

FFLA EASTERN CONFERENCE

Richmondville, NY - June 20-22, 2025

Richmondville Fire Hall, 288 Main St., Richmondville, NY (I-88 Exit 20)

Plans are coming together for the 2025 Eastern Conference hosted by the New York State Chapter to be held in Richmondville, NY June 20-22.

Friday, June 20th, we will open the conference at 8am at the fire hall with registration, set up, and breakfast, including coffee! We will have some interesting displays at the fire hall and a silent auction for you to consider. Door prizes will be given throughout the conference. At 9am we will have our official welcome and introductions and outline the weekend events. We plan to depart the fire hall by 10 to begin our fire tower visits. Carpooling is strongly encouraged for these visits!

Friday, June 20th we will visit the Bramley Mountain and Berry Hill Fire Towers. Bramley Mountain will be a hike to the summit of 1.6 miles with an elevation gain of 775'. Berry Hill is a short walk or a drive up. A chicken barbecue is planned for dinner that evening back at the fire hall. We will hold a Board of Directors meeting in the evening.

Saturday, June 21st, we will have several speakers including the President of the Friends of Bramley Mountain Fire Tower, the Mayor of Speculator, both of whom put up "old" fire towers in the last few years. We will have a NYS Forest Ranger join us to discuss last fall's wildfires. Team Rubicon will be joining us to discuss how this organization has partnered with us in the past and what they may do for all of us in the future. We will have SUNY ESF Professor Andrew Yacht who teaches a fire ecology and management course join us along with some of his grad students. Following these presentations, we will visit the Kane Mountain Fire Tower, a hike of .9 miles with an elevation gain of 620'. We will then drive to the Makomis at Speculator Fire Tower, which you can drive to. Saturday evening dinner will be served back at the fire hall and the silent auction will conclude.

Sunday, June 22nd, we will have a lineup of towers for you to choose from to visit on your own, including visiting some private towers.

Cost: \$50.00 or an early bird special of \$45 if you register prior to June 6th. Your fee will help to offset the cost of the venue and food.

For questions or additional information, please contact Laurie Rankin at lauriejankin@gmail.com.

Albany International Airport is about 45 minutes away.

Register online at

<https://firelookout.org/events/2025-e-conference-register/>

or print and return form at:

<https://firelookout.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/2025-Conference-Registration-Form.pdf>

Area Lodging and Camping

Quality Inn (I-88 Exit 23, Schoharie):

<https://www.choicehotels.com/new-york/schoharie/quality-inn-hotels/ny553?mc=llqoxpx>

Super 8 by Wyndham (955 East Main Street, Cobleskill):

<https://www.wyndhamhotels.com/super-8/cobleskill-new-york/super-8-cobleskill-ny/overview>

Area Bed and Breakfasts:

<https://www.visitschohariecounty.com/listing/schoharie-county-chamber-of-commerce>

Twin Oaks Campground:

<https://twinoaksny.com/>

Hide A Way Campsites:

<https://hideawaycampsites.com/>

Other Points of Interest

Howes Caverns:

<https://howecaverns.com/>

Secret Caverns:

671 Caverns Rd, Howes Cave, NY 518-296-8558

Gilboa Historical Society and Petrified Wood:

<https://gilboahistoricalociety.com/110-2/>

Landis Arboretum:

<https://landisarboretum.org/>

Baseball Hall of Fame Cooperstown:

<https://baseballhall.org/>

NY Power Authority Blenheim Gilboa Visitors Center:

<https://www.nypa.gov/communities/visitors-centers/blenheim-gilboa-visitors-center>

Iroquios Museum:

<https://www.iroquoismuseum.org/>

Paulson Preserve Old-Growth Forest

Blenheim Covered Bridge and Horseshoe Cafe

Breakabeen General Store

Charlottesville General Store

Looking Glass Pond