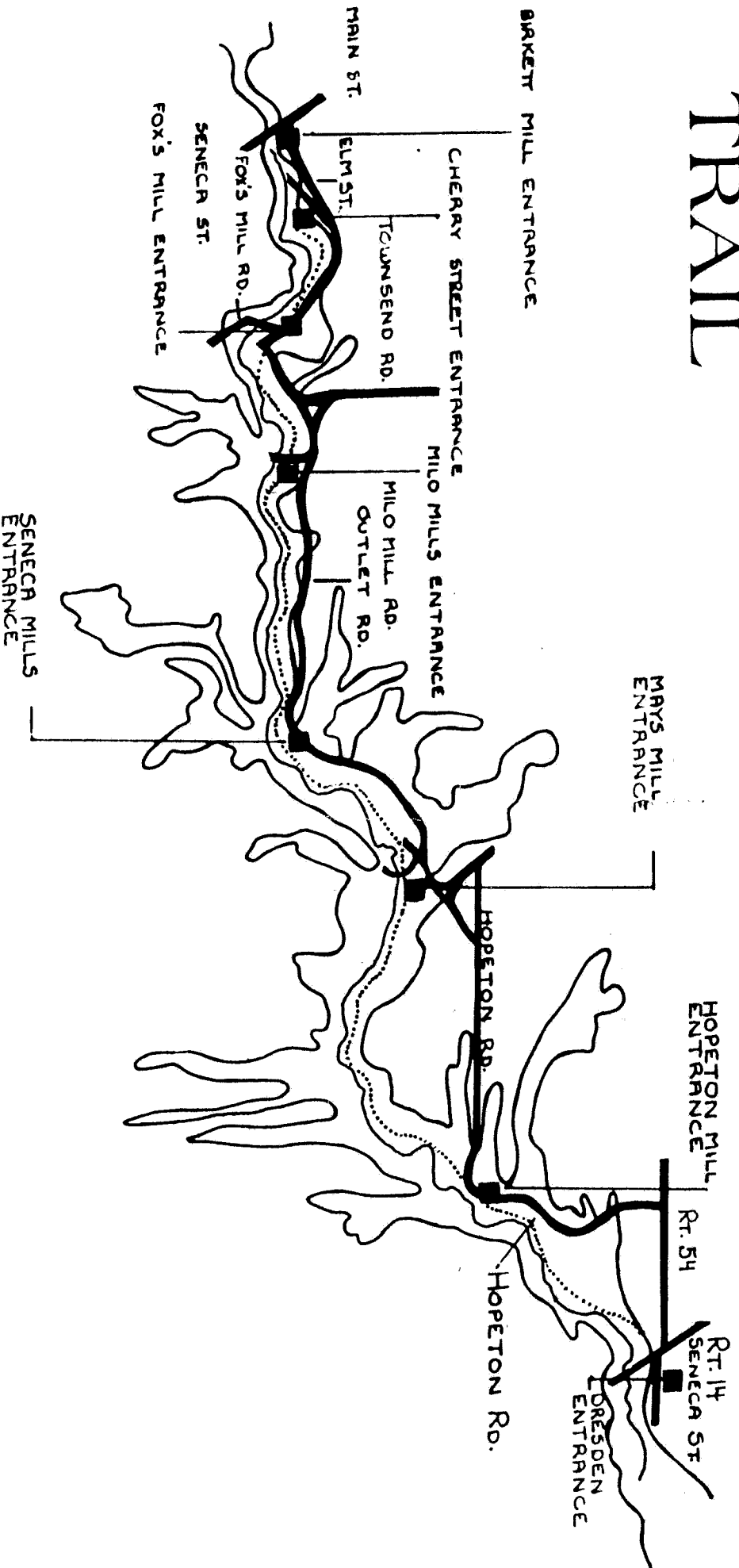


CHAPTER SEVEN--THE OUTLET TRAIL, OSWEGO RIVER BASIN AND INTERACTIONS WITH SENECA
LAKE

THE OUTLET TRAIL



THE OUTLET TRAIL





Louis R. Tomson
Chairman

Nancy E. Carey
Board Member

John R. Riedman
Board Member

John R. Platt
Executive Director

Robert A. Brooks
Canal Director

Phone (518) 436-3055
TDD/TTY 1-800-253-6244
Fax (518) 471-5936

New York State Canal Corporation

200 Southern Boulevard
Post Office Box 189
Albany, New York 12201-0189

Web Address: www.canals.state.ny.us

October 5, 2001

Edward J. Balsley
Keuka Lake Outlet Compact
Five Maiden Lane
Penn Yan, NY 14527

Re: Proposal for Keuka Lake Outlet Compact, Gate Management Principles

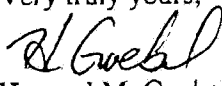
Dear Mr. Balsley:

I have reviewed the Gate Management Principles that the Keuka Lake Association is proposing for the Keuka Lake Outlet Compact and have some concerns. Obviously the ten-point plan was devised to minimize flooding and drought on Keuka Lake and the need for flood minimization is understood, but the plan has no provision to account for downstream conditions in operation of the control structures. This management plan, through the over-riding principle for using all six gates to achieve water level goals could create a condition where considerable damage could result to properties along Seneca Lake. As you are well aware, Keuka Lake is an integral part of the 5,100 square mile Oswego River Basin and management of the basin-wide resources must account for associated impacts to adjacent resources.

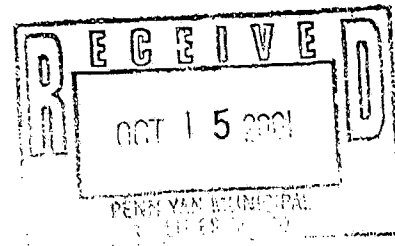
It is our position that it would not be equitable for Keuka Lake to be at maximum discharge when water levels are at the desired high water level of 714.2 feet and below the flood stage of 715.2 feet if Seneca Lake levels were already at or above flood stage. I am requesting that the Gate Management Principles be revised to include sufficient provision to assess the downstream conditions of Seneca Lake, as the current management plan includes.

I appreciate your efforts to work with the New York State Canal Corporation to achieve our mutual goals and would like to meet with your organization to discuss issues associated with lake level management. I can be reached via telephone at 518/471-5888 at your convenience.

Very truly yours,


Howard M. Goebel, P.E., P.H.
Hydrologist

cc: Bob Heuschneider, NYSCC, Syracuse Division



KEUKA LAKE OUTLET COMPACT

Five Maiden Lane
Penn Yan, New York 14527
315-536-3015



KEUKA LAKE

John Andersen, Chairman
William Weber, Secretary
Dwight Rogers, Treasurer

Edward J. Balsley, Manager
315-536-3374

Mr. John F. Hornlein
Chief, Hydrologic Data Section
US Dept. of the Interior
US Geological Survey
Water Resources Division
30 Brown Road
Ithaca, NY, 14850-1573

3 Dec. 2001

Dear Mr. Hornlein;

I have a copy of your letter to Mr. Edward Balsley of the Penn Yan Municipal Utilities Board dated 12 October, 2001 requesting data on Keuka Lake Levels and Flood Control Gate Settings. I am glad to know of your interest in these data and further want you to know that Mr. Balsley also serves as Gate Manager for the Keuka Lake Outlet Compact, the Owner of the Gates.

To clarify this matter of ownership and regulation of the gates on the Keuka Outlet, I have enclosed a copy of the Compact Agreement dating back to 1990.

I also want you to know that the Outlet Compact (KLOC) works very closely with the NYS Canal Corp in the person of:

Mr. John Zmarthie
NYS Thruway, Canal Div.
PO Box 308
East Syracuse, NY < 13057-0308

KLOC will be meeting in March, 2002 to comprehensively review Lake Level Control and we would be glad of any contribution you may be able to make.

Yours sincerely,

William A. Weber, Secty

cc: Mr. Edward Balsley; Hon. John Andersen, CHRM



New York State

Governor Pataki

map-NY

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Citizen Guide

dd



Welcome	Things to Do	Places to Go	Canalway Trail	Oswego
Map	Boating	News	History	Development
FAQs	Doing Business	Who's Who	Links	Phone #'s

Oswego River Basin

Contents:

- [What is the Canal System?](#)
- [Does the Canal Corporation try to minimize flood damage?](#)
- [What is the Oswego River Basin?](#)
- [Rule Curves for the Eight Lakes in the Oswego River Basin](#)
- [Who is responsible for maintaining water levels of the Canal System within the Oswego River Basin?](#)
- [What agencies provide flood and flood plain management assistance?](#)
- [What affects water levels?](#)
- [What are the current weather conditions and water levels?](#)
- [Link to more Information on the management of water resources: Site of U.S. Geological Survey in New York State](#)
- [Baker Study Executive Summary](#)
- [What does the Canal Corporation do to regulate and monitor water levels?](#)

What is the Canal System?

The New York State Canal System is operated by the NYS Canal Corporation, a subsidiary of the NYS Thruway Authority. It consists of the Erie, Champlain, Oswego and Cayuga-Seneca Canals and connecting lakes and rivers.

The original Barge Canal was designed in the early 1900s for commercial navigation. The dams and control structures were designed and built not as flood control structures, but to ensure water levels for navigation.



KEUKA LAKE OUTLET COMPACT

Five Maiden Lane
Penn Yan, New York 14527
315-536-3015



KEUKA LAKE

John Andersen, Chairman
William Weber, Secretary
Dwight Rogers, Treasurer

Edward J. Balsley, Manager
315-536-3374

July 17, 2002

Mr. Mohammqd Akbar
Acting Director
Division of Hydropower Adm. and Compliance
Federal Energy Regulatory Comm.
Washington, D.C. 20426

Dear Sir:

I am writing to you in reference to the Seneca Falls Power Corporation, Project No. 2438-020, compliance order issued 11 June 2002.

If the Keuka Lake Outlet Compact (KLOC) has standing in this issue, then the KLOC commissioners, under the chairmanship of the Hon. John Andersen, wish to formally notify FERC of their position relative to your compliance order.

As background to our standing issue, I want you to know that Keuka Lake discharges all its water to Seneca Lake via the Keuka Lake Outlet running between Penn Yan and Dresden, N.Y.

The KLOC Gate Manager works closely with the NYS Canal Corporation and Seneca Pure Waters to ensure that our discharges are compatible with the required lake levels of Seneca as well as the requirements of the Canal Corporation from both Canal usage as well as flood control.

As I am sure you and your staff are aware, the flow control structure and power generators at Seneca Falls and Waterloo are an integral and vital part of the Seneca Lake level control, canal usage and flood control.

To set seven (7) days average minimum flows for the Seneca Falls Power Corporation without consideration of the other factors involved, plus requiring fish gate flows, does not take into account the needs of Seneca Lake residents and the Canal Corporation.

Discussions with the Seneca Falls Power Corporation indicate that year 2001 was unprofitable because of the drought conditions and their inability to generate at or near capacity compared to normal weather conditions. To impose additional financial

KEUKA LAKE OUTLET COMPACT

Five Maiden Lane
Penn Yan, New York 14527
315-536-3015



KEUKA LAKE

John Andersen, Chairman
William Weber, Secretary
Dwight Rogers, Treasurer

Edward J. Balsley, Manager
315-536-3374

HON. AMORY HOUGHTON
32 DENISON PARKWAY, WEST
CORNING, 14830

24 JULY, 2002

DEAR AMO:

COULD YOU PLEASE HAVE ONE OF YOUR STAFF MEMBERS
CALL ME ON THIS TOPIC THAT I MAY NEED YOUR HELP ON?

BEST REGARDS,

WILLIAM A. WEBER, SECTY KLOC

ENCL.

607 738 1547



1111 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-3231

PHONE: (202) 225-3161
FAX: (202) 225-5574

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

August 14, 2002

Mr. Don Chamblee
Director, Division of Congressional, Intergovernmental, and Public Affairs
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street, NE, Room 11H
Washington, D.C. 20426

Re: **Seneca Falls Power Corporation**
Project No. 2438-020

Dear Don:

Recently, the Keuka Lake Outlet Compact, Penn Yan, New York, forwarded a copy of its letter to FERC about a compliance order issued June 11, 2002, concerning the Seneca Falls Power Corporation.

Would you mind taking a look this and addressing the concerns raised? Any help you can provide is greatly appreciated.

Please forward any future correspondence to the attention of Nancy Clark in the Corning District office.

All the best,

Amo Houghton

AH/nc



Seneca Falls Power Corp.

Hydroelectric Management & Operations

Facsimile Transmittal

Date: October 9, 2002
To: William Weber
Of: Keuka Lake Outlet Compact
Fax: 607-562-4314
Phone: 607-738-1547
Pages: 7, including this cover sheet.

Comments: Mr Weber, please see the attached proposal summary regarding the Waterloo and Seneca Falls hydroelectric station water control structures. The geographical border is just an outline it is not intended to determine the potential municipal entities that might participate. If you would like feel free to provide copies to the Board Of Commissioners or send us a list and we will CC them.

If you should have any questions please call.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Scott D. Goodwin".

Scott D. Goodwin

From the desk of ...

Scott D. Goodwin
Seneca Falls Power Corp.
1233 Alpine Road Ste #202
Walnut Creek, CA 94596
Phone: (925) 932-1828
Fax: (925) 932-2317



John L. Bucno
Chairman

New York State Thruway Authority
New York State Canal Corporation

P.O. Box 308, East Syracuse, NY 13057-0308

www.thruway.state.ny.us



John R. Platt
Executive Director
TDD/TTY 1-800-253-6244

December 24, 2002

Mr. Scott D. Goodwin
American Energy Inc.
Seneca Falls Power Corporation
1233 Alpine Road
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

RE: Current Seneca Lake Levels

Dear Mr. Goodwin:

The New York State Canal Corporation (NYSCC) is concerned with Seneca Falls Power Corporation's (SFPC) apparent reluctance to maintain Seneca Lake levels within the specified regulation curve.

Currently, Seneca Lake is at 445.55 Barge Canal Datum (BCD), which is 0.25 feet above the top of the winter regulation curve. I have asked Michael Jesmer, your local operator, to increase the discharge from Seneca Lake until the lake level falls within the specified regulation curve of 444.7 BCD to 445.3 BCD.

Mr. Jesmer has stated that the current schedule is to discharge through the hydroelectric units from 7AM to 7PM, during the peak hours of revenue generation. At present, SFPC is discharging 1,400 cubic feet per second (cfs) during these hours, which equates to approximately 700 cfs for a 24-hour period.

SFPC has requested that the NYSCC open their bypass gate and discharge 500 cfs during the 12-hour period that SFPC is generating. This increases the 24-hour discharge average to 950 cfs and also draws debris away from your trash racks thereby reducing SFPC's manpower expended to keep them clean.

The Keuka Lake Outlet Compact (KLOC) is attempting to lower Keuka Lake levels and is discharging 320 cfs into Seneca Lake to keep water levels within their specified regulation curves. This amount subtracted from the current discharge from Seneca Lake results in a net outflow of 630 cfs.

Barring no other sources of inflow, i.e. streams (which is a poor assumption), the current discharge would theoretically lower the lake approximately 0.03 feet per day. Mr. Jesmer indicates that SFPC will be shutting down all discharge on 12/25, 12/28, 12/29, 1/1, 1/4, and 1/5. Assuming that there will be no changes to

John L. Buono
~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~
Chairman

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Board Member

John R. Riedman
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John R. Platt
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Phone (518) 436-3055
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Fax (518) 471-5936

New York State Canal Corporation

200 Southern Boulevard
Post Office Box 189
Albany, New York 12201-0189

Web Address: www.canals.state.ny.us

January 10, 2003

Anton J. Sidoti
New York Regional Engineer
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
New York Regional Office
19 West 34th Street
Suite 400
New York, NY 10001

Re: Seneca Falls, NY and Waterloo, NY Hydropower Projects
(Seneca Falls Power Corp.) FERC 2438

Dear Mr. Sidoti:

This letter serves to inform you that Canal records show that Seneca Falls Power Corporation (SFPC) has held Seneca Lake levels above the prescribed "Regulation Curves" and above the "Winter Target" elevation of 445.0 feet Barge Canal Datum as specified in the current Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) License Article 405.

Presently, Seneca Lake is at elevation 445.6 ft BCD and is thus 0.6 feet above the "Winter Target". During periods of high snowpack (as is the case this winter), the Seneca Lake levels have been historically managed at elevation ± 444.7 ft. BCD, the level of the minimum regulation curve target for the winter.

It is our understanding that SFPC has operated the Waterloo and Seneca Falls Projects intermittently throughout the month of December and early January even while Seneca Lake level were above the "Winter Target" elevation of 445.0. We have been informed by SFPC that their generation rate has been between 1,400 and 1,900 cfs for 12 hours per day with no or limited generation on weekends and holidays. This operating scheme coupled with seasonal precipitation and snowmelt has resulted in elevated lake levels as described above.

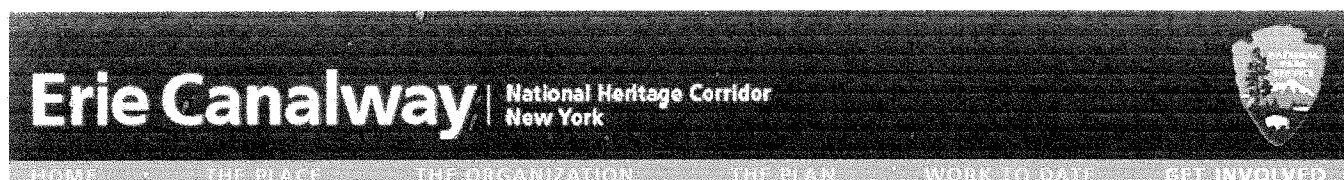


**Coordination Meeting of Finger Lakes Managers
March 3, 2003**

Seneca Falls, NY

Agenda

1. Background (Baldwinsville Gate Failure)
2. Current Conditions
3. Lake Regulation Curves
4. Proposed Contingency Concept
5. Discussion
6. Other Items



- > Calendar
- > News
- > Trails & Rails Program
- > FAQ
- > Complete our Survey
- > Notify Me
- > Photo Contest and Calendar
- > Contact Us

SEARCH

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Frequently Asked Questions

What is a heritage corridor?

A national heritage corridor or area is a place designated by Congress, where natural, cultural, historic and recreational resources combine to form a cohesive, nationally distinctive landscape arising from patterns of human activity shaped by geography. More than that, they each have the capability to describe and convey nationally significant stories about the evolution of the United States. A corridor generally follows a linear landscape feature, either natural or human-built. An area is not bound by a linear pattern of landscape use. In either case, these patterns make national heritage areas or corridors representative of the national experience through the physical features that remain and the traditions that have evolved within them. Continued use of the national heritage areas and corridors by people whose traditions helped to shape the landscapes enhances their significance. Since 1984, about two dozen special places have been so designated.

What is the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor?

The Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor includes the 524 miles of the New York State Canal System, including the Erie, Oswego, Cayuga-Seneca, and Champlain Canals, plus the historic alignments of these canals and the 234 cities, towns and villages that lie immediately adjacent to the navigable waterways and historic alignments. The corridor was designated by Congress in December, 2000 because it depicts the most successful and influential manmade waterway and one of the most important works of civil construction in the United States.

Who manages the heritage corridor?

The Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor legislation provides for administration by a 27-member commission appointed by the U.S. Secretary of the Interior. The commission, appointed in April, 2002, has members representing the state's two U.S. senators, congressional representatives, the governor of New York, heads of several state departments, as well as community activists within the national heritage corridor. The commission meets quarterly and meetings are open to the public. The commission has authority to hire staff, implement a preservation and management plan, administer grant and cost-share programs, enter into cooperative agreements, and set its priorities. It has no zoning or land use regulation authorities, and may not acquire property. The mission of the commission is "to plan for, encourage, and assist historic preservation, conservation, recreation, interpretation, tourism, and community development along the Erie Canalway Corridor in a manner that promotes partnerships among the corridor's many stakeholders, and reflects, celebrates, and enhances the corridor's national significance for all to use and enjoy."

What is the role of the National Park Service?

Since 1916, the National Park Service (NPS) has been the federal agency responsible for preserving nationally significant natural and cultural resources for present and future generations. Heritage areas and corridors are one way to help carry out this mission through partnership assistance. NPS is mandated by the Canalway legislation to provide administrative support to the commission which it does through funding, legal guidance, contract services and technical assistance. Located in an office in Waterford, New York, NPS provides a full-time executive director and professional staff to assist the commission in achieving the goals of preserving the Erie Canalway Corridor's cultural and natural resources and enhancing educational and recreational opportunities in the corridor's communities.

How can the heritage corridor benefit my community?

Heritage conservation efforts are grounded in a community's pride in its history, values, and traditions, and its interest in seeing them perpetuated along with their tangible qualities as visible on the landscape today. Preserving these landscapes and their stories means that current and future generations in the community will be able to understand and define who they are, where they came from, and what ties them to their home. National heritage areas or corridors offer the potential to sustain and often to re-discover connections between people and places, to enhance the quality of life for local residents through preservation, education, recreation, and community revitalization strategies, and to build national identity and public recognition so as to attract visitors through high-quality heritage tourism programs. The commission is helping to forge the kinds of partnerships and create the large scale vision needed to invigorate the sense of shared canal heritage among more than two-hundred rural and urban communities. The interconnectivity and canal oriented way of life once shared by these communities in the previous two centuries has faded over time with the commercial decline of the canal system and the rise of modern highway, rail, and air transportation systems. Building on recent canal revitalization efforts at the state and local levels, communities are now expressing an eagerness to join together as part of a stronger whole, where the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor can provide the basis for the re-invention and re-emergence of the Canalway as a 21st century "River of Commerce and Culture."

How can I become involved with the heritage corridor program?

There are a variety of ways to become involved in Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor programs. By accessing this website you may wish to provide your name and address so that you can be alerted to new program developments and opportunities. You may wish to interact with the planning team on this website by sharing your thoughts and ideas in response to posted questions about the Canalway's future. Consider joining non-profit organizations that are undertaking worthwhile projects along the Canalway like the Canal Society of New York State, the Canalway Trails Association of New York, and the New York Parks and Conservation Association. Attending local meetings of municipal governments and non-governmental organizations, quarterly commission meetings, public meetings

on plans for or effecting canal resources and communities, are all ways that you and others may participate in shaping the Canalway's future.