



NYS Broadband Flash Bulletin

Volume 4, Issue 13

www.nysbroadband.ny.gov

NYLA Announces Digital Literacy Program to Promote Digital Literacy for All New Yorkers

The New York Library Associated (NYLA) launched a new website to support the *New York Libraries: Leading the Way to Digital Literacy* project. This project, funded through BTOP, is a partnership between the New York State Office of Cyber Security and the New York Library Association. The program is dedicated to convening, supporting, coordinating and enhancing programs that provide digital literacy training. Part of the program includes a series of workshops designed to instruct library staff on how to train the public, providing uniform and standardized digital literacy content throughout the state.

Being digitally literate allows people to interact using the tools and technologies that are increasingly being used at home, in school and in business. As NYLA trains the library community in teaching digital literacy, libraries will begin to offer workshops to the public to enhance their skills.

The workshops will be held throughout the state over the next two years, and introduce a digital literacy curriculum to library staff. The goal of the program is to develop a cadre of trained library staff who can advance the digital literacy skills of their colleagues and patrons. The workshops are open to all library staff who interact with the public.

For more information, visit the program's new website at www.digitny.org or contact Mary Anne Waltz, at info@digitny.org.



NYLA Train-the-Trainer Training Calendar

November 7, 2012

NYLA Annual Conference
Saratoga Hilton
Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

November 14, 2012

Westchester Library System
540 White Plains Road
Tarrytown, NY 10591

December 5, 2012

NYLA Office Training Center
6021 State Farm Road
Guilderland, NY 12084

March 11, 2013

Moore Memorial Library
Greene, NY

March 27, 2013

Southern Tier Library System
Painted Post, NY

April 9, 2013

Westchester Library System
Tarrytown, NY

All workshops are 9:00 am – 3:30.

NYS Broadband Mapping Update For Connect NY

The Broadband Mapping Team at the NYS Office of Cyber Security has updated the NYS Broadband Map as it relates to Governor Cuomo's Connect NY (CNY) Broadband Grant Program. The following new map layers and information have been added:

- Connect NY applicants and their proposed project area footprints (new **Connect NY Project** layer)
- Boundaries of the State's ten (10) economic development regions (new **REDC Boundaries** layer)
- Previously reported broadband service availability (Round 6) meeting or surpassing the Connect NY Grant Program speed thresholds of 6 mbps download/1.5 mbps upload. (new **Connect NY Availability** layer)
- The Mapping Team intersected each proposed CNY project area with previously self-reported provider service footprints resulting in a list of each provider footprint intersected by each CNY project. This list was appended as a column in the new Connect NY Project layer. Clicking on any CNY project area footprint will reveal the intersection results for that project.

To interact with the map, visit www.broadbandmap.ny.gov and click the new "Connect NY Maps" button on the home page.

The Connect NY data depicted on the map is being used in technical assessments being conducted under the Connect NY Program. Broadband Providers who believe there are any project service areas which propose to serve areas already receiving broadband at or above the speed thresholds established by the program (6 Mbps download/1.5 Mbps upload), may notify the Broadband Program Office by email nysbroadband@esd.ny.gov no later than Monday, November 6th. Please include specific service area boundaries which accurately depict service already being provided.

The State of Broadband Development Worldwide

The Broadband Commission for Digital Development has released its first-ever country-by-country snapshot of the state of broadband deployment worldwide.



The *State of Broadband 2012: Achieving Digital Inclusion for All* report evaluates the roll-out of broadband around the world and tracks progress towards achieving the four advocacy targets set by the Commission in 2011 for boosting broadband affordability and uptake. It provides country rankings across 177 economies on economic impact, penetration, national broadband policy, and connecting people and dwellings.

The report reveals that while household Internet access has seen strong growth over the past year and is on track to achieve the Commission's target for Connecting Homes to Broadband, individual Internet use continues to lag behind.

In the report, the United States ranked 23rd in adoption worldwide, with 77.9% of U.S. individuals using the Internet. Iceland, Norway, Netherlands, Sweden, and Luxembourg took the top five spots.

The report notes a strong linguistic shift now taking place online. If current growth rates continue, it says, the number of Internet users accessing the Internet predominantly in Chinese will overtake English language users by 2015.

To download the full version of the State of Broadband Development report visit www.broadbandcommission.org/Documents/bb-.

To read this full article visit http://www.itu.int/net/pressoffice/press_releases/2012/61.aspx.

USDA Announces Broadband and Communications Projects To Create Jobs, Promote Education In Rural America

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced funding to expand access to broadband and telecommunications services in rural America. USDA Rural Development is funding 24 projects, through several loan and grant programs administered by the Rural Utilities Service (RUS); Broadband, Telecommunications loans, the Community Connect grant program, and the Public Television Digital Transition.

"USDA and the Obama administration continue to work to ensure that rural residents have access to expanded educational, health care, business and social opportunities through robust broadband and telecommunication services," said Agriculture Under Secretary for Rural Development Dallas Tonsager. "These funds will help modernize communications service and delivery for rural businesses and residential customers."



In the recently completed fiscal year, USDA Rural Development has funded over \$170 million in rural telecommunications projects nationwide to expand rural access to educational, health care, business and social services. In June 2012, the USDA announced three New York State Broadband Project Sponsors who collectively received more than \$650,000 in grants to improve telemedicine services and distance learning services.

For more information on USDA programs and opportunities visit <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/ProgramsAndOpportunities.html>.

Mailing Address:

Empire State Development
625 Broadway, 8th Floor
Albany, NY 12245

Contact:

David Salway, Program Director
Phone: (866) 322-5787
Email: NysBroadband@esd.ny.gov

Angela Liotta, Broadband Outreach Director
Phone: 518-292-5109
Email: aliotta@esd.ny.gov