Downtown Revitalization Initiative

APPLICATION

Applications for the Downtown Revitalization Initiative will be received by the Regional Councils. Applicant responses for each section should be as complete and succinct as possible. Applications should be submitted as Word documents and must be received by the appropriate Regional Council by 4:00 PM on June 1, 2018 at the email address provided at the end of this application. Application guidance is provided in the Downtown Revitalization Initiative Guidebook found on the ORI website at www.ny.gov/dri.

BASIC INFORMATION

Regional Economic Development Council (REDC) Region: Mid-Hudson Valley Municipality

Name: Town of Pine Plains

Downtown Name: Downtown Pine Plains

County Name: Dutchess County

Vision for Downtown. Provide a brief statement of the municipality's vision for downtown revitalization.

Our vision for the downtown revitalization of Pine Plains revolves around bringing our Town Hall back into the downtown for easy access to citizens and further strengthening ties to the community-as well as increasing housing that is affordable and desirable while also accommodating for small new businesses and preserving the businesses and historic buildings that make Pine Plains one of the few walkable towns left in Dutchess County or anywhere. The current renovation of Memorial Hall into a concert-and-arts venue by a consortium of business owners here in the center of town will bring new people to Pine Plains. We envision a complex set of trails weaving throughout the town following the old rail-beds, and sidewalks and a huge park for walking and biking around this walkable town. All in all, we envision bringing Pine Plains back to its walkable and historic glory while also keeping it the close and compassionate place it has always been.

JUSTIFICATION

Provide an overview of the downtown area nominated for the ORI program, highlighting the area's defining characteristics and the reasons for its selection. Explain why the downtown is ready for Downtown Revitalization Initiative (ORI) investment, and how that investment would serve as a catalyst to bring about revitalization.

Downtown Pine Plains is totally walkable. Two feet or wheels will take you to the grocery store, the bank, a French restaurant, a coffeehouse/diner, a Mexican restaurant, a beer garden and pizza parlor, a barber, a feed store, a pharmacy, a doctor's office and the local veterinarian (who also handles large animals!). Still within walking distance is a fine wine store, the Veterans Services, 4 churches, a fine furniture maker, and the middle/high school. We have worked in the past with County Planning and the PDCTC (Poughkeepsie-Dutchess County Development Council to draw up plans
for improved sidewalks throughout town for neighborhood access to downtown, as well as an improved downtown "landscape" to make it visually more beautiful. These plans are all ready to implement. Our recently finished Trails Report resulted in a map of all the rail-beds crossing through town and a plan for gaining access to this land as part of a trails network we'd like to implement as well. That resolution passed and is ready to go. In addition, architectural drawings have been made for ideas about building Town Hall in the center of town. Land is being obtained by the town on which to build it right now. This land will also accommodate added municipal parking, which we will need when Memorial Hall opens in 2019. Beside Memorial Hall there is a 21 acre parcel of open field which is owned by the Catholic Church. We dream of obtaining this land for use as a vast public park, with walking trails. There are 4 developers who have expressed interest in developing their land in collaboration with the town. These are the Durst Corporation, which owns the west side Carvel golf course property and environs, about 2000 acres, and hopes to develop an area of second homes; Stissing Farms LLC, which built affordable housing in town but ran into trouble during the Great Recession in building their second phase of 48 units, which we sorely need; a 20-acre parcel owned by the town land surveyor who wants to build; and Dale Mitchell, who owns property at the south end of town and is contemplating a much-needed assisted living development. The town wishes to work with these developers to create the best possible outcome which will be to help us become a sustainable community with an emphasis on accessibility, agriculture, and the arts.

**DOWNTOWN IDENTIFICATION**

This section should be filled out with reference to the list of desired attributes for participation in the DRI as set forth in the *Downtown Revitalization Initiative Guidebook*.

1) **Boundaries of the proposed DRI area.** Detail the boundaries of the targeted neighborhood, keeping in mind that there is no minimum or maximum size, but that the neighborhood should be concentrated and well-defined. Neighborhoods beyond a traditional downtown or central business district are eligible, if they can meet other criteria making them ripe for investment. Attach a map that clearly delineates the area to be included in the downtown revitalization area.

Pine Plains is the second-smallest town in Dutchess County, with a population of 2473. It has one of the few remaining walkable downtowns in the County, offering a grocery store, a pharmacy, a doctor's office, numerous restaurants, a bookstore, a library and recreation all accessible on foot.

Boundaries of the essential downtown area grow out of the center of the town, at our intersection of Routes 199 and 82. (AKA, The Light). To the east, downtown stretches to Sunny Meadows Farm and the end of Factory Lane. To the west, downtown stretches to the New Holland Tractor Company, Wheels of Time, essentially Highway Boulevard just beyond Lake Street. To the north, downtown becomes residential immediately after the municipal parking lot and the American legion on North Main Street. To the south, downtown extends down to the Stewart's at Route 83. This direction sports a Lighting District with historic lighting all the way down from the crossroads.

2) **Description of catchment area.** Outline why the proposed DRI area, or its catchment area, is of a size sufficient to support a vibrant, year-round downtown, with consideration of whether there is a sizeable existing or increasing population within easy reach for whom this would be the primary downtown destination.
Because the downtown of Pine Plains is walkable, because it contains excellent eateries of varying kinds and prices, because it includes our library, our bank, our grocery store, our middle and high schools and our pharmacy, and because of the current renovation of our Memorial Hall into a concert-and-arts venue, the existing template of our downtown is perfect for drawing new people into town from Connecticut to Ulster County, Manhattan to Hudson. We have an expandable municipal parking lot, ample street parking, decent lighting and new sidewalks, with more planned. Residential neighborhoods exist right beside the downtown, making it highly accessible to those who live here. Two new Inns have brought new visitors to our downtown and are located right there as well.

3) **Past Investment, future investment potential.** Describe how this DRI area will be able to capitalize on prior private and public investment, or catalyze future investments in the neighborhood and its surrounding areas.

We hope to be a central part of the Carvel Development Project on the western edge of the Town, gaining both customers for our businesses and participants in town life from second-home owners there. We hope to see the continuation of building at Town Centre, owned by Stissing Farms LLC, where 48 units of affordable housing have been approved by our zoning to be built. Town businessmen are renovating our Memorial Hall to become a concert-and-arts venue, which will enhance life here considerably and draw more people to the town. And the Mitchell property remains vacant. We hope to convince the owner to build much-needed senior housing there.

We need what they are now calling Workforce Housing. We would like to see some of our cheaper housing renovated for the benefit of the occupants as well as the eyes of visitors. We would like to help those owners with this task or help them sell their buildings to people who would relish the work and income.

One businessman has been very instrumental in opening up new businesses in buildings he owns. He has done much for the town in terms of keeping his rent low so that new businesses can come in, thereby bringing our downtown back from the abyss, and he remains committed to Pine Plains.

And we have some new businesses, launched by young entrepreneurs, which are giving us hope. Two young women have opened respectively a feed store and a new Mexican restaurant, which are both very popular and well-run. Two young farmers have returned to their family farm to run a small dairy and make cheese. We hope they all serve to inspire more.

4) **Recent or impending job growth.** Describe how recent or impending job growth within or near the DRI area will attract professionals to an active life in the downtown, support redevelopment, and make growth sustainable in the long-term.

Job growth has been seen most recently in the arrival of Titan Barrel, a company which makes wine and whiskey barrels, owned by Chris Kaye, who grew up nearby. He bought an old warehouse and his brother runs the operation, using recycled oak from flooring to create the barrels. Once they get rolling they plan to employ around a dozen workers. This business is very much in keeping with our Comprehensive Plan as well, as it is primarily an agricultural concern. Ronnybrook Farm, a well-known
dairy enterprise which manufactures cheese, milk, yogurt and ice cream, and Chaselo

milk and ice cream, and Chaselo Farm both employ a lot of farm help, young and old. Whereas these are older businesses, we are seeing a return to the town of young people who want to farm, or learn to, through the World Order of Organic Farmers or just people who grew up here and are now ready to come back. Our restaurants remain big attractions, bringing people to town, and as such are big employers. A young mother recently opened a Feed Store right in the center of town, which caters to dog and horse and goat owners alike, and another young woman opened a Mexican restaurant called El Guacamole, which is enormously popular. And last but not least is the renovation of Memorial Hall, a $5,000,000 project that will become a concert hall, art studio and community venue. This building has been abandoned for years, and with new energy from townspeople, will hopefully attract many to town. The owners are committed to hiring local, and have already employed a few local people to build and make it happen, and they will employ a lot more when it gets up and running, around spring of 2019. Finally, there are numerous opportunities in town for people to buy buildings and turn them into businesses. Town government is promoting that idea.

On the far edge of the town, outside the downtown district, lies the old Carvel Golf Course, bought in 2000 by the Durst Corporation. The town has recently reached out to the Dursts in an effort to collaborate with them on a development project of over 600 second-homes that brings focus and aid to downtown Pine Plains via careful planning, including an emphasis on participating in the kind of town life we offer, and a healthy lifestyle, providing walking and biking trails right into the downtown area.

As regards market analyses, it's difficult to ascertain the truth which probably lies somewhere between our experience and what we are seeing versus what we read in reports and studies. We see a movement towards healthy lifestyles, towards eating good, fresh, organic foods grown by people familiar to us who have a stake in the matter, and we see people moving back here, albeit slowly, having missed the place, or moving here because they realize what it offers in its quiet way. When we look at reports, we see a decline in jobs in Dutchess County, we see small towns losing population to the big cities, we see small businesses losing out to large corporate ones. This is our struggle, to be sure. But we are also seeing something new in Pine Plains. And that is a desire to come home.

5) Attractiveness of physical environment. Identify the properties or characteristics that the DRI area possesses that contribute, or could contribute if enhanced, to the attractiveness and livability of the downtown for a diverse population of varying ages, income, gender identity, ability, mobility, and cultural background. Consider, for example, the presence of developable mixed-use spaces, varied housing types at different levels of affordability, walkability and bikeability, healthy and affordable food markets, and public parks and gathering spaces.

Pine Plains is one of the few remaining walkable towns in the county. More on that below.

But first, the landscape. The physical environment of our area is what initially draws people to Pine Plains. Stissing Mountain is a landmark you can see all the way from Kingston as you cross the bridge, and you can climb the fire tower-preserved by the Town long ago, when the State tried to take it down-and view the Berkshires and the Hudson River Valley beyond. Below the mountain, the Land Conservancy maintains Thompson Pond and its trails which mark the headwaters of the Wappingers
Creek Watershed. This continues into the Buttercup Audubon Preserve, hundreds of acres of meadows and woods in which you can walk. Pine Plains sponsors a Triathlon every year, where people come from
all over to swim, run and bike. The landscape is compellingly pastoral, dotted with farms and farm animals, and the roads are always filled with cyclists in the spring, summer and fall.

The Town itself has been preserved in many ways by remaining small and under-the-radar. Hence, the only chain store we have is a Stewart's. The architecture is a combination of Victorian, federal, Dutch... some mid-century modern, some modular, off in the neighborhoods. Sidewalks run through the downtown and more are desired, so that people might safely walk around at night, and kids can better travel to school. People are always out walking in Pine Plains. Technically, it really is one of the few remaining walkable towns in Dutchess County. You don't need a car to get to the bank, or the grocery store, or the pharmacy, or the doctor, or the Library. Our new Trails zoning will allow for trails to be connected on the old rail-beds with owner permission. But you can see the rail beds as you walk around town: they're everywhere. There is a large field of 21 acres currently owned by the Catholic Church which we dream of being owned by the Town. It is located right in the heart of the downtown, and could be a location for a huge walking park, as well as the septic field for a centralized sewer system, something that would help Pine Plains develop sustainably economically. We also have a small park at the corner of our crossroads where people often sit on benches and take in the sun. Santa arrives here every year to hear wishes in the gazebo. We have excellent ball fields south of downtown, easily accessible by walking or biking, and a beach next to these with a new bathhouse and concessions at Stissing Lake. A boat launch is next to that. Stissing Lake itself is a true gem. People often walk and bike around it, and the road has an almost spiritual effect, passing as it does through the wetlands of Thompson pond, the base and fine view of Stissing Mountain, two lakes (Twin Island and Stissing) and much bird life. Foxes cross it like regular citizens, and they are.

6) Quality of Life policies. Articulate the policies in place that increase the livability and quality of life of the downtown. Examples include the use of local land banks, modern zoning codes, comprehensive plans, complete streets plan, transit-oriented development, non-discrimination laws, age-friendly policies, and a downtown management structure. If policies achieving this goal are not currently in place, describe the ability of the municipality to create and implement such policies.

This section is key to the resilience of Pine Plains over years in which we've endured enormous setbacks, in particular the devastation of the dairy industry, the retrenchment of IBM as the largest employer in the region, and numerous recessions. Pine Plains was, in the middle of the 20th century, the dairy capitol of the northeast. 72 train lines ran through town, and the rail-beds are still here. Political decisions and trends leveled their final blows to the industry in the 1970s, resulting in the ruin of many dairy farmers, who sold their land to weekend city folks. But the place has worked on them now, and many of them have retired up here. That's what happens to people: they come here to rest, thinking their lives are really in the city, then realize what life could actually be, and end up moving here.

So, what we talk about when we talk about quality of life in Pine Plains, is not so much the policies we enact here as it is the habits of being that have been in place here for a hundred years. The town is holistic and interdependent.
It is diverse, because diverse people moved here and made it their home. Immigrants fleeing the pogroms in Russia made their way to Pine Plains and started businesses. African-American families here can trace their heritage back to the post-Revolution era. Many Italian families found their ways here after WWII. And now 20% of our school is Latin American. It is well-known that it's safe to be gay here. (And why is that? Because many of our most active citizens are gay and grew up here, beloved by the town.) The roots of this run deep.

It is kind, because people have easy access to getting to know each other. They meet each other in line at the pharmacy or the grocery store. They get on committees and participate in government. They join the Garden Club, coach for the Recreation Department, come to free Senior events which are a hallmark of the town. They attend Memorial Day and the Ag Fair we hold every year, and Decoration Day, events for which the town rigorously maintains an emphasis on bringing people together, not on making money or selling things.

Pine Plains is a theatre town. The Stissing Theatre Guild was started decades ago to support theatre in the high school, which is a vital event in town. Tri-Arts musical theatre, (which moved to Sharon Playhouse during an upheaval in the 90s, the result of the death of Thomas Carvel and the dissolution of the property by his heirs), used to present state-of-the-mi musical productions, which at times included site-specific productions in the field in town. High school recitals are always packed, regardless of whether audience members have a kid there. Music and drama are indigenous to Pine Plains.

Life in Pine Plains has been preserved by a beautiful, if not poetic, Comprehensive Plan that demands care and protection of the environment as well as the agricultural, rural character of the town. Our zoning is strict in an effort to preserve that character. We are a Climate Smart Community, and have recently applied for a grant to build an EV Charging Station to enhance air quality, promote renewable energy, and lead by example.

We have a strong, award-winning Future Farmers of America association in the school, and liaisons there with Bard College and Dutchess Community College to enhance accelerated study in an effort to reduce college costs to families but also further education. Many of our Seniors are retired teachers, and with their influence, and the town's dedication to its fine Public Library, (the first in Duchess County), education remains a serious commitment by the town. Events at the Library are very well attended. It is easy to join something, to get something going, to participate in life here, to get to know people, to hike up a real mountain or swim in a serene lake, and those things make this a very compelling place to live. When someone dies here, the loss is felt, even by those who may not have known the person all that well.

Lafayette really did sleep here! (At the Stissing House). And we have a very strong and vibrant historical preservation group in the manner of the Nine Little Partners Historical Society to prove it. They have preserved thousands of photographs in conjunction with the Town itself, and these are displayed in a revolving manner at the Graham-Brush house which they also maintain. They open every Saturday in summer, and it is staffed by volunteers. In addition, the town has preserved the oldest law office in the State, the Eno Law Office, a tiny building on Route 82, open during town events. Even the lawyer's old law books are on the shelves there. Down the street, lies the largest grain scale in the county as well. Here people brought buckboards to weigh their harvest. It is still usable. (We dream of
acquiring these buildings and restoring them enough to preserve them as a part of a Walking History Museum).

We are a town of firsts historically: first Public Library in the County, first centralized school district, and first Seed Library in the State, launched in 2013.

Lately, we have taken to creating more policies to live by, in an effort to codify what is so precious about life here, and to address new technologies. We are writing our own Solar Law, have joined Climate Smart Communities, re-started Town Clean-up Day. We have just past a Trails Plan to map and maintain the rail-beds which abound in town, and to lay the groundwork for asking landowners to allow people to use them for walking and biking. We fund a vibrant program for our Seniors which is free to them and a vibrant recreation program with sports both children and adults can play year-round. This local government commitment to people has created a compassionate way of dealing with the problems that come up. Our police department is directed to, and has always been committed to, helping those with drug and alcohol problems, for instance, often because they know the history of a family, where and why the problems began, and helping people actually works better than sending them away. The heroin epidemic was slow to reach Pine Plains, but it has reached us now, and our tradition of stem patience is our main tool for dealing with it. (NARCAN training is attended by huge numbers of people, not because they know an addict, but because as a community, awareness of the problem means you might be able to save a life if trained, and that is a way to contribute).

The quality of life in Pine Plains is preserved not always by policies, but by traditions which have been upheld by its diverse citizenry, many of whom arrived here from another country to find something worth preserving. There is a strong commitment to the town from those who live here.

7) **Public Support.** Describe the public participation and engagement process conducted to develop the DRI application, and the support of local leaders and stakeholders for pursuing a vision of downtown revitalization. Describe the commitment among local leaders and stakeholders to preparing and implementing a strategic investment plan. Identify an initial local lead for the program that will work with outside experts to convene a DRI Local Planning Committee to oversee the plan.

Pine Plains is quite an engaged town. With the election in November of a new Supervisor and two new Board members, the Board has shifted into overdrive to look towards the future in an active, collective, and exciting manner. We work together well, and offer diverse skills which complement each other. Town Board meetings are packed, new volunteers are coming forward for the first time in years, and we have launched a new website and Facebook Page that are bringing more people into contact with local government. We post our Town Board meetings on the website as well, so information is more readily available to townspeople, and the Town Supervisor sends out emails to anyone who joins the list. The Board has also fostered a more active relationship with the Millerton News so that more information is being disseminated there as well. Communication is everything here.

Our town Assessors are the envy of other towns. They are three men in their 70s who've had vital careers in planning and law, and who have helped greatly to keep the town solvent in hard times. They work many more hours than they are paid to do, another example of where support for the town can be found. This is common in our elected officials.
Public support also manifests in buying local. There is a strong commitment to using townspeople whose businesses are here to fix and maintain our homes, and shopping local is almost an obsession with a lot of people, so that the local businesses can remain open. People often shop at the church thrift shop to support the church, not because they need anything, or even attend services there. It's what you do. It's a part of the culture here.

We have reached out to more young people for help as well. Having two Board members under 40 has helped with this, and the new Board has made a concerted effort to engage them and ask for their participation. Our CAC is active and led by another young man, who is also very active on the Planning Board and other committees. Committees are flourishing, especially the Downtown Revitalization Committee, which seeks to achieve an historic designation for the town center, create more walking accessibility, create a Walking History Tour, and attract the kinds of businesses the area can support. We dream of bringing Town Hall into town from its current location about a mile outside. For this, we are working on several opportunities location-wise, to acquire the land to build, or the property to inhabit. In this way, the public will have much more access to the government and the police, which we see as very important to the quality of town life. We get to know people when they come in to pay their taxes, get a permit, attend a meeting, vote. We want to make that easier to do.

Public support manifests in committee membership here, in excited people speaking up at Town Board meetings, emailing their ideas to the Town Supervisor, and starting new businesses. Attendance at the meetings organized by the new Board in order to welcome the Durst Corporation back to the table, and begin collaborating with them on a development plan, has been overwhelming, with over 200 people at each meeting, and we plan to continue these meetings open to all citizens. We also have applied for a Greenway Grant to review our Comprehensive Plan and draw citizen input on any revisions to this already beautiful document. This will require many town-wide meetings over the course of the review. We have found that getting people to attend events at our Community Center has been an excellent way to educate and inform townspeople and to gather support for our work. Then re-iterating what was said via Facebook and our website helps to cement it in people's minds. Inclusion is everything in Pine Plains. It is survival.

8) **Project List to Demonstrate Readiness:** Describe opportunities to build on the strengths described above by providing a list of transformative projects that will be ready for implementation with an infusion of ORI funds within the first one to two years (depending on the scope and complexity of the project) and which may leverage ORI funding with private investment or other funds. Such projects could address economic development, transportation, housing, and community development needs. While such projects should have demonstrated public support, it is recognized that projects will ultimately be vetted by the Local Planning Committee and the State. Explain how most projects proposed for ORI funding demonstrate their readiness for implementation.

- Implementation of the Pine Plains Town Center Pedestrian Plan as designed by the PDCTC
- Implementation of the Pine Plains Revitalization Plan as designed by Dutchess County Planning
• Implementation of the Trails Plan as designed by our own Trails Committee, maps in place, all owners identified and permissions in-process

• The building and moving of our Town Hall into downtown, to a site studied and specified via study; initial drawings done; green building with renewable energy system

• The implementation of a central sewer/septic field, for which we are applying for a feasibility study grant, which we sorely need for economic development

• The implementation of a Comprehensive Plan Review for which we just learned we have received a Greenway Grant to cover half the cost

• Help raising the funds for the final push of renovation at Memorial Hall, a 501c3

• The implementation of New Lighting District down Route 199 to match the one on 82, design ready All of these projects have long had public input and approval, and have been waiting for funding.

9) **Administrative Capacity.** Describe the extent of the existing local administrative capacity to manage this initiative, including potential oversight of concurrent contracts once projects are selected for award.

   The Town of Pine Plains Town Board consists of 5 energetic and generous people with a range of skills from law practice to civil engineering, landscaping, farming and creative writing. Each is prepared to welcome the future and take on added responsibilities in light of new opportunities.

   The Secretary to the Supervisor has a part of her job description the management of grants.

   The Planning Board is strong and committed, comprised of new people with energy and skills interested in dealing with new projects.

   Town Assessors are also well-positioned and experienced in managing projects, as is our Building Inspector. We have strong committees in Pine Plains with capable members willing to take on extra work.

   All in all, the new Town Board has created much excitement about all the potential here in Pine Plains if we all work together to make it happen. We can handle the good stuff. It's about time we got a break.

10) **Other.** Provide any other information that informs the nomination of this downtown for a ORI award.

   Newly elected Town Supervisor Darrah Cloud attended a DOT meeting last February in which a study was presented about road-use in Dutchess County. The presenters put up a map of the County showing all the most used roads. Cloud realized a very important piece of the puzzle as to why Pine Plains has the economic struggle that it does, but also the preserved way of life that it has: no major roads go through it. Route 22 and Route 9 run each about 16 miles east and west. Both attract big business. The Taconic Parkway passes up the middle of Dutchess County, still 8 miles to the west. Our crossroads is Route 199 and Route 82, roads which lead to farms and other small, rural towns, but no major cities in our direction. The Supervisor realized that we have survived by being under-the-radar, which allowed us to remain the tight-knit, dedicated, and compassionate community that we are. But this has also resulted in the loss of families to the area, who need to be where jobs are, and to those who aspire to more than a small town can economically support.

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Development, should that happen, with the arrival of Titan Barrel and more and more city people who discover the place and love it for what it is—and participate in preserving that—we feel poised for a kind of quiet, graceful, agrarian-focused and sustainable prosperity which numerous economic turns and damaging political decisions elsewhere have threatened. Pine Plains needs its Town Hall to be in the center of town, where it can help to create community and keep it. We need more young families who seek what we have, and want to help keep it, and hence more mixed-income housing, and renovated housing. We need a place for our Seniors to age once they can’t take care of a house anymore, so that we can keep them right in town, as they are one of our most valuable resources. Without help, time threatens us more than anything else. As we lose those Seniors, we lose not only our history but that part of our town which has held steady here for decades, supporting the school, supporting local businesses, supporting our compassionate way of life and preserving it. We can do this.

*Don’t forget to attach a map that clearly delineates the proposed DRI Area. (See item 1.)

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**IL SUBMISSION ADDRESSES**

Please submit your application as a Word Document to the Regional Council for your region.

**Capital Region**

- Central New York: NYS-Capita1Dist@esd.ny.gov
- Finger Lakes: NYS-CentralNY@esd.ny.gov
- Long Island: NYS-FingerLakes@esd.ny.gov
- Mid-Hudson: LIRED@esd.ny.gov
- Mohawk Valley: NYS-MidHudson@esd.ny.gov
- New York City: NYS-MohawkVal@esd.ny.gov
- North Country: NYC-DRI@esd.ny.gov
- Southern Tier: NYS-NorthCountry@esd.ny.gov
- Western New York: NYS-SouthernTier@esd.ny.gov
  - NYS-WNY-REDC@esd.ny.gov