

## **ARCHEOLOGICAL STUDY FOR THE VILLAGE OF ARGYLE**

Dear Village of Argyle Resident/Property Owner:

The Village of Argyle has engaged an archeologist to perform an archeological survey for the proposed wastewater collection and treatment project that has been in the works for over ten years. This is the next step in the process to secure a grant to aid the Village in making the proposed project more affordable.

The archeologist that was hired is Ed Curtain, Curtain Archeological Consulting, Inc. of Ballston Spa. Ed will be performing a literature search and windshield survey of the Village as well as excavating small holes to determine if there are any important historic and archaeological sites that may exist in the proposed construction areas.

The archaeologists will excavate small holes in selected locations where there may have been Indian campsites, early settler sites, or historic artifacts associated with the history of Argyle. The archaeologists are looking for bits of flint, arrowheads, old pieces of china or crockery, old square nails, and similar artifacts. The holes are about 12-15 inches in diameter, 1-2 feet deep, and excavated by hand with a shovel. The sod is carefully removed first and preserved for replacement. The soil from the hole is screened through wire mesh onto a plastic tarp to look for artifacts, and the archaeologists will take brief notes about the soil and artifacts. Then, the archaeologists will replace the soil in the holes, pack it down, and put the sod back on top. Each hole takes about 15-30 minutes to dig, record, and fill in. No holes will be left open after the archaeologists leave.

The field work is scheduled to commence the week after Thanksgiving and will continue until it is completed. The archeologists will have a letter of their own that explains what they will be doing and will present it to you upon request. They will also knock on your door to let you know that they will be doing their work that day and answer any questions that you may have.

We would ask that residents allow the archeologists to enter their property and give them their kind cooperation during the field work of this study. If you have any questions you may contact any of the Village Board members or the Village Clerk as noted below. In addition you may call the project engineer for the wastewater project, Garry Robinson, P.E.-Consulting Engineer, at 518-695-3655.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

The Village of Argyle Village Board (518-955-2766)

Wes Clark, Mayor

Joe Lohret, Council Person

Peter Bailey, Council Person

Joanne McDowell, Council Person

Cher McCotter, Council Person

Joyann Stimpson, Village Clerk