



planning for

# Farms, Food & Energy in Central New York

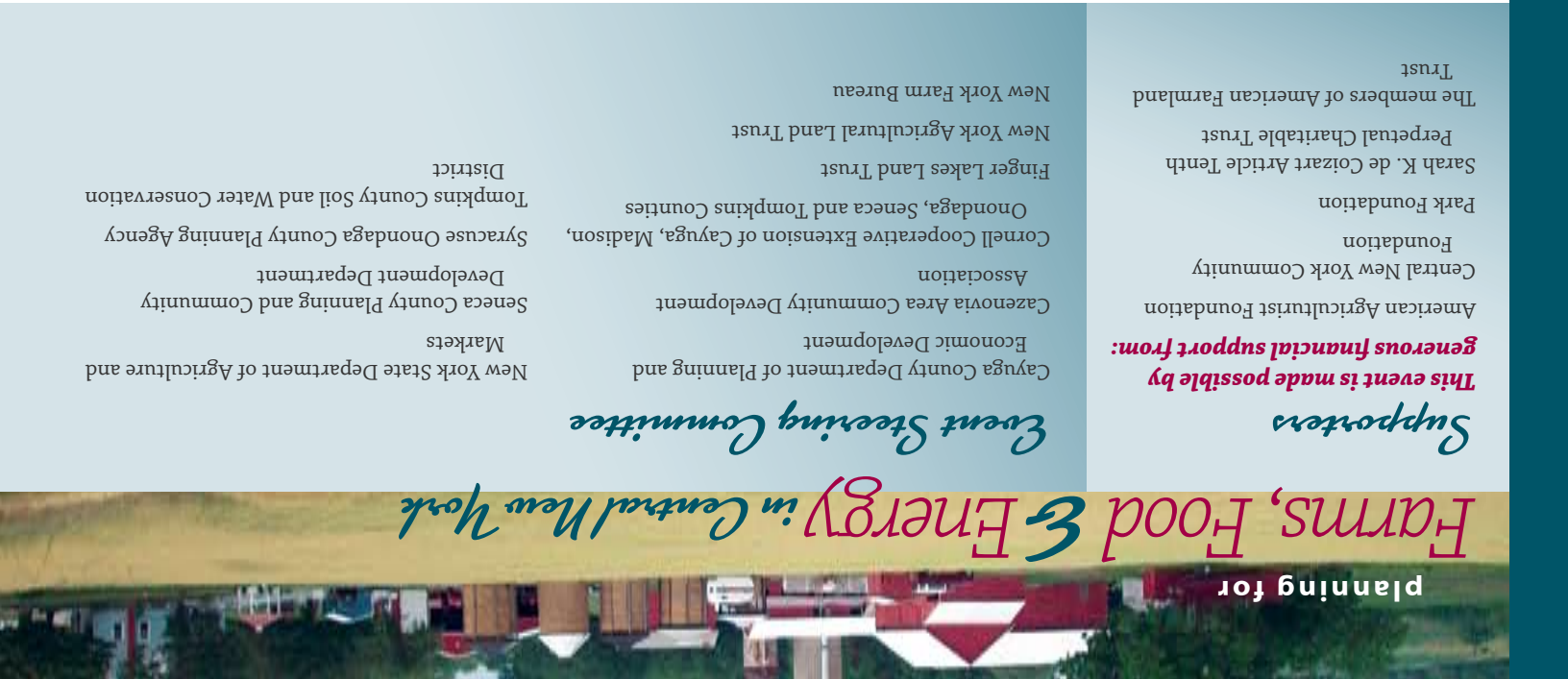
MARCH 25, 2009  
HOLIDAY INN  
ELECTRONICS PARKWAY  
SYRACUSE

## planning for Farms, Food & Energy in Central New York

American Farmland Trust

*Supporters*  
**This event is made possible by generous financial support from:**  
American Agriculturnist Foundation  
Central New York Community Foundation  
Sarah K. de Coizart Article Tenth Perpetual Charitable Trust  
The members of American Farmland Trust

*Event Steering Committee*  
Cayuga County Department of Planning and Economic Development  
Cazenovia Area Community Development Association  
Cornell Cooperative Extension of Cayuga, Madison, Onondaga, Seneca and Tompkins Counties  
Finger Lakes Land Trust  
New York Agricultural Land Trust  
New York Farm Bureau  
New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets  
Seneca County Planning and Community Development Department  
Syracuse Onondaga County Planning Agency  
Tompkins County Soil and Water Conservation District



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# Farms, Food & Energy in Central New York

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# Farms, Food & Energy in Central New York

Farms can generate local jobs and renewable energy while enhancing the environment and producing healthy foods. Join us for a one-day conference that will help community leaders understand the benefits provided by local farms and how towns and counties can take action to support local farmers and protect farmland.

## Directions

**Holiday Inn • Electronics Parkway  
Syracuse • (315) 457-1122**

**From N/S:** Take I-81 Exit 25 (7<sup>th</sup> North St). Go right off exit and follow 1 mile to end.

**From E/W:** Take I-90 Exit 37 (Electronics Parkway). Hotel located across street from exit ramp.

## Schedule of Events • Wednesday, March 25, 2009

8:30-9:00 Registration

9:00- 9:15 Welcome

### 9:15-10:15 **PLENARY SESSION**

Jon Scholl, President, American Farmland Trust, Patrick Hooker, Commissioner, NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets, Paul Beyer, Director of Smart Growth, NYS Department of State

10:15- 10:30 Break

### 10:30-12:15 **MORNING CONCURRENT SESSIONS**

#### **Session 1 • Tools for Planning for Agriculture**

Planning for agriculture means communities place a high priority on the business of farming and proactively create local policies that balance community interests with individuals rights. This session will address the tools in the toolbox that communities can use.

#### **Session 2 • Protecting Water and Agriculture**

This session will investigate ways that farmers and communities can protect water quality, steer infrastructure and non-farm development away from priority farming areas and prevent new development from damaging drainage systems that keep farm fields productive.

#### **Session 3 • Revitalizing Local Food Systems**

Promoting the capacity to produce foods close to home is one way to strengthen local agriculture and keep land in farming. This session focuses on why planning to rebuild a local food system is important and how to initiate the process. Specific county and regional approaches will be highlighted.

12:15-1:30 LUNCH (Buffet with local foods included)

### 1:30- 3:15 **AFTERNOON CONCURRENT SESSIONS**

#### **Session 1 • Farm Friendly Zoning**

Local zoning codes can provide flexibility for modern, dynamic farm businesses to grow and protect a community's best farmland. This session will examine zoning codes and how they may impact the business of agriculture in a community.

#### **Session 2 • Agriculture's Impact on Local Economies and Budgets**

Agriculture is a critical element of New York's economic future. This session will investigate how agriculture fits into local and regional economic development plans and the role that public and private partners can play in working with local governments to expand economic opportunities for agriculture.

#### **Session 3 • Energy Opportunities and Agriculture**

Energy production holds promise as a new market for agriculture. This session will look at emerging energy issues in central New York and their connection with farms and communities.

3:15 Adjourn

## Registration Form

planning for *Farms, Food & Energy in Central New York*

**Wednesday, March 25, 2009 • Holiday Inn at Electronics Parkway • Syracuse**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

AFFILIATION \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

Check enclosed for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ participants.

Make checks payable to: *American Farmland Trust*

**Please indicate your session preference:**

### **Morning Concurrent Sessions**

- Tools for Planning for Agriculture
- Protecting Water and Agriculture
- Revitalizing Local Food Systems

### **Afternoon Concurrent Sessions**

- Farm Friendly Zoning
- Agriculture's Impact on Local Economies and Budgets
- Energy Opportunities and Agriculture

## Register Early

**Post marked By March 11th: \$30.00  
After March 11th: \$40.00**

**Send completed registration forms  
with check payable to:**

American Farmland Trust  
112 Spring Street, Suite 207  
Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

**For more information:**

Judy Wright at (315) 730-4505  
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**American Farmland Trust**