Scenic Resource Protection in the Hudson River Valley
Hudson River Estuary Program Conservation and Land Use Webinar Series
June 15, 2021 1:00 – 2:15 pm

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00:00:01.709 --> 00:00:05.370
All right, well, good afternoon everyone.

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We were going to get started. Now, my name is Nate Nardi Cyrus, and I'm a Conservation and Land Use Specialist with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's

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Hudson River Estuary Program through a partnership with Cornell University. Welcome to our Conservation and Land Use webinar series,

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which provides the foundation in important conservation and land

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use planning topics for members of conservation advisory councils and boards as well as members of planning and zoning boards, elected officials,

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land

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trust staff,

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00:00:33.509 --> 00:00:41.185
and other interested citizens. So let's just start off with a quick review of a few important webinar details.

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You should be able to connect to the audio through your computer or by phone and you can find different audio options at the bottom of the screen by clicking the "Connect audio" button. If you're having difficulties with audio through your computer,

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I recommend calling in by phone or requesting a call back, and we're also going to put that call in number in the chat box in case you can't hear this.

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If you're having any other difficulties, please direct your questions via the chat box in the bottom right hand corner of the screen. You should use the question and answer box to make questions for the presenters

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and not the chat box. Also note that your lines have been muted during this presentation and the webinar is being recorded and we will notify you when that recording is available. At the end of the webinar there's gonna be a three-question survey, that pop ups

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and we really appreciate and welcome any feedback you have on our programs. And lastly for those of you seeking municipal training credit, you will receive an automated email from at the end of this certifying your attendance.

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For those of you who may be new to our series, the Hudson River Estuary Program is a unique program at the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, which was established to help people enjoy, protect, and revitalize the Hudson River and its Valley.

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So our program works throughout the 10 counties

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bordering the title Hudson River from upper New York harbor to the federal dam at Troy to achieve many key benefits that include clean water, community resilience to climate

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Change, the vital estuaries ecosystem, and its fish, wildlife, and habitats,

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00:02:11.069 --> 00:02:18.900
natural scenery of the valley, which will discuss today, and opportunities for education, access, recreation, and inspiration on the river.

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And I just want to let everyone know that our new draft action agenda that defines our program's goals and actions for the next 10 years is now available on our program website. So, I encourage you to give that a, a read and provide us with any feedback that you might have.

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00:02:34.139 --> 00:02:37.530
Before I get started, I just want to give a quick

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plug for next month's webinar on July 20th at 1 PM, our conservation and land use team will provide an introduction to online tools for conservation planning,

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including the Hudson Valley

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Natural Resource Mapper,

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and our new "Conservation Planning in the Hudson River Estuary Watershed website."

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And Ingrid is going to be posting all these links in the chat box. So make sure you check that out.

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Okay, so I'm happy to introduce our first speaker today. George is an associate professor of practice at Cornell University is Department of City and Regional Planning.

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His primary areas of expertise are in urban design and comprehensive land use planning and zoning with a particular emphasis on addressing the needs of agriculture and the protection of environmentally sensitive lands.

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And since 2016, he's been working with his students to help Hudson River communities inventory and protect their most valuable scenic resources. After George is finished with his presentation,

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I will immediately follow with a look at some Hudson Valley- specific examples of scenery protection and then we'll end the webinar today with some questions from you. So with that I'm going to pass the ball on over to George.

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Give me a quick moment.

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00:03:50.939 --> 00:03:57.719
Okay, all right here you go, George, you should be able to share your screen.

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George, you're on mute, so you just gonna have to switch that off.

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00:04:06.659 --> 00:04:10.080
Okay, there we go now.

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00:04:10.080 --> 00:04:13.500
Or my next trip trick…

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00:04:13.500 --> 00:04:17.939
Okay, can.

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00:04:17.939 --> 00:04:23.189
See, my screen Yep, it looks good. George.

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00:04:23.189 --> 00:04:29.218
George Frantz: Okay, excellent. Again, George Frantz here, and I'm going to talk about

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scenic resource identification and protection.

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00:04:32.519 --> 00:04:38.278
And really give you a quick overview of the process.

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00:04:38.278 --> 00:04:43.139
But let's just start out, you know, when we're prioritizing scenic

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00:04:43.139 --> 00:04:51.778
resources for protection, we should really define them. And generally, a scenic resource is an area,

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00:04:51.778 --> 00:04:56.249
feature, or site that is recognized, visited,

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and enjoyed by the general public for its inherent visual quality.

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So, my objective for the last several years in working

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in communities here and in the Finger Lakes,

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I have been identifying and protecting those scenic resources that are visible

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00:05:15.088 --> 00:05:23.249
from the public domain, and the public domain is essentially our roads and highways.

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00:05:23.249 --> 00:05:28.619
Parks, lakes, and rivers and other public spaces.

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00:05:30.778 --> 00:05:36.838
Scenic resource protection is not just a matter of protecting the resource itself.

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00:05:36.838 --> 00:05:42.088
But it also accrues multiple benefits to the community.

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00:05:42.088 --> 00:05:49.678
In protecting scenic resources we're often protecting critical environmental resources, such as streams,

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00:05:49.678 --> 00:05:55.079
Wetlands, old growth forest and critical wildlife habitat.

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00:05:55.079 --> 00:06:05.098
We're also protecting and enhancing economic resources, such as agricultural lands, orchards and vineyards,

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00:06:05.098 --> 00:06:09.149
our many tourist destinations.

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00:06:09.149 --> 00:06:14.278
State and regional parks, historic landmarks and towns.

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00:06:14.278 --> 00:06:20.369
Enhancing the economic viability of our

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museum networks.

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00:06:24.658 --> 00:06:30.449
So, how do we assess landscapes? And this is.

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really based on some pioneering

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thinking, research by the US Forest Service.

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00:06:38.488 --> 00:06:42.449
Back in the late fifties, early, 1960s.

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00:06:42.449 --> 00:06:50.759
But what we're looking at is what's known as landscape character, which is the objects or features

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that give a place a unique identity.

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00:06:54.298 --> 00:07:03.718

And literally a sense of place. We're also looking at the attractiveness of the landscape and how topographic features,

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00:07:03.718 --> 00:07:08.668
water, vegetation, cultural

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00:07:08.668 --> 00:07:15.389
and human features relate in terms of line, form, color, texture,

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00:07:15.389 --> 00:07:21.598
and visual composition. These are essentially the aesthetic qualities of the landscape.

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00:07:21.598 --> 00:07:27.238
And again, the picture you see is sort of one of those classic views

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Along the Hudson River, looking down into the Hudson Highlands and

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in this case, you have the wooded slopes of the Hudson Highlands descending steeply into the river.

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You have the gorge of the river itself. You have West Point in the background, which is also backdropped by Bear Mountain.

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00:07:51.298 --> 00:07:55.559
So these are the features we look at

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in terms of the aesthetic qualities of the landscape.

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Another term we use is integrity, or the degree of intactness

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00:08:08.788 --> 00:08:17.999
or the wholeness of a landscape, which includes the lack of disruptive or incompatible visual elements within the landscape.

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And in this particular photo, it's a good example because again, we have

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The lighthouse the Esopus Meadows lighthouse.

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00:08:28.619 --> 00:08:33.328
And the Eastern Shore of the Hudson River.

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Which is primarily wooded.

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Within those woods, if you look closely.

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00:08:42.359 --> 00:08:48.899
There's a couple of homes, but they're heavily screened by the woods themselves.

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And so, in terms of integrity, the eastern slope of the Hudson River, in this particular location,

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has a high degree of integrity.

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And that's something we look for in assessing

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scenic resources. Then there's the

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relative value placed on a viewshed by the community

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Itself. And again,

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00:09:19.139 --> 00:09:23.729
identifying and prioritizing scenic resources

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00:09:23.729 --> 00:09:27.538
is a community exercise.

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00:09:27.538 --> 00:09:34.288
And it's based on the relative value placed on a viewshed by the community,

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visual prominence of features within the viewshed.

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And again, what are the values of the community that leads it to decide what is an important scenic resource?

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00:09:48.989 --> 00:09:52.859
So, again, it's a community decision.

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Scenic resources are

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00:09:58.619 --> 00:10:03.119
a reflection of community values.

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An open participatory process is critical

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00:10:08.969 --> 00:10:13.739
to deciding what

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scenic resources are of importance

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to the community, and it leads them to a community consensus

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on what constitutes a scenic resources.

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And what significant scenic resources in the community are.

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Okay, it's very much a participatory exercise.

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So, there's actually 2 steps.

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In this whole process of

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prioritizing scenic resources.

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First, there is developing

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A scoring methodology to prioritize specific properties for protection.

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And this is actually taking the fairly common practice of surveying for scenic resources, identifying resources

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Within a community. Often is done through public surveys and the like, okay.

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We're trying to take it to the next step, which is okay, we understand what the scenic resources within our community are.

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The next question is, how can we protect them?

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And part of the protection process is to prioritize specific properties for protection.

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Because there's never enough

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in terms of resources, to protect everything.

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So, we've developed the scoring methodology to help communities.

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To prioritize which specific properties

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they should focus on protecting within their community.

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And also another decision is

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what are the most appropriate protection tools?

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Depending on again, on the community.

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And the protection tools range from

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acquisition to actually use of conservation easements

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to other land use tools, such as zoning.

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More, let's say

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appropriate approaches to subdivision residential development.

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And also of commercial development within the community.

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And I'll go over these items later in my talk.

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Scenic resource inventories are also

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an opportunity for communities, members of the communities

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to really consciously view the same resources

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00:13:10.288 --> 00:13:13.528
that we all often pass

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en route from point A to point B, but while we're passing them where often not really conscious of them.

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00:13:22.918 --> 00:13:27.418
We sort of know that there, but do we actually really look at them?

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00:13:27.418 --> 00:13:32.578
And so it's an opportunity to sort of slow down.

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00:13:32.578 --> 00:13:35.759
And really, consciously look at the landscape

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00:13:35.759 --> 00:13:40.828
that we pass through a practically on a daily basis.

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00:13:42.028 --> 00:13:45.749
And it's an opportunity to discover

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00:13:45.749 --> 00:13:49.408
and record the cultural landscape

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00:13:49.408 --> 00:13:56.999
within our communities, and also an opportunity to enhance awareness

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00:13:56.999 --> 00:14:00.269
and appreciation of the character

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00:14:00.269 --> 00:14:08.188
and the landscape of our communities.

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00:14:08.188 --> 00:14:11.578
Back to sort of nuts and bolts, but

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00:14:11.578 --> 00:14:18.658
the first step really in prioritizing scenic resources for protection

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00:14:18.658 --> 00:14:23.458
is mapping.

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Mapping, starting with a basic tax parcel

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00:14:28.288 --> 00:14:33.538
and assessment data for properties, within your community.

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00:14:33.538 --> 00:14:38.519
Mapping of existing land use

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00:14:38.519 --> 00:14:46.708
within the community, what are and where are the ecological resources, which can be wetlands,

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00:14:46.708 --> 00:14:50.818
lakes and other water bodies, streams.

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00:14:50.818 --> 00:14:56.219
Of course, the Hudson River, mature woodland.

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00:14:56.219 --> 00:15:00.239
Steep slopes, identified.

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00:15:00.239 --> 00:15:04.078
critical wildlife habitat.

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These are all ecological resources.

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That play a role in the whole process of prioritizing

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scenic resources and then.

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What are the existing public office space resources within the community?

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Things like public parks, public and private preserves.

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State forest lands, state wildlife management land, state parks.

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Okay, so what are the public open space resources?

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00:15:40.619 --> 00:15:47.548
Where, and what are the agricultural land resources within the community?

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00:15:47.548 --> 00:15:51.269
And then finally,

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00:15:51.269 --> 00:15:56.639
Where are and what are the historic resources.

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00:15:56.639 --> 00:16:00.778
within the community? These are all

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00:16:00.778 --> 00:16:05.308
specific attributes that you want to map first.

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00:16:05.308 --> 00:16:11.308
As a way of guiding you, as you go into the process of actually

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00:16:11.308 --> 00:16:16.349
identifying and deciding what are the important

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00:16:16.349 --> 00:16:20.129
scenic resources within your community.

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00:16:22.889 --> 00:16:26.428
The key thing here is

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00:16:26.428 --> 00:16:30.928
already in many communities in the Hudson River Valley,

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00:16:30.928 --> 00:16:34.349
there has been a lot of mapping completed.

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00:16:34.349 --> 00:16:38.788
Through recent comprehensive plans,

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00:16:38.788 --> 00:16:42.808
community preservation plans,

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00:16:42.808 --> 00:16:46.798
Open Space plans, natural resources inventories,

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00:16:46.798 --> 00:16:52.619
Farmland protection plans. And in addition the counties

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and land truss have also been actively mapping

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00:16:57.178 --> 00:17:05.068
the natural resources, the ecological resources, and in some cases, the scenic resources

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00:17:05.068 --> 00:17:08.278
within the Hudson River Valley.

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00:17:08.278 --> 00:17:11.308
So these are really the first

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00:17:12.929 --> 00:17:20.999
tool if you want to look at what has already been done and how can you use the information that is already out there

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in order to start mapping your

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00:17:24.749 --> 00:17:32.788
scenic resources. And by the way, also the state now has the Hudson Valley Natural Resource Mapper.

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Which is an online interactive map

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00:17:36.689 --> 00:17:45.719
on the DEC website. The next step:

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00:17:45.719 --> 00:17:49.199
Start making your list.

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00:17:49.199 --> 00:17:54.388
What are the scenic resources within the community?

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00:17:54.388 --> 00:18:00.328
And you can compile a list a number of ways. You have a committee,

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00:18:00.328 --> 00:18:08.699
members can start by doing windshield surveys of the community literally driving around

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00:18:09.719 --> 00:18:14.969
and identifying and noting location of at least candidates

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00:18:14.969 --> 00:18:18.419
for scenic resource protection within the community.

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One community I know of actually had a very successful bus tour

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here in the Finger Lakes region.

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And that was sort of interesting because you had

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00:18:30.898 --> 00:18:37.078
20 people literally together, 20 sets of eyes looking at the landscape.

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00:18:38.548 --> 00:18:42.239

And on the bus, as they drive, stop, drive,

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00:18:42.239 --> 00:18:47.519
literally developing a consensus amongst themselves of,

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00:18:47.519 --> 00:18:52.709
"Hey, that looks really important. Hey, that may not be so important."

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00:18:52.709 --> 00:18:55.769
Okay, and then there's

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00:18:55.769 --> 00:19:02.398
the typical public nomination process, which can either be mail-in,

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00:19:02.398 --> 00:19:14.669
it can be through an online survey or photo submissions of what local residents believe to be important scenic access or scenic resources. I'm sorry.

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00:19:14.669 --> 00:19:17.729
And again, it's a way of compiling

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00:19:17.729 --> 00:19:21.568
the information from the community.

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00:19:21.568 --> 00:19:24.749
And also community forums.

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00:19:24.749 --> 00:19:32.219
Particularly if they're more informal, I think, walk-in forums where residents can come in and look at maps,

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00:19:32.219 --> 00:19:35.729
talk about it and point out what they believe

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to be important, scenic resources.

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00:19:39.689 --> 00:19:43.828
And again, you can have a sticker map where people literally post

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00:19:43.828 --> 00:19:47.398
their nominations

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00:19:47.398 --> 00:19:53.308
right there on the map.

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00:19:54.509 --> 00:19:58.979
We've got the list; then the next question is, how do we determine.

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00:19:58.979 --> 00:20:02.098
the scenic resources that

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00:20:02.098 --> 00:20:08.699
are most important,t would net the community the most benefit if protected,

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00:20:11.249 --> 00:20:14.909
and thus should be prioritized for protection

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00:20:14.909 --> 00:20:20.608
as part of a long term scenic resource protection program.

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00:20:20.608 --> 00:20:23.848
And this is why we've been.

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00:20:23.848 --> 00:20:31.078
We've developed numerical ranking, a numerical ranking process.

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00:20:31.078 --> 00:20:34.288
To really help the community

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00:20:34.288 --> 00:20:37.709
to prioritize scenic resources

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00:20:37.709 --> 00:20:42.719
for protection in a relatively objective way.

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00:20:42.719 --> 00:20:45.778
That also during the process

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00:20:45.778 --> 00:20:50.489
create a stronger consensus for

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00:20:50.489 --> 00:20:57.689
protection. Some of the

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00:20:57.689 --> 00:21:00.689
of factors that we use

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00:21:02.249 --> 00:21:05.308
to rank or prioritize particular

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00:21:05.308 --> 00:21:09.028
parcels of land or landscape for protection.

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00:21:09.028 --> 00:21:13.048
One of the key ones is visibility.

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00:21:13.048 --> 00:21:18.719
How visible is a particular scenic resource and what

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00:21:18.719 --> 00:21:22.979
is in terms of the size of the audience

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00:21:22.979 --> 00:21:28.199
for a particular scenic resource? And again, the logic here is

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00:21:28.199 --> 00:21:33.269
the larger the number of people who benefit

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00:21:34.409 --> 00:21:40.348
from the enjoyment of the scenic resource, the more important it should be in the community.

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00:21:40.348 --> 00:21:45.028
So some of the tools we use are traffic volume data.

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00:21:45.028 --> 00:21:48.808
A visitor data from parks.

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00:21:48.808 --> 00:21:53.848
And historic sites says get at least.

234
00:21:53.848 --> 00:22:07.318
An idea of the relative number of visitors, or viewers of a particular scenic resource and again, it may not be an exact number, but at least lets us

235
00:22:07.318 --> 00:22:11.398
compare scenic resources

236
00:22:11.398 --> 00:22:15.088
in terms of the number of viewers they might have.

237
00:22:15.088 --> 00:22:19.499
Okay, , then there's.

238
00:22:19.499 --> 00:22:24.479
one issue though, I want a caveat I should say about this is.

239
00:22:26.459 --> 00:22:33.898
In some communities, we got the interstate highways. 87 in particular (the Thruway).

240
00:22:33.898 --> 00:22:40.138
But there's also the Palisade Interstate Parkway and Taconic state parkway.

241
00:22:40.138 --> 00:22:46.558
And these actually raise an interesting question, because they are very high volume highways.

242
00:22:48.118 --> 00:22:53.219
But one of the decisions that a community has to make is.

243
00:22:54.598 --> 00:22:59.759
Yes, many many people might see a particular scenic resource.

244
00:22:59.759 --> 00:23:03.118
But are those people community members?

245
00:23:03.118 --> 00:23:06.749
Or are they simply travelers through the community?

246
00:23:07.798 --> 00:23:16.019
Of course, will enjoy the scenic resource, but does the community want to expend resources

247
00:23:16.019 --> 00:23:22.318
to protect the particular scenic resources along 87?

248
00:23:22.318 --> 00:23:29.009
Or the parkways? Or does it want to to allocate scarce resources

249
00:23:29.009 --> 00:23:32.159
to protecting the views

250
00:23:32.159 --> 00:23:37.138
that are enjoyed by community members and visitors to the community itself?

251
00:23:37.138 --> 00:23:41.308
So that's a question. .

252
00:23:41.308 --> 00:23:47.009
Another measure is the duration of the view.

253
00:23:47.009 --> 00:23:51.989
An example, in this particular photograph,

254
00:23:51.989 --> 00:23:56.878
there's about, there's well, over 1000 feet of

255
00:23:56.878 --> 00:24:01.378
which is actually a secondary county road for which

256
00:24:01.378 --> 00:24:05.128
this particular view of Apple orchards

257
00:24:05.128 --> 00:24:08.699
And the distant Oak Hill

258
00:24:08.699 --> 00:24:12.239
are visible . So

259
00:24:12.239 --> 00:24:16.108
the public using this particular roadway

260
00:24:16.108 --> 00:24:19.259
actually has a substantial amount of time

261
00:24:19.259 --> 00:24:24.388
to both recognize the scenic view, and also to enjoy it.

262
00:24:26.489 --> 00:24:29.729
Anything less than 400 feet

263
00:24:29.729 --> 00:24:33.509
is considered sort of the

264
00:24:33.509 --> 00:24:40.108
minimum distance where somebody's traveling at 40, 50 miles per hour

265
00:24:41.459 --> 00:24:45.628
can recognize the scenic view and then actually have time to enjoy it.

266
00:24:45.628 --> 00:24:48.808
So, road frontage

267
00:24:48.808 --> 00:24:56.429
less than 400 feet certainly don't want to reject such a parcel of land.

268
00:24:56.429 --> 00:25:02.608
But really, you want to get more priority to parcels of land where the motoring public,

269
00:25:02.608 --> 00:25:10.888
Bicycling public, have a much longer timeframe to actually enjoy the view. So that's where

270
00:25:10.888 --> 00:25:14.128
Again, the frontage on a public highway

271
00:25:14.128 --> 00:25:19.798
or even a publicly visible or accessible river, like the Hudson River.

272
00:25:19.798 --> 00:25:23.848
or stream shoreline. Another

273
00:25:23.848 --> 00:25:27.449
way of prioritizing

274
00:25:27.449 --> 00:25:34.679
land for protection - proximity.

275
00:25:34.679 --> 00:25:39.449
Proximity to existing public parks and preserves.

276
00:25:39.449 --> 00:25:46.409
Land Trust parks and preserves or land already protected by conservation easements

277
00:25:46.409 --> 00:25:49.409
is another factor to take into account.

278
00:25:49.409 --> 00:25:53.189
In prioritizing parcels of land.

279
00:25:53.189 --> 00:25:58.588
This proximity

280
00:25:58.588 --> 00:26:03.989
can enhance the protection of already existing protected lands.

281
00:26:03.989 --> 00:26:08.909
It can also create a critical mass of protected areas

282
00:26:08.909 --> 00:26:13.558
, particularly when you're applying things like conservation easement.

283
00:26:13.558 --> 00:26:17.338
You're protecting the much larger landscape

284
00:26:17.338 --> 00:26:22.739
when you can create these critical masses of protected lands.

285
00:26:23.969 --> 00:26:27.538
And also preserve the scenic continuity between

286
00:26:27.538 --> 00:26:31.378
parcels of land. Okay.

287
00:26:31.378 --> 00:26:36.328
I threw up the view from the front porch of Olana.

288
00:26:36.328 --> 00:26:40.648
Okay, which is very interesting.

289
00:26:40.648 --> 00:26:45.269
In that, in some cases, we sort of have lost

290
00:26:46.348 --> 00:26:49.528
specific scenic viewsheds from Olana.

291
00:26:49.528 --> 00:26:54.689
But at the same time, there's more recognition of the importance of protecting

292
00:26:54.689 --> 00:26:58.138
not just the land immediately around Olana

293
00:26:58.138 --> 00:27:04.528
State Historic site, but lands across the Hudson River.

294
00:27:04.528 --> 00:27:09.028
The hillsides across the Hudson River.

295
00:27:09.028 --> 00:27:14.489
The hills, the lands within the viewsheds to the south of Olana.

296
00:27:14.489 --> 00:27:18.778
So this is what we mean by proximity.

297
00:27:18.778 --> 00:27:24.689
Not just protecting the viewshed, but also protecting other

298
00:27:24.689 --> 00:27:27.868
scenic resources in the process.

299
00:27:30.449 --> 00:27:35.189
And ecological resources are another factor.

300
00:27:35.189 --> 00:27:39.298
And it's not just the fact that we're protecting

301
00:27:39.298 --> 00:27:44.159
the resource itself, whether it's an aquatic habitat,

302
00:27:44.159 --> 00:27:48.328
upland habitat woodland,

303
00:27:48.328 --> 00:27:55.709
vegetative habitat, but streams, wetlands, and lakes often indicate

304
00:27:55.709 --> 00:28:00.598
a diverse and visually appealing environment

305
00:28:00.598 --> 00:28:04.979
for the viewer. In this case

306
00:28:04.979 --> 00:28:12.028
there's in a number of locations the highway is right adjacent to Rondout creek.

307
00:28:12.028 --> 00:28:19.259
Okay, that is an appealing landscape and this is also where, and.

308
00:28:19.259 --> 00:28:22.558
Example of where frontage

309
00:28:22.558 --> 00:28:29.398
Along the waterway can be an important factor in prioritizing land for protection.

310
00:28:29.398 --> 00:28:36.479
Large tracks woodland, not only provide critical wildlife and plant habitat

311
00:28:36.479 --> 00:28:41.159
but also contribute greatly to the scenic quality

312
00:28:41.159 --> 00:28:49.288
of the landscape. Agricultural land

313
00:28:49.288 --> 00:28:57.298
is a defining feature of the Hudson River Valley, but it also creates these macro or panoramic view sheds

314
00:28:57.298 --> 00:29:03.479
throughout the Valley, and thus contribute greatly to the scenic view,

315
00:29:03.479 --> 00:29:11.459
beauty of the region. Historic sites

316
00:29:11.459 --> 00:29:16.528
are an integral part of a community's scenic character.

317
00:29:16.528 --> 00:29:20.098
And properties next to historic sites

318
00:29:20.098 --> 00:29:25.318
have value in protecting the integrity of landscape

319
00:29:25.318 --> 00:29:29.788
surrounding the historic sites.

320
00:29:29.788 --> 00:29:35.098
There's lists, of course, official

321
00:29:35.098 --> 00:29:38.878
list sof historic sites in either a local

322
00:29:38.878 --> 00:29:43.318
A state or the national registry of historic places.

323
00:29:43.318 --> 00:29:48.659
But they do not have to be on any sort of official list.

324
00:29:50.128 --> 00:29:55.138
If a particular structure is important to the community,

325
00:29:56.729 --> 00:30:03.088
then it would qualify as distinct scenic resource, regardless of any official status it may have.

326
00:30:03.088 --> 00:30:07.138
Or may not have.

327
00:30:07.138 --> 00:30:13.048
Riparian frontage - another factor that we use.

328
00:30:13.048 --> 00:30:18.088
And because riparian shorelines in themselves to be visible

329
00:30:18.088 --> 00:30:27.028
and valued scenic resources, but they can also be highly valued building sites for homes.

330
00:30:27.028 --> 00:30:30.239
And thus are vulnerable to development.

331
00:30:30.239 --> 00:30:35.638
And the development of riparian shorelines

332
00:30:35.638 --> 00:30:41.459
can result in the introduction of discordant structures.

333
00:30:42.628 --> 00:30:45.868
And the degradation of scenic quality.

334
00:30:45.868 --> 00:30:49.949
And finally,

335
00:30:49.949 --> 00:30:56.068
development of the shoreline can also result in the disruption of habitat,

336
00:30:56.068 --> 00:31:02.278
Floodplains, and wetland ecology. So it's that added benefit:

337
00:31:02.278 --> 00:31:05.999
in addition to Scenic resource protection,

338
00:31:05.999 --> 00:31:09.298
we're also protecting the ecology

339
00:31:09.298 --> 00:31:13.078
of the shoreline.

340
00:31:15.568 --> 00:31:20.278
Steep slopes are both scenic assets

341
00:31:20.278 --> 00:31:25.979
in a community, but also as with the case of waterfronts,

342
00:31:25.979 --> 00:31:33.449
attractive development sites and so particularly slopes of 10% or greater

343
00:31:33.449 --> 00:31:39.088
Are where you also get the greater visual impacts of developments.

344
00:31:39.088 --> 00:31:44.368
And this can be in the form of excessive woodland clearing

345
00:31:45.538 --> 00:31:48.659
and oversized structures and

346
00:31:48.659 --> 00:31:52.888
they can have a significant negative impact.

347
00:31:52.888 --> 00:32:00.358
Slope is one of those factors that we can use for prioritizing

348
00:32:00.358 --> 00:32:05.489
land for protection. And then finally,

349
00:32:05.489 --> 00:32:12.358
parcel size.

350
00:32:12.358 --> 00:32:19.409
Parcel size is important, because essentially

351
00:32:19.409 --> 00:32:22.409
the most efficient way to protect

352
00:32:22.409 --> 00:32:27.659
the landscape is to focus on a larger parcels of land

353
00:32:27.659 --> 00:32:35.878
within the landscape. You get essentially a much more bang for your buck, the public dollar

354
00:32:35.878 --> 00:32:39.898
when you can protect large parcels of land.

355
00:32:39.898 --> 00:32:44.489
As opposed to protecting multiple small parcels.

356
00:32:44.489 --> 00:32:49.348
Because the multiple small parcels may be also more expensive.

357
00:32:49.348 --> 00:32:53.189
But it's more difficult

358
00:32:53.189 --> 00:32:59.159
to negotiate with multiple landowners than to negotiate with one land owner.

359
00:32:59.159 --> 00:33:05.848
So we like to emphasize or give priority to larger parcels of land

360
00:33:05.848 --> 00:33:10.709
in our methodology and then

361
00:33:10.709 --> 00:33:14.878
finally development pressure

362
00:33:14.878 --> 00:33:20.398
is another factor. And this can be determined through

363
00:33:20.398 --> 00:33:24.659
basic analysis of census

364
00:33:24.659 --> 00:33:29.818
data for, let's say, for the last 2 or 3 decades to

365
00:33:29.818 --> 00:33:34.528
determine how rapidly or how much the community

366
00:33:35.878 --> 00:33:42.479
has been growing. One of the manifestations of population growth is, of course

367
00:33:42.479 --> 00:33:49.169
homes, new homes and so one of the factors we can use is

368
00:33:49.169 --> 00:33:54.808
the number of homes within a specified specific distance

369
00:33:56.219 --> 00:34:00.479
of a parcel land that's a candidate for protection.

370
00:34:02.189 --> 00:34:09.179
What is the land on the parcel and the surrounding land zoned for? Is it actually zoned for development?

371
00:34:09.179 --> 00:34:13.469
If it is, then that sort of increases

372
00:34:13.469 --> 00:34:17.548
the desirability of protecting that particular

373
00:34:17.548 --> 00:34:26.608
scenic resource. Is the parcel informally utilized already as a scenic open space resource?

374
00:34:26.608 --> 00:34:32.009
That indicates that it has value

375
00:34:32.009 --> 00:34:36.958
in the eyes of the public as a public resource.

376
00:34:36.958 --> 00:34:43.498
The map here is one from actually the Finger Lakes region that I wanted to point out.

377
00:34:43.498 --> 00:34:51.719
But in this particular scenic resource inventory, we actually tracked,

378
00:34:51.719 --> 00:34:56.219
using satellite imagery, literally

379
00:34:56.219 --> 00:35:00.688
each individual new home, business,

380
00:35:00.688 --> 00:35:06.389
et cetera that has been built in this particular region

381
00:35:06.389 --> 00:35:11.759
between 1994 and 2019 or a 25-year period.

382
00:35:11.759 --> 00:35:20.398
Ok, we're taking advantage of the fact that yes, we now have a quarter century of satellite imagery.

383
00:35:20.398 --> 00:35:25.858
That we can now use to literally track the development of

384
00:35:25.858 --> 00:35:32.099
literally individual homes within a region. And you know what this map shows is

385
00:35:32.099 --> 00:35:37.048
in the northern part of the study area

386
00:35:37.048 --> 00:35:40.409
there has actually been substantial development.

387
00:35:40.409 --> 00:35:45.418
But more importantly to us was the also the amount of development

388
00:35:45.418 --> 00:35:51.599
along the lake shoreline. Okay, so this was a map that we've used

389
00:35:51.599 --> 00:35:57.929
as a tool to help us identify where the development pressures are,

390
00:35:57.929 --> 00:36:03.869
to permit a prioritization of lands within

391
00:36:03.869 --> 00:36:08.518
the study area. So,

392
00:36:09.898 --> 00:36:15.059
we have those factors. Now, it comes down to actually ranking the parcels.

393
00:36:15.059 --> 00:36:19.498
And again, I want to emphasize again, each community is unique.

394
00:36:19.498 --> 00:36:24.239
And so each of the ranking systems

395
00:36:24.239 --> 00:36:32.188
should reflect the consensus of the community that is putting it together.

396
00:36:32.188 --> 00:36:36.628
This type of exercise is not something that

397
00:36:36.628 --> 00:36:40.918
let's say a community, they can look next door

398
00:36:41.969 --> 00:36:46.318
and use their neighbor's prioritization

399
00:36:46.318 --> 00:36:51.688
Methodology. It really needs to be specific to the community.

400
00:36:51.688 --> 00:36:56.699
Because each community has a unique landscape.

401
00:36:56.699 --> 00:37:02.608
Unique priorities and again, unique capacity to implement programs.

402
00:37:04.918 --> 00:37:08.248
So this is just an example

403
00:37:08.248 --> 00:37:15.958
of a ranking system that we utilize in one of our test communities.

404
00:37:15.958 --> 00:37:20.489
But you see historic sites: 0 to 5 points.

405
00:37:20.489 --> 00:37:25.559
Ecological value: 0 to 15 points.

406
00:37:25.559 --> 00:37:31.619
A higher priority more weight given to ecological value.

407
00:37:31.619 --> 00:37:38.909
And to active farm land, visibility from a public space, such as a public park.

408
00:37:38.909 --> 00:37:47.998
In one case, it was actually literally from the front steps of a particularly significant and very busy public building.

409
00:37:47.998 --> 00:37:51.389

Traffic volume.

410
00:37:51.389 --> 00:37:57.539
A road frontage, proximity to preserve land.

411
00:37:57.539 --> 00:38:03.719
And as I said, parcel size, population density, growth, et cetera.

412
00:38:03.719 --> 00:38:08.188
And slopes, so these

413
00:38:09.539 --> 00:38:14.159
10 attributes. The total score

414
00:38:14.159 --> 00:38:17.250
works out to a 110 points.

415
00:38:17.250 --> 00:38:22.800
This is just an example of

416
00:38:22.800 --> 00:38:26.909
a spreadsheet produced for another community.

417
00:38:26.909 --> 00:38:30.269
And again, you're going to start out with,

418
00:38:30.269 --> 00:38:33.780
in your database of tax parcels,

419
00:38:33.780 --> 00:38:37.650
somewhere around between 1000 and 2000 parcels.

420
00:38:38.880 --> 00:38:44.849
You're only going to be worrying about 100 of those parcels at most.

421
00:38:44.849 --> 00:38:48.150

Probably 50 or less, so.

422
00:38:48.150 --> 00:38:52.320
Because again, many of the parcels are going to be too small.

423
00:38:52.320 --> 00:38:59.880
And so they really get no points. So you could very quickly eliminate most of the properties

424
00:38:59.880 --> 00:39:04.170
within the community. But in this particular test case.

425
00:39:04.170 --> 00:39:08.880
See, we have the ranking number 1 priority parcel

426
00:39:08.880 --> 00:39:14.099
actually scored 95 of the 110 points.

427
00:39:14.099 --> 00:39:17.699
It's also a large parcel, a 180 acres.

428
00:39:17.699 --> 00:39:21.059
And then second, third.

429
00:39:21.059 --> 00:39:24.780
9th rank, We actually went to

430
00:39:24.780 --> 00:39:28.050
the top 20 or 25 parcels.

431
00:39:28.050 --> 00:39:32.550
And they became the list of priority parcels

432
00:39:32.550 --> 00:39:36.690
for protection by this particular community.

433
00:39:36.690 --> 00:39:42.480

Farmland was important in the top parcels.

434
00:39:42.480 --> 00:39:45.809
A parcel size, it's actually interesting, but

435
00:39:45.809 --> 00:39:56.789
180 ,314, 196 acres - those 3 parcels actually total about 700 acres of land.

436
00:39:58.110 --> 00:40:02.909
So, just the protection of those 3 parcels can have a significant impact

437
00:40:02.909 --> 00:40:07.170
on protecting the character of the landscape.

438
00:40:07.170 --> 00:40:12.570
And scenic resources.

439
00:40:14.670 --> 00:40:18.449
Okay, From.

440
00:40:18.449 --> 00:40:22.110
The priority list to

441
00:40:22.110 --> 00:40:30.599
a map, and this particular map, it shows the most important parcels to be protected.

442
00:40:30.599 --> 00:40:36.030
The ones that are shown in red, the first priority parcels.

443
00:40:36.030 --> 00:40:40.889
The mustard color, second priority parcels.

444
00:40:40.889 --> 00:40:44.460
And you can see much of the land.

445
00:40:44.460 --> 00:40:47.610

Many of the parcels within the community

446
00:40:47.610 --> 00:40:53.760
are non priority. Generally they are smaller parcels and they're also

447
00:40:53.760 --> 00:40:57.300
developed parcels. This is a suburban community.

448
00:40:57.300 --> 00:41:03.030
So really a small amount of the land is actually

449
00:41:03.030 --> 00:41:07.949
targeted for protection in this particular exercise.

450
00:41:07.949 --> 00:41:11.190
And in this case.

451
00:41:11.190 --> 00:41:14.699
Ah, the first

452
00:41:14.699 --> 00:41:18.210
priority parcels you can see

453
00:41:19.650 --> 00:41:23.099
right here actually surround

454
00:41:23.099 --> 00:41:28.469
Schunnemunk state park. This parcel is actually across the Valley

455
00:41:29.610 --> 00:41:34.590
From Schunnemunk mountain state park. This parcel

456
00:41:34.590 --> 00:41:39.389
is right on the northern edge of the town, however.

457
00:41:39.389 --> 00:41:44.159

there are significant views from US 9

458
00:41:44.159 --> 00:41:48.300
as it's coming across Storm King mountain

459
00:41:48.300 --> 00:41:52.530
of this parcel, and it's primarily woodland.

460
00:41:52.530 --> 00:41:56.730
And not heavily developed.

461
00:41:56.730 --> 00:42:00.480
And if I forgot to mention, yes, the green:

462
00:42:00.480 --> 00:42:03.539
public and private parks and preserves.

463
00:42:03.539 --> 00:42:13.559
Okay, so we have the priority parcels, the list here, and then the next step is for the community

464
00:42:14.880 --> 00:42:17.940
to determine what the appropriate protection tools are.

465
00:42:17.940 --> 00:42:21.630
And we'll talk about parcel based and area-

466
00:42:21.630 --> 00:42:25.619
and regional based protection measures.

467
00:42:26.820 --> 00:42:31.079
Parcel- based protection. I mentioned it before, but

468
00:42:31.079 --> 00:42:34.380
the primary tool will be the conservation easement.

469
00:42:34.380 --> 00:42:37.829

Which provides perpetual protection.

470
00:42:37.829 --> 00:42:41.219
On all or part of a parcel of land.

471
00:42:41.219 --> 00:42:45.000
However, it does keep it in private ownership.

472
00:42:45.000 --> 00:42:49.409
And through negotiation gets a landowner

473
00:42:49.409 --> 00:42:54.750
certain rights, in terms of what they can do with their land, where they can do.

474
00:42:54.750 --> 00:43:02.219
on the property, and it also does not have to include the entire parcel land.

475
00:43:02.219 --> 00:43:08.070
The conservation easement can be applied very strategically

476
00:43:09.360 --> 00:43:12.510
on just a limited portion of a parcel.

477
00:43:12.510 --> 00:43:18.420
Site plan design standards, primarily for commercial development

478
00:43:18.420 --> 00:43:24.840
along our public highways, they can include things like architectural design standards,

479
00:43:24.840 --> 00:43:30.150
location of parking, landscape screening

480
00:43:30.150 --> 00:43:33.869
for the commercial development, as viewed from the highway.

481
00:43:33.869 --> 00:43:38.400

And also, in some cases are limiting where

482
00:43:38.400 --> 00:43:42.869
the development can occur as a means of protecting

483
00:43:42.869 --> 00:43:49.710
a particular view shed from the highway and then finally subdivision

484
00:43:49.710 --> 00:43:55.170
design standards, and this is an example, I just

485
00:43:55.170 --> 00:44:04.949
wanted to show you, but conservation subdivision design is a very, very effective way of protecting

486
00:44:04.949 --> 00:44:12.449
scenic resources and the character of landscape as well as ecological resources.

487
00:44:12.449 --> 00:44:18.869
And in this example, this local zoning permits 5 acre lots.

488
00:44:18.869 --> 00:44:23.099
Okay, which does protect a lot of landscape however

489
00:44:23.099 --> 00:44:27.449
tt also spreads development out and in this case,

490
00:44:27.449 --> 00:44:31.440
to get the permitted 9 house lots,

491
00:44:31.440 --> 00:44:42.030
we have 4 of them here, although they're in the woods, they're at near the top of the bluff, overlooking the Hudson River.

492
00:44:42.030 --> 00:44:45.750
, so.

493

00:44:45.750 --> 00:44:49.199
These homes could have really

494
00:44:49.199 --> 00:44:54.809
tremendous visual impact.

495
00:44:54.809 --> 00:44:57.869
Due to their location and the amount of clearance

496
00:44:57.869 --> 00:45:02.099
Of the surrounding woodland that they might require.

497
00:45:02.099 --> 00:45:06.570
To go with the conservation subdivision approach.

498
00:45:06.570 --> 00:45:10.800
It permits the developer to pool all the development

499
00:45:10.800 --> 00:45:13.800
up to the top of the hill,

500
00:45:13.800 --> 00:45:20.280
above the bluff bordering in the Hudson River.

501
00:45:20.280 --> 00:45:25.320
And outside the large track of mature woodland

502
00:45:25.320 --> 00:45:29.400
along the Hudson river and

503
00:45:29.400 --> 00:45:34.019
you can protect the woodland and the Hudson River shoreline

504
00:45:34.019 --> 00:45:40.590
through a conservation easement, and including a conservation easement that protects.

505

00:45:40.590 --> 00:45:44.280
the existing historic green sward,

506
00:45:44.280 --> 00:45:49.440
from the mansion now, an institutional use

507
00:45:49.440 --> 00:45:54.300
at the top of the hill. So this is very parcel specific.

508
00:45:54.300 --> 00:46:00.510
In terms of area, regional approaches.

509
00:46:02.699 --> 00:46:06.510
Up to date comprehensive plans are critical.

510
00:46:06.510 --> 00:46:10.079
Because in the comprehensive plan, you can identify

511
00:46:10.079 --> 00:46:17.190
the scenic resources and identify protective measures for the public record.

512
00:46:17.190 --> 00:46:20.730
The next step is appropriate zoning.

513
00:46:20.730 --> 00:46:25.079
That channels, intense development away from

514
00:46:25.079 --> 00:46:29.219
open space resources and scenic resources.

515
00:46:29.219 --> 00:46:33.269
And in some cases, the zoning overlay districts

516
00:46:33.269 --> 00:46:39.510
will work, which actually targets specific areas of the municipality

517

00:46:39.510 --> 00:46:46.110
for additional protection, and you can see here, this is in the town of Phillipstown.

518
00:46:46.110 --> 00:46:50.010
Where along the river, they have an extensive

519
00:46:50.010 --> 00:46:56.909
scenic protection overlay district, but they've also focused on protecting the view

520
00:46:56.909 --> 00:47:01.469
from local roads and highways

521
00:47:01.469 --> 00:47:05.219
within the town. Okay.

522
00:47:05.219 --> 00:47:10.889
And then finally other approaches.

523
00:47:10.889 --> 00:47:14.250
Scenic Byway programs.

524
00:47:14.250 --> 00:47:18.000
Bicycle pedestrian paths can actually serve as

525
00:47:18.000 --> 00:47:21.960
spines around which or along which

526
00:47:21.960 --> 00:47:26.969
you can protect critical and space resources and scenic resources.

527
00:47:28.530 --> 00:47:35.130
And finally historic districts and heritage corridors are other tools that can be used

528
00:47:35.130 --> 00:47:38.849
to protect the community's

529

00:47:38.849 --> 00:47:45.989
Scenic resources. Okay. So very quick. And I apologize. Overview

530
00:47:45.989 --> 00:47:49.289
of the topic. However,

531
00:47:49.289 --> 00:47:52.889
you can see on your screen,

532
00:47:52.889 --> 00:47:56.820
The Scenic Resource Protection Guide for Hudson River Valley

533
00:47:56.820 --> 00:47:59.969
has just been published

534
00:47:59.969 --> 00:48:03.989
by the DEC, the Hudson River Estuary Program.

535
00:48:03.989 --> 00:48:08.070
And it is available on the DEC

536
00:48:08.070 --> 00:48:15.329
Website. It fills in the many many gaps I left off in this process.

537
00:48:15.329 --> 00:48:18.570
And it's designed to be a useful tool for

538
00:48:18.570 --> 00:48:24.239
communities to use in the protection of scenic resources.

539
00:48:24.239 --> 00:48:27.809
So, thank you very much. I guess Nate.

540
00:48:28.949 --> 00:48:41.340
Nate Nardi Cyrus: Yeah, thank you so much George. That was really fantastic. I'm going to take the presentation back and share my screen.

541
00:48:41.340 --> 00:48:45.809
Okay, well.

542
00:48:45.809 --> 00:49:00.000
Again, thank you, George for the great presentation. I think that was a great lead up to what I'm going to be talking about next. I want to encourage folks to use the question and answer box. We're going to deal with questions at the very end.

543
00:49:00.000 --> 00:49:09.989
But now that we've heard George's approach and the new guidebook for creating scenic resources inventories,

544
00:49:09.989 --> 00:49:17.010
I want to explore what municipalities have already been doing right here in the Hudson Valley to protect the beauty of their communities.

545
00:49:19.230 --> 00:49:24.090
Okay, so the first town I want to highlight is Putnam Valley in Putnam County.

546
00:49:24.090 --> 00:49:28.769
This is a town of less than 12,000 residents and it's situated

547
00:49:28.769 --> 00:49:40.525
in the heavily forested Hudson highlands region, surrounded by thousands of acres of state parkland, and as well as forest private land, and there's clearly a lot of scenic beauty here.

548
00:49:40.795 --> 00:49:46.974
But, unfortunately, for a long time, there was really no inventory of the important scenic areas in the town.

549
00:49:47.280 --> 00:49:55.679
And so to address this Putnam Valley received a Hudson River Greenway grant in 2018 to create a scenic resources map

550
00:49:55.679 --> 00:50:05.579
that would be a component of their natural resources inventory. And the town commission for the conservation of the environment worked with the Hudson Highlands Land Trust

551
00:50:05.579 --> 00:50:14.730
and they're hired consultant to create a map of scenic places in Putnam Valley, and the areas that are visible from the most important viewing areas.

552
00:50:14.730 --> 00:50:29.550
So, as George was discussing, public input is key. So to determine which areas were the most important, the commission held 2 interactive public workshops, where residents could identify the scenic areas that were most important to them.

553
00:50:29.550 --> 00:50:32.579
The land trust also circulated

554
00:50:32.579 --> 00:50:40.949
an online survey to reach an even larger audience, including those kind of elusive commuters who don't generally participate in public meetings.

555
00:50:43.530 --> 00:50:46.829
So, I'm sorry.

556
00:50:46.829 --> 00:50:47.099
Yep,

557
00:50:47.425 --> 00:50:48.085
so,

558
00:50:48.114 --> 00:50:48.655
,

559
00:50:48.864 --> 00:50:49.585
from that,

560
00:50:50.275 --> 00:50:57.894
So all of the identified scenic areas were then digitized and added to the map as a general reference for the town board, planning board,

561
00:50:58.375 --> 00:51:01.885
zoning board of appeals and any interested residents.

562
00:51:02.304 --> 00:51:10.585
And from that list of areas, the commission selected the most popular views in town, and designated 10 as the top priority areas.

563
00:51:10.889 --> 00:51:21.809
The consultant then mapped all the locations visible from those viewpoints with overlapping visible areas appearing in a darker color on the map.

564
00:51:21.809 --> 00:51:33.090
And that was that analysis. So here is that final map, the numbered stars are those priority, the top 10 priority areas, and the yellow and orange colors

565
00:51:33.090 --> 00:51:36.864
indicate the areas and the landscape that are visible from those points.

566
00:51:37.255 --> 00:51:38.394
And like I said before,

567
00:51:38.394 --> 00:51:39.655
the darker the orange color,

568
00:51:39.655 --> 00:51:51.835
the more areas that that landscape is visible from. And the natural resources inventory report has even more detailed descriptions of all of the scenic areas identified in the map,

569
00:51:52.375 --> 00:51:54.054
including which information,

570
00:51:54.355 --> 00:51:57.085
which areas rather are publicly accessible.

571
00:51:57.235 --> 00:52:04.735
Which is obviously a critical importance to most people. This map was included in their larger natural resources inventory,

572
00:52:04.735 --> 00:52:13.704

which we're going to share and it was subsequently adopted by the town board as the primary information source for the planning and zoning boards.

573
00:52:14.010 --> 00:52:18.510
So, the hope here is that it's better integrated into local planning.

574
00:52:21.085 --> 00:52:21.385
Okay,

575
00:52:21.385 --> 00:52:30.264
so the town of Stanford is a little bit of a smaller rural farming community in central Dutchess county and between 1987 and 1991,

576
00:52:30.264 --> 00:52:30.355

577
00:52:30.355 --> 00:52:33.775
their town board designated 6 locations as critical environmental areas,

578
00:52:33.775 --> 00:52:36.114
where I'm going to use the term CEA.

579
00:52:36.114 --> 00:52:49.344
So CEAs are a tool under the state environmental quality review act, where the planning board must consider how type 1 and unlisted actions within the CEA might affect the characteristics that led to that designation.

580
00:52:51.000 --> 00:52:57.269
So, in the case, though, upper Wappinger was designated to protect hydrology,

581
00:52:57.269 --> 00:53:09.030
water quality, biological and geological uniqueness and, of course, scenic views. And this is a view of Stissing mountain that was identified in the comprehensive plan as one of the reasons.

582
00:53:09.030 --> 00:53:15.030
Why, or I'm sorry, rather this area was included, as one of the reasons why

583

00:53:15.030 --> 00:53:28.585
the CEA should be designated and this came, this image came from that Stanford comprehensive plan and a lot of that source data came from that regularly updated plan. So I just wanted to draw your attention to that.

584
00:53:29.184 --> 00:53:32.844
And while the CEA does not provide regulatory protection,

585
00:53:32.844 --> 00:53:38.875
it just draw the attention of these critical scenic resources to help alert land

586
00:53:38.875 --> 00:53:39.985
use decision makers,

587
00:53:40.255 --> 00:53:41.695
planning board and the ZBA,

588
00:53:41.905 --> 00:53:42.114
,

589
00:53:42.114 --> 00:53:45.025
To areas of particular scenic importance.

590
00:53:47.425 --> 00:53:47.815
Okay,

591
00:53:47.905 --> 00:53:50.335
so getting over to the town of Hyde Park,

592
00:53:50.545 --> 00:53:53.034
that's famous for its history and its scenery,

593
00:53:53.034 --> 00:53:58.494
especially related to the many national park sites and the beautiful Hudson River frontage in this photo.

594
00:53:59.125 --> 00:54:06.204
The town actually regulates activity within a scenic overlay district to maintain the visual aesthetic,

595
00:54:06.445 --> 00:54:08.965
it's really important to the character and the history of the town.

596
00:54:09.300 --> 00:54:22.170
And overlay districts, as George said, provide regulatory protections in addition to the base zoning
districts, and can include entire parcels or just portions of those parcels, depending on how that district
is drawn.

597
00:54:22.170 --> 00:54:34.320
So, Hyde Park's overlay is currently based on the scenic areas of statewide significance or SASS, which is
a designation made by the New York Department of State.

598
00:54:34.735 --> 00:54:49.195
And SASS are mapped and described, and ultimately used by the Department of state to ensure
consistency in the coordination of regulation during state and federal actions within these areas. So
there's no automatic protections

599
00:54:50.034 --> 00:54:54.385
for projects that are only subject to municipal regulation,

600
00:54:54.594 --> 00:55:05.605
unless a community explicitly passes a local law to do this. And Hyde Park and a handful of other Hudson
River adjacent communities have chosen to regulate this area through their zoning code.

601
00:55:05.909 --> 00:55:11.010
The town also regulates lots adjacent to specially designated scenic roads.

602
00:55:11.010 --> 00:55:16.139
And some of the restrictions in this district

603
00:55:16.139 --> 00:55:19.855
include site plan and architectural review,

604
00:55:20.695 --> 00:55:30.054
designated open space, where trees of a certain size must be maintained along certain buffers on scenic
roads, and rural design guidelines,

605
00:55:30.054 --> 00:55:34.135
including minimizing parking, tree clearing, and grading and filling.

606
00:55:34.469 --> 00:55:47.730
Just one example of a code of code there, and here's a map of the Hyde Park SASS, which includes all of the land between the main street that runs through the town and the Hudson River to the West.

607
00:55:47.730 --> 00:56:01.559
So, in partnership with the Hudson River Estuary Program, in Dutchess county planning, the town planning board, used a viewshed analysis to create a new map to better identify the jurisdiction of their scenic and historic overlay districts.

608
00:56:01.559 --> 00:56:16.289
So, this smarter approach is expected to result in some minor changes to the code to exclude parcels that don't have important scenic value and will include new parcels that play a more important role in maintaining the scenic character of the community.

609
00:56:16.289 --> 00:56:28.679
So, you can see how this plays out on the parcel level when we zoom into the map. And the red dash line is the main street that runs through town. And where everything to the west of the line was included,

610
00:56:28.679 --> 00:56:38.699
now, certain parcels are admitted based on the results of the viewshed analysis. Also note some key parcels are now included east of the road as well.

611
00:56:40.590 --> 00:56:47.219
Okay, George talked a little about the town of Cornwall scenic resources inventory in his presentation, but I want to

612
00:56:47.219 --> 00:57:01.320
highlight their overlay districts, too. Ridge protection is a pretty common type of overlay district that is often defined as areas above a specified elevation, but they can be designated in really any way. Cornwall's

613
00:57:01.320 --> 00:57:15.594
overlay district requires that in this area, a minimized structural visibility through choices and recessive building materials and by minimizing tree clearing. And there's also language about replanting native trees when trees have to be cleared.

614
00:57:15.594 --> 00:57:28.525
And I think this is pretty interesting, because these native trees are expected to better mimic the surrounding forest landscape better than many of the exotic landscape species. I think, a blue spruce tree,

615
00:57:28.525 --> 00:57:35.574
if you're familiar with that as this bright blue foliage, and that might stick out in this case, rather than screen.

616
00:57:37.530 --> 00:57:52.050
The Schunnemunk agricultural and scenic overlay district, allows the planning board to require conservation subdivisions, another tool that George talked about, as the primary mechanism to minimize the visual footprint on this portion of the landscape.

617
00:57:54.474 --> 00:57:54.894
Okay,

618
00:57:54.954 --> 00:58:09.594
a more straightforward method of protecting scenery that many people are familiar with is the acquisition of land and conservation easements by government agencies and nonprofits. And these entities can either purchase the land outright to be used as parks or preserves or they can

619
00:58:09.594 --> 00:58:11.005
acquire conservation easements

620
00:58:11.005 --> 00:58:11.965
on private land.

621
00:58:12.715 --> 00:58:25.135
And I'll say it again. I know George talked a little bit about conservation easement, but they allow the landowner to continue to use the land. But with specific restrictions that are that protect the scenic resources on the property.

622
00:58:25.525 --> 00:58:37.405
And this is ultimately enforced by the easement holder. Which is usually the land trust or, the municipality. And when it comes to municipality is protecting their scenery in this way, funding is usually the number one barrier.

623
00:58:39.144 --> 00:58:39.594
So,

624
00:58:39.594 --> 00:58:40.735
in 2007,

625
00:58:40.735 --> 00:58:47.454
the town of Red Hook built off its prior success with open space bonding to create a community preservation fund and more importantly,

626
00:58:48.054 --> 00:59:01.614
the town was able to receive special authorization from the state legislature to hold a referendum and ultimately pass a 2% real estate transfer tax to provide a reliable funding source for land protection projects.

627
00:59:04.289 --> 00:59:14.760
And as a condition of that state authorization, the town created a community preservation plan to define which properties would be eligible for protection.

628
00:59:16.079 --> 00:59:30.150
So, getting a closer look at that plan, it used these data sources to define the scenic resources eligible for protection. So that included certain agricultural lands, recreational resources, areas within the SASS,

629
00:59:30.150 --> 00:59:44.364
the town scenic overlay district, designated scenic roads and other open space priorities and all of these were included in what resulted in about 7,200 acres that were eligible for protection under this category.

630
00:59:44.364 --> 00:59:55.735
Now, other categories included agriculture, water, ecological, and historic resources. And I would argue that all of these really contribute to the scenic character of a community.

631
00:59:58.769 --> 01:00:13.434
So since the creation of the community preservation fund, Red Hook has attracted the attention of local and regional land trusts, who have leveraged the relatively small amount of money generated from Red Hook's tax to protect over 2700 acres.

632
01:00:13.434 --> 01:00:17.905

And that includes a recently acquired conservation easement on this 78 acre orchard

633
01:00:17.934 --> 01:00:30.565
that is clearly a scenic treasure to the community, with these absolutely amazing views from 9G near the village of Tivoli if you're at all familiar with that area. It's just north of the main road that goes into Tivoli.

634
01:00:33.900 --> 01:00:41.489
Okay, so I hope that those examples inspired you to pursue some kind of local action to help protect the scenery in your community.

635
01:00:42.505 --> 01:00:43.164
And if so,

636
01:00:43.164 --> 01:00:44.635
I suggest visiting our program's

637
01:00:44.635 --> 01:00:47.244
Conservation Planning in the Estuary watershed website,

638
01:00:47.244 --> 01:00:48.715
which I've already promoted,

639
01:00:48.715 --> 01:00:50.155
and it's already in the chat box,

640
01:00:50.485 --> 01:00:53.364
and that can get you more information on municipal scenery

641
01:00:53.364 --> 01:00:54.025
protection,

642
01:00:54.235 --> 01:00:58.855
and other types of land protection that can contribute toward protecting natural scenery.

643
01:01:00.175 --> 01:01:09.985
You can also download the scenic resources protection guide that George helped or George produced rather and there's other useful planning resources.

644
01:01:11.460 --> 01:01:15.960
If you're interested more about the SASSes,

645
01:01:15.960 --> 01:01:30.085
you can visit the website from the New York Department of State, and they have some really great in depth descriptions of those scenic resources that are within a relatively small units or sub units of the scenic areas.

646
01:01:30.474 --> 01:01:35.454
And Ingrid again is sharing all these links in the chat. So I encourage you to follow up after the presentation.

647
01:01:37.675 --> 01:01:38.364
Thus far,

648
01:01:38.364 --> 01:01:40.045
I emphasized scenery

649
01:01:40.045 --> 01:01:42.235
protection measures at the municipal scale,

650
01:01:42.715 --> 01:01:45.025
but there's also a lot that can be done at the parcel level,

651
01:01:45.025 --> 01:01:47.875
besides just acquiring land and conservation easements.

652
01:01:48.324 --> 01:01:58.375
The scenic resources guide for planning boards in the Shawangunk mountains that has great visual examples of design practices that could be easily adapted to any community,

653
01:01:58.375 --> 01:02:00.175
looking to adopt scenery

654
01:02:00.175 --> 01:02:01.284
protection guidelines,

655
01:02:01.284 --> 01:02:05.844
or standards as a part of their site plan or subdivision review process. For those

656
01:02:05.844 --> 01:02:18.235
that are involved with land trusts, also a great way to help design conservation easements to protect priority resources. And as a side note, this wonderful guidebook was funded by the National Scenic Byways Program.

657
01:02:18.445 --> 01:02:32.755
Because years earlier, a group of municipal and nonprofit partners from the region has, it had designated a series of beautiful local routes along the Shawangunk ridge as a New York State Scenic Byway and that opened up access to federal funding for projects

658
01:02:32.755 --> 01:02:33.534
just like this.

659
01:02:35.574 --> 01:02:44.155
Okay, if you're more interested in creating new views or managing existing ones, the Hudson River Estuary program just released a new handbook

660
01:02:44.155 --> 01:02:58.164
that helps land owners balance historical, environmental, and anesthetic goals to create beautiful and naturalistic views that are friendly to both people and wildlife. And you can find this resource in the chat, or by visiting our conservation planning website.

661
01:02:58.554 --> 01:03:07.135
I can't emphasize how much of a resource this site really is. So I'm going to continue to beat that drum till the end of the presentation here.

662
01:03:09.385 --> 01:03:19.434
Okay, I know funding is a major barrier to those, looking to create scenic resources inventories and plans and so here are just some potential sources for folks in the Hudson Valley region.

663
01:03:20.094 --> 01:03:32.545
So, of course, the Hudson River Estuary program generally has an RFA for stewardship planning grants, which actually just closed, but they can partially fund natural resources inventories, open space plans, and open space inventories.

664
01:03:32.784 --> 01:03:36.985
And all of these can focus on scenery as one of the main resources

665
01:03:36.985 --> 01:03:48.775
that are assessed. These grants also fund conservation finance feasibility studies, which can allow a community to explore establishing community preservation fund or other financing strategy to help protect land.

666
01:03:50.155 --> 01:03:51.324
The Hudson River Valley

667
01:03:51.324 --> 01:03:55.284
Greenway also has grants available to most communities within the Valley,

668
01:03:55.614 --> 01:03:58.465
and these grants can fund the development of scenic resources

669
01:03:58.494 --> 01:03:59.364
inventories,

670
01:03:59.574 --> 01:04:00.625
scenic impact

671
01:04:00.625 --> 01:04:01.014
review

672
01:04:01.014 --> 01:04:01.855
guidelines,

673
01:04:02.034 --> 01:04:02.934
natural resources

674
01:04:02.934 --> 01:04:03.565
inventories,

675
01:04:03.565 --> 01:04:04.164

open space

676
01:04:04.164 --> 01:04:04.974
inventories,

677
01:04:05.123 --> 01:04:06.414
scenic ordinances,

678
01:04:06.775 --> 01:04:07.105
critical

679
01:04:07.105 --> 01:04:08.155
environmental areas,

680
01:04:08.155 --> 01:04:09.925
and municipal easement programs.

681
01:04:09.925 --> 01:04:17.184
So that covers a lot there, the funding is not quite as generous as Estuary Program grants, but there's a lot that you can work with there.

682
01:04:18.054 --> 01:04:25.855
I also included Climate Smart Communities as a funding source for natural resources inventories that can have a scenery component to them.

683
01:04:27.210 --> 01:04:35.099
And again, bringing up the New York State Byways program that can help leverage funding from the federal government to complete

684
01:04:35.099 --> 01:04:49.650
scenery planning and protection projects, like, what you saw in the Shawangunk mountains and you know, that involves a lengthy process of designated an area but if you're at all interested, you can follow up with the Scenic byway program or our program.

685
01:04:49.650 --> 01:04:58.079
I also want to note that community foundations and local banks might also provide a small amount of funding to help inventory and plan for this type of protection.

686
01:04:59.940 --> 01:05:14.244
Okay, keep in mind that in the absence of funding, or even with it, universities, interns, county planning, departments, local cooperative extension offices, land trust and other nonprofits might be interested in providing other types of assistance.

687
01:05:14.244 --> 01:05:20.934
So, I encourage you to be creative and engage with a variety of partners as you work to protect the beauty of your communities.

688
01:05:22.469 --> 01:05:32.519
So, both in George, and I are really hope that this has helped to inspire you to protect the beautiful places in your community, and that you leave here with some ideas for how you might do that.

689
01:05:33.085 --> 01:05:46.434
So, if anyone has any questions, let's get to the Q and A, and I apologize for not sharing my video this time, but I will do it now, after I click through my presentation.

690
01:05:48.030 --> 01:05:56.070
Give me a quick moment here.

691
01:05:56.070 --> 01:06:02.340
Have I stopped sharing my screen or is that still showing up?

692
01:06:02.340 --> 01:06:06.449
George Frantz: It's still going.

693
01:06:06.449 --> 01:06:12.449
Nate Nardi Cyrus: I appear to be sure I know what I'm going to do.

694
01:06:12.864 --> 01:06:26.905
This will help. Okay, great. So I'm going to stop sharing that Thank you for doing that for me. And I'll be ready to take some questions so I'm going to start out with the Q and A box and we have a question.

695
01:06:27.054 --> 01:06:41.125
Are there any successful, scenic overlays, or? I'm sorry rather scenic ordinances adopted by municipalities in the state. Our town has a scenic road ordinance for the past 15 years and it's never been used by the public or town. I guess.

696
01:06:41.125 --> 01:06:45.474
I'll start saying that from my conversations with Hyde Park,

697
01:06:45.864 --> 01:07:00.715
that actually comes up quite a bit and planning board review and that was part of the reason why they wanted to make their overlay a little bit smarter because they were just having so many small parcels that were coming into the planning board for minor approvals

698
01:07:00.985 --> 01:07:07.525
that they wanted to make sure that they were getting a better focus on an actual important scenic resources.

699
01:07:07.644 --> 01:07:12.295
But George, I don't know if you have any other examples you want to share. George Frantz: Yeah, actually, I know in fact.

700
01:07:13.800 --> 01:07:17.039
In the Keuka Lake region.

701
01:07:17.039 --> 01:07:26.219
Here in the Finger Lakes, it was actually interesting because a town use the scenic resource inventory to stop a cell tower.

702
01:07:26.219 --> 01:07:30.630
There was no adopted law or anything.

703
01:07:30.630 --> 01:07:33.900
But they had the evidence there.

704
01:07:33.900 --> 01:07:38.550
To convince the mobile phone company that

705
01:07:38.550 --> 01:07:44.070
really that was not a good location to place a cell tower.

706
01:07:44.070 --> 01:07:48.360
And, of course, the other thing that helps with

707
01:07:48.360 --> 01:07:51.570
protecting Scenic resources.

708
01:07:51.570 --> 01:07:56.010
Is the New York state environmental quality review process.

709
01:07:56.010 --> 01:08:01.800
Okay, they the town use the scenic source inventory

710
01:08:01.800 --> 01:08:07.619
As part of its SEQR review. Okay so that that's.

711
01:08:07.619 --> 01:08:12.840
I can't, I can think of a few other ones, but that's the most recent example I've had.

712
01:08:12.840 --> 01:08:17.880
Where communities have used scenic resource inventories,

713
01:08:17.880 --> 01:08:21.569
A overlay districts, to effect.

714
01:08:21.569 --> 01:08:33.840
Nate Nardi Cyrus: All right, well, thanks, George, that's an interesting example. Can communities leverage change after municipalities have sold or planned to develop?

715
01:08:33.840 --> 01:08:40.680
i.e., waterfronts? Not sure if I understand that question. .

716
01:08:40.680 --> 01:08:48.810
Maybe you want to try rewording that does that make sense to you George? George Frantz: Is it a case where a municipality may have sold.

717
01:08:50.340 --> 01:08:58.289
A parcel of land I'm not quite sure yet. Nate Nardi Cyrus: Yeah, she's saying that's the, that's the case.

718

01:08:58.289 --> 01:09:05.460
It really, I think depends on what the zoning is in force.

719
01:09:05.460 --> 01:09:12.390
It's really difficult to talk about a specific case.

720
01:09:13.560 --> 01:09:18.989
Yeah, did the municipality action apply any like, deed restrictions on the land to protect

721
01:09:20.100 --> 01:09:32.189
any character, et cetera yeah. Yeah. I mean, I can say in generally that there's ways that municipality, if it's disposing of surplus land

722
01:09:32.189 --> 01:09:38.100
can do it in a manner that, yes, protects scenic resources

723
01:09:40.314 --> 01:09:43.824
in general. Nate Nardi Cyrus: yeah,

724
01:09:43.824 --> 01:09:44.814
those are difficult,

725
01:09:45.265 --> 01:09:48.715
difficult situations and they are extremely local,

726
01:09:48.715 --> 01:09:52.255
so it is hard to comment on them specifically,

727
01:09:52.255 --> 01:09:54.505
but if you want to follow up with George directly,

728
01:09:54.505 --> 01:09:54.864
too,

729
01:09:54.864 --> 01:09:58.375
I'm sure he'd be happy to talk with him about it offline.

730
01:09:58.914 --> 01:09:59.215
Yeah,

731
01:10:00.414 --> 01:10:10.074
you have another question here curious about geology and geological features and where that falls with respect to consideration as a scenic resource in the absence of

732
01:10:10.104 --> 01:10:16.765
in the absence of slope or trees, thinking of the Palisades as an example.

733
01:10:16.944 --> 01:10:27.444
So, I don't know if you've included unique geology in the way you've done scenic resources inventories, George? George Frantz: Not geology per se.

734
01:10:29.939 --> 01:10:35.489
I think the geology is manifested in things like slopes steep slopes,

735
01:10:35.489 --> 01:10:39.899
forested areas and also, of course

736
01:10:39.899 --> 01:10:43.170
in the case the Storm King Mountain exposed

737
01:10:43.170 --> 01:10:53.609
rock and ridge, so I think you can use the, I guess the visual manifestations of geology. Yes.

738
01:10:53.609 --> 01:10:57.119
And, of course the Palisades are,

739
01:10:57.119 --> 01:11:01.529
You know, a century old example where

740
01:11:01.529 --> 01:11:04.560
they were protected because of their geology.

741
01:11:06.414 --> 01:11:06.805

Nate Nardi Cyrus: Yeah,

742
01:11:08.484 --> 01:11:08.755
yeah,

743
01:11:08.755 --> 01:11:23.545
and I think it brings up a good example if there's an absence of slope or tree, forest data, that's something that a natural resources inventory you can go to other sources and try to find those and and really be flexible with

744
01:11:23.545 --> 01:11:36.444
what you incorporate into one of these analyses based on what's available for your community. And if you have a notable geological feature, like some kind of interesting out crop that is important to your town that should be noted

745
01:11:36.444 --> 01:11:47.694
and incorporated. As George was saying, you know, these aren't, you can't have too much of a cookbook design here. It has to be a community lead process. Yeah, we have another question.

746
01:11:48.414 --> 01:11:58.314
This is to George, do you ever use GIS based viewshed analysis as a part of your prioritization analysis? And if not is there a specific reason?

747
01:11:58.375 --> 01:12:09.384
And I'm assuming he's referring to using things like Lidar and trying to have tools that generate what areas are visible on the landscape. George: Yeah, actually.

748
01:12:10.350 --> 01:12:16.260
I haven't used GIS

749
01:12:16.260 --> 01:12:26.250
for visual analysis, primary visual impact analysis, but yeah, that is one of the tools that can be utilized in the mapping phase

750
01:12:26.250 --> 01:12:30.359
of any scenic resource inventory.

751
01:12:30.359 --> 01:12:42.659

I forget if that actually, was that what was used in the Putnam Valley example? Nate Nardi Cyrus: Yeah. That is what was used in Putnam Valley.

752
01:12:42.659 --> 01:12:47.939
George Frantz: Yeah, so it's actually a spot to start from.

753
01:12:47.939 --> 01:12:51.720
And then you can go on and decide whether or not the areas that

754
01:12:51.720 --> 01:12:56.819
identified using the GIS analytical goals,

755
01:12:56.819 --> 01:13:01.199
 what would they actually score?

756
01:13:01.555 --> 01:13:01.765
So,

757
01:13:01.765 --> 01:13:02.034
Yeah.

758
01:13:03.744 --> 01:13:07.765
Nate Nardi Cyrus: and I will say that this, the method that George has highlighted is,

759
01:13:07.765 --> 01:13:08.034
you know,

760
01:13:08.034 --> 01:13:12.175
if there's someone on your town board or a volunteer,

761
01:13:12.175 --> 01:13:13.435
that has some experience with GIS

762
01:13:14.005 --> 01:13:23.125
and maybe doesn't feel as comfortable using a more sophisticated tool, this is somewhat of an easier analysis to undertake as is,

763
01:13:23.545 --> 01:13:23.725
you know,

764
01:13:23.725 --> 01:13:27.805
the prioritization using, integrating it into the prioritization.

765
01:13:27.805 --> 01:13:38.454
So I guess those are some reasons, but a viewshed analysis using GIS is a very accurate way to do that. George Frantz:. Yes. It's very accurate.

766
01:13:44.489 --> 01:13:48.359
Nate Nardi Cyrus: Okay, let me just look through a little bit more.

767
01:13:48.359 --> 01:13:53.609
I just want to make sure that chat see.

768
01:13:55.800 --> 01:14:06.899
And we may not have any more questions, but I will give everyone a last chance. We're coming up at the end of our time slot here. So I want to make sure that you all get out at a reasonable time.

769
01:14:09.024 --> 01:14:17.574
Okay, well, I'll give people one last chance, but just while we finish up, I just want to thank everyone for attending again.

770
01:14:17.994 --> 01:14:30.864
We'll be sending a follow up email later in the week with information from today's webinar and that includes PowerPoints, resources from the chat, which I know there were a lot of, and a link to reporting. So stay tuned for all that.

771
01:14:31.284 --> 01:14:43.104
And I also want to encourage you all to fill out a 3-question survey that pops up as you leave the webinar. And those for you who are seeking municipal training credit again, you're going to receive an automated email from Webex at the end of the webinar.

772
01:14:43.885 --> 01:14:46.824
So, I just wanted to do one last check.

773

01:14:48.449 --> 01:14:52.470
Okay, I guess there's one more question.

774
01:14:52.470 --> 01:14:57.060
Silence.

775
01:14:57.354 --> 01:15:04.675
Have you heard of 2 communities working together to protect viewsheds? I think that's a really amazing question.

776
01:15:05.335 --> 01:15:15.324
I will say that in the example of Hyde Park, a lot of the viewsheds that they identified they did a GIS based viewshed analysis to help inform their overlay district.

777
01:15:15.385 --> 01:15:28.375
They actually took a lot of views from Esopus, which is on the other side of the, the bank and they were very sure that was important to protect the views from the neighboring town and hope that they would do the same when they, what they were doing.

778
01:15:28.675 --> 01:15:32.664
But, I don't know if George has a quick example, because I know people have to start taking off soon.

779
01:15:36.300 --> 01:15:41.819
George Frantz; In the case of Keuka Lake, that was actually 6 towns.

780
01:15:41.819 --> 01:15:47.729
Together, came together to do a regional scenic resource inventory.

781
01:15:47.729 --> 01:15:51.510
Again, you know.

782
01:15:51.510 --> 01:15:59.520
It comes down to implementing and I've been sort of following Hyde Park and yeah, they're, I think a very good job.

783
01:15:59.520 --> 01:16:02.729
So, yeah.

784
01:16:03.925 --> 01:16:18.625
Nate Nardi Cyrus: We have another, another couple of examples, the Scenic Byway program, especially the Shawangunk Ridge, Scenic Byway program that involved all the communities that are a part of the showing the Ridge, and they all participated in that process.

785
01:16:18.864 --> 01:16:28.045
And while it wasn't a prioritization was, they had to kind of agree on important resources and get together to make that project possible.

786
01:16:28.585 --> 01:16:40.704
And also there was a, we had someone in the chat mentioned the town of Blooming Grove and Cornwall did a, an open space inventory together that used a lot of the same data from the resources inventories.

787
01:16:40.704 --> 01:16:46.194
And they worked, their CACs worked very closely together to make that project possible.

788
01:16:46.194 --> 01:16:57.954
So I think intermunicipal projects are great and especially because much like ecology, a scenery doesn't respect municipal boundaries. So it's really critical to

789
01:16:58.229 --> 01:17:08.250
protect the scenery in your adjacent town, if that's possible. George Frantz: And by the way Blooming Grove, actually, there were people from Blooming Grove at our presentation in Cornwall.

790
01:17:08.250 --> 01:17:12.569
Because they are quite interested in, yes, actually

791
01:17:12.569 --> 01:17:19.380
Collaborating with Cornwall or extent expanding the Cornwall scenic resource inventory

792
01:17:19.380 --> 01:17:22.619
To Blooming Grove.

793
01:17:22.914 --> 01:17:37.765
Nate Nardi Cyrus: Great well, thank you again, George, and thank you all for attending. Thank you. We hope to see you all next July or next July, this, July, our next step presentation. So thank you again and and I hope to see you soon take care.

794
01:17:37.795 --> 01:17:40.104
George Frantz: Okay, well Thank you, Nate and.

795
01:17:40.409 --> 01:17:45.960
Thank you everybody for participating and also I just added my email.

796
01:17:45.960 --> 01:17:56.039
To the chat, so welcome any comments, actually any further, I'd be happy to take them so.

797
01:17:56.039 --> 01:18:00.479
Nate Nardi Cyrus: All right, thank you. George. That sounds great. Take care everyone. Okay. Take care.