

NORTHCOUNTRY EARTHLINK

Northern New York's Environmental Issue and Project Information Warehouse

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RATIONALE

In the area surrounding the Clarkson University campus there are significant sources of environmental activity. Institutions such as St. Lawrence University, SUNY Potsdam, SUNY Canton, and even the Middle and High Schools in this area are all actively learning about and participating in projects that relate directly to the natural environment. In addition to this, there are a number of local organizations whose goals are to foster environmental projects and awareness about environmental issues. Finally, Industry and Government play a large role in dictating our relationship to the environment and sometimes sponsor projects or activities to improve it or educate the public about it. But as of now there is no one place that exists where one could go to find out about these different activities and how to help or get involved in them.

OBJECTIVE

In an attempt to provide an easily accessible avenue of communication between these groups a web page, *North Country Earthlink: Northern New York's Environmental Issue and Project Information Warehouse*, will be created. This page will be consistently updated to offer information on current projects and issues so that other interested parties can participate, attend or offer input. Although this page will be on the Internet and therefore available to the world, its intent is to be of service to the local communities of Canton and Potsdam.

Once established, *North Country Earthlink* will present students, teachers and local environmentalists with the ability to learn about or post current events, projects and activities relating to the environment. This ability will not only foster improvement of the local environment, but also bring together those with environmental concerns and bridge the gap between educators, students and community members.

ORGANIZATION

The main page will have a mission statement describing to users the function of the page. Beyond this the user will choose from a number of links likely including but not limited to: Education, Non-Profits, Government and Industry. Each of these will bring the user to a further page listing individual organizations represented on the page. For each organization there will be a listing of projects or issues as well as a contact person. Where applicable, a discussion forum will be made available where users can exchange ideas with others who may have more expertise in the field or are also interested in the same topic.

A webmaster will manage and update the page, and any user will have the ability to give comments as well as submit information and request its posting on the page.

If it is found that there is enough projects and information to support a “What’s Happening” per month page, this can also be added to outline events that environmentalists might be interested in attending.

If properly advertised to concerned citizens of Potsdam and surrounding communities, this page will aid in increasing communication on environmental projects and issues which will promote a better overall relationship with the environment in which we live.

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