

INSIDE INSIGHTS

THE NEWSLETTER OF
THE SULLIVAN COUNTY MANAGER



NOT KICKING THE TRASH CAN DOWN THE ROAD

BY JOSHUA POTOSEK, COUNTY MANAGER

You've likely heard about the County Legislature looking into our trash disposal options. While they're not seeking to make a change today, they are actively researching for tomorrow. **Sullivan County, via its six transfer stations, sends nearly 100,000 tons of garbage to the upstate Seneca Meadows Landfill every year. That equates to about 3,200 truck trips, each haul spanning 190 miles one way (about a five-hour drive), with diesel mileage hovering around 4 miles a gallon.** In 2024 it cost us just shy of \$9 million. With higher tipping rates in 2025, we expect this amount to increase to above \$10 million. But Seneca Meadows cannot continue for much longer without expanding, and New York State has not issued a landfill permit in a very long time. So we're concerned that next year, we will no longer have that option for disposing of our (& your) garbage. Plus, we'd like to lessen our greenhouse gas emissions, not just with truck exhaust but with the methane emitted by landfills. So here are some options legislators are considering:

- Finding another landfill to which we can truck or train the waste (though this doesn't lower greenhouse gas emissions)
- Approaching neighboring counties for a regional solution
- Having a private company build a plant that would generate electricity by burning garbage (with toxins and odors filtered out to well below NYS DEC and Federal EPA thresholds)

In the meantime, we continue to actively encourage residents to reduce their waste stream by composting, recycling and reusing materials. While the concept of "zero waste" is not something we can implement independent of State and Federal legislation,

we should all strive to lessen what we're throwing away as much as possible. You may be surprised to learn that the County is not mandated to provide waste disposal services. But it's something this Legislature feels strongly about continuing, in a way that does not place a greater fiscal burden on taxpayers. Think you have an idea legislators should consider? Call them at 845-807-0435 or email anmarie.martin@sullivanny.gov.

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DMV IS MEETING YOU WHERE YOU NEED TO BE

I still talk to people who don't realize they can skip coming all the way to the Government Center in Monticello to do business with the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV).

No, I'm not talking about the State-run DMV website. I'm referring to our Mobile DMV service.

Take a look at the chart below, and you'll see our DMV team - under the leadership of County Clerk Russell Reeves - is all over Sullivan County this spring.

No matter where you live, you're likely no more than 20 minutes from one of our locations. And at many of them, workers can do everything the Monticello DMV office does.

Just one reminder: even the mobile offices work on our appointment system. That may seem unnecessary, but in our experience, appointments make for faster, easier transactions. To schedule one at any of these locations, visit

<https://sullivanyny.gov/Departments/Clerk/DMV>. And be sure to have all the necessary paperwork when you

arrive. There's little worse than having to turn around and head back home when you've forgotten a key document!

REAL ID Deadline Is Coming

You've probably heard that beginning May 7, 2025, every air traveler 18 years of age and older will need a REAL ID-compliant driver's license or ID card, state-issued enhanced driver's license, or another TSA-acceptable form of identification (like a passport) for domestic air travel.

In other words, even though you might be flying from New York to Colorado, you'll still need more than the standard driver's license to board the plane.

Since it can take time to secure a new ID, the County Clerk's Office has been urging everyone to get a compliant license and/or passport before the deadline. Find out more at

<https://www.tsa.gov/travel/security-screening/identification>.



SULLIVAN COUNTY DMV

mobile unit
on location 10:00am - 3:00pm

2025 Spring Schedule

You can also Schedule an Appointment at sullivanyny.gov | County Clerk Russell Reeves

JEFFERSONVILLE

Tues April 1

Tues May 6

Tues June 3

License & Registration Appts

19 Legion St
Jeffersonville, NY

WURTSBORO

Thurs April 17

Thurs May 22

Thurs June 19

Registration Appts Only

2948 US 209
Wurtsboro, NY

NARROWSBURG

Tues April 15

Tues May 20

Tues June 17

Registration Appts Only

210 Bridge St
Narrowsburg, NY

HORTONVILLE

Thurs April 10

Thurs May 15

Thurs June 12

Registration Appts Only

104 Lower Main St
Hortonville, NY

LIVINGSTON MANOR

Tues April 8

Tues May 13

Tues June 10

Registration Appts Only

95 Main St
Livingston Manor, NY

GRAHAMSVILLE

Thurs April 3

Thurs May 8

Thurs June 5

License & Registration Appts

273 Main St
Grahamsville, NY

LIBERTY

Tues April 22

Tues May 27

Tues June 24

License & Registration Appts

15 Sullivan Ave
Liberty, NY

BLOOMINGBURG

Thurs April 24

Thurs May 29

Thurs June 26

License & Registration Appts

13 North Rd
Bloomingburg, NY

TREASURER'S OFFICE EARNS 34TH BUDGET AWARD

For an incredible 34th consecutive time, the Sullivan County Treasurer's Office was accorded the Financial Reporting Achievement Award from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) this year. The County also received a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the GFOA.

The award was given after an impartial panel of judges determined the County's 2023 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) met GFOA's high standards, including demonstrating a constructive "spirit of full disclosure" in communicating financial details and motivating people to read it. The report can be found at

<https://sullivanny.gov/Departments/Managementandbudget/Audits>.

"News of this award brings much excitement to my office every year – made even more meaningful to me as this will be my last year in office," said County Treasurer Nancy Buck. "I very much appreciate the recognition for the significant amount of daily work that County staff – particularly Senior Fiscal Administrator Shannan Armbrust – are required to perform. I am deeply grateful for my entire team, not only for the diligence in which they carry out their



From the left are Senior Fiscal Administrator Shannan Armbrust, Sullivan County Treasurer Nancy Buck and Deputy County Treasurer Kathleen Lara.

duties, but for the way they conduct themselves every day with the public they serve."

"We hope that your example will encourage other government officials in their efforts to achieve and maintain an appropriate standard of excellence in financial reporting," concluded Michele Mark Levine, the GFOA's Director of Technical Services.

The GFOA is a national nonprofit association serving approximately 21,000 government finance professionals, with offices in Chicago and Washington, DC.

HERE COMES OUR WIRELESS BROADBAND SERVICE

We've been talking about it for years, but construction is finally just about to start on our effort to flood the County with wireless broadband signal availability.

Thanks to a \$30 million Municipal Infrastructure Program (ConnectALL) grant, we are partnering with Archtop Fiber to run fiber-optic wire to most of our emergency communications towers. They will then serve as high-speed Internet transceivers that you can buy a modem to access.

Archtop Fiber will also be providing wired broadband service in many towns, giving you another choice in a beneficially competitive market.

It's all part of our goal to bring high-speed Internet access to every corner of the County, with all-weather reliability that satellite can't offer, flexible wireless availability, and a price that will be hard to beat.

Service is expected to start later this year.

ENJOY LAKE SUPERIOR ALL SEASON LONG



Why pay \$5 every time you want to visit Lake Superior, the County-operated State park in Bethel? For \$15, you can get a season pass, giving you access to the fields, beach, boat launch, picnic areas and hiking trails the whole year! The application is at <https://sullivan.gov/Department/s/ParksRecreation/LakeSuperior>. And don't forget: you can also rent picnic pavilions and rowboats, kayaks or paddleboats.



LOOK OUT ROSCOE (AND MANOR AND JEFF), HERE WE COME!

Our free Move Sullivan bus service has just expanded with Route E traveling from Liberty to Livingston Manor, Roscoe, Callicoon Center, Jeffersonville, Youngsville and White Sulphur Springs.



And we've also started hourlong loops in downtown Monticello & Liberty. That's in addition to our four two-hour routes

serving those villages, plus places like Rock Hill, Harris, South Fallsburg, Woodridge, Swan Lake, Bloomingburg, Loch Sheldrake, Hurleyville, White Lake and Mongaup Valley. Find the full list of schedules by visiting movesullivan.com, or give a call to our operating partner, Rolling V, at 845-434-4102.

