



Chautauqua County
DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

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PUBLIC NOTICE

30-Day Public Review Period for Chautauqua County Agricultural District 7 Eight-Year Review Towns of Clymer, French Creek, Harmony, Mina, North Harmony, and Sherman

Per New York State Agriculture and Markets Law Section 303-a(1), the County Legislature is required to review an Agricultural District eight years after its creation and every 8 years thereafter. Chautauqua County has designated March 1st through March 31st as the thirty (30) day public review period for the eight-year review. The review of Chautauqua County Agricultural District 7 will take place in the Towns of Clymer, French Creek, Harmony, Mina, North Harmony, and Sherman encompassing 94,444 acres. During this thirty (30) day period, any municipality, land owner, or State Agency whose territory is within the Agricultural District may propose a modification to the Agricultural District. Land owners may submit requests to **add** parcels of predominantly viable agricultural land or **remove** parcel(s).

The Chautauqua County Department of Planning and Development will accept requests from March 1st through March 31st. Please submit all requests to the Department of Planning and Development, 201 West Third Street Suite 115 Jamestown, New York 14701 or email to sharp@chqgov.com on or before 4:30 PM on March 31, 2023. Any questions on the process should be directed to the Chautauqua County Department of Planning and Development.

The Agricultural District 7 Review Worksheet, current Agricultural District Maps, and additional information can be found on the Chautauqua County Department of Planning and Development website at bit.ly/CHQagdistrict. A map of District 7 is on file and open to public inspection at the Clerk's Office of the Chautauqua County Legislature in Mayville, New York. Please call 716-753-4215 to schedule an appointment.

At the end of the thirty (30) day period, the proposed modifications will be submitted to the Chautauqua County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board (AFPB). Based on the AFPB's recommendations, a report will be prepared for the Planning and Economic Development (PED) Legislative Committee's review. After review by the PED Legislative Committee, the recommendation will be forwarded to the Chautauqua County Legislature for a public hearing. Following the public hearing, the Legislature will vote via resolution to accept the recommendations made by the AFPB. The County Legislature will then send the resolution to the NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets to certify the modifications. If the Commissioner certifies the modifications, all changes will be in effect.

An agricultural district is a geographic area which consists predominantly of viable agricultural land. Agricultural operations within the district are the priority land use and afforded benefits and protections to promote the continuation of farms and the preservation of agricultural land. This should not be confused with the agricultural assessment program which allows eligible farmland to be taxed at its agricultural assessment. Land owners should see their local assessor to find out more information on agricultural assessment for their parcel(s).

Contact:
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