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NEWS from the CWC

For immediate release

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Registration Deadline is Friday for Local Government Day

MARGARETVILLE, October 5, 2009 – There is still space available at the Ninth Annual Catskills Local Government Day, “Climate Change Made Local,” to be held Thursday, Oct. 15 at Belleayre Mountain Ski Center.

Registrations are due Friday, Oct. 9. To see the agenda and register electronically, go to www.cwconline.org. A \$10 fee includes all presentations and workshops, as well as lunch. For further information, call the CWC at 845-586-1400.

The Catskill Watershed Corporation will sponsor the event. Elected and appointed government officials and employees, economic and environmental planners, and interested community members are welcome to attend.

The event will feature presentations on the science of climate change along with discussions of its potential impacts on municipal and community infrastructure and on the economy of New York and the Catskills. Examples of area municipalities that have already taken steps to address flooding hazards and insurance costs, reduce energy use and minimize their carbon footprints will be highlighted.

Members of planning and zoning boards may wish to take advantage of a two-hour training session on “Promoting Climate Protection Through Land Use Tools.” A workshop for town board members, highway department heads and other municipal officials will focus on examining the vulnerability of community infrastructure – from buildings and parks to sewer plants, water systems and street lights. “Green Means Business” will look at how businesses can save money using sustainable practices, and the potential for jobs in the renewable energy field.

The featured lunchtime speaker, Mimi Katzenbach, will explain the Transition Movement by which communities work towards locally-based energy, economic and social systems – not unlike the Catskills of the pre-World War II era -- as a strategy for meeting a future of weather extremes, fossil fuel depletion and other challenges.

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