

## Google Groups

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### Updates from the Town of Ulysses

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**Carissa Parlato** <clerk@ulysses.ny.us>

Jun 10, 2016 12:12 PM

Posted in group: **town-of-Ulysses**

Hello Ulyssians,

Read on for local government updates...

#### **SEVERE WEATHER POSSIBILITY**

Tompkins County Emergency Response has posted an alert for possible severe weather tomorrow afternoon into evening. There is the potential for damaging winds in excess of 60 mph, large hail, and isolated tornadoes. View the complete report here: <http://www.weather.gov/media/bgm/publicbrief.pdf> or visit <http://www.weather.gov/bgm/>

#### **BECOMING AN OUTDOORS WOMAN WORKSHOPS**

The NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation (DEC) offers various outdoor-oriented workshops such as hunting, fishing, taxidermy, and archery, specifically for women. Registration will open soon for a weekend session in Cortland in September. Workshops usually fill very quickly. Visit <http://www.dec.ny.gov/education/68.html> to learn more.

#### **GORGE TRAIL CLOSED**

The New York State Parks office announced that the Gorge Trail at Taughannock Falls State Park is temporarily closed as a result of the need to perform additional scaling and maintenance on sections of The Gorge Trail. The North Rim Trail and the South Rim Trail in the park will remain open. Updates can be obtained by visiting [NYS Parks.com](http://NYS Parks.com) or by calling Taughannock Falls State Park at 607-387-6739.

#### **WATERBURG BRIDGE**

The Waterburg Bridge will be closed to traffic until approximately October 3 as it is being replaced. Please contact the TC Highway Dept. at 274-0300 with questions.

#### **THE NEXT TOWN BOARD MEETING**

Tues. 6/14 at 7pm in the Town Hall.

View the agenda here: <http://ulysses.ny.us/council/tbmeetings/>

#### **PROTECTING YOUR HOME AGAINST CARPENTER BEES**

**From Mr. Myers, Ulysses Building/Code Officer:**

One sure sign of warm Spring weather is carpenter bees flying around the sunny side of houses, looking for a bare patch of wood to bore a hole, make a tunnel and lay their eggs in. The 1/2" diameter hole is not usually much bother, but when woodpeckers start trying to excavate the tunnels to get at the bee larvae, the real damage is apparent.

Many people think the woodpeckers are the only culprit as they are large, loud and can make a real mess of wood where the bee larvae dwell. It is important to address the base issue to effectively deal with a real problem.

When carpenter bees bore holes in wood, they usually look for what will be easiest; unpainted wood on the South or West side of a house. These sides tend to be hotter and the paint tends to fail sooner than the North or East sides. Bees only choose protected wood as a last resort. Keeping wood parts of the house protected is a very good deterrent. Paint, stain or even wrapping components with metal can keep the bees flying and looking for a more favorable location to do their work. If you do a search on the internet, you will find many sites advocating sprays and powders to kill the bees. This is marginally effective because unless

the bees are directly sprayed it does not have much effect. Powders are a little more effective when applied directly into the holes, but since the bees do not eat the wood, they usually do not ingest enough to kill them.

If you have carpenter bee damage, try injecting a sealant into their holes. The best thing is a slow drying, sticky caulking that will entangle the bee or larvae in the hole. Do not use silicone as it will not hold paint. In the late summer or fall, patch the holes (the caulk will have shrunk), prime and paint the bare wood and the bee issue will be greatly reduced the next year.

Sometimes, as at my house, carpenter bees like the front entry. They are territorial and will harass other insects and even humans. I have found that a badminton racket, when used effectively, can control a surprisingly large number of bees and make coming in the front door less traumatic.

### **COMMUNITY CALENDAR**

Check out our Community Calendar to see whats happening around town, or to add an event.

View it here: <http://ulysses.ny.us/calendar/?category=Community>

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Forward this message to anyone else that you think would be interested. We'd love to connect with more residents. To send questions or comments, or be removed from this list, please e-mail [clerk@ulysses.ny.us](mailto:clerk@ulysses.ny.us)

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Best,  
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