Dear Interested Party:

On behalf of Governor Pataki, we are pleased to announce the availability of grant applications for several programs that provide funding to protect and enhance New York’s natural and cultural resources and environmental infrastructure. These programs are funded from a variety of sources, including New York State’s Environmental Protection Fund (EPF), the 1996 Clean Water/Clean Air Bond Act (Bond Act), and the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund, made available through grants administered by New York State. Since 1995, nearly $2.9 billion from the EPF and the Bond Act have been invested throughout New York, creating economic renewal and enhancing the quality of life for all New Yorkers.

As in previous years, grant applications for the 2006-07 annual grant cycle will be available for the Parks, Historic Preservation and Heritage Areas System Programs, the Local Waterfront Revitalization Program, the Hudson River Estuary Program, and the Brownfield Opportunity Areas (BOA) Program. All of these programs will accept applications until May 26, 2006.

This year, many grant programs will give consideration to projects that enhance the legacy of the Lake Champlain and Hudson River water corridors in commemoration of the Hudson-Fulton-Champlain Quadricentennial Celebration to be held in the year 2009. The Celebration will commemorate the 400th anniversary of the voyages of Henry Hudson and Samuel de Champlain and the 200th anniversary of Robert Fulton’s inaugural steamboat run.

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, and the New York State Department of State, working in partnership, are coordinating a series of public meetings to provide interested applicants with information regarding the upcoming annual grant cycle, as well as information on other grant funding that is currently available or may be available in the future. Please note that the EPF funding for programs funded on an annual cycle will be available upon enactment of the State Fiscal Year 2006-2007 Budget.

The meetings provide applicants with an opportunity to learn more about the program funding that is available, program requirements and eligibility, and how to complete applications. This year's meetings will also include information on the Environmental Restoration Program (ERP), a brownfield investigation and remediation program that accepts applications on a continual basis, and the New York State Water and Sewer Infrastructure Co-Funding Initiative. The Co-Funding Initiative coordinates federal and state funding for drinking water and sewer
projects to facilitate and optimize funding opportunities from a variety of programs. If you are interested in learning more about these programs, we urge you to attend one of the informational sessions shown on the enclosed schedule.

The projects that are funded through these grant programs help to improve the environment in which we live and work, increasing opportunities for all New Yorkers to enjoy a wide variety of exceptional natural and cultural resources. We welcome your interest and participation. If you have any questions about the significant opportunities these programs provide, please call the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation at (518) 402-9240.

Sincerely,

Denise M. Sheehan
Commissioner
NYS Department of Environmental Conservation

Bernadette Castro
Commissioner
NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation

Frank P. Milano
Acting Secretary of State
NYS Department of State

Enclosure
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION FUND (EPF)  
CLEAN WATER/CLEAN AIR BOND ACT (BOND ACT) and  
LAND & WATER CONSERVATION FUND (LWCF)  

PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETINGS  
March 27 – April 11, 2006  

You are invited to a series of public information meetings regarding the availability of funds for environmental projects funded under the Environmental Protection Fund, the Clean Water/Clean Air Bond Act and the Land & Water Conservation Fund. These funding sources provide assistance towards the cost of many park and environmental programs. State funding is also available for the Brownfield Opportunity Areas Program and the NYS Water and Sewer Infrastructure Co-Funding Initiative. *There is no fee or pre-registration for these workshops.*

Grant applications are available for the following programs. The due date for completed applications is May 26, 2006.

- Parks, Historic Preservation & Heritage Areas System
- Hudson River Estuary *
- Quality Communities
- Local Waterfront Revitalization
- Brownfield Opportunity Areas
- Environmental Restoration

Applications are available and accepted on a continuous basis for: Environmental Restoration

All public meeting locations will include workshops on application requirements and procedures for the following programs: Parks, Historic Preservation and Heritage Areas, Local Waterfront Revitalization, Brownfield Opportunity Areas and Environmental Restoration. Information will also be available from the Quality Communities Program, Department of Agriculture and Markets, the New York State Canal Corporation, and the Department of Environmental Conservation.

* Staff will present workshops on the Hudson River Estuary Program at the New York City, White Plains, Poughkeepsie, and Saratoga Springs meetings ONLY. Staff will present workshops on the NYS Water and Sewer Infrastructure Co-Funding Initiative at all meetings EXCEPT Oyster Bay, New York City, and White Plains.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Meeting Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Meeting Time</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 27, 2006</td>
<td>ELMIRA</td>
<td>1:00 to 3:00</td>
<td>OYSTER BAY</td>
<td>1:00 to 3:00</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Community Rooms at Park Church</td>
<td>208 West Gray Street</td>
<td>Planting Fields Arboretum</td>
<td>Horticultural Center Building</td>
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<td>Planting Fields Road</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 28, 2006</td>
<td>SALAMANCA</td>
<td>1:00 to 3:00</td>
<td>NEW YORK CITY</td>
<td>10:00 – Noon</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Allegany State Park</td>
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<td>Henry Street Settlement Playhouse</td>
<td>466 Grand Street (at Pitt Street)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Camp Allegany facility</td>
<td></td>
<td>and Abrons Art Center</td>
<td>Lower East Side, Manhattan</td>
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<td>Bova Rd off ASP Rt 2</td>
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<td>March 29, 2006</td>
<td>LANCASTER</td>
<td>1:00 to 3:00</td>
<td>WHITE PLAINS</td>
<td>1:00 to 3:00</td>
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<td>Village of Lancaster</td>
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<td>Pace University</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Municipal Building</td>
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<td>Evelyn and Joseph I. Lubin Graduate Center</td>
<td>1 Martine Avenue</td>
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<td></td>
<td>5423 Broadway</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 30, 2006</td>
<td>PENFIELD</td>
<td>1:00 to 3:00</td>
<td>POUGHKEEPSIE</td>
<td>2:00 – 4:00</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Penfield Community Center</td>
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<td>Locust Grove</td>
<td>The Samuel Morse Historic Site</td>
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<td>1985 Baird Road</td>
<td></td>
<td>2683 South Rd (Rt 9)</td>
<td>(intersection Rt 9 &amp; Beechwood Ave)</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 31, 2006</td>
<td>SYRACUSE</td>
<td>1:00 to 3:00</td>
<td>SARATOGA SPRINGS</td>
<td>1:00 to 3:00</td>
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<td></td>
<td>State Fairgrounds</td>
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<td>Saratoga Spa State Park</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Arts and Home Center</td>
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<td>Administration Building</td>
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<td>State Fair Blvd.</td>
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<td>SUGAR SPRING</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Frederic Remington Art Museum</td>
<td>303 Washington Street</td>
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April 3, 2006 1:00 to 3:00
April 4, 2006 10:00 – Noon
April 5, 2006 1:00 to 3:00
April 6, 2006 2:00 – 4:00
April 10, 2006 1:00 to 3:00
April 11, 2006 1:00 to 3:00
Application materials and information may be obtained from the respective agencies by contacting the following:

**Department of State**

Local Waterfront Revitalization
Brownfield Opportunity Areas

New York State Quality Communities Grant Program

NYS Department of State
Division of Coastal Resources
41 State Street, Albany, NY 12231
(518) 474-6000; fax (518) 473-2464
http://www.nyswaterfronts.com

NYS Department of State
Division of Local Government –Quality Communities Program
41 State Street, Albany, NY 12231
(518) 473-3355; fax (518) 474-6572

**Department of Environmental Conservation**

Hudson River Estuary Program
Environmental Restoration Program

Applications are also accepted on a continual basis for Municipal Waste Reduction and Recycling projects, including Household Hazardous Waste Collection, and for Municipal Landfill Closure and Municipal Landfill Gas projects.

NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
625 Broadway, 10th Floor
Albany, NY 12233-1080
(518) 402-9240; fax (518) 402-9230
http://www.dec.state.ny.us

**Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation**

Parks
Historic Preservation
Heritage Areas System

Kevin Burns, Chief of Grants
NYS Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation
Agency Bldg 1, 16th Floor
Empire State Plaza, Albany, NY 12238
(518) 474-0427; fax (518) 486-7377
http://www.nysparks.com

**NYS Water and Sewer Infrastructure Co-Funding Initiative**

Clean Water State Revolving Fund
Drinking Water State Revolving Fund
Appalachian Regional Commission Area Development Program
Small Cities Community Development Block Grant
Rural Utilities Service Water and Wastewater Disposal Loan and Grant Program

NYS Water and Sewer Co-Funding Coordinator
NYS Environmental Facilities Corporation
625 Broadway, Albany, NY 12207-2997
(518) 402-7438 or (800) 882-9721
email: coordinator@nycoffunding.org