

Glenville Hill Fire District to Dedicate UTV Project

The Glenville Hill Fire District No. 8 have planned a dedication of their Wildland Fire, Search and Rescue UTV project to be held on Wednesday, January 19th at 1:00pm at the firehouse located at the corner of Church and Ridge Roads in the Town of Glenville. The project, funded completely through private donations, including major support of the Oliver B. Merlyn Foundation will permit the District to better support the Glenville community on the western edge of Schenectady County. The District covers 460 acres of forever-wild town park land that provides over 10 miles of hiking trails and approximately 4,400 acres of privately owned multi-use forested acreage used for recreational hiking, x-country skiing, snowshoeing, hunting and shooting sports and farming. The District's critical infrastructure including power distribution substations, municipal water system buildings, pump stations and storage tanks, a natural gas pipeline, two-way communication towers and high-tension power transmission lines that are not readily accessible by public roads and large fire apparatus.

The UTV project will permit Fire, Search and Rescue volunteer teams to significantly reduce response time in reaching a wildland fire location or injured persons and provide ease of extrication of injured persons versus requiring multiple crews performing a 'hand' carry-out. The UTV provides the ability to carry large quantities of firefighting water and foam to remote woodlot fires versus backpack reservoirs hand carried by first responders. The enclosed trailer will serve as an on-scene mobile command center for fire, search and rescue missions where responders can meet/regroup until deployed during inclement weather emergencies response.