

## Ex-Scout camp will boost Ulster revenues

TURNWOOD—Ulster County and the Town of Hardenburgh will gain an estimated \$13,000 per year in taxes with the return to the tax rolls of the former Alder Lake Boy Scout Camp near here.

The state Department of Environmental Conservation announced Monday that it had acquired the 1,600-acre parcel in an eminent domain proceeding.

The state has agreed to pay \$950,000 for the camp, but the former owner, the Nassau County Council of the Boy Scouts of America, is expected to appeal for a larger payment to the state Court of Claims, according to conservation department officials.

Conservation officials said the camp purchase would improve access to other state-owned property, including a 3,385-acre tract purchased last summer from the Catskill Center for Conservation and Development Inc.

Robert Kerwick, assessor for the Town of Hardenburgh, estimated the tax revenue from the Alder Lake camp at between \$12,000 and \$13,000, based on the purchase price.

The land is taxable because the camp will become part of state Forest Preserve, taxable under state law.

The property has not been operated as a Scout camp since 1976 and the Nassau County Council had it on the market before the state began negotiations for its purchase.

DEC and the Nassau County Council agreed that the department would purchase the property, but they were unable to agree on a price. Because of the failure to reach the agreement, the state acquired the camp in eminent domain proceedings.