

Current Planning Activities

- Zoning with the Town of Edmeston
- Updating the Otsego County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Plan
- Developing resources on planning for solar energy development

About OCCA

OCCA was established in 1968 and is Otsego County's oldest environmental conservation organization.

Our Mission

OCCA is dedicated to promoting the appreciation and sustainable use of Otsego County's natural resources through education, advocacy, resource management, research, and planning.

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**Circuit Rider Planner
Program**

**Planning Assistance
Program**

**Otsego County
Conservation Association**

Circuit Rider Planner Program

Many Otsego County municipalities have often expressed a need for more dedicated, in-depth support with land use issues, sustainability initiatives, grant opportunities, and development challenges. To meet this need, OCCA's Circuit Rider Planner Program provides both continuous and project-specific land use planning support for municipalities at minimal cost.



Continuous Support

The Circuit Rider Planner Program is designed to provide dedicated assistance to individual municipalities with their on-going planning needs. Our Environmental Planner can be retained by your municipality at minimal cost, and can work closely with your town board, planning board, and zoning board of appeals to tackle challenges as they arise. The following are a few ways we can provide continuous support:

- offering planning expertise at board meetings;
- advising citizen working groups;
- reviewing site plan and subdivision applications;
- training members of planning boards and zoning boards of appeal.

Project-Specific Support

In today's uncertain budgeting climate, municipalities are more interested than ever in leveraging grant money, creating ways to improve efficiency, and working strategically toward their community's goals. Whatever your municipality's specific planning goals, we're here to work with you to achieve them. We're ready to assist you with projects such as:

- creating, revising and implementing comprehensive plans;
- drafting or reviewing zoning codes and development regulations;
- research and preparation of grant applications;
- conducting housing and land use surveys;
- conducting natural resource surveys;
- researching and writing policies;
- collecting and analyzing data.

We provide both continuous and project-specific land use planning support at minimal cost.

Planning Assistance Program

OCCA has a long-standing practice of providing communities with planning support. All municipalities in Otsego County are entitled to assistance on occasional planning-related questions and projects from OCCA's Environmental Planner **at no charge**. A modest amount of free support can be provided to each municipality. Free services include but are not limited to:

- telephone support providing advice and assistance with planning questions;
- organizational support for planning boards and zoning boards of appeals (e.g., rules of procedure, zoning amendment schedules, application forms and checklists);
- access to our library of planning resources