

INTRODUCTION.....	3
Formation of Special Board.....	3
Mission Statement.....	3
Land Use Plan.....	3
Visitor Survey & Inlet Property Owner/Registered Voter Survey.....	4
OVERVIEW.....	5
Maps.....	5
The Hamlet of Inlet.....	9
Natural Features.....	9
Topography.....	10
Geology, Soils and Water Resources.....	10
Climate.....	10
History and Historical Structures.....	10
Government Structure.....	13
Economy.....	14
Infrastructure & Services.....	15
Electric.....	15
Phone.....	15
Wireless Phone.....	15
Cable Television.....	15
Internet.....	15
Public Water and Sewage.....	16
Police.....	16
Volunteer Fire Department.....	16
Inlet Volunteer Ambulance Squad.....	18
Transportation, Highways, Parking.....	18
Transfer Station.....	19
Parks, Docks, Boat Launches.....	20
Public Education.....	20
Outdoor Recreation.....	21
Social, Cultural and Educational Resources.....	24
Assets.....	26
New York State Owned:.....	26
New York State Agencies:.....	26
Inlet Organizations:.....	26
Inlet Owned / Maintained:.....	27
Other Inlet Recreation Areas:.....	28
Inlet (Area*) Services:.....	28
Inlet Infrastructure:.....	29
Natural Resources:.....	29
Major Tourism Assets:.....	30
Other Inlet (Area*) Services:.....	30
FOCUS AREAS FOR PLANNED CHANGE.....	32
Preferred Character and Image of Inlet.....	32

Town of Inlet Special Board Master Plan

Economic Development and Town Revitalization .....	36
Zoning, Land Use and Development and Preservation of Historic Sites and Buildings.....	39
Infrastructure and Service .....	42
Transportation and Parking.....	46
Recreation.....	49
Environment.....	56
PUTTING THE PLAN INTO ACTION .....	58
KEEPING THE PLAN UPDATED .....	59
APPENDICES.....	60

## **INTRODUCTION**

### **Formation of Special Board**

Town of Inlet Regular Meeting on February 9, 1999 Resolution #50.99 - Comprehensive Plan - On the motion by Councilman Norkus, seconded by Councilman Schmid, the following resolution was adopted 5 Ayes to 0 Nays Resolved, to have members of the Town Board, Planning Board and the Economic Development Group develop a Town of Inlet Comprehensive Plan that the Town of Inlet may adopt.

Resolution #103.00 - Councilman Schmid offered the following resolution and moved for its adoption - where as, the Town of Inlet Town Board has officially approved a formal group of Inlet residents including Planning Board members to develop and present a Comprehensive Master Plan per Town Law, be it Resolved, that the following include the updated list of members to the TCP Board: Daniel Levi, David Scranton, Richard Willis, Greg O'Hara, JR Risley, Virginia Germer, Arthur Brockner, Paul Chambers, Connie Perry, Carol Schmid, John Townsend II, John Reittinger Seconded by Councilman Cislo and duly adopted by the following vote Ayes: Bird, Norkus, Cislo, Schmid, Risley Nays: none

### **Mission Statement**

The Mission of this Town Comprehensive Plan is to present the collective vision of our community as a tool for building upon our current assets. This plan will guide us into the future as we seek to preserve our environment while improving the quality of life, economy and image of Inlet.

### **Land Use Plan**

Prior to 1993, Inlet had only a Zoning Ordinance, approved in December 1966. Then in 1989, the Town Board passed a Local Law regulating mobile homes, travel trailers, mobile home parks and travel trailer parks in the Town of Inlet. In 1992 the Town Board began to compile information for the Inlet Land Use Plan.

The need for such a Land Use Plan arose from a possible change in ownership of a well known resort, requesting to build and restructure its housing and land use. The board, then working with a consultant and the Hamilton County Planning Division, contacted the residents of Inlet. All residents received a survey, which was similar to the one used in 1972. The survey covered the residents' needs and what they believed Inlet should offer to residents, seasonal and year round. The Inlet Area Chamber of Commerce questioned business owners and visitors, and determined that additional year round visitor housing was sorely needed.

This Land Use Plan also incorporates existing development patterns as well as future development possibilities, natural and cultural resources, Adirondack Park Agency classifications for both State and private lands, and existing zoning.

Inlet's Land Use Plan is one part of the foundation for the current Inlet Town Comprehensive Plan. While the Land Use Plan document is narrow in focus due to time constraints, its use as a building block for the Comprehensive Plan was beneficial. The Inlet Land Use Plan was approved in April 1993.

## **Visitor Survey & Inlet Property Owner/Registered Voter Survey**

An ad-hoc group of Inlet citizens was formed and the first organizational meeting was held on 10/14/97 under the direction of J.R. Risley, now Inlet Town Supervisor, and Ginny Germer, then President of the Inlet Area Chamber of Commerce. Many more meetings were held to establish the group's Mission, get sanctioned and receive support from the Inlet Town Board (11/20/97) and the Inlet Area Chamber of Commerce (11/26/97), and to develop a Visitor Questionnaire and an Inlet Property Owner/Registered Voter Questionnaire.

### **ORIGINAL MISSION:**

- Develop and administer a survey for the Inlet Property Owners and Registered Voters to determine what they think is good about Inlet and should be retained, and what should be changed or improved in Inlet.
- Develop and administer a survey for the Visitors to determine what brought them to Inlet, what they presently enjoy about Inlet, and what they would like to have available for their future enjoyment in Inlet.
- Compile, summarize and publish the results of the surveys.
- Develop a Plan for Inlet Economic Development to be presented as a recommendation to the Inlet Town Board and the Inlet Area Chamber of Commerce.

The Visitor Questionnaire was completed in January 1998, printed and distributed to visitors through local businesses and the Inlet Area Chamber of Commerce. To date, 141 Visitor Questionnaires have been returned, responses tabulated on spreadsheets and summaries written.

A draft of the Inlet Property Owner/Registered Voter Questionnaire was critiqued by John Zogby, President of the Zogby Group, at a Communities 2000 meeting on 3/26/98. He gave the questionnaire high marks and provided valuable constructive criticism. The Inlet Property Owner/Registered Voter Questionnaire was then completed and tested over a period of six months, 990 questionnaires were sent out in late September 1998, with 273 completed questionnaires being returned. The return rate was 27% for both year round Inlet residents and seasonal property owners. 271 responses were received in time for input into the SPSS data analysis software by the Inlet Police Dispatchers in December 1998. Bill Pelz, a professor on the faculty of Herkimer County Community College, who was contacted through the Communities 2000 initiative, processed the data on his own time, which provided us with four binders of survey results. The results of the surveys were then compiled, summarized and published in 1999 and are a resource to the Special Board in developing the Inlet Town Comprehensive Plan.

## **OVERVIEW**

### **Maps**







## OVERVIEW

### The Hamlet of Inlet

The Town of Inlet, located in Hamilton County in the west-central Adirondack Mountains, is situated along the Route 28 corridor of New York State's six million acre Adirondack Park. Inlet encompasses approximately 66.4 square miles.

Inlet's abundance of natural features contributes to the strong rustic and natural character of this Adirondack hamlet. It is considered a gateway to a more primitive and pristine portion of the Adirondack Park and has been characterized as one of the "Adirondack Wilderness Outposts" by an Adirondack Park Association report. Inlet, as a township and a hamlet, is a tourist destination predominately summer through winter months. As such, the hamlet offers visitors lodging, dining, shopping, recreational equipment sales, rentals and services. Other businesses such as the hardware store(s), convenience store/gas station, laundromat, movie theater, grocery store, liquor store, insurance/real estate business, Adirondack furnishings store, and a marina offer tourists, seasonal residents, and year round residents a variety of products and services. Outside of the hamlet boundaries are several other restaurants, lodging, and marinas, most of which are on or near one of the lakes within the Fulton Chain of Lakes. A number of these businesses, however, operate only summer and fall months during the peak tourist seasons.

The hamlet also includes three churches, the post office, a public library, and a new visitor interpretive center. The Town Governmental Offices, the Information Office, the Police Department, and a Senior Center are housed within the Inlet Town Hall, adjacent to Arrowhead Park. Arrowhead Park, located downtown, and Fern Park, located within easy walking distance of downtown, offer a variety of recreational facilities and host numerous local events. The vast majority of the hamlet is comprised of commercial and public structures, with residences falling at either end of the downtown area along Route 28. Seasonal and year round residences fall predominately along this route, the shores of Fourth, Sixth, Seventh, and Limekiln Lakes, with scattered residences elsewhere along Fifth Lake, Uncas Road, South Shore Road, Loomis Road, Gilbert Road, Sixth Lake Road, Deerwood Drive, Limekiln Road, Parkhurst Road, and Seventh Lake Road.

### Natural Features

Outside of the hamlet, New York State owns and has declared "Forever Wild" approximately 78% of the land that is located within the Town of Inlet. These lands fall into two New York State Preserve management areas, the Moose River Plains Wild Forest and the Pigeon Lakes Wilderness. With the exception of the New York State campground lands, all Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) lands located north of the Uncas Road are within the Pigeon Lakes Wilderness, while all lands south of the Uncas Road are within the Moose River Plains Wild Forest. At the southern end of this latter designation, the Moose River Recreation Area (MRRRA) comprises 50,000 acres of public land, which represents the largest block of remote

public land in the Adirondacks, readily accessible by motor vehicle. Although the MRRA overlaps several different townships, the state maintains the “Limekiln Gate” within Inlet as one of the two entry points into this primitive wild forest area. The MRRA is a major resource for a variety of recreational activities from bird watching, hiking, and fishing to snowmobiling, and provides some 140 primitive campsites. New York State operates public campgrounds at Eighth Lake, Brown’s Tract and Limekiln Lake, while primitive campsites and/or lean-tos can be found at Seventh, Eighth, Bug and Cascade Lakes. The State also maintains four public boat launches: one at Seventh Lake, one at Fourth Lake, and two at Eighth Lake.

## **Topography**

The Town of Inlet’s natural character and topography are typical of the Adirondacks, with more than a dozen mountains, heavy forests, and numerous lakes, ponds, and streams. Elevations range from about 1700 feet at Fourth Lake to 2890 feet on Seventh Lake Mountain. The Fulton Chain of Lakes spans both the Town of Inlet and the Town of Webb, with the easterly lakes located within Inlet. These and the many other lakes, ponds, and streams within the Town of Inlet provide recreational opportunities for visitors and residents alike and serve as an important resource to the community.

## **Geology, Soils and Water Resources**

Classification of development suitability, soils, wetlands, critical environmental factors, hydrology and surface water classification are described in the Land Use Plan, April 1993, found in Appendix F.

## **Climate**

Inlet’s climate is typical of the region, with winter temperatures ranging from a record 52\* F below zero to 50\* F above zero. Summer temperatures generally range from 50\* F to 80\* F. Average rainfall is about 50”, with annual snowfall recorded as high as 250”.

## **History and Historical Structures**

Before the white man came to the Adirondacks, Inlet was a tourist destination. It wasn’t known as Inlet before 1902, but Native Americans were enjoying their summers here in Inlet. What is now Arrowhead Park was once the site of the Arrowhead Hotel, which was built by Fred Hess around 1895 and was originally known as Hess Inn. Before Fred Hess started building here, this was the location of the summer campgrounds for Iroquois hunting parties. The Iroquois lost many of their arrows here over the years, so later, as this site was developed and built upon, arrowheads were frequently found on the ground. Hence the name “Arrowhead” was chosen for the hotel when Charles A. O’Hara purchased the property from Fred Hess. Fred also built and operated The Hess Camp in 1897 until Philo Wood bought the property from him and it became the Wood Hotel. Many other summer resort hotels sprang up in Inlet: Rocky Point Hotel, The Neodack Hotel, The Araho Hotel (now Holl’s Inn), The Seventh Lake House and the Parquet Hotel. So it was that Inlet continued to be a summer tourist destination.

Early transportation to Inlet was by foot and guide boat. The “sports” as they were known, or sportsmen, who came to fish and hunt, became the first white tourists to visit here. Early camps erected by guides were used to house the sports and the hospitality industry arrived in Inlet. As more people came to the area, demand grew for accommodations so camps were expanded into hotels and then new hotels were built. Transportation was enhanced when steamboats started to ply the waters of the Fulton Chain of Lakes from Old Forge to Inlet giving the growing number of tourists access to the hotels along the lakes. The railroad was extended from Thendara to Big Moose Station and a side leg was built from Carter Station to Raquette Lake with a station at Eagle Bay. Tourists could come to Eagle Bay by train and then by boat to Inlet. This soon led to the construction of a road from Eagle Bay to Inlet and tourists had an even easier time getting to Inlet. The road was extended to Seventh Lake from the hamlet of Inlet and then in 1924, Route 28 was finished and connected Old Forge to Raquette Lake passing through Inlet.

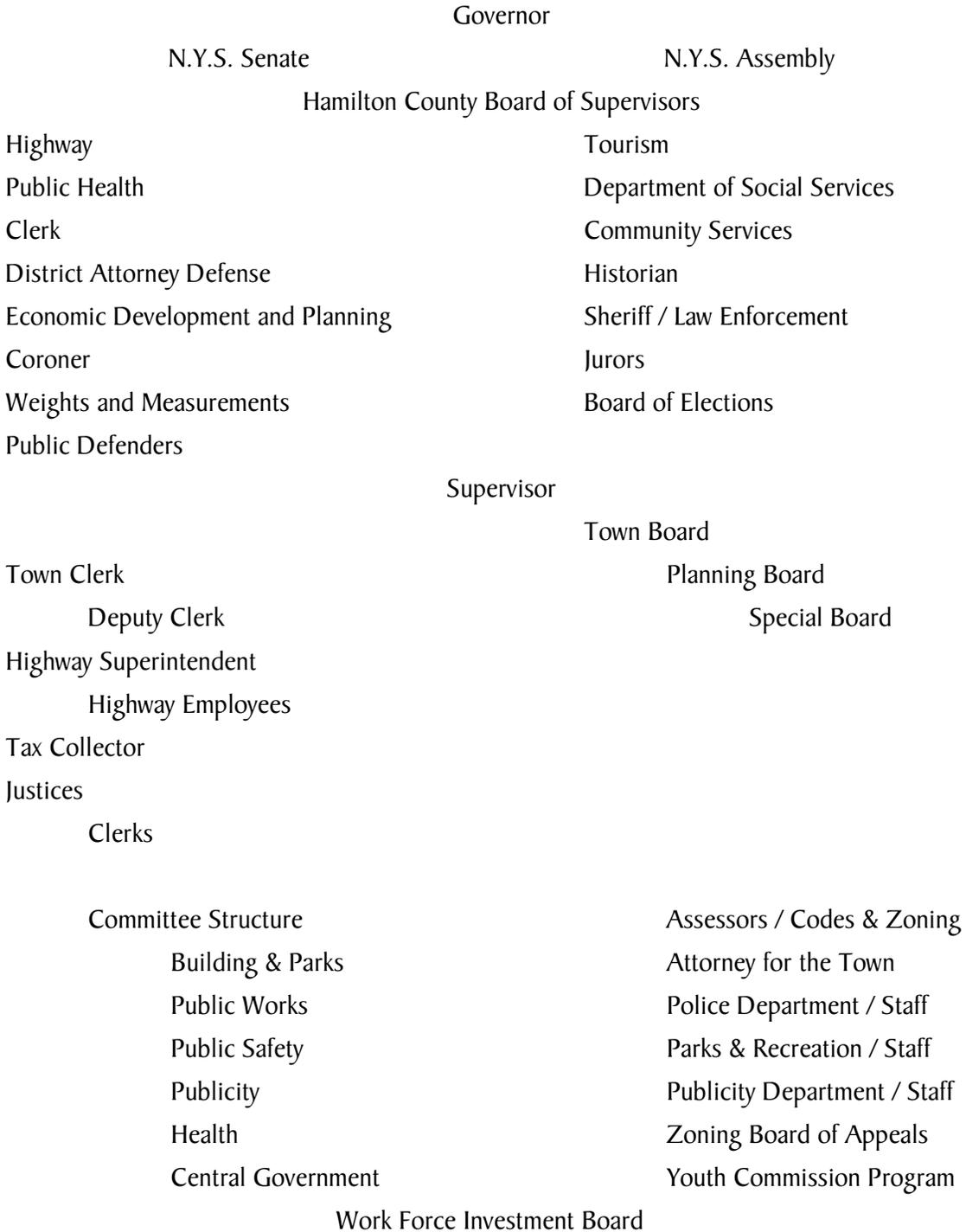
Inlet became a township and hamlet in 1902 when it was decided to break off from the Town of Morehouse and form the Town of Inlet. Frank Tiffany was the first Town Supervisor and held office for twenty-four years. Charles O’Hara, the first Postmaster and the first Town Clerk, was also involved in this political subdivision and is credited with naming the town. The first church in Inlet was Church of the Lakes built in 1901. Saint Anthony’s, a Roman Catholic Church was built next to the Presbyterian Church in 1915. The Inlet Community Church was established in 1950 when a dispute over the church organ split the congregation of the Church of the Lakes. This new church purchased the camp of Anna and Rose Flanagan and held services in the cottage until 1970 when the present Inlet Community Church was built and the cottage became the pastor’s residence.

Early clientele were wealthy and would frequently vacation for the whole summer or for at least one month in the summer. The depression years from 1929 to 1932 took its toll on the wealthy and subsequently on the tourist industry in Inlet. World War II was the next significant event to have an impact on tourism in Inlet with rationing and a major focus on winning the war. In 1946, the war was won, soldiers returned home and the post-war economy was booming. The middle class grew in numbers and wealth; they bought cars and hit the road. The road led to Inlet and motels became popular. Hotels with their elegant hospitality started to lose business to motels and cottages. Summer long vacations had contracted to month long vacations, then week long vacations and finally with the convenience of automobile travel, weekend tourism became big in Inlet. It was “a hot time in the old town” when college students found Inlet. The bar business grew, and at its peak, Inlet had eleven bars in town. Then the motorcycle crowd found Inlet. Eventually, bars burned or closed, the “bikers” were discouraged from returning to Inlet by a strong police effort, college students lost interest in an Inlet without bars and things quieted down.

There are few buildings still standing in the Town of Inlet that date back to the late eighteen hundreds, but many of the earliest buildings have been lost to fires over the years. Most of the existing camps and buildings were constructed in the period prior to the “Great Depression” in 1929 and were intended and built for summer use only. Some of these have been restored or updated for year round use and some have been changed significantly through major additions. In recent years, a few large homes of modern design and construction have been built on

previously undeveloped land or have replaced old camps that have been torn down to make room for these new homes.

## Government Structure



## Economy

The Town of Inlet's economic structure is primarily based on tourism. Some private enterprises exist such as logging and governmental positions, but most businesses are either directly or indirectly related to the tourism industry. The main attraction to our town is the beauty of its natural resources, the many lakes and streams teeming with wildlife, and the mountain trails with numerous state campsites nestled in wooded forests.

The largest tourist population visits the area during the summer months and during this period most businesses flourish. The fall foliage with its bright reds and gold make touring throughout the countryside very popular. Many stop off to visit and shop in the hamlet, thus providing a moderate income to businesses. Snowmobiling still shines as the most popular winter sport in the town, but cross-country skiing and snowshoeing have been growing rapidly. The spring, just like the flora, brings a new awakening as people return from their winter homes to open their summer places.

The area has seen recent growth with more retirees opting to make this their year round home. This has also spawned a need for growth in required services, such as snow plowing and construction.

## **Infrastructure & Services**

### **Electric**

Electric service is provided by Niagara Mohawk Power Corp. and is available to all developed properties in the Town of Inlet with the exception of some properties on the Uncas Road. The transmission facilities are all above ground and are reported to be at or near maximum capacity. Service interruptions are frequent, but generally are of short duration. Rates are considered to be above average.

### **Phone**

Phone service is provided by Frontier a Citizens Communications Company and is available to all developed properties in the Town of Inlet with the exception of some properties on the Uncas Road. The transmission facilities are all above ground and service interruptions are rare. Most service is provided on wire pairs at voice rate. There is no high-speed digital service available and no present plan to offer this service. Rates are considered to be about average.

### **Wireless Phone**

Wireless Phone service (Cellular Service) is provided by Cellular One in Herkimer County, with two towers in the Old Forge area. Verizon Wireless provides service in Hamilton County, with the closest tower in the Lake Eaton area. The Hamlet of Inlet is in a dead spot between these providers and service is non-existent.

### **Cable Television**

Cable TV service is provided by Adelphia and is available to all developed properties in the Town of Inlet with the exception of some properties on the Uncas Road, South Shore Road and Limekiln Road past the Ole Barn. Service reliability is tied to the reliability of electric service. Rates are considered to be about average.

### **Internet**

Internet service is provided by Capital Net and is available to all properties in the Town of Inlet with dial-up service. Many subscribers have had service problems over time. Rates are considered to be about average. Eagle Wireless provides high-speed internet access to potential subscribers within line of site of antennas.

## **Public Water and Sewage**

Public Sewage service is non-existent. Sewage is handled by private septic systems. Public Water is provided by Turkey Water Works serving a minimal amount of homes along the South Shore Road and Gilbert Road. Other water is provided by private wells.

## **Police**

The Town of Inlet established a police department in 1970 to provide police protection for the residents and visitors of Inlet. Today, the department consists of three sworn officers. The department provides full time law enforcement coverage to its residents. Generally, one patrol is deployed on the day shift and one patrol is deployed on the afternoon shift. Between shifts, officers work on a call- out basis.

The Police department has two 4-wheel drive patrol vehicles. Additionally, the department maintains two snowmobiles, which are essential in the winter months, particularly for enforcement relating to the widespread recreational use of snowmobiles in the Town.

The department also employs one dispatcher. Inlet police department dispatchers dispatch police, fire, and ambulance calls within the Town, as well as calls for the highway and parks departments. The dispatch function is staffed during the day. During the afternoon and night shifts, dispatching is covered by Herkimer County. Enhanced 911 dispatch services are also provided by Herkimer County.

The State Police Bureau of Criminal Investigations provides assistance to the Inlet Police Department for the investigation of serious crime.

The Hamilton County Sheriffs Office patrols the lakes and waterways in the Town.

Much of the land area in Inlet is wilderness. However, there are campsites and trails throughout the town, which require police response to those areas. Many of these areas have to be accessed by foot, small plane, or by boat. This presents a unique problem, not only to law enforcement but to other emergency personnel as well.

## **Volunteer Fire Department**

In June of 1923, twenty-one years after the incorporation of the Town of Inlet, a meeting sparked by W. Lewis Army Armstrong along with other concerned men of the Town was held to talk about starting a fire department. The motivating factor was frustration after watching a home burn to the ground, with no way to prevent such a tragedy in the future. The meeting was held upstairs in Trottier's Place. All in attendance decided to hold a future meeting to put into place the selection of officers and fire chiefs. This future meeting resulted in the following: W. Lewis Army Armstrong president, Doc Jones Vice President, Fred Trottier Chief, Modest Fredette First Assistant, and Dominick Fredette Second Assistant. At the next meeting there was a

conflict of voting in new members, with a few voting negative on the men. The outcome was that the newly organized fire department was in trouble. President Armstrong called a private meeting in his kitchen after talking with some friends, Charlie O'Hara, Len Harwood and Harry Hall, concluding that a few should not stop the process of the developing volunteer fire department. At the meeting a new fire company was started named the Inlet Volunteer Hose Company, which was later incorporated.

The early equipment was an old Ford purchased from C. Ray Harvey in Boonville and a pump was installed on it. The newly organized department needed to look at real fire apparatus, so they turned to a friend, Joe Sullivan for advice. He was connected with American LaFrance in Utica. A salesman came to talk with the department about equipment and produced a figure of over \$10,000.00 but the new hose company had only a balance of \$100.00 in the bank. It was decided to raise the money through donations. Sears Roebuck donated \$25.00, Raquette Lake Supply gave \$500.00, and many others pledged various amounts toward the new apparatus. The down payment was to be \$3,500.00. A meeting was called to vote on the motion whether to order the apparatus. The voting procedure was to have the secretary call each member to cast his vote, yes or no. O. Clarence Lee and Evi Vanarmun voted no. President Armstrong asked Clarence whether he would have voted yes if the department had the cash. Although he responded that he would, he ultimately voted against the purchase after the funds were raised. The truck was ordered due to a promise from Archie Delmarsh that he would help out if funds were insufficient.

The new truck came to Eagle Bay in a boxcar on a Friday afternoon with Pop Mosher there to unload it. There were many proud men to ride home in the new truck to Inlet, and everyone showed up on Saturday to drive and learn all there was in working various apparatus. About 10:00 AM Sunday morning, Walt Rosa came running across the road to the garage telling that Mingo Lodge was on fire. When the department got there, they discovered there was no road to the lake and concluded that no man in his right mind would drive a truck down that hill. In their excitement, they drove the truck over the hill, over the cesspool, and to where they could get water. The whole roof was on fire and the big line was able to knock the fire down fast. After the fire was out, there came the job of getting the truck back up the hill. It took fifty men, ropes, and bridging of the cesspool.

They had the truck about two weeks when it was put to a big test. The pavilion theater caught on fire and Fred Trottier ran across the street yelling, "Fire!" That night, the town could have been lost without the fire truck. The truck was placed in back of Parkeys. Ben Sperry manned one line in front of the building that he put on Berkowtes once, and then on the Gaiety Theater. On the roof of the Gaiety were Floyd Puffer and Harold Young. When their nozzles blew off, they would squeeze the end of the hose to get water to the fire. They eventually put the fire out and thus saved two buildings. Within a few days, Chief Joe Sullivan came up from Utica and looked the job over. He concluded that his men in Utica could not have saved the building, which gave the local men a vote of confidence. In 1926, Armstrong was elected chief. He was not satisfied with the LaFrance since it was difficult to get into places, so settled on a small Chevrolet truck with a front mounted pump. This worked well in dealing with futures fires. Over the years, the Inlet Volunteer Hose Company has evolved into a modern fire-fighting unit, still maintaining its volunteer status. In 1995, the Inlet Volunteer Hose Company formed a

corporation with the Inlet Volunteer Ambulance Squad, each having its own independence, but under the umbrella of the Inlet Volunteer Emergency Services. A new firehouse and ambulance barn was erected on the corner of Limekiln Road and Route 28, which remains the site of the Inlet Volunteer Emergency Services. In this building is a 1936 American LaFrance fire truck that is still working and known as "Big Red".

### **Inlet Volunteer Ambulance Squad**

Inlet Ambulance was started and run by the Inlet American Legion Post #1402 in 1956. They provided ambulance protection to the Town of Inlet and surrounding communities until the early 1990's. At that time, there were no longer any Legion members that were active in running the ambulance. The remaining ambulance members formed a new organization called the Inlet Volunteer Ambulance Squad and purchased the assets of the ambulance service from the Legion. The new organization joined with the Inlet Volunteer Hose Company to form the Inlet Volunteer Emergency Services, Inc. (IVES). IVES is comprised of two separate organizations that contain shared assets and liabilities. Each group however has its own contracts for service, budgets, members and officers.

In the past year, we have had a difficult time retaining volunteers. This problem is not unique to us and is probably due to a number of reasons. The time commitment that people must give as a volunteer is very extensive. Our average call lasts about four hours; last year we had 179 calls. To become qualified to be an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) requires 150 hours of classroom training. To go on a higher level involves many more hours. This does not include travel, drills and meetings. Also, most calls are not predictable, therefore members may experience loss of time from work and family. Another deterrent is the pressure of the calls. We have many Advanced Life Support (ALS) calls that are truly life and death. We are over an hour from any hospital. This places tremendous stress on our volunteers. In the last year, we have seen our volunteer base slowly eroding away. To combat this problem, we have begun to look at paying our ALS personnel to cover our EMS calls. By summer we plan to have a program in place. We feel this is the only way that our EMS service will continue in the future. It is our hope that by providing ALS to our Basic EMS personnel they will gain confidence and increase participation so that we can continue to maintain a volunteer ambulance service.

### **Transportation, Highways, Parking**

The Town of Inlet Highway Department maintains and plows seven miles of Town roads, seven miles of County roads and eighteen miles of State roads. Within the Inlet highway system are Barkeater Avenue, Butler Boulevard, Campsite Road, Carp Drive, Channel Road, Cliff House Road, Corr Lane, Deerwood Drive, Deerwood Drive South, Deerwood Drive West, Demming's Main Street, Drake Lane, Evans Road, Gaiety Road, Gilbert Road, Glen Iris Road, Gloo Road, Heroux Hill, Highland Trail, Island Avenue, Jasper Day Trail, Jones Road, Kelley Road, Ledgedale, Limekiln Road, Loomis Road, Murdock Mountain, North Star Road, Neodack

Shores, Paownyc, Parkhurst Road, Reis Lane, Rocky Point Circle, Rocky Point Lane, Seventh Lake Road, Shady Lane, Sixth Lake Road, Solvay Lane, South Shore Road, Stock Lane, Tamarack Road, Tiffany Place, Tyler Road, Uncas Road, VanTassel Lane.

The Highway Department is involved in the bike and walking paths between Rocky Point and Clark's Marina. This is funded through a grant from the New York State Department of Transportation Ice T Program. Route 28 underwent a partial reconstruction from Cedar Creek through the Town of Inlet to Drake's Inn in 2001.

The Highway Department does more than just maintenance of roads. Some other services provided are working with the Landfill Department as well as Parks and Recreation Department. Other services provided are plowing sidewalks, cleaning snow from the downtown area, as well as sweeping the streets in the spring and summer weekly street sweeping in the downtown area. The department also maintains and replaces sidewalks when necessary.

As the Inlet tourist business is growing, the Highway Department is expanding the parking area at the Fern Park, for the various events that are so well attended. For the winter season, the Department has built a sledding hill for the tourists and residents to enjoy in Fern Park.

### **Transfer Station**

In the fall of 1990 Hamilton County in cooperation with the Town of Inlet opened a recycling center to handle the recyclables from the northern towns of the County.

In 1993 Inlet started to haul its solid waste to Indian Lake.

At that time the County entered into a contract with Development Authority of the North Country (DANC) for the disposal of all Hamilton County trash.

The Town of Inlet during the months of July and August generates about 20 tons of trash a week and during this same time Inlet generates 2,600 pounds of corrugated cardboard, 1,000 pounds of milk jug plastic, 1,000 pounds of clear plastic, 500 pounds of #2 colored plastic, 3,000 pounds of newspaper per week and 15 tons of glass for the two months. During the winter months Inlet generates about 5 tons of trash, 500 pounds of corrugated cardboard, 200 pounds of milk jug plastic, 150 pounds of clear plastics, 50 pounds of #2 colored plastic per week, 10 tons of newspaper for the next 10 months and 20 tons of glass for the same period of time.

The Town of Inlet employs one full time person and one part time 20 hours a week during the summer. Hamilton County employs one full time person and during the summer one 40 hours a week person.

Inlet is still able to burn brush and clean lumber but this could be stopped by the State at any time. We can still dispose of tires, metals and stumps.

At this time the market for recycled product is low and the County is having a hard time to find a home for these bales.

Hamilton County is looking to expand its recycling market and hopes to be able to recycle a greater variety of products.

### **Parks, Docks, Boat Launches**

Inlet has two parks. Arrowhead Park has public restrooms, a picnic area, lighted ball field, children's playground, tennis courts, sand beach, pavilion and rental cottages. Fern Park has a ball field, sliding hill, cross country ski trails, indoor and outdoor basketball court, a pavilion with ice-skating and public restrooms. A dock is located in Arrowhead Park along the inlet and extends into Fourth Lake. Inlet has four public boat launches owned and maintained by the State of New York located on Fourth, Seventh and Eighth Lakes.

### **Public Education**

The Inlet Common School was established in 1906 when the smaller of the two existing buildings was built. The larger building was built between 1921 and 1926, and these buildings have served as an elementary school ever since with the capacity to accommodate up to 50 students. The buildings are inspected every year and are maintained according to State mandates. The small school building has been renovated and is used for art, speech and the principal's office. Until 1946, junior high and senior high school students were bussed to Raquette Lake School and since then, they have been bussed to the Town of Webb School. The Town of Inlet pays the Town of Webb tuition for all Inlet children who attend school there and the formula for determining the tuition is set by the State of New York. The capital expenditures made by the Town of Webb School to improve and expand the building are having an effect on future tuition fees. The Town of Inlet Board of Education and the Town of Webb Board of Education have a good working relationship, meet annually and have the best interests of the students' education and welfare as their main objective.

In 2000, some parental concerns were raised about the quality of education and social development of students attending the Inlet School. This led to a referendum put before the Inlet voters that considered either closing the Inlet School and having all students tuitioned to the Town of Webb School, or keeping the Inlet School open. The voters decided to keep the school open. The Board of Education then decided to hire a part time principal to address the parental concerns, and improvements have been made resulting in a more positive atmosphere at the school.

In addition to the normal academic program, the Inlet School offers aerobics, alpine and Nordic skiing, music and art. The Parent Teacher Partners (PTP) purchase season passes for the students at McCauley Mountain Ski Center and have also has been buying computers for the school. There is the possibility of networking the computers and a T1 line has been investigated for high-speed Internet access. The teachers are using the computers with the students more than ever. The Adirondack Museum in Blue Mountain Lake brings programs to the school. The

fifth and sixth grade classes take a class trip to Albany each year. Special Needs programs, outside the resources of the Inlet School staff, are subcontracted for through the Town of Webb School and/or BOCES and provide special education and pre-school services.

The student population has fluctuated over the years. In the 1960s, enrollment was high, and then enrollment declined through the 1970s and 1980s. Currently 36 elementary students are enrolled in the school and the Town of Inlet pays tuition for about 20 junior high and senior high school students to attend the Town of Webb School. There are a large number of pre-school children in Inlet and this suggests that enrollments in the near future may rise substantially. The school is staffed with four full time teachers, a part time music teacher, a part time art teacher, a teacher's aid and a part time principal. The school also employs a full time custodian. Bus service is provided to transport students to and from the Town of Webb School and for some elementary students attending the Inlet School.

## Outdoor Recreation

Residents and visitors alike find Inlet's abundance of natural resources to be a major attraction and valuable resource for a variety of outdoor recreation activities.

**SPRING** marks the beginning of **fishing** season in the Adirondacks. Inlet's streams, lakes, and ponds hold a variety of fish species including lake trout, brown trout, splake, landlocked salmon, tiger muskies, northern pike, large and small mouth bass, perch, bullhead, and the typical assortment of small panfish, a favorite of the younger angler. The larger lakes offer the trolling or spin casting fisherman ample opportunities for "the big catch", while the smaller rivers and streams of the Moose River Recreation Area are the fly fisherman's favored destination.

Spring and **SUMMER** also bring **canoeists, kayakers and boaters** out onto Inlet's many waterways. A popular trip for paddlers is the Historic Adirondack Passage which begins at the Fulton Chain of Lakes and continues north to the Saranac Lakes through a series of lakes, rivers, and carries. Inlet is also the host of Adirondack Paddlefest in mid-May, now the nation's largest on-water canoe and kayak expo, which is held in Arrowhead Park on Fourth Lake. Inlet's larger lakes are frequented by motor boaters for a variety of activities, including water skiing, tubing, fishing, and sightseeing. **Sailing** is also enjoyed along the lakes of the Fulton Chain. New York State maintains free boat launches at Fourth and Seventh Lakes while boat access areas are provided at Limekiln and Eighth Lake Campgrounds for campers. A day use fee may be required during the summer season for admittance into these areas.

A myriad of **hiking and biking** trails in Inlet allow the outdoor enthusiast to enjoy the scenery and solitude of the surrounding forests. Fern Park's mountain bike trails, much of the snowmobile trail system, and many trails within the Moose River Recreation Area (MRRA) provide an extensive and varied mountain biking experience. The Black Fly Challenge mountain bike race, the longest National Off-Road Bicycle Association (NORBA) sanctioned destination race in the Eastern United States, rolls through the MRRA between Inlet and Indian Lake every year in mid-June. The race changes direction every year with the start alternating between the

two towns. The TOBIE (Thendara, Old Forge, Big Moose, Inlet and Eagle Bay) Project multiuse trail will connect several towns along the Route 28 corridor.

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) manages a large hiking trail system within the town of Inlet. Black Bear Mountain and Rocky Mountain summits offer spectacular views, while Bug Lake/Eagle's Nest Lake trail and Cascade Lake trail provide great destination hikes. The MRRRA contains many trails, including Mitchell Ponds, Rock Dam, Lost Ponds, Icehouse Pond, Helldiver Pond, and Bear Pond. Limekiln Lake and Brown's Tract State Campgrounds also have trail systems within them. The trails to Shallow Lake and West Mountain emanate from Brown's Tract. The Old Uncas Road from Eighth Lake Campground makes a nice loop to Mohegan Lake and back to the Seventh Lake Boat Launch. For shorter nature hikes, the Cathedral Pines trail meanders through a stand of old growth white pines. A boardwalk meanders through Ferd's Bog, off the Uncas Road, where orchids, wildflowers, and a variety of birds and other wildlife can be found. **Bird watching** opportunities abound in the Inlet area with Ferd's Bog and the MRRRA being the most popular destinations.

Many visitors utilize the New York State (NYS) **Campgrounds** at Limekiln, Eighth Lake and Brown's Tract, while those seeking more primitive recreation utilize the Moose River Recreation Area, Cascade, Seventh, and Bug Lakes. Three Lean-tos are located at both Seventh and Eighth Lake.

**Swimming** is a popular activity during the summer season. A number of swimming areas exist on the shores of Inlet's many lakes. Beaches with lifeguards are found at Arrowhead Park as well as all the State campgrounds. Inlet offers youth swimming programs at Arrowhead Park during July and August.

Inlet is home to two stables that offer **horseback riding** ranging from pony and trail rides to overnight and weekend excursions. Two **seaplane bases**, one on Sixth Lake and one on Seventh Lake, offer charter service and popular sightseeing trips. The Inlet Golf Club is an 18-hole, championship resort **golf course** adjacent to Sixth Lake. The golf course has a long tradition, and has been totally renovated to provide visitors with a superb layout and well-manicured conditions. Bottle Brook and the surrounding mountains offer many different views and all add to the pleasure of your experience. Expect to see a multitude of wildlife.

**FALL** is arguably the most beautiful season in the Adirondacks. Many visit the area to enjoy the colorful **fall foliage**. Those who come to the area for outdoor activities find solitude easier to attain and the absence of bugs to be a pleasant surprise. The crisp, sunny days are perfect for hiking, paddling, or almost any outdoor activity. Fall also brings **hunting season**. Early bear season begins mid to late September. Primitive hunting season for deer and black bear follows. Regular season for bear and deer begins in late October and continues until the first week in December. The region is well known for its abundance of game and draws hunters from all over the northeast. The Moose River Recreation Area is a popular destination for big game hunters. The fall small game seasons begin in mid-September and runs to as long as March, according to species. Rabbit, ruffed grouse, turkey, fox, coyote, bobcat are all among the many small game seasons permitted in the area.

Autumn also is the stage for some special events in the Inlet area. The Adirondack Canoe Classic or "90 Miler," as paddlers know it, is held the first weekend after Labor Day. Starting at Old Forge Pond, the various classes of canoe, guide boat and kayak racers follow the Fulton Chain through Inlet along the Adirondack Passage in a three-day paddling marathon to end at Lake Flower in the Saranac Lake Region. It is a spectacular scene to witness the throng of watercraft as they make their way through the lakes, rivers, and various carries along the route.

Inlet's Fall Festival is held the third weekend of September at Fern Park. The two-day event offers art, crafts, and antiques as well as music, pony rides, food, and demonstrations.

The following weekend is the Adirondack Mountain Bike Festival and Races, the oldest NORBA sanctioned race in the Adirondacks. Events include kids' mountain bike races and rodeo, adult beginner, sport, and expert races, live music, food, and raffles.

**WINTER** is the second largest tourist season in the Inlet area. Snow brings the snowmobilers, cross-country skiers, snowshoers, ice skaters, ice fishermen, and those who just enjoy the beauty of the winter vista. **Downhill skiers** can enjoy the slopes at nearby McCauley Mountain, Big Tupper Ski Area, and Gore Mountain.

The Central Adirondack region, along with the Tug Hill Plateau, is widely recognized as one of the premier **snowmobiling** destinations in the United States. Thousands of miles of interconnecting trails comprise one of the most extensive snowmobiling networks in the Eastern U.S. The groomed and patrolled trails of the Inlet/Old Forge area are consistently ranked among the best in the country by top snowmobiling magazines.

The Town of Inlet grooms forty-four miles of trails, of which approximately half are on private property with the remainder on Town and State land. To the north, trails lead to Eagle Bay, Big Moose, Stillwater and beyond. Old Forge and Tug Hill trails lie to the west. Trails heading north from Raquette Lake flow past Tupper Lake all the way to the St. Lawrence. All these places are accessible from Inlet but certainly the most popular destination is a local one – the Moose River Recreation Area. The Towns of Inlet and Indian Lake share grooming of the trail between the Limekiln and Cedar River gates.

The Inlet-based Barnstormer's Snowmobile Club promotes safety and family snowmobiling by sponsoring safety programs, charitable fund-raisers, family picnics in the Moose River Recreation Area, and other social events. A vintage snowmobile race was introduced in 2000 and the Barnstormers continue their efforts to recover New York State fuel tax revenues and redistribute these monies to local rescue organizations toward the purchase of snow rescue equipment.

The Town of Inlet grooms an extensive **cross-country ski** trail system at Fern Park, Inlet Golf Course, and Limekiln Lake State Campground. There is a 3.5-mile set track for classical skiing of all levels, as well as a wide lane for skate skiing the Inlet Golf Course. For those seeking a more varied and wooded skiing experience, the Fern Park network contains beginner to expert trails with scenic views atop Fern Mountain. From classical to backcountry skiing, the Fern Park Trails have something for everyone. The Limekiln Lake trail system traverses the State

campground along the lakeshore. These trails also connect with a Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) trail system off of Limekiln Road and can be reached via the Fern Park system.

DEC designated trails can be found at Black Bear Mountain, Cascade Lake and Moss Lake (in the adjacent town of Webb). The Black Bear Mountain ski trail, accessed from a trailhead behind the phone company building, stops short of the summit as it converges with a hiking trail. Cascade Lake, a 5.8-mile loop, and Moss Lake, a 3-mile loop, are accessed from Big Moose Road, just north of Eagle Bay. Both are very popular cross-country ski destinations for the intermediate skier.

The Black Bear Mountain hiking trails, from both Rocky Point and Uncas Road, make a perfect **snowshoeing** network to the summit, which affords a spectacular view of the surrounding area. Fern Park also offers ideal terrain for the snowshoer, particularly the back trails which are generally not groomed and seldom are utilized by anyone but the true backcountry skier. Snowshoers can find ample opportunities as well in Limekiln State Campground, Brown's Tract Ponds area on Uncas Road, nearby Windfall Pond and Queer Lake (Town of Webb), which are located just north of Cascade Lake on Big Moose Road, or upon virtually any state lands within the Town of Inlet.

**Ice skating** and **sledding** are available at Fern Park. Fern Park Pavilion offers enclosed skating, restrooms and a warming room and is open to the public daily from 9:00 AM to 9:00 PM, weather permitting.

Inlet is active throughout the winter months with a variety of community events produced by a host of local organizations, clubs and businesses. One community event is Inlet's Frozen Fire & Lights, which replaced Winterfest. Activities during Inlet's Frozen Fire & Ice include ice-skating, cross-country skiing & sledding during the day with evening entertainment featuring fireworks and a community bonfire.

## **Social, Cultural and Educational Resources**

The various churches of Inlet provide year round residents, seasonal residents, and visitors not only a place of worship, but also a sense of community and social identity. Inlet offers places of worship for three different denominations, including the Catholic faith at **St. Anthony's Church**, the Presbyterian faith at the **Church of the Lakes** (summer months), and a biblical-based Protestant faith at the **Inlet Community Church**.

The **Inlet Public Library** recently moved to its newly renovated location at the old fire station in the center of town. This larger structure provides an improved environment for reading comfort, book displays, and Internet services for the public.

The **Senior Citizen's facility** was added to the Town Hall Building in 1994-1995 to accommodate the needs of Inlet's senior population. The center currently provides luncheons and other social activities for the area residents and visitors.

The first **Adirondack Park Community Information Center (ACIC)** was completed in 2000 with the purpose of “providing information among institutions, organizations, residents, and visitors in order to foster greater understanding and appreciation for the stewardship of the Adirondack Park’s natural resources and human settlements.” The ACIC gives historical and practical information to the visitor about the immediate community as well as the Adirondack Park. Inlet’s ACIC also serves as the major information resource for Inlet’s waterways.

The **Town of Inlet Information & Publicity Department**, housed in the Town Hall Building adjacent to Arrowhead Park, serves to promote the Hamlet of Inlet and surrounding area, its businesses, social, cultural, and recreational resources to the visitor. It provides information regarding local events, programs, and services through the publication of calendar and event schedules, and sponsors many local events throughout the year that attract visitors to the area.

The **Fulton Chain of Lakes Performing Arts Council, Inc.** was formed in 1998 in order to bring the Syracuse Symphony to Inlet for an annual summer event. The first concert in 1999 at Arrowhead Park was such a huge success that additional space and an afternoon youth concert were added during 2000. The community looks forward to the Symphony’s appearance as an annual event.

The **Inlet Youth Commission** offers a variety of programs to the youth of the area. With a summer program offering baseball, softball, swimming, tennis and golf lessons and excursion such as to New York City to see the Rockettes or to watch the New York Yankees. They also offer ice hockey lessons, and other activities during the winter and make sure every child in the area receives a gift from Santa. In October they host a Halloween Party and Haunted House.

The **American Legion and Auxiliary Leonard-Mick-Roberts Post #1402** was established in 1946. The post includes members from both the Towns of Inlet and Raquette Lake. In 1956 they purchased a used Cadillac ambulance and housed it in their garage to be used for emergencies. They ran this service until the early 1990’s when the Volunteer Ambulance Squad was formed. The legion and the auxiliary send one boy and one girl from the area to Boys State and Girls State every year. They are hosts to the Hamilton County Memorial Day Parade every four years. They participate in memorial services for departed comrades. And they are always willing to participate in programs that will benefit the area especially those involving area youth.

## **Assets**

### **New York State Owned:**

#### Campgrounds

Brown's Tract

Eighth Lake

Limekiln

#### Canoe Carries

Eighth Lake to Brown's Tract

Fifth Lake to Sixth Lake

Seventh Lake to Eighth Lake

#### Hiking Trails

Moose River Recreation Area

#### Public Boat Launches

Eighth Lake (2)

Fourth Lake

Seventh Lake

#### State Land for Other Recreation

### **New York State Agencies:**

Adirondack Park Agency

Department of Environmental Conservation

Department of Health

Department of Transportation

### **Inlet Organizations:**

Alcoholics Anonymous

American Legion (& Auxiliary) Post #1402

#### Church Groups

Church of the Lakes

Inlet Community Church

St. Anthony's

Fourth Lake Association

Fulton Chain of Lakes Improvement Association

Town of Inlet Special Board Master Plan

Fulton Chain of Lakes Performing Arts Council, Inc.  
Inlet Barnstormers Snowmobile Club, Inc.  
Inlet Fire Ladies  
Inlet Volunteer Emergency Services, Inc.  
Limekiln Lake Association  
Parents & Teachers as Partners  
Sixth and Seventh Lake Association  
Volunteer Trail Group (Central Adirondack Trailblazers)  
Young at Heart  
Youth Commission

**Inlet Owned / Maintained:**

Arrowhead Park Complex

- Boat Docks (Boardwalk)
- Lighted Baseball Field
- Picnic Area
- Playground
- Public Beach
- Public Parking
- Public Restrooms
- Rental Cottages
- Tennis Courts

Fern Park Complex (Recreation Area)

- Baseball Field
- Basketball Court
- Pavilion (Ice Rink, Basketball Court, Warming Hut, Year-round Public Restrooms)
- Public Parking
- Sledding Hill
- Trails - Hike, Mountain Bike, Cross-Country Ski (5K Lighted)

Common Planting

Cross-Country Ski Trails  
Hiking Trails  
Mountain Biking Trails  
Pedestrian Walkways

Seasonal Displays on Street Poles

Seating Areas

Sidewalks

Snowmobile Trail System

T.O.B.I.E. (Thendara, Old Forge, Big Moose, Inlet, Eagle Bay) Project

Transfer Station

**Other Inlet Recreation Areas:**

Horseback Riding Stables (2)

Inlet Golf Course (Also used for Cross Country Ski Trails)

Waterways - Lakes, Creeks, Streams Used for Swimming, Boating, Fishing

**Inlet (Area\*) Services:**

Adirondack Park Community Information Center

Central Adirondack Association\*

Drug Store\*

Hamilton County Tourism\*

HASCA-Community Transportation Service\*

Houses of Worship

Inlet Area Chamber of Commerce, Inc. (dormant as of October 1, 2002)

Inlet Economical Development & Tourist Information Office

Inlet Public Library

Inlet Police

Inlet Post Office

Inlet Public School

Inlet Volunteer Ambulance Squad

Inlet Volunteer Emergency Services, Inc.

Inlet Volunteer Hose Co.

inletny.com

Old Forge Professional Offices, Health Center\*

Workforce Investment Board\*

**Inlet Infrastructure:**

BTI Program

Cable (Most Areas)

Cellular Phone (Some Areas)

Codes & Zoning Officer

Electric (Most Areas)

Existing Plans/Ordinances

    Land Use

    Zoning

    Trailer

Highway

Internet

Parks & Recreation

Personnel & Departments

    Planning Board

    Special Board

    Zoning Board of Appeals

Phone

Public Parking

Public Restrooms

Roads

Satellite Television

**Natural Resources:**

Bodies of Water

Clean Air

Clean Water

Forests

Mountains

Peacefulness

Wildlife

**Major Tourism Assets:**

Apartments  
Bed & Breakfasts  
Cottage Colonies  
Cottages  
Hotel/Resort  
Motels  
Public Restrooms  
Public Showers  
Town Homes

**Other Inlet (Area\*) Services:**

Auto Repairs\*  
Bakery  
Bike Sales, Rentals & Services  
Book Store  
Builders  
Contractors  
Cross-country Skis, Snowshoes & Ice Skates, Sales & Services  
Fitness & Tanning Center  
Florist  
Furniture Stores  
Gas Station  
General Store  
Gift Shops  
Grocery Store  
Hair Salons\*  
Hardware Stores  
Insurance Company  
Kennel & Pet Grooming  
Laundromat  
Law Offices  
Local Newspapers\*  
Lumber Yard

Town of Inlet Special Board Master Plan

Marinas

Motorized & Non-motorized Boat Sales, Rentals & Services

Movie Theater

Outdoor Gear & Apparel Store

Outfitters, Licensed Guides

Photography

Real Estate Agency

Restaurants

Sea Plane Services

Sign Shop

Snowmobile Sales, Rentals & Services\*

Video Rentals

Wine & Liquor Store

\*Located in neighboring towns

## FOCUS AREAS FOR PLANNED CHANGE

### Preferred Character and Image of Inlet

- I. GOAL: Improve the image and appearance of Inlet while retaining its unique character. Ensure that Inlet remains a good and safe place to live with the opportunity for a high quality of life.
  - a. ACTION ITEM: Develop Architectural/Maintenance Guidelines, based on the 1998 Inlet Property Owner/Registered Voter Survey Results and the 2002 Visual Preference Survey Results and make them available to property owners as a guide for property improvement and maintenance.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Inlet Planning Board
- Inlet Codes & Zoning Officer

- b. ACTION ITEM: The Town of Inlet should identify and maintain a list of financial resources available to property owners with financial need to repair, refurbish or rehabilitate their properties through the town newsletter.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Inlet Town Clerk
- Inlet Economic Development & Tourist Information Office

- c. ACTION ITEM: Pursue grants and/or special funding to assist property owners who have property in need of repairs, refurbishing and rehabilitation.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Hamilton County
- Town of Inlet

- d. ACTION ITEM: Establish incentives to induce property owners to maintain their property such as beautification awards and public recognition.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Inlet Economic Development & Tourist Information Office
- Central Adirondack Association

- e. ACTION ITEM: Make property owners aware of Local Law 1976 #1 that provides for the removal or repair of buildings in business, industrial and residential sections that, from any cause, may now be or shall hereafter become dangerous, unsightly or unsafe to the public and enforce this law.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Town of Inlet Codes & Zoning Officer

POTENTIAL CONSEQUENCES OF INACTION: Some buildings/properties in the Town of Inlet will remain unattractive or others may degenerate with peeling paint, rusty roofs, unfinished siding and junk in yards leaving a negative visual image.

- f. ACTION ITEM: Request Utility Companies to place their utilities underground when future major upgrades or changes are needed.  
Note: This could be very costly to implement and a cost benefit study should be undertaken to justify the action.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Inlet Town Board
- Niagara Mohawk
- Adelphia (cable television service)
- Frontier (telephone service)

POTENTIAL CONSEQUENCES OF INACTION: Aboveground wires and cables will remain unsightly and vulnerable to damage from falling trees and being struck by motor vehicles.

- g. ACTION ITEM: Make business owners aware of unsightly signs through the Visual Preferencing Survey by viewing signs as visitors see them.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Inlet Planning Board

- h. ACTION ITEM: Revise the Zoning Ordinance to specify standards for signage. Consider adopting the Adirondack Park Agency sign guidelines.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Inlet Planning Board

- i. ACTION ITEM: Establish guidelines for signage and sign placement based on the Results Visual Preferencing Survey showing a range of positive sign examples.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Inlet Planning Board

POTENTIAL CONSEQUENCES OF INACTION: Some signs will remain unattractive and a continued proliferation of signs will pose visual clutter.

- j. ACTION ITEM: Provide pedestrian lighting along all Town sidewalks, based on the results of the Visual Preferencing Survey.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Inlet Highway Department
- Inlet Parks Department
- Inlet Town Board

POTENTIAL CONSEQUENCES OF INACTION: Some pedestrian areas along sidewalks will continue to have dark areas making it difficult to navigate at night.

2. GOAL: Keep Inlet clean and trash free.

- a. ACTION ITEM: Educate the public through signage, publications, etc. to take responsibility of proper disposal of trash.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Inlet Parks Department
- Inlet Highway Department
- Inlet Economic Development & Tourist Information Office

- b. ACTION ITEM: Place more easily identifiable, easy to use trash receptacles at convenient locations in the Town, at boat launches, parking areas, trailheads and exits from camping areas.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Inlet Parks Department
- Inlet Highway Department

- c. ACTION ITEM: Empty trash receptacles regularly to prevent overflow and minimize attracting animals.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Inlet Parks Department
- Inlet Highway Department

- d. ACTION ITEM: Enact and rigorously enforce litter laws.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Inlet Planning Board
- Inlet Town Board
- Inlet Police Department

- e. ACTION ITEM: Establish frequent clean-up efforts; utilize Town of Inlet employees and citizen volunteers. Ex. "Adopt A Highway" Program.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Inlet Parks Department
- Inlet Highway Department

- Inlet Economic Development & Tourist Information Office

a. ACTION ITEM: Keep trash receptacles at strategic locations year round.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Inlet Parks Department
- Inlet Highway Department

b. ACTION ITEM: Place signs at parking lots, trailheads and boat launches to indicate where and when to dispose of trash.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Inlet Parks Department
- Inlet Highway Department

c. ACTION ITEM: Place signs at strategic locations to direct visitors to the Town Transfer station for trash disposal and hours of operation.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Inlet Parks Department
- Inlet Highway Department
- Inlet Transfer Station Department

d. ACTION ITEM: Provide alternative receptacles outside the Transfer Station during times that it is closed.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Inlet Transfer Station Department

POTENTIAL CONSEQUENCES OF INACTION: The streets, highways and trails in the Town of Inlet will continue to be littered with trash.

## Economic Development and Town Revitalization

I. GOAL: Enhance the tax base and economy of Inlet, improve on its assets and preserve the surrounding environment.

a. ACTION ITEM: Develop an inventory of commercial property designating the "Highest and Best Use" options for development or re-development.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Central Adirondack Association Economic Development Committee
- Inlet Economic Development & Tourist Information Office
- Inlet Planning Board

b. ACTION ITEM: Advertise to find entrepreneurs to start new businesses identified as needed to improve the business mix.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Inlet Economic Development & Tourist Information Office
- Central Adirondack Association Economic Development Committee

c. ACTION ITEM: Inventory existing visitor attractions and brainstorm new attractions that could enhance the local economy during low visitor periods.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Inlet Economic Development & Tourist Information Office
- Central Adirondack Association Economic Development Committee

d. ACTION ITEM: Develop a new or revised marketing strategy to more effectively promote the area and the unique things Inlet has to offer visitors. Market to major metropolitan areas as a less crowded, pristine place to visit.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Inlet Economic Development & Tourist Information Office
- Central Adirondack Association Economic Development Committee

e. ACTION ITEM: Rejuvenate the Inlet Area Chamber of Commerce, Inc.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Inlet Business Owners

f. ACTION ITEM: Establish a full service restaurant downtown.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Private Entity

- g. ACTION ITEM: Research and create additional markets for winter, spring and fall businesses.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Inlet Economic Development & Tourist Information Office
- Central Adirondack Association Economic Development Committee

- h. ACTION ITEM: Seek grants/funds to winterize and upgrade commercial properties.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Inlet Economic Development & Tourist Information Office
- Central Adirondack Association Economic Development Committee

- i. ACTION ITEM: Seek assistance from the Workforce Investment Board of Hamilton County to conduct a seminar for local businesses on teamwork, employee training and employee recruitment.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Hamilton County Workforce Investment Board
- Central Adirondack Association Economic Development Committee
- Inlet Businesses

- j. ACTION ITEM: Advertise/solicit for entrepreneurs to start new businesses.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Central Adirondack Association Economic Development Committee
- Inlet Economic Development & Tourist Information Office

- k. ACTION ITEM: Identify grant money opportunities for funding.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Inlet Economic Development & Tourist Information Office
- Inlet Town Clerk
- Central Adirondack Association Economic Development Committee

- l. ACTION ITEM: Identify Economic Development Programs for funding.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Inlet Economic Development & Tourist Information Office
- Central Adirondack Association Economic Development Committee

- m. ACTION ITEM: Offer tax incentives for repair/renovation of commercial property.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Town of Inlet

- n. ACTION ITEM: Maintain an inventory of developable/re-developable Commercial properties considering highest and best use potential.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- i. Inlet Planning Board

- o. ACTION ITEM: Encourage the startup of an employee agency to hire, train and provide benefits for employees leased out to area businesses.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- i. Inlet Businesses
- ii. Hamilton County Workforce Investment Board

POTENTIAL CONSEQUENCES OF INACTION: The Inlet economy will stagnate and some commercial properties will continue to be underutilized, underdeveloped and poorly maintained.

## **Zoning, Land Use and Development and Preservation of Historic Sites and Buildings**

1. **GOAL:** Use Inlet Zoning and Adirondack Park Agency Land Use Classifications to protect property values, improve the maintenance and appearance of properties, allow for a mix of housing options including affordable housing, ensure the peace and safety of residential areas, control the location, type and extent of commercial development. This will achieve a balance between commercial uses and residential living, while Building Codes will ensure safe and appropriate development.

a. **ACTION ITEM:** Rewrite the zoning ordinance to establish a set of zoning districts with permissible property uses in support of desirable development and/or redevelopment and to protect community property owners from unwanted and/or undesirable development.

**RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:**

- Inlet Planning Board

b. **ACTION ITEM:** Change zoning districts to fit the principle existing property uses to protect property values and property owners to permit desirable development and/or re-development as follows:

1. Change R-1 to C-1 along the West side of the Limekiln Rd. from Bill Payne's to Lamphear's to the depth of the existing lots linking the present sections zoned C-1 along the West side of the Limekiln Rd.
2. Change C-1 to R-R on the East side of the Limekiln Rd. across from the entrance to the Limekiln Campground removing a spot zone.
3. Change R-R to Commercial on the East side of Rt. 28 from the State land South to the present section zoned C-2 within the area classified Hamlet.
4. Consider changing other sections to Commercial within the area classified Hamlet.
5. Change C-2 to R-1 along the North and South sides of the Uncas Rd. from the horse stables east.

**RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:**

- Inlet Planning Board

c. **ACTION ITEM:** Apply to the Adirondack Park Agency for Zoning Ordinance approval.

**RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:**

- Town of Inlet

- d. ACTION ITEM: Determine desired changes in APA Land Use Classifications to be compatible with zoning districts and file a request for amendments to the official Adirondack Park Land Use and Development Plan Map with the APA.
1. Change Seventh Lake Public Boat Launch from Wild Forest to Intensive Use.
  2. Change Low Intensity to Hamlet along the North side of Rt. 28 from existing Hamlet classification to Heroux's across from the Easy Mart.
  3. Change Rural Use to Hamlet along both sides of the Limekiln Rd. from existing Hamlet classification to past the Saw Mill to the Southerly boundary of the Commercial zoning.
  4. Change Moderate and Low Intensity to Hamlet from the Herkimer County line in Eagle Bay East to encompass the Niagara Mohawk substation, Kliffside Kennel, the horse stables, the North Star Motel and North Star Rd. on the North side of Rt. 28 and Clarks Marina on the South side of Rt. 28 West to the Herkimer County line.
  5. Change all of the remaining rural use to moderate intensity from the above proposed hamlet northeast.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Adirondack Park Agency

- e. ACTION ITEM: Inventory the existing non-conforming use properties.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Inlet Zoning Officer

- e. ACTION ITEM: Revise town road specifications to provide criteria for slopes, grades and paving by developers prior to transfer to Town of Inlet.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Inlet Planning Board
- Inlet Town Board
- Inlet Highway Superintendent

POTENTIAL CONSEQUENCES OF INACTION: Property owners will not be adequately protected from unwanted or undesirable development and/or allow desirable uses. Non-conforming uses will continue and may grow defeating the purpose of zoning.

2. GOAL: Identify and preserve historic sites and buildings in Inlet.

- a. ACTION ITEM: Gather data on old buildings and establish a catalog of historic sites and buildings with detailed descriptions giving locations, existing and former uses, date built, former owners, etc.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Inlet Town Historian

- b. ACTION ITEM: Establish a Historical Preservation Organization composed of Planning Board members, Town Historian and Inlet citizens interested in Town of Inlet history.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Inlet Town Board

- c. ACTION ITEM: Establish a Historical Preservation Fund and/or other sources of funds to finance preservation of historic properties.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Inlet Town Historian
- Inlet Town Board

- d. ACTION ITEM: Consider historical designation for sites and buildings listed in the catalog of historic sites and buildings.

ORGANIZATION RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION

- Inlet Town Historian
- Historical Preservation Organization, if formed

POTENTIAL CONSEQUENCES OF INACTION: Historic sites, buildings, artifacts, pictures and documents may be lost due to demolition, destruction and decay.

## Infrastructure and Service

1. GOAL: Provide the necessary infrastructure and services to the Inlet property owners, residents and visitors in a cost-effective manner.

- a. ACTION ITEM: Conduct a study to identify all problem properties with subsurface contamination, brownfield and wastewater problems and/or inadequate septic and well separation.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Inlet Town Board

- f. ACTION ITEM: Create water and/or sewer districts to serve properties with wastewater problems and/or inadequate septic and well separation problems.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Inlet Town Board

- g. ACTION ITEM: Hire an engineering firm to design water and/or sewage systems.

Note: See Appendix for "Town of Inlet Request for Proposals for Engineering Services Planning for Wastewater Collection and Treatment Facility."

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Inlet Town Board

- h. ACTION ITEM: Develop funding to finance the building of water and/or sewer infrastructure.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Inlet Town Board

- i. ACTION ITEM: Build and operate the water and/or sewage systems.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Inlet Town Board.

POTENTIAL CONSEQUENCES OF INACTION: Permits to expand businesses will continue to be denied by the State of New York Department of Health because there is not sufficient space in the hamlet area to allow for expansion of septic systems, due to close proximity of water supplies. Residents may be at risk of disease from drinking water from contaminated wells due to septic systems that are too close to wells and of unsatisfactory condition. Treatment of these contaminated wells such as filtering and disinfecting the water to remove or destroy microbiological contaminants is not practical or economical for most residents leaving no alternatives. Seventh, Sixth, Fifth and Fourth Lakes are gradually being contaminated with

Fourth Lake already showing evidence of deteriorating water quality putting swimmers at health risk.

- j. ACTION ITEM: Partner with adjacent communities to develop continuous sidewalk network.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Town of Inlet

- k. ACTION ITEM: Complete the sidewalk network.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Inlet Highway Department
- Inlet Town Board

POTENTIAL CONSEQUENCES OF INACTION: Pedestrians will continue to encounter a safety hazard by having to walk on the shoulder of the road in parts of Inlet.

- 2. GOAL: Ensure that Emergency Services will have the capability and resources to respond to and serve all emergency calls.

- a. ACTION ITEM: Hire full time and part time emergency services personnel.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Inlet Volunteer Emergency Services, Inc.

- b. ACTION ITEM: Compensate emergency services volunteers on a per call basis.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Inlet Volunteer Emergency Services, Inc.

- c. ACTION ITEM: Recruit and train new emergency services volunteers.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Inlet Volunteer Emergency Services, Inc.

POTENTIAL CONSEQUENCES OF INACTION: Diminished ability of emergency services to respond to emergency calls, putting people's lives in jeopardy.

- 3. GOAL: Ensure that there are adequate public restrooms available year round and that they are easily identified.

- a. ACTION ITEM: Identify the restrooms at Fern Park and at Inlet Town Hall as open in the winter.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Inlet Parks Department

b. ACTION ITEM: Erect signs directing the public to restrooms.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Inlet Parks Department

POTENTIAL CONSEQUENCES OF INACTION: The public will continue to be unaware of the existence of public restrooms and will be inconvenienced by limited access to year round public restrooms.

4. GOAL: Maximize the salvage and recycling of waste products.

a. ACTION ITEM: Find and contract with a vendor to purchase these potentially recyclable waste products

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Inlet Town Board
- Inlet Transfer Station Department

POTENTIAL CONSEQUENCES OF INACTION: Many potentially recyclable waste products will continue to be disposed of as trash adding to landfill volumes and unnecessary depletion of natural resources.

5. GOAL: Provide collection capability and/or information to dispose of hazardous products.

a. ACTION ITEM: Find and contract with a vendor to receive and dispose of hazardous waste products dropped off at the transfer station either on designated days or on any day with storage provided between vendor visits.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Inlet Town Board
- Inlet Transfer Station Department

POTENTIAL CONSEQUENCES OF INACTION: Inlet residents will continue to have no place to dispose of certain "hazardous waste".

6. GOAL: Ensure reliable phone and high-speed internet access, digital television and reliable wireless phone service for normal and emergency communications.

a. ACTION ITEM: Capital Net should provide additional modems for internet access.

b. ACTION ITEM: Adelphia should provide fiber optic service for high-speed internet access and digital television.

- c. ACTION ITEM: Eagle-wireless should expand service area for internet access.
- d. ACTION ITEM: Verizon and Cingular should be encouraged to build cell phone towers/transmitter – receivers in the Town of Inlet.

POTENTIAL CONSEQUENCES OF INACTION: Internet users will continue to have periodic delays in getting access, will continue to get annoying disconnects, and will have slow data transmission. Cell phone users will not have services in most areas of the town and emergency calls cannot be made from remote areas.

7. GOAL: Ensure adequate day care services for children.

- a. ACTION ITEM: Encourage the establishment of childcare facilities in Inlet.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Private Entity
- Town of Inlet

POTENTIAL CONSEQUENCES OF INACTION: Parents will continue to be limited in their ability to work and/or pursue other out of home activities.

8. GOAL: Ensure reliable electric service at reasonable prices.

- a. ACTION ITEM: Install hydroelectric generator at the Sixth Lake dam while being repaired or in the future.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Private Entity
- Town of Inlet

- b. ACTION ITEM: Develop an electric generating wind farm.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Private Entity
- Town of Inlet

- c. ACTION ITEM: Take over local transmission facilities.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Private Entity
- Town of Inlet

POTENTIAL CONSEQUENCES OF INACTION: The cost will continue to be high and service will continue to be unreliable.

## Transportation and Parking

I. GOAL: Ensure adequate affordable public transportation to meet the needs of those who do not drive and to alleviate congestion and pollution during the high traffic periods.

a. ACTION ITEM: Establish a public shuttle service/Trolley.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Private Entity
- Town of Inlet

b. ACTION ITEM: Encourage the startup of a taxi service/car service.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Private Entity
- Town of Inlet

c. ACTION ITEM: Better publicize availability of the Community Transportation Services shuttle service to Utica on designated days.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Community Transportation Services
- Hamilton County
- Inlet Economic Development & Tourist Information Office
- Central Adirondack Association

d. ACTION ITEM: Encourage the startup of a public bike rental service.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Inlet Economic Development & Tourist Information Office
- Private Entity
- Local Bike Shop

e. ACTION ITEM: Encourage the extension of rail service.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Adirondack Scenic Railroad
- Town of Inlet
- Hamilton County

f. ACTION ITEM: Encourage the startup of a water taxi service.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Local Marina(s)

- Private Entity

POTENTIAL CONSEQUENCES OF INACTION: A lack of public transportation will continue to impede access to medical services and shopping for residents who do not drive. Drivers will continue to be frustrated with slow traffic at peak traffic periods and visitors may not return to Inlet. Unnecessary air pollution will continue.

2. GOAL: Ensure adequate off street parking in and near the Hamlet of Inlet for visitors with automobiles, recreational vehicles (RVs) and trailers and loading zones to keep delivery trucks from obstructing traffic.
  - a. ACTION ITEM: Designate parking for RVs and vehicles pulling trailers at Fern Park and Rocky Mountain and run shuttle service to and from these locations.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Inlet Planning Board
- Town of Inlet
- Inlet Parks Department
- Inlet Highway Department

- b. ACTION ITEM: Designate loading zones for deliveries.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Private Businesses
- Town of Inlet

- c. ACTION ITEM: Town of Inlet purchase property and create parking lots for public parking.
- d. ACTION ITEM: Town of Inlet should establish contracts with the Churches to fully utilize church parking lots when not in use by the church congregations for public parking.
- e. ACTION ITEM: Town of Inlet should establish contracts with local businesses to create off street public parking lots.
- f. ACTION ITEM: Establish limited time parking zones in front of Inlet Post Office.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Town of Inlet
- New York State Department of Transportation

- g. ACTION ITEM: Town of Inlet should create public parking at Inlet Public School when school is not in use on weekends and during summer months.

**POTENTIAL CONSEQUENCES OF INACTION:** A lack of public parking will continue to frustrate visitors, remain a safety hazard and harm the local economy.

## Recreation

- I. GOAL: Ensure that hike, cross-country ski, snowshoe, bike and snowmobile trails are well maintained for ease of use and safety and are well marked for easy identification and navigation.

- a. ACTION ITEM: Utilize local volunteer groups, ex. Adirondack Trailblazers, for regular trail maintenance.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Parks Department

- b. ACTION ITEM: State of New York to provide funding driven by Unit Management Plans (UMPs) for trail improvement, stewardship and maintenance.

- c. ACTION ITEM: Set up donation boxes at Fern Park & Inlet Town Hall to be administered by the Adirondack Trailblazers.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Inlet Parks Department

- d. ACTION ITEM: Budget for use of Town of Inlet employees for more trail maintenance.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Inlet Parks Department
- Inlet Highway Department

- e. ACTION ITEM: Lobby New York State for use of Department of Environmental Conservation and Parks & Recreation employees for additional trail maintenance.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Town of Inlet
- Inlet Residents

- f. ACTION ITEM: Solicit local schools, colleges, clubs & other communities to provide volunteers for trail maintenance.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Inlet Economic Development & Tourist Information Office

- g. ACTION ITEM: Get Adirondack Trailblazers designated by the Department of Environmental Conservation as the maintenance coordination group for area trail maintenance.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Town of Inlet

- h. ACTION ITEM: Promote the use of underutilized trails as an alternative to high use trails.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Inlet Economic Development & Tourist Information Office

- i. ACTION ITEM: Reconstruct/repair heavy use areas on trails.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Inlet Parks Department
- NYS DEC Department of Lands and Forests

- j. ACTION ITEM: Segregate conflicting/competing uses of trails, ex. Cross-country ski vs. snowshoe or motorized vs. non-motorized.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Inlet Parks Department
- NYS DEC Department of Lands and Forests

- k. ACTION ITEM: Redesign, reroute and/or widen problem areas on all trails.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Inlet Parks Department
- NYS DEC Department of Lands and Forests

- l. ACTION ITEM: Utilize the expertise of Forestry & Ranger schools for trail redesign.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Inlet Town Board
- Inlet Parks Department

- m. ACTION ITEM: Set up a method to identify trail sections needing more attention with notification to maintenance crews.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Inlet Parks Department
- NYS DEC Department of Lands and Forests

- n. ACTION ITEM: Schedule consistent grooming hours for trails considering weather and trail conditions.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Inlet Parks Department

- o. ACTION ITEM: Identify specific prohibitions/impediments to trail maintenance and develop recommendations for revisions to Park Master Plan through the APA and changes to DEC regulations through DEC. Ex. Maintaining cross-country ski trails via snowmobiles.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Inlet Town Board

- p. ACTION ITEM: Work with property owners to get agreement and permission for proper trail maintenance.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Town of Inlet
- Inlet Parks Department
- Inlet Highway Department
- NYS DEC Department of Lands and Forests

- q. ACTION ITEM: Develop a schedule for routine trail maintenance on all trails.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Inlet Parks Department
- Inlet Highway Department
- NYS DEC Department of Lands & Forests

- r. ACTION ITEM: Set up a crisis management plan with funding for major natural disasters affecting trail systems and other public recreational facilities.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Hamilton County Public Health and Emergency Management

POTENTIAL CONSEQUENCES OF INACTION: People who hike, backpack, mountain bike, snowshoe, cross-country ski or snowmobile will continue to encounter obstacles on trails and confusion at trailheads and intersections discouraging them from recreating in Inlet, thus hurting the local economy.

2. GOAL: Ensure accessibility and continuity of hike, cross-country ski, snowshoe, bike, and snowmobile trails, that they are routed to maximize safety, that they are routed over public lands where ever possible, long term easements are in place when routed over

private lands and adequate parking is provided to include accommodations for handicapped and elderly.

- a. ACTION ITEM: Reroute trails over public land to avoid crossing private property where possible.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- NYS DEC Department of Lands and Forests
- Town of Inlet

- b. ACTION ITEM: Establish permanent or long-term easements with property owners to route trails over private property where public land is unavailable.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- NYS DEC Department of Lands and Forests
- Town of Inlet

- c. ACTION ITEM: New York State or Town of Inlet purchase private property from willing sellers for trail routes where rerouting and/or easements are not an option.

- d. ACTION ITEM: Encourage private property owners, through incentives, recognition and insurance protection, to allow public use of trails over their land.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- New York State
- Town of Inlet

- e. ACTION ITEM: Conduct a study to identify problem areas of access to trails and lakes and acquire land and build parking lots where needed.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Town of Inlet with or without the assistance of a group formed by the Inlet Town Board

- f. ACTION ITEM: Install a floating platform at the Sixth Lake canoe access for periods of low water.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Town of Inlet

- g. ACTION ITEM: Create and designate canoe and kayak launch/docking area adjacent to swimming area at Arrowhead Beach.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Inlet Parks Department

POTENTIAL CONSEQUENCES OF INACTION: Trails accessed from or crossing private property may be cut off or be closed. Some trailheads and water access points will continue to be hard to reach and use.

3. GOAL: Minimize accidents involving participants of all recreational activities in the Town of Inlet.
  - a. ACTION ITEM: Develop, conduct and distribute educational programs to ensure safe and responsible use of snowmobiles, ATVs, PWCs, sail boats, power boats, water skis, hang gliders, mountain bikes, cross-county skis, snowshoes, ice skates, sleds, road bikes, skate boards, inline skates, roller skates, roller skis, rock climbing equipment, ice climbing equipment, hiking gear, backpacking gear, fishing/ice fishing equipment, canoes, kayaks and guide boats, and utilizing the proper equipment.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Town of Inlet
- State of New York
- NYS Police Department
- NYS DEC
- NYS Forest Rangers
- Hamilton County Sheriffs Department
- Local Marina(s)
- Local Snowmobile Rentals & Sales Business(es)
- Local Outfitter(s)
- Local Sporting Goods Store(s)
- Inlet Economic Development & Tourist Information Office
- Inlet Police Department

- b. ACTION ITEM: Reroute snowmobile trails off roads and sidewalks.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Inlet Parks Department
- NYS DEC Department of Lands and Forests

- c. ACTION ITEM: Reroute snowmobile trails to minimize the need to cross public roads.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Inlet Parks Department
- NYS DEC Department of Lands and Forests

- d. ACTION ITEM: Enforce laws associated with recreational activities.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Inlet Police Department
- NYS Police Department
- NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
- NYS Forest Rangers
- Hamilton County Sheriffs Department

POTENTIAL CONSEQUENCES OF INACTION: Emergency Services will continue to be overloaded responding to an unnecessarily high incidence of recreational accidents and injuries.

4. GOAL: Minimize misuse of recreational resources, noise and offensive behavior of recreationists.

- a. ACTION ITEM: Lobby for additional DEC, and other agencies, personnel to educate the public on responsible recreation and to enforce the rules.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Town of Inlet

- b. ACTION ITEM: Review and revise local laws to establish practical and enforceable control over the operation of PWCs, snowmobiles, ATVs and powerboats.

Progressive consequences to enhance local laws:

- Higher fines for first offense.
- Much higher fine for second offense.
- Revoke snowmobile permit for third offense.
- Impound snowmobile on fourth offense; ATV, PWC, powerboat on third offense.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Town of Inlet

- c. ACTION ITEM: Encourage operators to take responsibility for their actions through clubs, organizations and information media (magazines, newspapers, television, etc.)

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Inlet Economic Development & Tourist Information Office
- Town of Inlet

- d. ACTION ITEM: Educate the public through signage at boat launches, literature distributed to the public, boater safety courses and involvement of lake associations, clubs and dealers.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Town of Inlet
- Inlet Economic Development & Tourist Information Office
- Inlet Parks Department
- Hamilton County Sheriffs Department
- Inlet Barnstormers Snowmobile Club, Inc. and other clubs
- Sixth and Seventh Lake Association and other lake associations

- e. ACTION ITEM: Lobby snowmobile and PWC manufacturers to produce only 4 stroke engines and equip them with quiet mufflers.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Inlet Residents

- f. ACTION ITEM: Establish “quiet times” in “quiet zones” for PWCs.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Town of Inlet
- Inlet Planning Board

- g. ACTION ITEM: Enhance signage and literature to comprehensively cover rules, courtesy, laws, noise, pollution, occupancy, parking, etc.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Town of Inlet with the assistance of Inlet Parks Department, Inlet Police Department, Inlet Economic Development & Tourist Information Office

- h. ACTION ITEM: Enforce laws associated with recreational activities.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Inlet Police Department
- NYS Police Department
- NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
- NYS Forest Rangers
- Hamilton County Sheriffs Department

POTENTIAL CONSEQUENCES OF INACTION: The environment will continue to be damaged and littered. People will continue to be annoyed and offended by others exhibiting irresponsible behavior.

## Environment

- I. GOAL: Preserve and protect the natural environment from global and local contamination and physical damage.
  - a. ACTION ITEM: Request the New York State Department of Transportation to install filters in catch basins.  
  
RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:
    - Town of Inlet
  - b. ACTION ITEM: Stop the use of salt on roads and rely on snowplowing and sanding of roads.  
  
RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:
    - Inlet Highway Department
    - New York State Department of Transportation
  - c. ACTION ITEM: Lobby State and Federal governments to enact and enforce stricter Clean Air and Water Laws.  
  
RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:
    - Town of Inlet Residents
  - d. ACTION ITEM: Encourage the creation of alternate sources of power generation such as wind farms, solar panels and hydroelectric.  
  
RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:
    - Town of Inlet
  - e. ACTION ITEM: Find the sources of DDT contamination and remove or contain them.  
  
RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:
    - Soil Conservation
  - f. ACTION ITEM: Lobby to make 2-stroke cycle engines illegal on recreational vehicles.  
  
RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:
    - Inlet Residents
  - g. ACTION ITEM: Strictly enforce Health Department laws.  
  
RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:
    - Inlet Codes Officer

- h. ACTION ITEM: Require boats to be cleaned and cooling systems purged prior to launching. Seaplane bases should be purged of contamination on a frequent basis.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Town of Inlet
- NYS DEC
- Hamilton County Sheriffs Department

- i. ACTION ITEM: Hire a consultant to conduct a study to confirm sources of invasive plant species and advise on effective prevention/remedies.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- Town of Inlet

POTENTIAL CONSEQUENCES OF INACTION: Lakes, streams and the forest will continue to deteriorate from pollution. ATV use will damage trails, plant life and animal habitat.

## PUTTING THE PLAN INTO ACTION

The Focus Areas for Planned Change section of this Town Comprehensive Plan contains Goals, and Action Items and the following State of New York and Town of Inlet government organizations, government departments and non-government organizations have been identified as having responsibility for and the authority to take the necessary action for implementation of the plan.

- Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC)
- Adirondack Park Agency (APA)
- Department of Health
- New York State Legislature
- Town Board
- Planning Board
- Building Codes Office
- Assessor
- Police Department
- Highway Department
- Parks and Recreation Department
- Transfer Station
- Fire Department
- Volunteer Emergency Squad
- Inlet Volunteer Emergency Services, Inc.
- Publicity Department
- Inlet Area Chamber of Commerce, Inc. (dormant as of October 1, 2002)
- Inlet Common School

Action items have been specified by organization for implementation of the Goals, Objectives and Policies and each of these organizations will be given copies of the plan. It is expected that the Inlet Town Board, as the governing body of the Town of Inlet, will take the lead role in monitoring implementation of action items and follow up with the various organizations to ensure completion of action items as specified in the plan. In some cases priorities have been assigned and in other cases a sequence of implementation has been specified for execution of the action items. For example, some things will require immediate action to protect the safety, health and welfare of the citizens of Inlet, where other things are of a less critical nature and can be accomplished within a reasonable period of time, as resources can be made available. In the cases where a sequence has been specified, the interrelationships of action items has been taken into account such that completion of one action item will not undo another action item previously completed.

## KEEPING THE PLAN UPDATED

It is recognized that as time progresses, events will occur and new information will become available that was not anticipated or known when this version of the Inlet Town Comprehensive Plan was completed and adopted by the Town of Inlet. Therefore, updates and changes to the plan will be necessary to ensure that the plan continues to be a constructive guide that will lead the Town of Inlet into the future. The Inlet Planning Board, the Inlet Town Board or a Special Board appointed and empowered by the Inlet Town Board should, on each five year anniversary of the adoption of the Inlet Town Comprehensive Plan, or sooner, convene to review and update the plan as necessary and ensure that the updates and revisions conform to the will and expectations of the citizens of Inlet to the greatest extent possible. More frequent updates and revisions should be made as needs dictate.

Write a draft revision of the TCP using the following steps and at each step, review & revise as necessary.

- Brainstorm & list problems facing Inlet (see Problem Solving Process Appendix J).
  - Catalog problems by TCP category.
  - Brainstorm root causes of identified problems & list under applicable problem.
  - Brainstorm probable solutions for identified problems & list under applicable root cause. Develop action items for implementation.
- Brainstorm opportunities for enhancing/improving Inlet & write action items under the appropriate TCP category.
- Identify interdependencies between action items, where they exist, and sequence action items in order of interdependence to determine timing for implementation.
- Determine approximate cost for implementation where possible and identify who is responsible to take action.
- Produce draft TCP, publish copies for review & schedule reviews by necessary agencies (Inlet Planning Board, Inlet Town Board, APA, Legal, other?).
- Schedule, publicize and conduct Town meetings and public hearings on draft TCP.
- Revise & publish final draft TCP and present to the Inlet Town Board for review, final public hearing and adoption by resolution as the officially revised TCP

## APPENDICES

- A. Visitor Survey Results Summary and Sample Questionnaire
- B. Inlet Property Owner/Registered Voter 1998 Survey Results Summary and Sample Questionnaire
- C. Visual Preference Survey Results
- D. A Summary Report of Workshops held in the Towns of Forestport, Inlet and Webb
- E. Land Use Plan April 1993
- F. Town of Inlet Ordinances
- G. Town of Inlet Laws
- H. Legal Requirements and Administrative Procedures for Approval of Town Special Improvement Districts Sewer and Water Improvements
- I. Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement MA99-4
- J. Bernier, Carr & Associates Wastewater Collection & Treatment Presentation for Hamlet of Inlet
- K. Problems-Causes-Solutions
- L. Water Quality-Sixth and Seventh Lakes
- M. Investigative Report to Determine Sources of Increased Levels of Dichloro Diphenyl Trichloroethane (DDT) in Lake Trout and Furbearers in the Fulton Chain of Lakes Area of the West/Central Adirondack Mountains
- N. Trends Data
- O. Environmental Impact Study Report (To be attached)