

# Positively Greene

## COUNTY-WIDE UPDATE



**GREENE COUNTY**  
Economic Development Corporation

**BUY IN GREENE** **INVEST GREENE**



[GreeneGovernment.com](http://GreeneGovernment.com)

[GreatNorthernCatskills.com](http://GreatNorthernCatskills.com)

[GreeneCountyEDC.com](http://GreeneCountyEDC.com)

[InvestInGreene.com](http://InvestInGreene.com)

[FilmInGreene.com](http://FilmInGreene.com)

March 2025

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

### James Hannahs to Head the Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Planning



We are excited to announce that James Hannahs has been promoted to the position of Director for the Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Planning. Since joining the department as Director of Economic Development in 2022, Hannahs has made a significant impact on the Greene County Economic Development Corporation (GCEDC) and economic

development initiatives across Greene County. His leadership and vision have strengthened relationships within the local business community and earned him a sterling reputation across the state. Through his efforts the county was able to secure Community Development Block Grant Funding from Housing and Community Renewal (HCR), which Hannahs used to create the highly successful MULTI Grant, Microenterprise Assistance program. This funding was used to provide 12 qualifying businesses with reimbursement grants representing \$255,000 between the projects. Hannahs succeeds outgoing department head Warren Hart who is retiring after more than 20 years of exemplary service to Greene County.

### NYS Expands ON-RAMP Program



The Capital Region, Finger Lakes and Mohawk Valley have been selected to advance to the planning stage of the \$200 million One Network for Regional Advanced Manufacturing Partnerships (ON-RAMP) program to will create a network of high-impact workforce

development centers to connect New Yorkers with careers in dynamic, high-growth advanced manufacturing industries. These workforce centers will equip New Yorkers with the skills they need and create an “on-ramp” to training, internships, apprenticeships and permanent employment and capitalize on the State’s success in attracting and expanding advanced manufacturing companies such as Micron and GlobalFoundries.

Read the Official Release at <https://on.ny.gov/43k6lR>

### Greene County Represents at NYSEDC Conference



James Hannahs, Teri Weiss and Thomas Boomhower attended a conference in Albany designed for economic development professionals from across

the state. During workshops and sessions focusing on policies, best practices and professional development, the team learned about the challenges faced by communities across the state, and opportunities and tools for addressing those challenges. Between workshops, they networked with colleagues from other counties and engaged with multiple exhibitors from state agencies, service providers, and support organizations.

# TOURISM



## Headliners Announced for Concert in the Catskills

The 3rd Annual Concert in the Catskills returns to the Historic Catskill Point on June 14th, featuring headliner LOCASH! Known for their PLATINUM

breakthrough hit “I Love This Life,” along with chart-toppers like “One Big Country Song” and “I Know Somebody,” LOCASH has amassed eight charting singles, two successful albums, and over a billion global streams. Since their debut in 2015, they’ve earned recognition from the industry’s biggest award shows. This year’s opening act is rising country star Kylie Morgan. Tickets on sale now!

Get tickets and more details at <https://www.greatnortherncatskills.com/events/3rd-annual-concert-catskills>



## Tourism Collaborates with I Love NY to Host Journalists

This January, we had the pleasure of collaborating with I Love NY through Hudson Valley Tourism to host a group

of journalists for a Ski/Spa Media Trip in the Great Northern Catskills of Greene County. The group included contributors from renowned publications such as Matador Network, BestLife, Thrillist, Hotels Above Par, Cosmopolitan, and Business Insider. This event provided a fantastic opportunity to showcase Greene County and highlight local businesses. During their 48-hour visit, the journalists enjoyed skiing and snowboarding, participated in unique wellness activities and mini-spa experiences, and indulged in the region’s local cuisine. Read Matador’s Where to Play, Eat, and Stay on a Winter Trip to New York’s Catskill at <https://matadornetwork.com/read/things-to-do-in-the-catskills-in-winter/>



## Grey Fox Bluegrass Festival – Tickets on Sale Now!

Don’t miss the Grey Fox Bluegrass Festival, a four-day celebration of bluegrass, newgrass, and roots music at Walsh Farm in Oak Hill! Featuring 40 bands across six stages, plus workshops, family activities, camping, dancing, jamming, delicious food, artisan crafts, and thousands of fans from around the world. Tickets are limited—get yours before they’re gone! For the 2025 lineup, more details, and to purchase tickets, visit the Great Northern Catskills website at <https://www.greatnortherncatskills.com/events/grey-fox-bluegrass-festival>

# PLANNING

## New York’s Updated Wetland Regulations

New York State has changed how it protects freshwater wetlands. The updated regulations took effect in January 2025, and clarify jurisdictional status of smaller wetlands of “unusual importance” that meet one of 11 specific criteria contained in the State’s amended Freshwater Wetlands Act, which was modernized as part of the 2022-2023 Enacted State Budget. In addition, the regulations provide a streamlined wetlands classification system and process for the public to request and appeal jurisdictional determinations. A new process will also help landowners find out if their property includes a protected wetland.

Learn more about the changes here: <http://dec.ny.gov/nature/waterbodies/wetlands/freshwater-wetlands-program>

## Did you know: The Irish & the Railroads

Irish immigrants helped build railroads and canals in the region, which boosted Greene County’s growth and connected it to larger trade routes throughout NYS.

**Greene County Department of Economic Development, Tourism & Planning**

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