are new and different, the day to day challenges and variety keep us interested and engaged. My most sincere thanks to the staff of the Planning Department for another great year!!

Scott

The Department takes pride in the fact that we continue to operate at a high level of efficiency while our wages and benefits remain below the levels budgeted in 2003. A down economy coupled with overwhelming state mandates has forced all County departments to do more with less.

