

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FOR MORE INFORMATION

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What: Common Ground Alliance Forum

When: Tuesday, July 11, 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Where: View, Old Forge, NY

Registration fee: \$30, and \$20 for students

Common Ground Alliance Forum convenes Adirondack leaders for action
Regional meeting focuses on Adk issues

OLD FORGE — At a time when science and data are driving many national conversations, these tools are also informing action-oriented conversations about Adirondack issues at the 11th annual Adirondack Common Ground Alliance Forum on Tuesday, July 11 at View art center.

Topics for this year's event, which range from attracting young people to the region to combatting invasive species in its forests, were selected based on survey responses from nearly 300 community leaders, business owners, government officials and Adirondack residents. Community stakeholders from all over the Adirondacks will come together to seek common ground on these and other Adirondack issues so that they can coordinate their efforts for collective action.

"The Common Ground Alliance has made great progress on issues affecting Adirondack communities," said Zoe Smith, Director of the Wildlife Conservation Society's Adirondack Program and co-chair of CGA. "We are taking on more difficult subjects but still remaining true to our roots of finding common ground. This year's forum is looking at some very timely issues like overuse in the High Peaks and how stakeholders can access science to help make decisions on Park issues."

Action items from the 2016 CGA Forum, including policy and budget recommendations, were added to the [Blueprint for the Blue Line](#), a list of the group's legislative priorities for the Adirondack Park. The updated list includes recommendations for improving Adirondack Park Agency (APA) procedures, growing the local economy, addressing opioid and suicide awareness and prevention, and promoting women's leadership in the Adirondacks.

At this year's meeting, working groups will address the following eight topics:

- Attracting, Retaining and Supporting Young Families in the Adirondack Region
- The Value of Curb Appeal: Creating a Toolbox to Encourage Redevelopment and Investment in Our Core Adirondack Downtowns

- Capitalizing on the Park's Resources to Leverage Economic Development
- Managing Success: Overuse in the High Peaks
- Accessing Data and Science to Make Decisions About Park Issues
- Combating Terrestrial Invasive Threats: Imminent Forest Pests and Pathogens
- The Adirondack Park State Land Master Plan
- Adirondack Entrepreneurship and Smart Growth

Lieutenant Governor Kathy Hochul, NYS Deputy Secretary for the Environment Venetia Lannon and other state and local elected officials are expected to attend this year's CGA Forum.

The event will take place at [View](#) in Old Forge, NY, on Tuesday, July 11 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. View is a multi-arts center, built in 2011, that exhibits work from national, regional and local artists; it also serves as a community center, conference facility and venue for special events. For more information, visit the View website at www.viewarts.org.

The CGA Forum registration fee is \$30, and \$20 for students. Cost includes light breakfast, refreshments and lunch. To register, visit ANCA's website at adirondack.org/CGA. For more information about registration, please contact Jake Vennie-Vollrath at (518) 891-6200 or jvennie-vollrath@adirondack.org.

Please direct media inquiries to ANCA Communications Associate Audrey Schwartzberg at (518) 891-6200 or aschwartzberg@adirondack.org, or Adirondack Foundation Communications Officer Chris Morris at (518) 523-9904 or chris@adkfoundation.org.

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Attached:

PDF file for press release

PDF file for [Blueprint for the Blue Line](#)

Photo courtesy of Adirondack Common Ground Alliance: 2016 CGA Forum attendees