

# 2013 Annual Report

## Madison County Planning Department



“It is time for a sustainable energy policy which puts consumers, the environment, human health, and peace first.”

DENNIS KUCINICH

## Planning Department Staff

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# Workforce Development Highlights

## 2013 Workforce Development Highlights:

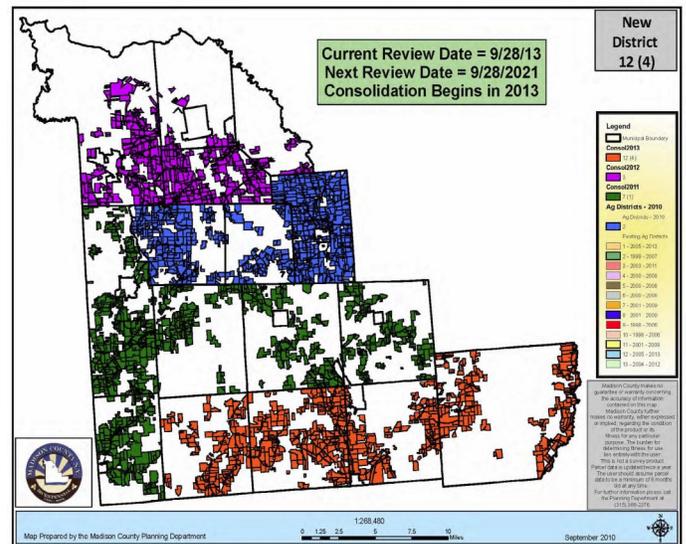
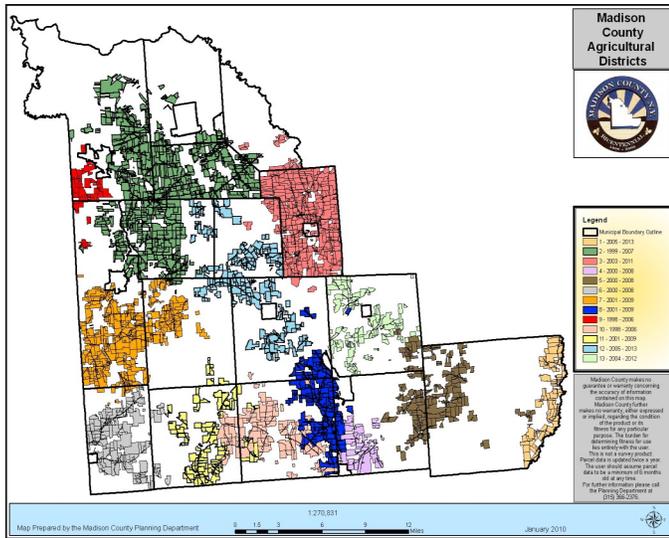
1. Career Center Usage: There were 14,420 customer visits to the Center.  
Services included: career counseling, use of resource room, workshops, and resumes.
  
2. Special Grants:
  1. Food Stamp Grant - Nine Food Stamp recipients received Certified Nurse Assistant (CNA) training.
  2. Wage Subsidy Grant - Five individuals went to work through this grant. This grant covered 90% of the person's wages, so employers were willing to take a chance with hiring someone with little or no experience.
  
3. Department of Social Services:
  1. The "Job Links" job readiness training class served 136 people.
  2. The "Job Search Case Management" served 214 people with 49 people gaining employment
  
4. Employer Services: 299 services were provided to area employers.  
Services include: recruitments, job fairs, referrals, OJT's, job bank, and general information/assistance as needed.



# 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. We are half way there and remain on track to be completed with this effort in late 2013.



The BOS in early 2013 approved the final submittal to the NYS Ag & Markets of the County's recommendations for the consolidation of Ag District 7.

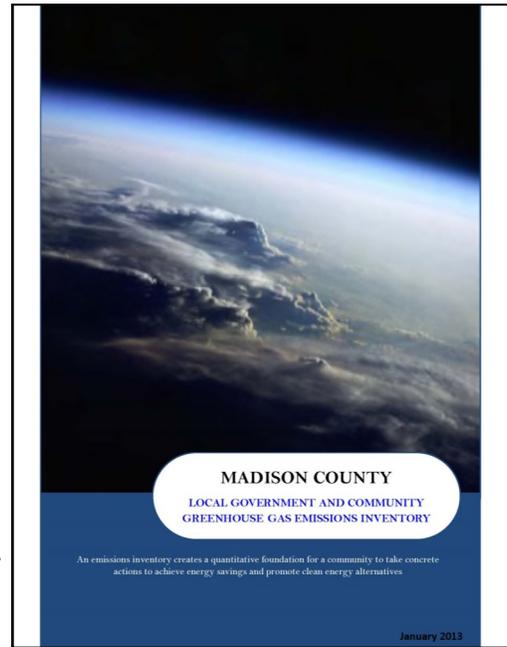
A database was compiled for Ag Districts 3 & 4. Approximately 1300 surveys mailed for District 3 and 1400 for District 4 with a survey requested return date of January 2014. Approximately one third of the surveys had been returned by December 2013. An estimated completion for both districts is mid-2014.

In October during the open enrollment period for Madison County Ag Districts, 7 applicants submitted Ag District surveys requesting inclusion into a district. There were 10 parcels consisting of approximately 995 acres requested by applicants to be included in various Ag districts throughout Madison County. We submitted our recommendations to the Madison County Ag & Farmland Protection Board in November receiving their approval on 9 of the 10 parcels for inclusion. With the BOS's approval in December of 2013, the County's recommendation report will be submitted to Ag & Markets in early 2014.

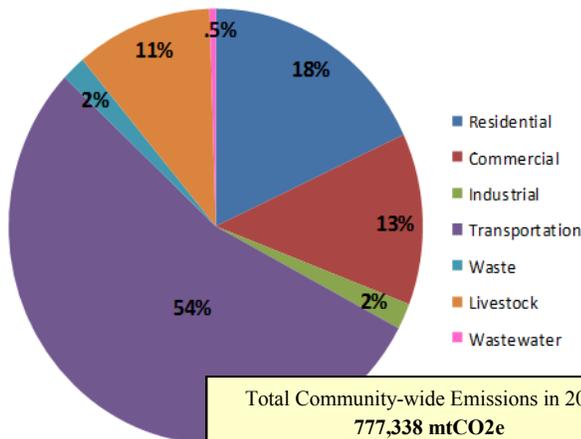
# Energy

The Department completed the **MADISON COUNTY LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITY GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS INVENTORY** which was released January 2013.

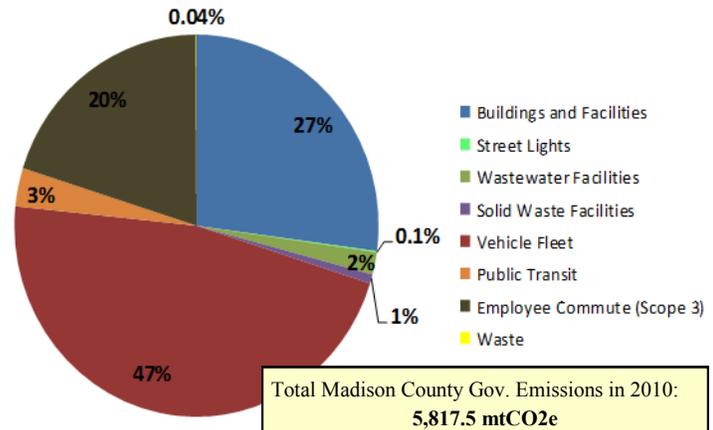
Madison County is a leader when it comes to innovative initiatives to increase energy efficiency and to advance renewable energy alternatives. The information contained in this inventory report is meant to further advance these type of initiatives. **This is Madison County's first Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Inventory Report.** It is a data resource that details the County's current energy consumption to show exactly where energy is being used and identify opportunities to become more efficient. Through a better understanding of our current energy consumption, this inventory can better inform future energy-related policies and projects in Madison County including the development of a Community Energy Strategic Plan, the intended next step of this process. The GHG Inventory Report is available to download at [www.madisoncounty.ny.gov/planning/energy](http://www.madisoncounty.ny.gov/planning/energy)



Community-wide Emissions  
% Total of mtCO<sub>2</sub>e by Sector



Government Emissions  
% Total of mtCO<sub>2</sub>e by Sector



**Overall takeaways:** Madison County emitted 777,338 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (mtCO<sub>2</sub>e) - 10.6 tons for each of Madison County's 73,442 residents. Energy consumption cost for Madison County government operations is about \$1.5 million a year and accounts for about 0.75% of total community-wide emissions. In both categories, emissions associated with transportation dominate other sectors.

**C2IP Background:** 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 which included a \$30,000 grant. C2IP is a three year program; this is the 2013 update.



# Solarize Madison

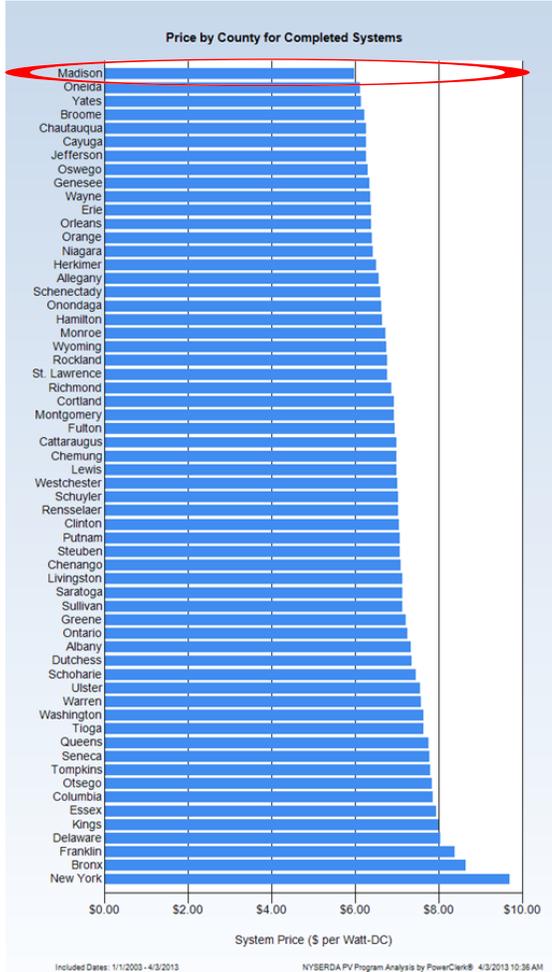
# Solarize Madison

2013 was the second successful year for the Solarize Madison program. CNY Solar, located in the Town of Lenox, was the 2013 selected installer. Similar to the first round of the program, a series of educational workshops were held as well as a Solar Open House at CNY Solar.

In total, 18 new solar PV systems were installed throughout the county for a total of 124.9 kW. New to this round was the option to install solar hot water. 15 solar hot water systems were installed as part of the program including the one pictured on the bottom right at Colgate University.



**Solarize Madison bands the community together and utilizes volume purchasing to reduce the price of solar. Proof it works: According to NYSEEDA, in 2011, Madison County ranked number 24 on the list of counties with the lowest price for completed installations. As of April 2013, Madison County ranks number one in the state with the lowest price for completed installations.**



# Oneida Rail Trail

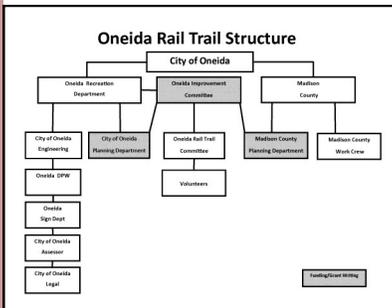
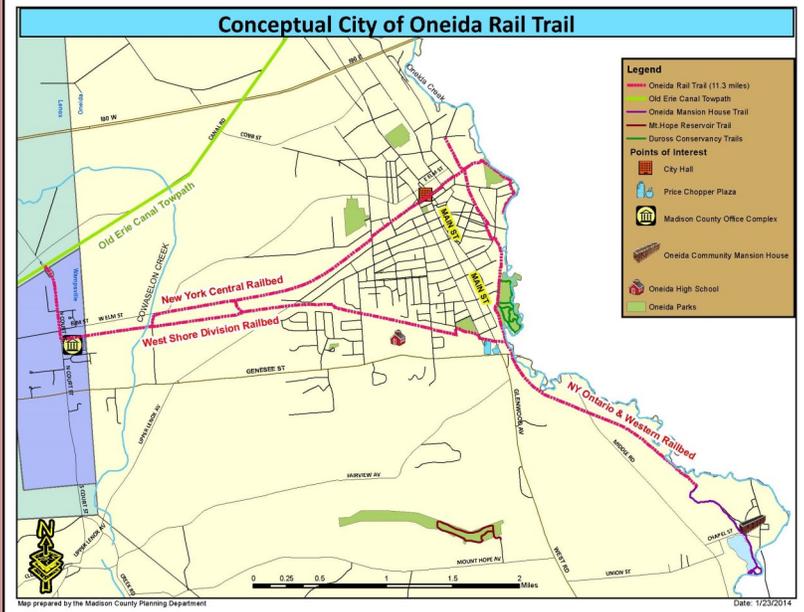
The Oneida Rail Trail is a proposed 11.3-mile non-motorized, multi-use trail located in the City of Oneida. The Oneida Rail Trail (ORT) will preserve and utilize existing rail beds (no tracks remain) to create a cultural corridor along three former rail lines: the New York Central, West Shore Division, and New York Ontario & Western. These former rail beds run through the heart of downtown Oneida and connect to the Village of Wampsville to the west and the City of Sherrill to the southeast.

Through the use of these rail beds, the Oneida Rail Trail will link three communities, multiple neighborhoods, businesses, offices, parks, tourist destinations, education facilities, and other trails including the Old Erie Canal Towpath to create a new economic engine in the area and source of community pride.

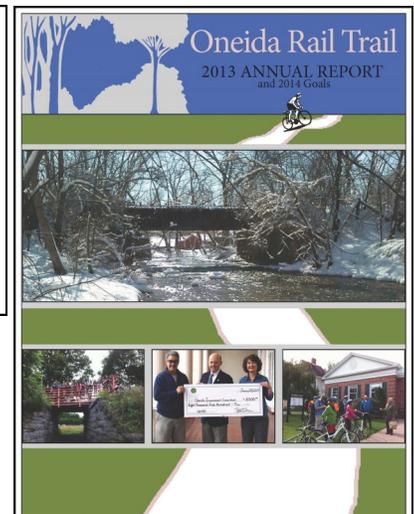
The City of Oneida owns the majority of the properties that make up the trail, but at least two Madison County owned parcels will also be needed to complete the connection through Wampsville. In addition, Madison County is currently in the process of redesigning the N. Court St. bridge which is now planned to have two expanded shoulders to better accommodate pedestrians, bicyclists and even snowmobilers to and from the Old Erie Canal Towpath.

The ORT Committee was created to lead the effort to transform this historic asset into an official City trail system and into the envisioned resource desired by the community.

In August 2013, the Department helped the City with a NYS DOT Transportation Enhancement Program (TEP) application. In January 2014, it was announced that the Oneida Rail Trail would receive \$545,830 in funding to plan and construct a 3.1 mile section.



Read the 2013 Annual Report for the Oneida Rail Trail



# BUY MADISON

The Department continued to work with Madison County Tourism, Madison County IDA, Madison County AED, local chambers and other local partners to launch Buy Madison. While work started on this program in 2012, the program really took off this year. Some of the key initiatives in 2013 included:

- Installation of Buy Madison Road Signs—50 Buy Madison: Calculate the Advantage road signs were installed at key intersections and gateways into Madison County to remind those passing by to keep purchases local and to raise awareness about the Buy Madison campaign.
- Partnership with Oneida Savings Bank —Buy Madison was fortunate to partner with Oneida Savings Bank to produce and distribute a Buy Madison Debit Card. This is a unique opportunity to generate excitement and rewards for buying local! The card works like a typical debit card but will offer discounts and incentives to its user. The debit card was released November 25, 2013. Oneida Savings has help to market the new card and the program through billboards and ads in local newspapers.
- Business Directory—An online business directory was launched on the Buy Madison website. The directory is free for any business within Madison County to join. This is also where businesses can advertise their unique promotions or discounts to customers using the Buy Madison Debit Card. By the end of 2013, over 60 businesses had joined the business directory.



**BILLBOARDS!**

According to the New York State Office of State Comptroller, Madison County had a 5.1% increase in sales tax collected from 2012 to 2013. This is the largest increase of any county in Central New York and translates to \$1,217,146 more sales tax collected within Madison County for a total of \$25,077,929 in 2013. In comparison, the average sales tax growth across Upstate New York was only 1.7%. This news means more purchases are being made here at our local Madison County businesses and more money is staying in our communities!

## CAMPAIGN KIT!



**ROAD SIGNS**

## WEBSITE!



## FACEBOOK!

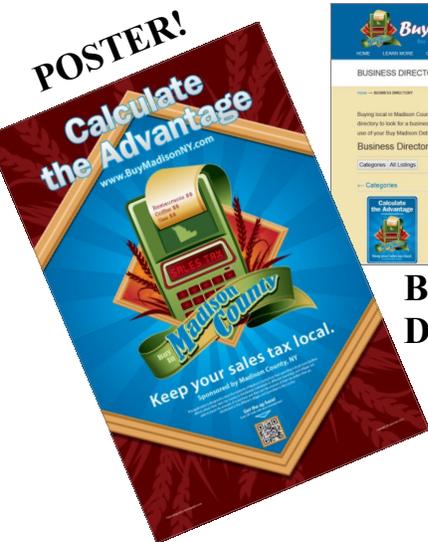


## BUSINESS DIRECTORY!



**DEBIT CARD!**

Buy Madison marking initiatives include:



**POSTER!**

# SMART GROWTH

The Department, in partnership with the County Health Department, continued to work with the US EPA on the Growth Implementation Technical Assistance program. In 2012, Madison County was 1 of only 5 places nation-wide selected by the [U.S. EPA Smart Growth for the Smart Growth Implementation Assistance \(SGIA\) program](#). Through this program, the EPA hired a consultant team, Renaissance Planning Group, to work with Madison County to develop a Smart Growth Audit Tool. The intent of the audit tool is to identify a set of best practices that rural communities can take and apply to comprehensive plans and current land use ordinances. The ultimate goal is to create a Smart Growth tool specifically for rural communities to help plan for growth in ways that sustain environmental and economic progress and create a high quality of life.

As part of the technical assistance program, the U.S. EPA and chosen consultant, Renaissance Planning Group, came to Madison County for a three day site visit, from February 25th-27th 2013, to pilot the draft version of the Smart Growth Audit Tool in three communities:

- City of Oneida
- Village of Chittenango
- Town of Brookfield

Over the course of the site visit, the team met with Town Supervisors, Mayors, Planning and Zoning Board members from these communities to run their codes, design guidelines, and comprehensive plans through the Smart Growth Audit Tool. Feedback from these groups is being used to fine tune the tool. The finalized version of the tool is anticipated to be distributed to all of our communities the summer of 2014.



City of Oneida site visit



Chittenango site visit



Brookfield site visit

The Department continues to develop and issue the semi-annual “Planning for a Healthy Design” newsletter. The electronic newsletter is distributed to all Madison County municipal boards with a focus on Planning and Zoning Boards. The newsletter is intended to be a resource with tools and ideas to further advance the principles of Smart Growth within our communities. The newsletters also feature local examples and best practices as a means to share and foster communication between our communities.

**Planning for a Healthy Madison County Newsletter** Spring 2013 Issue #4

COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Welcome to the **Healthy Planning for a Healthy Madison County Newsletter!** In this issue get an update on the development of the Smart Growth Audit Tool which was piloted in three of our communities as well as get access to Madison County's first Greenhouse Gas Inventory recently completed. The resources in this issue focus on energy planning and integrating renewable energy ordinances.

**Includes:**

- Update on the U.S. EPA Smart Growth Implementation Grant, pg. 2
- Piloting the Smart Growth Audit Tool: Oneida, Chittenango and Brookfield, pg. 3
- Renaissance Planning Group's Public Presentation on Feb. 27, 2013, pg. 4
- Madison County Local Government and Community Greenhouse Gas Inventory Report Process and Results, pg. 5-6
- Benefits of Energy Planning, pg. 7
- Community Spotlight: Energy Planning at the Town Level: Town of Catawissa Experience, pg. 8-9
- Resources to Integrate Energy and Renewable into Plans and Codes, pg. 10-11
- Smart Growth Principle Spotlight (3) Preserve Open Space, Farmland, Natural Beauty, and Critical Environmental Areas, pg. 12
- Call to Action - Have your community featured in the next Newsletter, pg. 13

This is an electronic newsletter - Please click on and utilize all the links and videos provided!

Did you know that the Madison County Planning Department has a webpage dedicated to Smart Growth? Visit [www.madisoncounty.ny.gov/planning-smart-growth](http://www.madisoncounty.ny.gov/planning-smart-growth)

Images from the Smart Growth Technical Assistance presentation given at City Hall in Oneida on February 27, 2013. As part of the Smart Growth Technical Assistance grant awarded to Madison County, the U.S. EPA and Renaissance Planning Group visited Madison County to assist in the Smart Growth Audit Tool project they have been working on for us. Watch the video of the public presentation on Page 6.

Spring 2013 Issue # 4

**Planning for a Healthy Design Newsletter**

— A Madison County Newsletter dedicated to Planning and Land Use —

Fall 2013 Issue #5

COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Welcome to Madison County's fifth **Planning for a Healthy Design Newsletter!** In this issue find out which communities received Smart Growth Awards at Madison County's first Planning & Zoning Appreciation Banquet as well as a recap on Parks & Trails NY's *Discoveries Bring Benefits* Workshop held in the City of Oneida. The Smart Growth Spotlight in this issue focuses on housing and includes descriptions of some current housing projects happening around our county.

**Includes:**

- 2013 Madison County Planning & Zoning Appreciation Banquet, pg. 2-3
- Smart Growth Awards - Congratulations to Chittenango, Catawissa, and Brookfield, pg. 4-5
- Discoveries Bring Benefits Workshop held October 9th and 10th, pg. 7-8
- Smart Growth Principle Spotlight: (3) Create a Range of Housing Opportunities and Choices, pg. 9-12
- Current Housing Projects in Madison County, pg. 13-15
- Call to Action - Have your community featured in the next Newsletter! pg. 16

This is an electronic newsletter - Please click on and utilize all the links and videos provided!

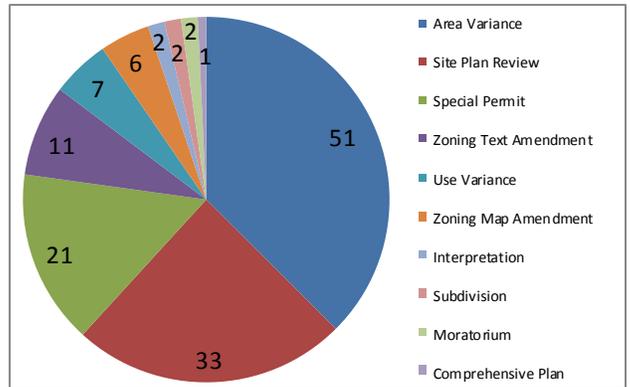
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Images from Madison County's FIRST Planning and Zoning Appreciation Dinner held at Village Inn on October 20, 2013. In addition to a meeting, the networking event recognized the many great volunteers who have worked, volunteered and helped us in Madison County. Read more on well as on the communities that received Smart Growth Awards on Page 2-6.

Fall 2013 Issue # 5

# GML REVIEW—2013 Land Use Summary

The Department is required to review certain land use decisions according to General Municipal Law (GML) 239. The Department calls these reviews GMLs, and in 2013 the Department reviewed 136 GMLs. 103 of which came from the Towns and City of Oneida and only 33 of which came from the Villages. The top three types of reviews in order: area variances, site plan reviews, and special permits. The three municipalities with the most land use activity (by # of GMLs) : Town of Sullivan, Town of Eaton, and Town of Cazenovia.



Land Use Planning in Madison County	Area Variance	Use Variance	Site Plan Review	Special Permit	Zoning Text Amendment	Zoning Map Amendment	Interpretation	Subdivision	Moratorium	Comprehensive Plan	Total	
Oneida	1	1	4	4	1	1	0	0	0	0	12	
Brookfield	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Cazenovia	4	0	9	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	16	Towns
DeRuyter	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	
Eaton	8	1	1	7	0	0	0	1	0	0	18	
Fenner	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	
Georgetown	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	
Hamilton	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Lebanon	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	
Lenox	7	1	4	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	14	
Lincoln	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	
Madison	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	
Nelson	6	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	8	
Smithfield	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Stockbridge	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	
Sullivan	14	3	0	4	1	0	0	0	1	0	23	
Canastota	1	0	7	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	9	
Cazenovia	0	0	1	0	2	2	0	0	0	1	6	
Chittenango	3	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	
DeRuyter	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Earlville	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Hamilton	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	3	
Madison	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Morrisville	0	0	4	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	6	
Munnsville	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Wampsville	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	4	
<b>TOTAL:</b>	51	7	33	21	11	6	2	2	2	1	136	

# Parks & Recreation

Madison County Parks had many visitors in 2013. The Parks were reserved 44 times for a variety of events, including: birthdays, picnics, reunions, graduation parties, weddings, 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. Based on reservations made with the Department, Nichols Pond Park had 1240 visitors and Oxbow Falls Park saw 512 visitors with another 375 gathering at the Disc Golf Park. This doesn't include sport leagues or any of the daily drop-in visitors who stop by for a few hours of beauty in our Madison County parks.



Check out the new Trail Bridge that was constructed with help from the County's Summer Youth Employment Program participants!

# Micro Hydro Grand Opening



Oxbow Falls Disc Golf facility upgrade!



**KAUFFMAN**  
The Foundation of Entrepreneurship

**System Details:**

- ✓ 40 Gallons per minute, 150 feet of drop
- ✓ No impoundments, weirs, or dams
- ✓ Safe for aquatic animals
- ✓ Water clarity and temperature unaffected
- ✓ Less expensive than running utility lines
- ✓ No monthly bill
- ✓ All energy needs of the facility are met

The intake for our system allows only 40 gallons per minute into the penstock pipe

**Sustainable Energy at its best!**

Our penstock pipe is 2" high-density polyethylene (HDPE), which is flexible, durable, and nontoxic for the water returning to the stream.

Our system is entirely off-grid (no power lines). It consists of a battery bank (for energy storage), a charge controller and regulation), an inverter (to convert direct current to alternating current), and a circuits like lights and hand dryers).

The turbine is operating at 325 Watts (13.00 kWh/Year) and supplies 48 VDC.

It is funded in part through a grant from the Kaufmann Foundation Initiative series. It is a collaborative demonstration effort between Madison County Planning Department, Morrisville State College's Renewable Energy Training Center, and renewable energy manufacturers. For more information on micro hydroelectricity or questions about this system, contact Dr. Ph.D., Morrisville State College, Assistant Professor of Renewable Energy.

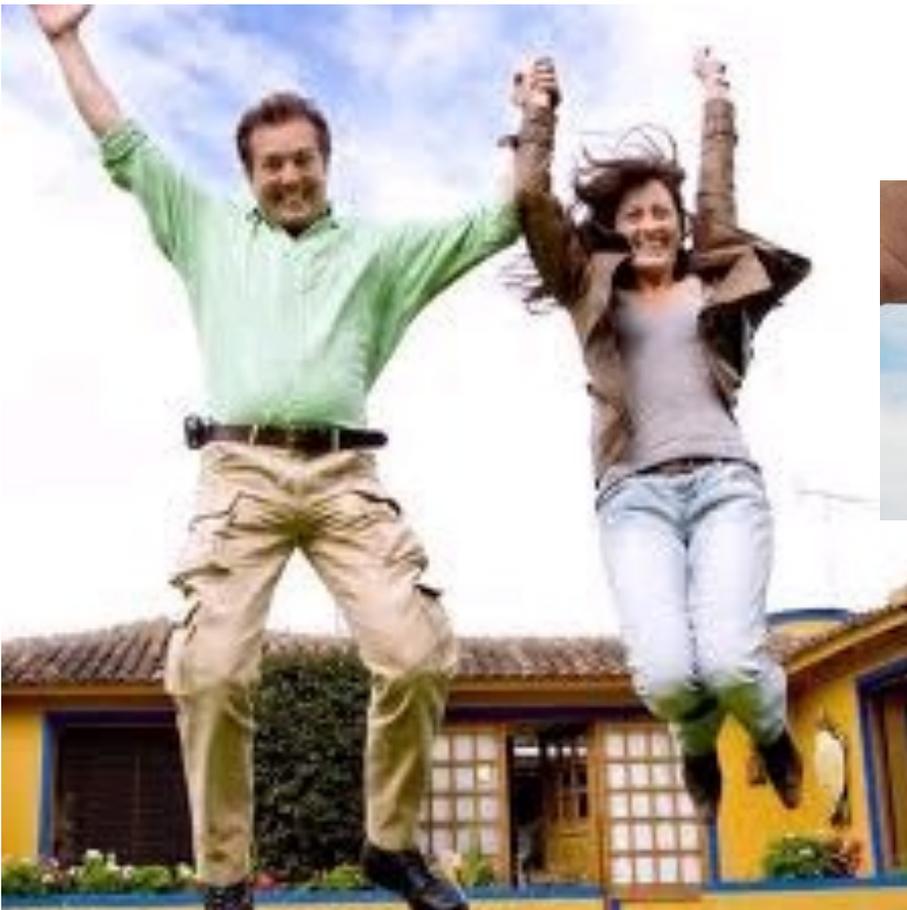
View of the electrical system wiring during installation. Visible is the inverter, charge controller, DC disconnect box, and diversion load.

## First Time Home Buyers

Madison County did not submit a grant for 2013 due to grant unavailability.

This office continued working with Community Action Partnership on closing out any final paperwork due on the 2010 FTHB grants. CAP continues to work with FTHB clients as needed.

There is no NYS CDBG open competitive grant application available at this time. The County will continue to research First Time Home Buyer grant opportunities and will continue to work with CAP as necessary.



# Planning and Zoning Institute-Spring



## Special Planning and Zoning Institute Training Opportunity

**Date:** Tuesday, February 26, 2013  
**Time:** 5:30-6:30 pm  
**Location:** Oneida City Hall,  
Common Council Chambers  
109 N. Main Street, Oneida, NY



**The US EPA is coming to Madison County for a three day visit for the Smart Growth Technical Assistance grant.**

Madison County was 1 of 5 nation-wide selected for this program. As part of this visit, US EPA and the consultant team will be providing a training session from 5:30 – 6:30 pm on Tuesday, February 26<sup>th</sup>.

This session will focus on developing **Smart Growth policies and codes** which have proven to **enhance economic development** and increase a community's **quality of life**. They will also be presenting the Smart Growth audit tool they have been developing specifically for us as part of this grant and will open up discussion for community input. More than just an opportunity for training, your attendance and feedback is invaluable to ensuring that the audit tool developed will be useful to our Planning and Zoning Boards.



Please RSVP to Jamie Hart to attend at  
[Jamie.hart@madisoncounty.ny.gov](mailto:Jamie.hart@madisoncounty.ny.gov)



## Planning and Zoning Institute-Fall

Local speakers, good food, and networking were all part of the first Planning [Appreciation Dinner held on October 29th at Colgate Inn.](#) The event was at capacity with over 120 in attendance. The focus was to learn from and recognize the accomplishments of what our different communities have been working on.



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We thank all of the volunteers serving on our  
Planning and Zoning Boards in Madison County



## Directors Note

In any working environment, there are those “bread and butter” projects and programs that provide a constant workload and become primary functions of a department. For us, those programs include our GML 239 reviews, Summer Youth Employment Program, Agricultural Districts, Vegetation Harvesting, Public Transportation, Customer visits, and more. Though these are no less important than other projects, I think the measure of our success depends on those things we do that are new, innovative, and forward thinking. Some of the highlights of this years annual report include some truly innovative projects that certainly are the result

of progressive thinking. The freedom to develop these comes from three things: 1) County leadership that is willing to provide latitude and support for this office to undertake projects of this nature; 2) a strong team of partners (the Madison County IDA, Agricultural Economic Development, and Tourism, among others) that work cooperatively together; 3) most importantly, a staff that is willing and able to think outside the box and perform at an exceptionally high level. In the end, I think we are all driven by the desire to make Madison County stand out as a leader in New York State and to create an environment that is not only a great place to live, but a great place to do business. Working in such an environment is an honor and a privilege. I look forward to bridging new partnerships and developing new projects in 2014 and 2015.



*Scott*

