Town of New Paltz 52 Clearwater Road, PO Box 550 New Paltz, NY 12561



For Release: Immediately (4/22/20) Contact: Cara Lee – 845-802-4082

New Paltz Outdoors! Please Share Your Favorite Photo

As it develops a new Community Preservation Plan, the Town of New Paltz is looking for input from residents about the open spaces and historic features they appreciate in the community. Photos taken and submitted by residents that capture New Paltz's outstanding natural beauty, recreational opportunities and historic features will complement the New Paltz Community Survey that has been underway since March 15th.

Have a favorite view? Like historic features? Enjoy outdoor recreational activities with your family? Do you take nature shots? Which farm stand says "New Paltz" to you? These are all suggested categories that are eligible. Please send a favorite photo (or two) that you have taken that captures New Paltz's outstanding natural beauty and historic character. Digital photos should be submitted electronically to <u>NewPaltzCPP@gmail.com</u>. A selection of photos will be shared on the Town website, social media and may be included in the new plan. Please indicate the location and who should be credited for the photo.

"People are out enjoying the spring weather and the wealth of outdoor opportunities in New Paltz during this time of social distancing," said Cara Lee, a member of the Clean Water Open Space Protection Commission (CWOSP). "We invite people to share these positive experiences with us through photos, to help the Town create a well-informed plan for the future protection and stewardship of our community's open spaces and historic properties. We are looking for photos of the places people love that make New Paltz such a special place to live," she added.

"There has been a great response to the Community Survey, but we still want to hear from more people," said Ingrid Haeckel, Chair of the Environmental Conservation Board (ENCB). The survey only takes a few minutes to complete and will help us shape the new plan," she added. The survey is available online at https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NewPaltzSurvey. Responses are due by April 30.

Beginning in fall 2019 The Town EnCB, CWOSP and Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) volunteers began to collaborate on a new Community Preservation Plan to identify open space and historic preservation priorities for the future. Recently the Town contracted environmental planner Ted Fink to develop the new plan that will update and integrate the community's open space and historic preservation plans. The new plan will draw on the extensive data and documents the town has developed on natural resources, agricultural and historic properties. A draft plan will be completed by early summer.