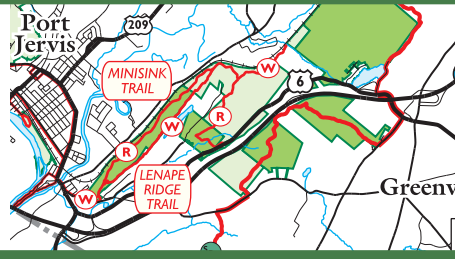




### Taking Our Bearings

Your responses to 13 questions can help keep the Trail Conference on track.

[READ MORE ON PAGE 3](#)



### Saving Land & Trails

Adding up the successes of our Land Acquisition and Stewardship Fund

[READ MORE ON PAGE 2](#)



# TRAIL WALKER

May/June 2011

New York-New Jersey Trail Conference – Connecting People with Nature since 1920

[www.nynjtc.org](http://www.nynjtc.org)

## Trail Conference Adds Catskill Region Program Coordinator



Jeff Senterman, 1990 recipient of the Trail Conference's Next Generation Award, has joined the Trail Conference staff as program coordinator for the Catskill region.

This new position aims to make Catskill trails and parklands more accessible and appealing to the public and to engage more local residents in the stewardship of Catskill trails and parklands. Jeff will work closely with trail volunteers, state and local agencies, and community groups to enhance and promote recreational trails in the region and, in so doing, to support local economic development.

Jeff brings environmental planning and office management experience to his new post. He worked as an environmental planner for the Massachusetts Aeronautics Commission, Boston, MA and for Waterman Design Associates, Westborough, MA.

**We aim to improve trails and engage more trail volunteers.**

His duties as planner involved the review and preparation of environmental permit applications and reviews at the local and state level for a wide range of project types, including residential, commercial and industrial projects; the coordination of projects with engineering and environmental staff; attending meetings with various local and state agencies to expedite project review; and taking part in conceptual and preliminary planning for projects.

Jeff is an avid hiker and outdoorsman who has spent a lot of time hiking in the Catskills, Adirondacks, and New England. He worked as a Dept. of Environmental Conservation assistant forest ranger in Greene County in 1998 and 1999. His father, Pete Senterman, was long-time volunteer Catskills Trails Chair for the Trail Conference and continues to be involved with Catskill trails. His brother Doug volunteers as supervisor of lean-to maintenance and upkeep in the region.

Jeff plans to live in the northeastern Catskills and to spend most of his time in the region. He earned a bachelor of science degree at Lyndon State College in Vermont, with a concentration in environmental science.

Funding for this Trail Conference initiative in the Catskills is provided by a family foundation.

## West Jersey Crew Nears Completion of New 7-Mile Jenny Jump Trail

The West Jersey Trail Crew is into its sixth year of work building a new, nearly 7-mile-long trail within the 4,200-acre Jenny Jump State Forest in Warren County. The Jenny Jump Trail (formerly called the Warren Trail) will add to the forest's existing network of hiking-only trails. (Some trails in the forest are open for biking.) The trails offer pastoral farm scenes and ridgetop overlooks that provide views over the fertile fields of the Great Valley all the way to the Delaware Water Gap.

The completed section is approximately 6 miles long; an additional 3/4 mile will be added this spring. The first six miles, and most of this spring's extension, are new

construction. The trail was laid out by Bob Boysen, author of *Kittatinny Trails* and a Trail Conference board member. Work began on the trail in spring 2005. The crew, led by Monica and David Day, aims for a trail opening this year and the Trail Conference hopes to mark the occasion and celebrate the crew's work with a guided hike. Watch for details in our future print and electronic publications.

Anyone interested in learning about adopting a section of this new trail as a maintainer should contact West Jersey Trails Chair Don Tripp at [westjerseytrails@gmail.com](mailto:westjerseytrails@gmail.com). An orientation for prospective maintainers is going to be held in June, date TBD as of the deadline for this issue. The West Jersey Crew's work schedule is posted on our website, [nynjtc.org/content/trail-crew-schedules](http://nynjtc.org/content/trail-crew-schedules).



Jenny Jump State Forest offers views of meadows, woods, and the Delaware Water Gap



At work on the trail are crew members Jack Baccaglioni, David Day, Steve Reiss, and Gay Mayer.

## Professional Trailbuilders Name Bear Mountain "Project of the Year"



Hikers of all levels enjoy the Appalachian Trail at Bear Mountain last June as trail designer Peter Jensen (at left on bridge) and trail builder Eddie Walsh (leaning on rail) observe the activity.

The Professional Trailbuilders Association named the Bear Mountain Trails Project "Project of the Year" during its 2011 Sustainable Trails Conference in Asheville, NC, in March. The award was the first ever made by the organization, and projects undertaken during the past five years were eligible for nomination.

Eddie Walsh, the professional trailbuilder supervising the construction project for the Trail Conference (his company is Tahawus Trails), accepted the award. Trail Conference staff members Larry Wheelock, Chris Ingui, and Jeff Senterman were taking workshops at the conference and were also in attendance.

Ingui, former Bear Mountain project manager and now New Jersey program coordinator, reports that "more than 200 people voted, and overwhelmingly Bear Mountain won out against the other two projects in the final round, one being an exceptionally long curvilinear bridge and the other being an extensive mountain bike trail system in Cuyuna State Recreation Area in Minnesota."

The Trail Conference congratulates the professional and volunteer trail builders whose hard work and dedication resulted in this valued national recognition from their professional colleagues.

The award follows the naming of Walsh as New York State Trail Worker of the Year for 2010 by American Trails, a national trails advocacy organization (see March/April *Trail Walker*, page 1).

# TRAIL WALKER

VOLUME XXXVIII, No. 3

MAY/JUNE 2011

GEORGETTE WEIR  
LOUIS LEONARDISEDITOR  
GRAPHIC DESIGNER

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e-mail: [info@nynjtc.org](mailto:info@nynjtc.org)editorial e-mail: [tw@nynjtc.org](mailto:tw@nynjtc.org)World Wide Web: [www.nynjtc.org](http://www.nynjtc.org)

### Mission Statement

The New York-New Jersey Trail Conference is a federation of member clubs and individuals dedicated to providing recreational hiking opportunities in the region, and representing the interests and concerns of the hiking community. The Conference is a volunteer-directed public service organization committed to:

- Developing, building, and maintaining hiking trails.
- Protecting hiking trail lands through support and advocacy.
- Educating the public in the responsible use of trails and the natural environment.

### Board of Directors

Chris Connolly	Chair
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## From the Chair

# 4,345 Acres Protected. What's Next for Our Land Acquisition and Stewardship Fund?



Good news often begets new challenges. Such is the case with the Trail Conference's land program—the Land Acquisition and Stewardship Fund (LASF). At the March board meeting, the LASF was the subject of a masterly report from the Conservation & Advocacy (C&A) Committee presented by Seth McKee, a former board member who is the C&A Committee chair and the land conservation director for Scenic Hudson, Inc. The C&A Committee is, by the way, a superb example of volunteer leadership; besides Seth, it has two board members (Gaylord Holmes and Dick Katsive), a Trails Chair (Jakob Franke), and a Trail Supervisor (Andy Garrison), and able assistance from staff members.

The LASF's record of past accomplishment is an impressive one. Starting with \$1 million in funding, primarily from last decade's Capital Campaign, the LASF has bought and conserved 2,087 acres bordering three long-distance trail corridors maintained by the Trail Conference—1,621 acres on the Shawangunk Ridge Trail (SRT) in New York, 296 acres on the Long Path in New York, and 170 acres on the Highlands Trail in New York and New Jersey. LASF lands form the core of the new Huckleberry State Forest in New York, featuring new trails such as the Lenape Ridge and Minisink Trails.

In addition to these outright purchases by the Trail Conference, we secured seven purchase options on 1,084 acres of land and then transferred these options to land conservation organizations, which then purchased the land.

Finally, we have assisted—with on-the-ground legwork, landowner outreach, and parcel mapping—in conserving an additional 1,174 acres. All this work was done at a cost of \$4,259,000: \$3.16 million for direct land purchases (an average of \$1,514 per acre) and the remainder for closing

costs, loan interest payments, and staff and other expenses. Taking together previous sales of land to the state and an anticipated payment from New York State later this year, the monies received by the Trail Conference from resale of its land purchases will cover our costs.

Past success poses new decisions for the LASF's future. The LASF was originally envisioned as a revolving fund that would be replenished by money from quick turnovers of Trail Conference lands to state agencies. This funding model worked well until the Great Recession and the ensuing state budget crises, which resulted in the Trail Conference holding onto lands for far longer periods. The outlook for open space acquisition by New York has brightened somewhat, with small appropriations for land acquisition through the Environmental Protection Fund, but the Trail Conference still owns 284 acres along the SRT which will likely not be transferred to the state for years.

There are still important links in our trail systems that are not protected. With property prices down, this is a particularly opportune time to preserve land. But the Trail Conference is not a land trust. The Conservation Policy adopted last year by the board calls on us to "[h]old property as briefly as possible, or not at all, and never permanently."

The question is how the Trail Conference can best protect important trail lands when funds in the LASF do not revolve as quickly as they have in the past. The board will soon face decisions such as:

- what is the appropriate LASF funding level?
- what are the most effective means of conserving trail lands with these funds?
- what criteria should be developed to guide our land protection efforts in the future?

The answers will lead to a strategy appropriate for the times. Circumstances for land protection may be changed, but our interest in protecting trails is as focused as ever.

— Chris Connolly, Chair, Board of Directors

## Letters to the Editor

### Kudos x Two

I wanted to add my voice to others in praise of Eddie Walsh. Not only is he a dedicated volunteer, inspiring teacher, and skilled professional—he is an artist. It only takes one look at the 700 new granite steps up Bear Mountain to know they have been conceived and executed by someone with a keen aesthetic sense and an intuitive grasp of nature-inspired design. Congratulations Eddie!

— Fred Rich  
Life Member, NY-NJ Trail Conference  
Chair, Scenic Hudson Land Trust

I just came home from a wonderful hike on the newly rebuilt AT that runs up Bear Mountain from the Bear Mountain Inn and then back down the other side. The building of the new steps is a work of art! Not only are they spaced perfectly (the climb was effortless), but the entire job is beautiful—with a bridge, no less! Then going down the other side of Bear Mountain toward the 1777 Trail, those steps are a marvel as well.

As a person who has hiked all through Harriman during the past decade, I cannot express my gratitude enough to all those who make hiking there such fun. Kudos to all who worked on this new stretch of the AT. It is a masterpiece!

— Lydia Thomas  
Trail Conference member

### Send Us a Letter

Email it to [tw@nynjtc.org](mailto:tw@nynjtc.org); in the subject line, put "letter to TW editor"; or send it to Trail Walker Letters, NY-NJ Trail Conference, 156 Ramapo Valley Rd., Mahwah, NJ 07430.

## Call for Nominations for Awards

Members may nominate individuals for Trail Conference awards. Award winners are honored and recognized at our Annual Meeting. **Cut-off date for recommendations is July 1, 2011.** Please send nominations (with supporting statements) to the Volunteer Committee at [awards@nynjtc.org](mailto:awards@nynjtc.org).

View the list of past award recipients at: [www.nynjtc.org/content/award-winners](http://www.nynjtc.org/content/award-winners)

The Volunteer Committee comprises Dan Van Engel, Chair, Catherine Gemmill (staff), Ken Malkin, Chris Connolly, and Estelle Anderson.

### ANNUAL AWARDS

#### Honorary Life Membership

Conveys life member status and the right to vote at Delegates meetings. Usually given after long years of service to the Conference.

#### Raymond H. Torrey Award

The Conference's most prestigious award, given for significant and lasting contributions that protect hiking trails and the land upon which they rest.

#### William Hoeflerlin Award

Recognizes Trail Conference volunteers who have demonstrated exemplary service to trail maintenance, management, and/or trail land protection.

#### Leo Rothschild Conservation Award

Presented to a person or organization that has made a significant contribution to the protection of our trails and/or the natural lands that surround them.

#### Corporate Partner Award

Given to businesses or their employees for outstanding service to the hiking community.

#### Major William A. Welch Trail Partner Award

Presented to those outside the Trail Conference—for example, state, federal, or local agency partner officials—who have given long and/or significant assistance to the local hiking community.

#### Next Generation Award

Given to those under age 21 who are making significant contributions of time and energy to trail building or protection.

#### Ken Lloyd Award

Recognizes members of Trail Conference member clubs or member clubs who have demonstrated exemplary service to trail maintenance, management, and/or trail land protection.

#### Paul Leikin Extra Mile Award

Recognizes those volunteers who have demonstrated exceptional commitment to projects such as a book, map or advocacy.

### COMMITTEE AWARDS

#### Distinguished Service Certificates

Recognize those who have given many years of service, generally upon retirement from their volunteer duties. This award can be given at any time. Any committee chair may make a nomination to the Volunteer Committee. Two awards are allotted to each committee per year. A certificate will be created and the committee chair will be responsible for delivering it to the recipient. Send nominations with supporting statement to [awards@nynjtc.org](mailto:awards@nynjtc.org).

## Follow NYNJTC!



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[twitter.com/NYNJTrailConf](http://twitter.com/NYNJTrailConf)

## Nominating Committee Seeks Trail Conference Members Willing to Serve as Delegates-at-Large

Delegates, together with the Board of Directors, govern the Trail Conference. Each hiking organization member of the Conference selects a Delegate to represent that organization. Individual members of the Trail Conference are represented by Delegates-at-large, in a ratio of one Delegate per 400 members. There are currently approximately 100 Organization Delegates and 25 Delegates-at-Large who serve one-year terms.

There are three Delegates meetings each year, including the annual meeting in the fall. All Delegates should be willing to attend all these meetings and exercise their rights to vote on business matters that are brought up for approval.

Anyone interested in serving as a Delegate-at-Large should contact the Nominating Committee: [nominations@nynjtc.org](mailto:nominations@nynjtc.org).

From the Executive Director



Work on New Headquarters Begins

In March, a milestone was reached with the groundbreaking ceremony for the restoration of Darlington Schoolhouse in Mahwah, NJ, as the Trail Conference's future headquarters. Located only two miles from our present location, the historic building is considered to be "New Jersey's most architecturally significant schoolhouse." Certainly, its sturdy field-stone construction and location on the edge of the Jersey Highlands escarpment embodies the spirit of trail trampers and builders from our past.

Work is underway to repair and stabilize the portions of the building that need immediate attention. Meanwhile, our architects and engineers, led by life members Win Perry and Tibor Latincics, are developing plans and applying for permits that will result in an energy efficient, environmentally friendly space for welcoming volunteers and holding trainings.

The Trail Conference's role as future occupant and steward of this building puts it at the center of a group effort to restore the structure as an actively functioning part of the community. Many have pitched in, including the State of New Jersey, Bergen County, Township of Mahwah, the Land Conservancy of New Jersey, and countless individuals who have donated their time and donations to move the project forward.

More than \$2 million in funding so far has come from: Garden State Preservation Trust (\$1,130,000); Bergen County Trust Fund (\$687,000); in-kind (pro-bono) legal



and engineering (\$200,000); and Trail Conference member donations (\$200,000). These funds include the purchase of the property and various planning and preservation studies needed to qualify for historic preservation funds.

This is a major project that the Trail Conference can't accomplish without help. It will ultimately cost another \$1-2 million to occupy the building, depending on whether we include an addition that would permit assemblies of 100 or more people, make the second-floor handicap accessible, and increase workspace for volunteers and staff.

Many of the people who have had a hand in moving the project forward were present at the groundbreaking. I look forward to the day a couple of years hence



Local officials mark the groundbreaking.



Ed Goodell welcomes members, neighbors, and local officials to the celebration.

West Hudson Community Trails Program Gets Grant Support

The Trail Conference has been awarded \$15,000 by the New York State Conservation Partnership Program for its West Hudson Community Trails Program. The award was announced in Albany, NY, on March 14. The Conservation Partnership Program is a collaboration of the Land Trust Alliance and Dept. of Environmental Conservation. The grants are funded through the Environmental Protection Fund (EPF) and aim to expand and enhance the conservation of open space in New York.

The grant to the Trail Conference will support its work with communities in Greene, Orange, Rockland, Sullivan and Ulster counties to enhance access to and promote awareness of the benefits of open space by building, maintaining, and promoting recreational trails in the region.

Trail Conference staff will recruit and train local residents in the stewardship of trails and parklands in the region as volunteers and work closely with these volunteers, community groups, and state and local agencies to make more open space accessible and appealing to the public through responsible trail building.

Website Nets Award for Promoting Volunteerism

American Trails, a national nonprofit organization that works on behalf of all trail interests, has named the website of the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference as Best in 2010 in the category "Recognition and Promotion of Volunteerism."

The Trail Conference launched its current website in March 2009. It has quickly become an essential tool for recruiting volunteers, organizing training, and scheduling trail projects. The website also provides, free to the public, detailed descriptions of hundreds of hikes, parks, and preserves in the New York-New Jersey region—all written by people with a passion for trails and accuracy.



The second floor will be a great meeting space.



The historic building features many handsome details, such as chestnut stairways.

when everyone, especially our members, can join us in celebrating the (re-)opening of the doors to our new headquarters.

*Ed Goodell*

— Edward Goodell  
Executive Director  
goodell@nynjtc.org

New York-New Jersey Trail Conference Member & Community Survey

To better serve our trails community of members and non-members, we would like to get your feedback with this brief 13-question survey. Respondents who provide their contact information will be entered in a drawing to win one of 10 free copies of our newest map sets: Jersey Highlands Trails or Sterling Forest Trails. Or take this survey online at:

[www.surveymonkey.com/s/tc-feedback](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/tc-feedback)

(Use just one method.) For longer responses, please use separate sheet of paper.

- 1. What is your Trail Conference membership status?**
  - Currently a member
  - Not a member
  - Not currently a member, but would like to join
  - Not sure
- 2. What is your level of involvement with the NY-NJ Trail Conference? (please check all that apply)**
  - I use the website to look up hikes and get maps
  - I'm actively involved in trail maintenance projects
  - Not active as a volunteer, but support the organization's trail mission
  - I join to get discounts at stores and online
  - I'm an active volunteer, advocate and supporter
  - I attend member events
  - Not active, beyond annual membership dues
  - Not active, but would like to get more involved
- 3. How effective are we in communicating with you?**
  - Communications are excellent as is
  - Need more frequent communications
  - Need less frequent communications
  - Other recommendations/feedback: \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. Which of our communications do you rely upon most frequently? (please check all that apply)**
  - Person-to-person from my trail leaders and fellow members
  - Email blasts
  - Website
  - Trail Walker print newsletter
  - Word-of-mouth
  - Social media such as Facebook and Twitter
  - Do not currently receive or seek communication from the Trail Conference
- 5. What best describes your level of activity in trail maintenance?**
  - I'm actively maintaining a trail
  - Not currently active maintaining a trail, but have in the past
  - Not active, but I would like to maintain a trail
  - No interest in trail maintenance at this time
- 6. Do you own any Trail Conference maps or books?**
  - Yes
  - No
  - No, but I would like more information
- 7. Would you recommend the Trail Conference to a friend?**
  - Yes. (Please indicate why below.)
  - No. (Please indicate why not below.)
- 8. Have you ever been to a Trail Conference meeting or event?**
  - Yes
  - No
- 9. What would attract you to a Trail Conference event (choose all that apply)**
  - Food
  - Entertainment/music
  - Hikes
  - Info on trail issues
  - Workshops/discussion groups on trail-related topics
  - Trail Conference business meeting
  - Guest speakers
  - Social time
- 10. What are the current strengths of the Trail Conference?**

\_\_\_\_\_
- 11. What are areas for improvement for the Trail Conference?**

\_\_\_\_\_
- 12. Where do you live?**
  - New York City
  - Long Island
  - Northern New Jersey
  - Central or Southern New Jersey
  - Western New Jersey
  - Westchester or Putnam Counties
  - Dutchess or Columbia Counties
  - Rockland or Orange Counties
  - Catskill Region
  - Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- 13. What is your favorite hike in the NY-NJ region?**

\_\_\_\_\_

May we contact you to find out more about your survey responses? (Optional)

- No, thanks
- Yes, please contact me at: \_\_\_\_\_

Keep up with news about the Trail Conference at [nynjtc.org/news/about-us](http://nynjtc.org/news/about-us)

Clip out this survey and send it to: TW Member Survey, NY-NJ Trail Conference, 156 Ramapo Valley Road, Mahwah, NJ 07430

## Trail Conference Volunteers Help Fly a Bridge over Angle Fly Creek

About 75 volunteers worked in the mud and chill of mid-March to assemble a 40-foot fiberglass bridge and install it over Angle Fly Creek in Somers, NY. To prepare, another crew of 100 packed in parts for the bridge the week before, including 14 80-pound bags of concrete and six 50-pound bags of gravel for the footings. The next step for Friends of the Angle Fly Preserve is to clear trails on the other side of the bridge by the end of the year.

Volunteers from the Trail Conference were able to make the bridge installation much easier by assembling a high line to "fly" the bridge safely into place. Vic Alfieri

traveled from his home on Long Island to help out with the project. Vic has been a long-time member of the West Hudson Crew and helped install the bridges over Popolopen Creek in Harriman-Bear Mountain State Park. Other Trail Conference volunteers who assisted with the high-line were Walt Daniels, Joe Gindoff, and Andrew Seirup.

Trail Conference work in Westchester, Putnam and Dutchess Counties supports the Hudson Hills & Highlands Community Trails Program, a partnership between the Trail Conference and Teatown Lake Reservation.



MIKE LUBCHENKO

Many hands made quick work of installing a bridge at Angle Fly Preserve in Westchester.

## Putnam County Land Trust Plans Trails, Seeks Volunteers

Wonder Lake trails supervisor Andrew Seirup (at left in photo below) attended the Putnam County Land Trust (PCLT) Open House in March as Trail Conference representative. Gary Haugland, chair of the Trail Conference's Highlands Trail East Committee, also attended and brought maps and the latest information on the Highlands Trail. Andrew and Gary were instrumental in designing and building trails, including a segment of the HT, at Wonder Lake State Park, which is located in the county.

PCLT held the open house to kick off its 2011 trail season. It seeks to develop a cadre of volunteers interested in developing trail skills focused on clearing, improving, and maintaining high quality trails. Trainings will offer novices and seasoned veterans opportunities to develop skills in trail construction and maintenance while shaping the future of trails in the region. The group hosted a Trail Maintenance 101 workshop led by Gary and Andrew on April 3. Other advanced trainings are being planned for the summer and fall, including trail layout and design.

Trail Conference work with the Putnam County Land Trust supports the Hudson Hills & Highlands Community Trails Program, a partnership between the Trail Conference and Teatown Lake Reservation.



LEIGH DRAPER

Trail Conference volunteers Andrew Seirup (at left) and Gary Haugland led a Trail Maintenance 101 workshop for the Putnam County Land Trust. The workshop was part of an open house sponsored by PCLT to kick off their trails season.

## Not Worse but No Better, Either: Update on Parks Funding in New York & New Jersey

In the March/April issue of *Trail Walker*, we reported that cuts to park budgets were under consideration in both New York and New Jersey as administrations in both states dealt with severe fiscal challenges. This report briefly chronicles decisions since then.

### New York

In New York, Governor Cuomo had proposed across-the-board cuts to all state agencies, including State Parks and the Dept. of Environmental Conservation, which manages state forests and preserves (Catskills and Adirondacks). The good news was that he was not proposing disproportionate cuts to those agencies, as had been the case under several previous administrations. And, he proposed to keep funding for the Environmental Protection Fund, which, among other things, includes dollars for open space protection, at the same level as in the 2010-2011 fiscal year.

Though the budget proposals for parks and the environment fall far short of being sufficient to meet needs, the Trail Conference recognizes the state's dire fiscal straits and actively supported the governor's proposals as they were negotiated with the legislature. Together with representatives of more than 100 organizations across the state united as Friends of New York's Environment, Trail Conference representatives met with legislators in Albany to make the case for continued funding for the environment and no additional cuts. We are happy to report that our message has been heard.

New York's officials reached agreement on a budget by their April 1 deadline, and the governor's proposals for funding parks and environmental staff and projects were adopted.

### New Jersey

In New Jersey, we saw similar results. Trail Conference representatives assertively supported funding for the state's park and forests, including testifying at Senate budget hearings, and endorsing the budget presented by Governor Christie.

The Trail Conference is pleased that the governor's budget proposal for 2012 does

*continued on page 11*

# TRAIL U

Teaching Practical Skills to Trails Volunteers at Locations Throughout the NY-NJ Area

May/June 2011

We thank REI for its support of Trail U in Spring 2011.

Workshops in Westchester, Putnam and Dutchess Counties support the Hudson Hills & Highlands Community Trails Program, a partnership between the Trail Conference and Teatown Lake Reservation.

Additional workshops are being scheduled as of the deadline for this issue. For additional details or to register for a course, go to [www.nynjtc.org/view/workshops](http://www.nynjtc.org/view/workshops)

### Trail Maintenance 101

This one-day training session covers the skills necessary to maintain a hiking trail so it is easily passable and harmonious with its surroundings. Students will learn assessment of trail conditions, clearing, blazing, proper use of tools and how to report any trail problems. No previous experience is necessary and beginners are welcome. Students will spend the morning in a classroom environment and then head out into woods for hands-on instruction.

**Saturday, May 14; 9am-4pm**  
Sterling Forest State Park

**Sunday, May 15**  
Yorktown Trails/FDR State Park,  
Yorktown Heights, NY

**Saturday, May 21; 10am-4pm**  
North-South Lakes, Catskill Park

**June 4; 9:30am-4pm**  
Shawangunks/Catskills  
Neversink River Unique Area,  
Wurtsboro, NY

© CORNELL UNIVERSITY  
Learn 14 invasives, including Japanese knotweed

### Intro to Invasive Plant Identification

This workshop will teach the basics of plant identification and introduce 14 common invasive plants. It will prepare you to be a volunteer in the Trail Conference's Invasives Strike Force (ISF). These 14 plants are to be surveyed in the first phase of a New Jersey monitoring project. (See story on page 7.) You will be taught how to collect data for the ISF and how to use a GPS unit.

**Saturday, May 21**  
Flat Rock Brook Nature Center,  
Englewood, NJ

**Sunday, May 22**  
Trail Conference office,  
Mahwah, NJ

**Sunday, June 12**  
Pequest Fish Hatchery,  
Hackettstown, NJ

### Advanced Invasive Plant Identification

This workshop is for volunteers already participating in the Trail Conference's Invasives Strike Force (ISF). You will learn how to identify a set of invasive plants that are just starting to emerge as problems in New Jersey and that will be targeted for monitoring in the second phase of our project. Prerequisite: returning volunteer Refresher workshop, or an Introduction to Invasive Plant Identification workshop.

**Saturday, June 18**  
Location: TBD

### Shelter Caretaker Training

This one-day training session will cover the skills necessary to maintain a shelter (lean-to) so that it is ready for use by campers and is harmonious to its surroundings.

**Saturday, May 14; 10am-4pm**  
Catskills, Batavia Kill Lean-to



LEIGH DRAPER

The Staten Island Greenbelt was the location for a Trail Maintenance 101 course held on March 26 at the Visitor's Studio in High Rock Park. The course was supported by Metro Trail Conference volunteers Mark Kusick (new trails supervisor for Staten Island, at left in the photo), Joe Gindoff and Linda Sullivan. There were 18 participants, including several members of the Staten Island Athletic Club who subsequently offered to serve as club maintainers on trails in the Greenbelt. They will coordinate with Park Manager Jeanne Paliswait, who also assisted with the course. The Greenbelt Conservancy provided refreshments.

## Reporting Reminder

### Trail Maintainers

As you maintain your trails this spring, please remember to complete a Trail Maintenance report. It's quick, simple, and the information helps the Trail Conference identify trail problems, allocate resources, and promote the value of your volunteer efforts to our park partners.

All maintainers submit a Trail Maintenance Report twice annually to their volunteer Supervisor. Your volunteer Supervisor will provide the form. (Forms and many other resources can also be found at [nynjtc.org/content/active-volunteers](http://nynjtc.org/content/active-volunteers).)

**Reports for winter/spring work** (December 1 through June 30) are **due** to Supervisors **by June 30**. **Reports for summer/fall work** (July 1 through November 30) are **due** to Supervisors **by November 30**. *Please note: Travel time is time traveled from home to maintainer's trail and return (auto plus foot travel).*

### Trail Supervisors

Supervisors complete their Supervisor's Summary Report based upon the maintenance reports received. The Summary Report, and all completed Trail Maintenance Reports, are then sent to the Trails Chair, who provides an overall summary of a region to the Trail Conference.

The total number of volunteer hours helps the Trail Conference in grants and other fundraising and so it is important that you include all the time you spend.

# Trail Crew Schedules

May – June 2011

**Individual Trail Conference volunteers and those with our member clubs keep 1700+ miles of trails open for the public. In addition, we field regional crews of volunteers who take on the heavy lifting of building new trails, rehabilitating damaged trails, and constructing bridges. Our new Roving Crew of Stoneworkers comprises volunteers trained to do challenging stone work projects. All crews welcome new members; training occurs "on the trail" or in Trail U workshops.**



Check our website for possible additions or changes to schedules. Go to [www.nynjtc.org](http://www.nynjtc.org) and click on Trail Crews in the Get Involved tab.

TBD = To Be Determined

For all trips bring work gloves, water, lunch, insect repellent. In some cases, tools are provided. Contact leaders in advance for meeting times and places.

## REGIONAL TRAIL CREWS

### CENTRAL NORTH JERSEY CREW

**Leaders:** Bob Jonas & Estelle Anderson  
**Phone:** 973-697-5326 **Cell:** 908-803-3883  
**Email:** CNJTrails@optonline.net

Some of the projects planned for 2011:  
Trail repair & drainage work  
Trail rerouting  
Trail "turnpiking"  
Bridge replacement

Please check the website or watch e-Walker for schedule details as they are set.

### NORTH JERSEY WEEKEND CREW

**Leader:** Sandy Parr, 732-469-5109

### Second Sunday of each month

Trips start at 9:30 am; call for location and details during the week before the scheduled trip day. Tackle a variety of projects ranging from trail repair to bridge building in northern New Jersey.

### WEST JERSEY CREW

**Leaders:** Monica and David Day  
**Phone:** 732-937-9098 **Cell:** 908-307-5049  
**Email:** westjerseycrew@trailstobuild.com  
**Website:** [www.trailstobuild.com](http://www.trailstobuild.com)

**Note:** Check our webpage or at [www.nynjtc.org/content/trail-crew-schedules](http://www.nynjtc.org/content/trail-crew-schedules) for expanded schedule and details.

All events begin at 9am. Please phone/email the leaders for meeting location and driving directions. There is usually a walk to the work site, so please be there on time (call the leaders' cell phone if you are coming to an event and are running late). Rain cancels—if in doubt, call the leaders between 6 and 6:30 that morning.

Carpooling: If anyone is interested in carpooling (offering a ride or riding), please let the leaders know and we will try to arrange a shared ride. (Passengers please be prepared to contribute for gas.)

**Note:** This spring the crew plans to focus on the Jenny Jump Trail (previously called the Warren Trail) with the aim of announcing its official opening this summer. There's still a lot of blazing, some trail work, and some re-clearing yet to be done. The crew also will start work on the next section of this trail in Warren County.

### Saturday, May 7

**Jenny Jump Trail, Jenny Jump State Forest**  
We will begin clearing and construction work on the next section of the trail.

### Saturday, May 21

**Iris Trail, High Point State Park**  
We will install stepping stones through a wet area on the Iris Trail.

### Saturday, June 4

**Jenny Jump Trail, Jenny Jump State Forest**  
Where on the trail we will be working, and what we will be doing, will be determined by how much was accomplished on the earlier trips.

### Saturday, June 11

**Swensen Trail, Stokes State Forest**  
We will install stepping stones through a wet area on the Swensen Trail.

### Saturday, June 18

**Swensen Trail, Stokes State Forest**  
We will install stepping stones through a wet area.

### Saturday, June 25

**Rain Date/TBD**  
This will either be a make-up trip from a rained-out work date or work at a location to be determined.

### HIGHLANDS TRAIL WEST CREW

**Leaders:** Adam Rosenberg  
**Phone:** 973-570-0853  
**Email:** [dobsonian@verizon.net](mailto:dobsonian@verizon.net)

We tackle various jobs building new sections or reworking existing sections of the Highlands Trail throughout New Jersey as well as in New York west of the Hudson River. We also schedule other work dates.

### METRO CREW

**Leaders:** Joe Gindoff **Phone:** 718-614-2219  
**Email:** [joeghiker@aol.com](mailto:joeghiker@aol.com);  
Linda Sullivan **Phone:** 347-721-6123  
**Email:** [marmilinda@yahoo.com](mailto:marmilinda@yahoo.com);  
Lizbeth Gonzalez **Email:** [lz.gonzalez@verizon.net](mailto:lz.gonzalez@verizon.net)

We work in various parks throughout New York City, generally the third Saturday of each month, May through October, with additional work dates as needed. No experience necessary. We provide gloves, tools, training.

Please contact Linda Sullivan in order to receive email notices of work outings, or check the Metro Trail Crew page on the Trail Conference website.

### EAST HUDSON CREW

The East Hudson Trail Crew is seeking leaders and members. Contact Leigh Draper at [draper@nynjtc.org](mailto:draper@nynjtc.org) or 201-739-4434 for more information.

Trail work in Westchester, Putnam and Dutchess Counties will support the Hudson Hills & Highlands Community Trails Program, a partnership between the Trail Conference and Teatown Lake Reservation.

Projects are planned for:

Fahnestock State Park  
Hudson Highlands State Park  
Yorktown Community Trails Project  
Angle Fly Preserve  
South Taconics  
Teatown Lake Reservation

### WEST HUDSON SOUTH CREW

**Leaders:** Chris Ezzo (crew chief): 516-431-1148, [musicbnumbers59@yahoo.com](mailto:musicbnumbers59@yahoo.com)  
Brian Buchbinder: 718-218-7563, [brian@grandrenovation.com](mailto:brian@grandrenovation.com)  
Claudia Ganz: 212-633-1324, [clganz@earthlink.net](mailto:clganz@earthlink.net)  
Bob Marshall: 914-737-4792, [rmarshall@webtv.net](mailto:rmarshall@webtv.net)  
Monica Day: 732-937-9098, Cell: 908-307-5049, [westjerseycrew@trailstobuild.com](mailto:westjerseycrew@trailstobuild.com)

### Saturday, May 7

**Appalachian/Ramapo Dunderberg Trails, Harriman State Park**  
**Leader:** Claudia Ganz

### Saturday, May 14

**Appalachian/Ramapo Dunderberg Trails, Harriman State Park**  
**Leader:** Chris Ezzo

### Thursday, May 19

**Menomine Trail, Harriman State Park**  
**Leader:** Bob Marshall

### Thursday, May 26

**Arden-Surebridge Trail, Harriman State Park**  
**Leader:** Bob Marshall

### Saturday, June 4

**TBD**  
**Leader:** Chris Ezzo

### Thursday, June 9

**TBD**  
**Leader:** Bob Marshall

### WEST HUDSON NORTH CREW

**Leaders:** Denise Vitale, Crew Chief:  
845-738-2126, [WHNTrails@aol.com](mailto:WHNTrails@aol.com)  
Dave Webber: H: 845-452-7238,  
[webberd1@yahoo.com](mailto:webberd1@yahoo.com)

Check schedule at [www.nynjtc.org/content/trail-crew-schedules](http://www.nynjtc.org/content/trail-crew-schedules)

### LONG PATH/SHAWANGUNK RIDGE TRAIL CREW

**Leaders:** Andy Garrison, [srtmaintainer@gmail.com](mailto:srtmaintainer@gmail.com)  
or 845-888-0602; Jakob Franke, [jf31@columbia.edu](mailto:jf31@columbia.edu)  
or 201-768-3612

### Saturday, May 14

**Neversink Gorge Unique Area**  
We will be working on the trails on the west side of the Neversink River. Clipping and blazing and reestablishing a short section of trail that has been washed away. Bring clippers, work gloves, water, lunch, and friends.

**Meet:** Parking area on Cold Spring Road (Sullivan County Route 101) at 9:30am.  
**Directions:** From Monticello starting at Broadway take St. John's Street south, which changes to Cold Spring Road (Sullivan County Route 102) when you leave the village limits. It then changes to Sullivan County Route 101 after passing the junction of St. Joseph's Road. The parking area is 7.7 miles south of Broadway on the left.

### Saturday, June 18

**Shawangunk Ridge Trail**  
Details to be announced on the website.

### CATSKILL TRAIL CREW

**Contact:** Jeff Senterman, [jsenterman@nynjtc.org](mailto:jsenterman@nynjtc.org)  
or 518-703-1196

Occasional work trips are planned. Contact for details or check the website. If you would like to be notified of our work trips by email send an email to Jeff Senterman and he will add you to the list.

### Friday, June 10

**Platte Clove Preserve Trail**  
Details to be announced on the website.

### Build a Catskill Lean-to

**Dates:** TBD, but likely multiple weekends in June and July

**Location:** Shandaken Brook in Seager, NY (Catskills Map #142)  
New volunteers welcome. No experience necessary. We will prepare a new lean-to site, transport material to the site, build a new lean-to and remove the old one when finished.

### ROVING CREW OF STONEWORKERS

**A NEW CREW!**  
**Contact:** Chris Ingui, [cingui@nynjtc.org](mailto:cingui@nynjtc.org)  
Volunteers trained in rock work will provide construction and training support to address special trail challenges across the New York-New Jersey region. For training courses to qualify, see Trail U course listings.

## SPECIAL PROJECTS

The Trail Conference frequently collaborates with Friends groups, park and preserve land managers, and our member clubs and organizations on special trail projects. Often, these welcome new volunteers and provide training.

### BEAR MOUNTAIN TRAILS PROJECT

Trail Conference partners include the Appalachian Trail Conservancy, National Park Service Appalachian Trail Park Office, NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, and the Palisades Interstate Park Commission

### Through November 28

**Thursday-Monday**  
**8:30am-4:30pm**

Work trips involve a variety of tasks, such as: corridor clearing, prepping work sites, quarrying stone, using an overhead highline to transport stone, creating crushed stone (with mash and sledge hammers), building crib walls, setting rock steps, and splitting stone.

While training is provided every day, individuals who have no trail building experience are REQUIRED to either attend one Trail U course on Bear Mountain or a Trail Building 101 course at another location. If you cannot meet these requirements but still wish to volunteer, please contact the Volunteer Coordinator at [bearmountaintrails@gmail.com](mailto:bearmountaintrails@gmail.com).

### COMMUNITY TRAILS IN THE HUDSON HILLS AND HIGHLANDS

Trail projects in Westchester, Putnam and Dutchess Counties are part of the Hudson Hills & Highlands Community Trails Program, a partnership between the Trail Conference and Teatown Lake Reservation.

### Teatown Lake Reservation

**Contact:** Leigh Draper at [draper@nynjtc.org](mailto:draper@nynjtc.org) or 201-739-4434 for more information.

### Angle Fly Preserve Volunteer Days

With Somers Land Trust, Westchester County  
**Saturday, May 7**  
**Contact:** [volunteer@somerslandtrust.org](mailto:volunteer@somerslandtrust.org).  
**Details:** [www.somerslandtrust.org/angleflypreserve](http://www.somerslandtrust.org/angleflypreserve)

### Ward Pound Ridge Reservation

**Weekly Trail Maintenance Trips**  
**Contact:** [wprtrailmaintainer@gmail.com](mailto:wprtrailmaintainer@gmail.com)

### Wonder Lake State Park Trail Project

With Fahnestock State Park, In Putnam County  
**Contact:** Leigh Draper at [draper@nynjtc.org](mailto:draper@nynjtc.org) or 201-739-4434 for more information.

### Yorktown Community Trails

**Saturday, May 7**  
**Sylvan Glen Park Preserve, Mohegan Lake Water Bars 101:** Rehab an eroded section of trail and learn how to install waterbars and check dams. Beginners are welcome. Start time: 9am.  
**Contact:** Joe Gindoff at [joeghiker@gmail.com](mailto:joeghiker@gmail.com)

### Sunday, June 5

**Sylvan Glen Park Preserve, Mohegan Lake**  
Help complete a flight of steps leading around an historic quarry. Bring work gloves, water, lunch. Other tools supplied on site. Start time: 9am.  
**Contact:** Walt Daniels at [wdhiker@gmail.com](mailto:wdhiker@gmail.com) or 914-245-1250

## PARTNER & MEMBER GROUP TRAIL WORK OUTINGS

**Pelham Bay Park, Bronx**  
Trail Maintenance Outings scheduled by Friends of Pelham Bay Park Trail Committee. Most outings are from 10am-2pm. Find details on our website ([www.nynjtc.org/content/metro-trails-crew](http://www.nynjtc.org/content/metro-trails-crew)).

### Saturday, May 7

### Saturday, May 21

### Saturday, June 11

**Contact:** Clint Robinson, [cl.robinson@verizon.net](mailto:cl.robinson@verizon.net) or 347-512-5048 (cell).

### RPH Cabin Volunteers

**Most Saturdays**  
**Dutchess-Putnam Appalachian Trail**  
**Contact:** Tim Messerich, [bascomgrillmaster@yahoo.com](mailto:bascomgrillmaster@yahoo.com) or 845-297-9573

# Save the Date and Join Us on National Trails Day, June 4

We'll be celebrating the opening of the Accessible Trail at the top of Bear Mountain.

Hikes, Summer Meeting, More!

Watch our website for details!



## TRAIL CONFERENCE VOLUNTEERS

January 1, 2011 - March 18, 2011

The Volunteer Committee acknowledges these new volunteers who took on or completed an assignment during the time period noted above, as well as existing volunteers who have accepted additional assignments. We extend our thanks to them, and to all our volunteers.

**Board Member:** George O'Lear

**Office Program Assistants:** Andrew Capizzi, Marissa Gorhau, Christine Hill, Erana F. Marks, Marleigh Siebecker

**Marketing Consultant:** Michael Brickman

**Outreach (Banff Film Fest):** Frank Bamberger, David Brotsky, John Carey, Artie Hidalgo, Jane Giordano, Madeline Giotta, Joe Gindoff, Lou Leonardis, George Munger, Aaron Rabinowitz, Ruth and Michael Rosenthal, Meryl Stata

**Trails Council Chair:** Peter Heckler

**Trail Corridor Monitor:** Bernd Lohner

**Trail Crew Member:** Tom Schmitt

**Trail Maintainers:** Robert Altabet, Jody Cole, Jane Daniels, Mary Dodds, Mike Ellis, Jakob Franke, James Gahn, Matthew Gehringer, Suzan Gordon, Ryan Hasko, Mark Haugli, Wendy Kopec, Doug Lawrence, Leslie McGlynn, Stephen Sherman, Pete Tilgner

**Trail Supervisor:** Andrew Argeski

**Web Editorial Associate:** Anton A. Tibbe

Did we miss you or someone you know? Please tell us so we can correct our records and give you the thanks you deserve. Contact the Volunteer Administrator via email: [volunteers@nynjtc.org](mailto:volunteers@nynjtc.org)



### More Volunteers in 2010

Last issue, we listed the names of all Trail Conference volunteers who contributed time and effort in 2010—more than 1400 names. We had hoped that we included everyone, but, owing to database irregularities, we didn't. The following names should have appeared on that list. Our apologies to these dedicated individuals and our thanks for their contributions—and patience!

Karen Abramson  
Anne J. Holmes  
John Pawlowski  
Mary Jane Peloso  
Billy Raiford  
Ron Rosen  
Nancy Tollefson

Get Involved!  
[www.nynjtc.org/volunteer](http://www.nynjtc.org/volunteer)

## Awards from the Volunteer Committee

### Paul Leikin Extra Mile Award Presented to Annette Feldman

*This award recognizes those volunteers who have demonstrated exceptional commitment to projects.*

Annette Feldman's quiet and persistent dedication to organizing our Hoeflerlin Memorial Library—a collection of more than 1000 books on hiking-related subjects housed at the Trail Conference office—has resulted in a cohesive and orderly lending library. For years the books have been “shelved” in a not-so-neat manner. Annette has weeded out the overly worn and unrelated books to present members with a proper library that will be enjoyed by many for years to come. She was presented with her award certificate at the March 29 meeting of the board of directors.

### Two Volunteers Thanked for Distinguished Service

*The Volunteer Committee acknowledges the contributions of two long-time volunteers: Richard Zinn and Jim Robbins. Each received a certificate for distinguished service.*

**Richard Zinn**, who turned 87 in March, has been a Trail Conference volunteer in various capacities for over 12 years. He serves as a Delegate-at-Large and volunteers in the office, often assembling map sets to ready them for sale. It is estimated that Richard has assembled tens of thousands of map sets for the Trail Conference. Richard maintained trails in Harriman-Bear Mountain for more than 10 years, and eagerly volunteered as hike leader for a variety of Trail Conference events. He has been a hike leader for the AMC for 25 years, for ADK, and, until recently, he led the Wednesday Hiking group. Richard is a consummate volunteer and a tremendous asset to the Trail Conference and the hiking community.



**Jim Robbins** maintained the Ramapo-Dunderberg Trail in the area of West/Bald Mountains in Harriman State Park for more than 12 years. During that time, those who hiked on that trail often commented on the obvious diligence with which the trail was maintained; hikers took particular note of the precision and accuracy of Jim's trail blazes. More recently, Jim took over maintenance on the Sapphire Trail with the same dedication. Both assignments were under the aegis of AMC, NY-North Jersey, a Trail Conference member club that coordinates maintenance on these trails. Jim has also served for many years as the highly effective chair of the AMC NY-NoJ Chapter Walks Committee—and faithfully continues to serve in that capacity.



## Volunteer! The Trail Conference Needs You!

To apply, or for more details about these and other volunteer opportunities, go to the Volunteer Web Page on our website at: [www.nynjtc.org/volunteer](http://www.nynjtc.org/volunteer) or contact us at: [volunteers@nynjtc.org](mailto:volunteers@nynjtc.org)

### OUTDOOR OPPORTUNITIES

Become a Trail Maintainer! Great Work Environment!



GEORGETTE WEIR

Trail volunteer admires Mullet Falls in Neversink Unique Area during last year's trail clearing day.

Adopt a section of a trail and help to keep our region accessible, pristine and protected. We have vacancies for maintainers on trail sections in these areas:

- Neversink River Unique Area
- Schunemunk Mountain State Park
- Minnewaska State Park Preserve
- Shawangunk Ridge Trail

Since going to press, trail sections in other areas may have become vacant, as well as other on-trail opportunities such as: Trail Supervisor, Corridor Monitor, Corridor Manager, Crew Chief, Crew Chief Assistant, Lean-to/Shelter Caretaker, and Trail Inventory Monitor. Check out our current volunteer opportunities and what they entail at: [www.nynjtc.org/vol-trail-vacancies](http://www.nynjtc.org/vol-trail-vacancies)

### INDOOR OPPORTUNITIES

#### Order Processing Assistant

Do you want to be a part of the team that sells our outstanding trail maps and books? We have an opening for a volunteer to assist our Fulfillment Coordinator processes our book and map orders. Training will be provided. Come join us in our interesting and educational office environment—we need your help!

#### Membership Program Assistant

If you have a few hours or more each week to spare, come and volunteer in our office by helping out with our membership renewal mailings. This position involves some computer work, and familiarity with MS Office products would help, but we will provide all the necessary training.

We have details on these, as well as other off-trail volunteer opportunities on our website at: [www.nynjtc.org/vol-vacancies](http://www.nynjtc.org/vol-vacancies)

## Banff Mountain Fundraising Reaches New Heights



© TOPHER DONAHUE/AURORA

Each year, the Banff Mountain Film Festival in Suffern and Manhattan offers more than four nights of exciting short films about outdoor adventures. This annual event is also an opportunity for the Trail Conference to make new friends and raise money for trail programs, thanks to the generosity of retail supporters Ramsey Outdoors and Paragon Sports. Each year these two businesses donate high-quality sporting goods for Trail Conference raffles during the nightly events.

This year, the raffles broke previous fund-raising levels: \$6,102 was raised during four frenetic intermissions.

Many thanks to the teams of volunteers who helped staff members get the word out, sell tickets, and award prizes.

In Suffern: Artie Hidalgo, Meryl Stata, Madeline Giotta

In New York City: Frank Bamberger, David Brotsky, John Carey, Jane Giordano, Joe Gindoff, Lou Leonardis, George Munger, Aaron Rabinowitz, Ruth and Michael Rosenthal

We also thank Lou Leonardis, who enthusiastically helped drum up interest in this event.

## Catskill Fire Tower Project Needs Summer Mountaintop Volunteers

If you like climbing mountains, love talking to people, and relish spending time above the treetops, think about joining the Catskill Fire Tower Project as a volunteer interpreter this summer.

The Catskill Park is home to five fully restored fire towers. Located on Balsam Lake Mountain (in Hardenburgh), Hunter Mountain (near Hunter), Overlook Mountain (just outside Woodstock), Red Hill (in Denning) and Mount Tremper (near Phoenicia), they once played a key role in detecting and pinpointing the location of forest fires. Modern fire-spotting techniques have replaced them. The structures fell into disrepair and deteriorated; by 1990, New York State had declared all five off limits.

Thanks to the efforts of dedicated volunteers who supplied everything from engineering expertise to building skills, the

*continued on page 11*

## Science &amp; Ecology

Nature's  
Night Lights

By Edna Greig

Fireflies, or lightning bugs, have fascinated humans through the ages with their evening displays of twinkling lights. Fireflies actually are beetles, not flies, and belong to the family Lampyridae ("shining ones"). Like all beetles, they have hardened outer wings, called elytra, which protect the membranous inner flight wings. There are about 2,000 species of fireflies worldwide. About 200 species occur in the United States, mostly in the eastern half of the country.

Firefly light, or bioluminescence, results from a chemical reaction and emanates from an organ called a lantern in the beetle's abdomen. Both males and females have lanterns, although male lanterns are larger. Other bioluminescent organisms exist, but fireflies are the only ones that flash their lights.

During their two-week adult life, male fireflies fly about and flash to attract females. Each species has a unique flash. Females watch the show from a perch on or near the ground. If a female is impressed by a certain male, she will emit a brief "come hither" flash that also is unique to her species. A flash dialogue will continue between the male and female until they find each other and mate. Firefly mating is hypercompetitive, as males greatly outnumber females. A female will respond to the brightest or most impressive male flash as he is likely to make the fittest parent.

Fireflies are fun to watch on warm evenings and are best observed when the air is still and when there is little moonlight or artificial light. With practice, you can distinguish different species based upon the color and pattern of their flashes, their flight patterns, their habitat, and the time of day and year that the adults are active.

For example, *Photinus pyralis*, the common eastern firefly, is the ubiquitous small firefly of meadows and fields. It first appears around late June and becomes active at dusk. Males fly low over the grass

and emit a long yellow flash that traces an ascending "J" pattern.

*Photuris pennsylvanica*, the woods firefly, is larger than the eastern firefly and prefers damp wooded areas. It usually appears in early to mid June, but doesn't become active until well after dark. The male flies high and fast and emits brief green flashes. A receptive female will flash a response to a potential mate of her species. But *Photuris* females also are tricksters and can mimic the female response flashes of several different species of the smaller *Photinus* firefly and lure an unsuspecting male *Photinus* to her grasp. The female *Photuris* then devours the male *Photinus* to obtain a protective toxin that he has but she lacks. By eating him and his toxin, she and her eggs become unpalatable to predators.

Shortly after mating, females lay their eggs on moist ground. The eggs hatch into larvae after about three or four weeks. The carnivorous larvae, also called glow worms because they too are bioluminescent, feed

on snails, slugs, and other invertebrates for the next year or two. They then pupate for a short period underground and emerge as adult fireflies.

The chemicals luciferin and luciferase play key roles in firefly bioluminescence. Because of their unique properties, they also are widely used in biomedical research. In the past, these chemicals were obtained from fireflies collected in the wild, and scientists believe that this collecting adversely affected firefly populations. Today, the chemicals can be produced synthetically, which may help firefly populations to rebound.

To learn more about fireflies and to volunteer for a citizen science monitoring project, visit Boston's Museum of Science Firefly Watch website at [www.mos.org/fireflywatch](http://www.mos.org/fireflywatch).

*Edna Greig is a frequent contributor to Trail Walker of articles on the natural world.*



ANDI WOLFE ANDI WOLFE.BLOGSPOT.COM

The Shadberry:  
A Delightful  
Local Edible

By Thomas H. Parliment

One of the joys of hiking in Harriman State Park is the variety of edible fruits we may find there. Blueberries and wine berries are prevalent in the park and well known, but few people are familiar with the shadberry.

The shadberry (*Amelanchier arborea* Nutt.) was a very important fruit to the early settlers and the Native Americans. The latter used it dried, much as we use raisins and prunes and as an ingredient of pemmican. Pemmican is a mixture of dried meat (usually buffalo or deer) and fruit, corn, and/or nuts. Different fruits were used, but shadberries were preferred. The early colonists used shadberries in pud-

dings, wines, pies, and as dried fruit.

The shadberry grows ubiquitously on the North American continent and is regionally known by many other names, including serviceberry, Juneberry, sugar plum, and grape pear.

The derivation of the common names is interesting. *Shadberry* or "shadbush" was coined because the species' flowering often coincides with the time of the upriver migration of the shad fish in the Hudson. *Serviceberry* is thought to refer to the fact that these trees are one of the first to bloom in the spring and the timing of the blooms coincided with burial services postponed until such time as the ground had thawed sufficiently for interment. *Juneberry* refers to the fact that in northern areas such as our own, these berries mature in June.

The best way to identify shadberry is to look for the trees in April, when they blossom with white, fragile, downy-like flowers (see photo). To enjoy the berries, note the location, then return between late June and



MARIE VILJOEN, 66 SQUARE FEET

April flowers bring June berries.

early July. Further identifying features include smooth, light gray bark with a contrasting darker tiger-striped pattern. The trees are normally less than 12 feet in height, but larger specimens may be over 20 feet high and several feet in circumference.

The fruits are about the size of blueberries and become edible when red, but are best when they attain a purple coloration. The berries hang on individual stems, not in clusters like blueberries. They usually grow heaviest at the top of the plant, which places them out of easy reach.<sup>1</sup> Picking them is a slow task. Their flavor is unlike that of any other wild or cultivated fruit and is commonly described as a combination of cherry and blueberry.

For those of you who have taken some chemistry, a publication on these fruits by this author discusses the aromatic chemicals present in the shadberry and responsible for its unique and desirable flavor. The primary chemical responsible for the aroma is benzaldehyde; other important contributors are phenylacetaldehyde, 2-hexenal and hexanal.<sup>2</sup>

Introduction to Invasive  
Plant Identification

## A Trail University Workshop

## Three classes coming up!

**Saturday, May 21**  
Flat Rock Brook Nature Center,  
Englewood, NJ

**Sunday, May 22**  
Trail Conference office,  
Mahwah, NJ

**Sunday June 12**  
Pequest Fish Hatchery,  
Hackettstown, NJ

A new phase of invasive plant monitoring and control is gearing up. With support from a Recreational Trails Grant administered by NJ Dept. of Environmental Protection, Trail Conference volunteers will collect data about invasive species along trails in New Jersey; a trail crew will then target and remove invasive plants from selected trails.

This workshop will teach you the basics of plant identification and how to identify 14 common invasive plants. It will also prepare you to be a volunteer in the Trail Conference's Invasives Strike Force (ISF).

These 14 plants are the ones we will be looking for in the first phase of monitoring as part of the project's launch in New Jersey. (We plan to launch a similar project in New York, pending funding.) Participants will be taught how to collect data for the ISF and how to use the GPS unit. An outdoor session will allow you to practice plant identification and data collection. After completing this workshop, you will be eligible to become a member of the Invasive Strike Force (ISF) and eligible to have a trail section assigned to you (approximately two miles) along which you are expected to do data collection on Invasive Plant infestations in the area.

Find additional information and register at [nynjtc.org/view/workshops](http://nynjtc.org/view/workshops).

My experience with shadberry trees in Harriman State Park is that they are scattered along the trails on the higher ridges where the soil is relatively thin. Particularly good places to find the trees include the Breakneck Mountain Trail, which runs parallel to and about 0.25-mile south of Breakneck Pond. Last year the berries also grew prolifically along the Dunning Trail near where the "bowling rocks" are located, which is about 1.5 miles southwest from the beginning of the Dunning Trail at the Arden-Surebridge Trail.

I will be leading an 8-mile hike for the Appalachian Mountain Club (AMC) on Sunday June 19, 2011, and welcome *Trail Walker* readers to join us. We plan to meet at the Sloatsburg, NY municipal parking lot on Rt.17 at 10am (right side of Rt. 17 going north, just past fire house). We will hike along the Breakneck Mountain Trail and have an opportunity to find and sample these unique berries.

<sup>1</sup>Smith, A. in *Edible and Medicinal Plants of Hudson Valley and Highlands*. M.S. Thesis, Columbia Pacific Univ., San Rafael, CA, 1991).

<sup>2</sup>Parliment, T. and Smith, A. *Volatile Components of Amelanchier arborea* Nutt (Shadberry) Fruit.

*Trail Conference member Thomas Parliment has a PhD in chemistry and was a research chemist for General Foods and Kraft Foods during his industrial career. He has studied the aroma composition of various foods and is a longtime leader for the Appalachian Mountain Club. For questions about his June 19 AMC hike, contact him at 845-634-4116 or email [tparliment@verizon.net](mailto:tparliment@verizon.net).*



ARNAB BANERJEE NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY: WWW.ARNABANERJEE.COM

Shadberry is one of the earliest blooming trees in our region.



# HIKERS' ALMANAC

A Sampling of Upcoming Hikes  
Sponsored by Member Clubs

Find more hikes at [www.nynjtc.org](http://www.nynjtc.org). Click on Scheduled Hikes under Go Hiking!

## May

### Sunday, May 1

**AFW. Turkey Hill, Harriman State Park, NY.** Leader: for info and to register visit [www.adventuresforwomen.org](http://www.adventuresforwomen.org) or call 973-644-3592. Meet: 10am; call for location. Easy to moderate hike at leisurely pace; out by 2:30pm.

**GAHC. Silvermine Lake, Harriman State Park, NY.** Leader: Manfred Janowski, 914-428-4573. Meet: 9:30am; must call to register. \$2 fee. Moderate and easy hikes will be offered; public transportation available from NYC.

**UHC. Apshawa Preserve, W. Milford, NJ.** Leader: Dick Wolff, 973-746-7415; call eves 9pm-11pm. Call anytime morning of hike to make sure it's on. Meet: 10am in preserve parking lot. 7 moderate miles. Many views across two lakes, plus a waterfall.

**WTA. Long Path along the Palisades, NJ.** Leader: Rudy Garfinkel, 914-337-6612. Meet: 9:30am at North White Plains train station for carpool (\$5 transportation contribution); call leader for alternate meeting place. Moderate 4-6 miles. Starting from Palisades Interstate Parkway headquarters, we'll head north on the Long Path, with multiple views of the Hudson River. Rain cancels.

**TNC. Family Nature Walk, Tenafly Nature Center, NJ.** Leader: Environmental Educator. Meet: 3pm; must register at [www.tenaflynaturecenter.org](http://www.tenaflynaturecenter.org) or call 201-568-6093 for further information. One-hour guided trail walk. For adults and children of all ages. \$5 per person; children under 2 free (no strollers, please). Bad weather cancels.

### Monday, May 2

**RVW. Thomas Cole Mountain, Catskills, NY.** Leader: for more information call 518-895-8474. Meet: 9am; call for location. Moderately strenuous 6 miles; 4 hours. Inclement weather date is following Monday.

### Saturday, May 7

**AMC NY-NoJ. Southern Harriman State Park, NY.** Leader: Steve Galla, 914-953-2222, [steve@stevegalla.com](mailto:steve@stevegalla.com). Meet: contact leader for meeting time and place. Moderate 8 miles with hills. Explore Ramapo Torne and a variety of trails, some of which require rock scrambling. Suitable for beginners but all hikers should be in good aerobic condition. Rain cancels.

**AFW. Bald Rocks, Harriman State Park, NY.** Leader: for info and to register visit [www.adventuresforwomen.org](http://www.adventuresforwomen.org) or call 973-644-3592. Meet: 9:30am; call for location. Moderate to strenuous hike at leisurely pace; out by 2:30pm.

**WTA. East Hudson Highlands, NY.** Leader: Elena Burova, 914-729-0076; call day before to confirm hike is still on. Meet: 9am at North White Plains train station for carpool (\$6 transportation contribution); call leader for alternate meeting place. Moderately strenuous 9 miles, with several steep climbs. Varied terrain. Rain cancels.

**SOAS. Hook Mountain, NY.** Leader: Mark Black. Meet: for place and time, register at [www.sundanceoutdoor.org/calendar](http://www.sundanceoutdoor.org/calendar). 6 miles, not overly demanding. Pleasant spring hike, with woods, wildflowers, and prickly pear cactus. Return to Nyack on a flat path right along the Hudson.

### Sunday, May 8

**AMC NY-NoJ. Ramapo Valley County Reservation, NJ.** Leader: Elen Blumenkrantz, 201-784-8417, [elblumenkrantz@hotmail.com](mailto:elblumenkrantz@hotmail.com). Meet: contact leader for meeting time and place. Moderate 8 miles. We'll pass three lakes and have lunch at a great viewpoint. Limited to 12 people. Optional beer/pizza stop after hike. Rain cancels.

**TNC. Mother's Day Hike, Tenafly Nature Center, NJ.** Leader: Environmental Educator. Meet: 10am; must register at [www.tenaflynaturecenter.org](http://www.tenaflynaturecenter.org) or call 201-568-6093 for further information. Two-hour guided hike. \$5 per person (members and all mothers free); this walk is intended for adults and children of all ages (no strollers please). Bad weather cancels.

**UHC. Fanny Highlands, Rockaway, NJ.** Leader: Dick Wolff, 973-746-7415; call eves 9pm-11pm. Call anytime morning of hike to make sure it's on. Meet: 10am at Best Western parking lot on Green Pond Rd. (Rt. 513), just north of Rt. 80, exit 37; caravan to trailhead. 8 miles with hills. Lunch at a hawk watch lookout.

### Monday, May 9

**RVW. West Kill Mountain (3,880'), Catskills, NY.** Leader: for more information call 845-246-8074. Meet: 8am; call for location. Strenuous 7 miles; 7 hours. Inclement weather date is following Monday.

### Saturday, May 14

**EHT. Stony Hill Preserve, Amagansett, NY.** Leader: Rick Whalen, 631-267-6608. Meet: 10am at Jacob's Farm roadside parking, south side Red Dirt Rd., 300 yards east of Accabonac Highway. 6 miles at moderate to brisk pace. Call if weather doubtful.

**UOC. Eagle Rock Reservation, NJ.** Leader: Ed McSherry, 732-245-9438. Meet: call for time and carpooling location. Moderate hike on these wooded trails in central Essex County, on the crest of First Watchung mountain; view of the NYC skyline. Lunch at local diner.

**GAHC. St. John's Church, Harriman State Park, NY.** Leader: Manfred Janowski, 914-428-4573. Meet: 9am; must call to register. \$2 fee. Moderate hike; no public transportation.

**IHC. Lake Skannatati, Harriman State Park, NY.** Leader: Roy Williams, 570-828-6207, [royhiker1@aol.com](mailto:royhiker1@aol.com). Meet: 9am at Lake Skannatati parking area, Seven Lakes Dr. Moderately strenuous hike on the Long Path, Dunning, RD, Lichen, ASB and Bottle Cap Trails. Rain cancels.

### Wednesday, May 25

**RVW. Lake Minnewaska, Minnewaska State Park Preserve, NY.** Leader: for more information call 845-246-7174. Meet: 10am; call for location. Easy, very scenic, 4 miles; 2.5 hours. Inclement weather date is following Monday.

**UHC. Cooper Mill to Kay Environmental Center, Chester, NJ.** Leader: John Gilris, 973-386-1168. Meet: 10am at Cooper Mill. Moderate 4-6 miles, suitable for beginners. Half flat and half hilly. Hike along the Black River to Kay, historic markers along the way. Rain cancels.

### Saturday, May 28

**AMC NY-NoJ. Mt. Taurus Without Tears, Hudson Highlands State Park, NY.** Leader: Hallie Wolfe, 914-941-5331, [halliewolfe@optonline.net](mailto:halliewolfe@optonline.net). Meet: contact leader for meeting time and place. Moderate 6 miles with hills. Leader sets the pace, which may be slow at times. We'll see ruins, water, and Hudson River views. Call if weather is doubtful.

**WTA. Reeves Brook Trail, Harriman State Park, NY.** Leader: Carol Ann Benton, [aquarius2950@hotmail.com](mailto:aquarius2950@hotmail.com). Meet: 9am at ShopRite parking in Croton-on-Hudson; let leader know if you'd like to be picked up at the Croton-Harmon RR station. Moderate 5-6 miles, from Reeves Meadow visitor center. Bad weather cancels.

### Sunday, May 29

**IHC. Stonetown Circular, NJ.** Leader: Chris Davis, [chrisdavis08558@yahoo.com](mailto:chrisdavis08558@yahoo.com), 973-590-7437. Meet: 9am at Stonetown Road; contact leader for directions. Strenuous 10-mile workout with wonderful views of northern NJ and NY state.

**UHC. South Mountain Reservation, South Orange, NJ.** Leader: Gail Waimon, 973-467-4761. Meet: 10am at Locust Grove parking lot, across from Millburn RR station. 4-5 mile brisk hike with steep climb at start. Rain cancels.

## June

### Saturday, June 4

**ADK-MH/NYNJTC. Enjoy National Trails Day on Bear Mountain, NY.** Leader: Jean-Claude Fouere, 845-462-0142, [jcfouere@optonline.net](mailto:jcfouere@optonline.net). Meet: contact leader for meeting time and place. Moderately strenuous 5 miles. Appalachian Trail from Fort Montgomery to Bear Mountain summit (1,284'); descent route TBD (Major Welch Trail or AT). We aim to join Trail Conference opening of a new handicapped accessible trail on the summit that day. Lunch on the trail or at Trail Conference picnic.

**AFW. AT in New Jersey.** Leader: for info and to register call 973-644-3592 or visit [www.adventuresforwomen.org](http://www.adventuresforwomen.org). Meet: 9am; call for location. Moderate to strenuous hike at moderate pace; out by 4pm.

**AMC NY-NoJ. Diamond and Panther Mountains, Harriman State Park, NY.** Leader: Jane Levenson, 212-534-7806. Meet: contact leader for meeting time and place. Moderately strenuous 10 miles with hills but at a moderate pace. Steady pace with solid climbs, leading to great views. Up the classic Diamond Mountain, then up the more elusive Panther Mountain for lunch. Steady rain cancels, call if in doubt. Rain date is Sunday, June 5.

**EHT. Barcelona Neck Preserve, East Hampton, NY.** Leader: Richard Poveromo, 631-283-4591 (917-584-7280 day of hike). Meet: 10am at Swamp Rd. and Edwards Hole Rd., 1 mile north of Rt. 114. Moderate 7 miles. Our path winds through forests, past a tupelo swamp, and along 80-foot bluffs and pebbly bay beach overlooking Northwest Harbor. Call if weather doubtful.

**UOC. Baldpate Mountain, Ted Stiles Preserve, NJ.** Leader: John Clyde, 732-846-9013. Meet: call for time and carpooling location. Moderate hike on the ridge trail, bring trail lunch.

### Sunday, June 5

**WTA. Pyramid Mountain and Two Reservoirs, NJ.** Leader: Eileen West, [eileenw1000@yahoo.com](mailto:eileenw1000@yahoo.com). Meet: at North White Plains train station for carpool; contact leader for meeting time. Moderate 8-9 miles. Interesting hike in the Butler-Montville area of NJ, with diverse terrain, trails along two reservoirs, and a return over Pyramid Mountain. Rain cancels.

**UHC. Jockey Hollow National Park, Morristown, NJ.** Leader: Pat Curley, 908-868-7510. Meet: 10am at visitor center parking area. Moderate 4-5 miles. Bad weather cancels.

### Thursday, June 9

**AFW. Norvin Green State Forest, NJ.** Leader: for info and to register call 973-644-3592 or visit [www.adventuresforwomen.org](http://www.adventuresforwomen.org). Meet: 10am; call for location. Moderate to strenuous hike at moderate pace; out by 2pm.

**UHC. Pochuck Mountain and the Boardwalk, Glenwood, NJ.** Leader: Carol O'Keefe, 973-328-7599, [okcarol@optonline.net](mailto:okcarol@optonline.net); must register day before hike. Meet: 9:30am at Pochuck Canal Rd., Glenwood, NJ. We'll shuttle from here to small lot on Glen Mtn Rd. Easy to moderate 6 miles. Hike down Pochuck Mountain on the AT, then across the boardwalks on the AT. If you haven't seen the boardwalks and bridge built by volunteers, it is something you should not miss.

### Saturday, June 11

**AFW. Deer Park, Hackettstown, NJ.** Leader: for info and to register call 973-644-3592 or visit [www.adventuresforwomen.org](http://www.adventuresforwomen.org). Meet: 10am; call for location. Moderate hike at moderate pace; out by 2pm.

**UHC. Watchung Reservation, Mountainside, NJ.** Leader: Ellen Jeydel, 908-232-2413. Meet: 10am at Trailside Nature Center, Coles Ave. Moderate 5-6 miles, for intermediate hikers. Rain cancels.



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Sages Ravine along the Appalachian Trail in the Taconic Mountains of Massachusetts (Trail Conference map #4).

**WTA. East Hudson Highlands, Garrison, NY.** Leader: Marvin Malater, 718-376-3608; call to confirm hike is still on. Meet: Grand Central Terminal for 8:47 departing train to Garrison; drivers meet at Garrison RR parking lot at 10am. Moderately strenuous 11 miles, on forested, rolling hills. Hike Sugarloaf South, the AT to Curry Pond traverse, and return from West Point lookout at Arden Point.

**SOAS. The Palisades and Giant Stairs, NJ.** Leader: Gene Burke. Meet: for meeting place and time, register at [www.sundanceoutdoor.org/calendar](http://www.sundanceoutdoor.org/calendar). 7 miles. A hike north along the Hudson River from Alpine to State Line Lookout.

### Sunday, May 15

**AMC NY-NoJ. NJ Botanical Garden.** Leader: Tom Parliament, 845-634-4116, [tparliment@verizon.net](mailto:tparliment@verizon.net). Meet: contact leader for meeting time and place. Moderate 8 miles with rolling hills. Scenic hike along Halifax Trail; we'll even see a haunted house. Afterward, walk the beautiful gardens.

**ADK-MH. Hike with a Sketchpad and Camera, Rockefeller Preserve, NY.** Leaders: Kathy Skura, 914-779-0936, and Barry Skura, [barry.skura@gmail.com](mailto:barry.skura@gmail.com). Meet: email Barry for meeting time and place. Intro to sketching and photo composition while rambling through a more secluded 7-mile section of the park east of Rt. 448. Open farm fields, hawks, and woodlands. Bring camera or sketchpad (with colored pencils or crayons); group stops at scenic points to learn and practice.

### Monday, May 16

**RVW. Fir (3620'), Big Indian (3700') and Eagle (3600').** Leader: for more information call 845-246-8074. Meet: 8am; call for location. Strenuous 9 miles; 8 hours. Inclement weather date is following Monday.

### Saturday May 21

**AMC NY-NoJ. Fahnestock State Park, NY.** Leader: Minu Chaudhuri, 914-941-6408, [minu1@optonline.net](mailto:minu1@optonline.net). Meet: contact leader for meeting time and place. Moderate 8 miles with rolling hills. Scenic hike over gently rolling hills with stops at three ponds.

**UHC. Wildcat Ridge Hawk Watch, Rockaway Township, NJ.** Leader: Al Verdi, 973-263-8569. Meet: 10am at Wildcat Ridge parking. Easy 3 miles up to Hawk Watch Overlook, then back down.

**ECGA. 50-mile Walk, Metropark to Penn Station.** Contact: [www.nj2ny50.org](http://www.nj2ny50.org). From Metropark, Iselin, NJ to Penn Station, New York City. The route we will take follows the East Coast Greenway trail all the way.

### Sunday, May 22

**AMC NY-NoJ. Storm King State Park, NY.** Leader: Joe Bonner, [hikerman4169@yahoo.com](mailto:hikerman4169@yahoo.com). Meet: contact leader for meeting time and place. Moderately strenuous 9 miles with hills, some rock scrambling. Scramble up for great views of the Hudson River and Valley. Limited to 12 people. Heavy/steady rain cancels.

**NYR. Hartshorne Woods, NJ.** Leader: Kay Cynamon, 212-865-3245. Meet: 8am at Seastreak Ferry, E. 35th St. and FDR Drive, for 8:15 ferry (RT to Highland, fare is \$40; check time with ferry). Hike most of the trails in this historic park near Sandy Hook, NJ. Trails pass sites of coastal defenses from WW II through the 1960s, and others feature scenic views.

**WTA. Schunemunk Mountain State Park, NY.** Leader: Jim Capossela, 914-762-1634. Meet: 8:15am at North White Plains train station for carpool (\$8 transportation contribution); contact leader for alternate meeting place. Moderate 6-7 miles, but with some steep climbs. We'll be joined by park steward Terry Murphy, who will share some insights on Schunemunk's history, geology, plants and animals.

**IHC. Reeves Brook Trail, Harriman State Park, NY.** Leader: Roy Williams, 570-828-6207, [royhiker1@aol.com](mailto:royhiker1@aol.com). Meet: 9am at Reeves Meadow visitor center, Seven Lakes Dr. Moderately strenuous hike on Seven Hills and HTS trails, pass by the Cascade of Slid to end this beautiful hike. Rain cancels.

The activities listed are sponsored by member clubs of the NY-NJ Trail Conference. All hikers are welcome subject to club regulations and rules of the trail. You are responsible for your own safety. Wear hiking boots or strong, low-heeled shoes. Bring food, water, rain gear, first aid kit, and a flashlight in a backpack. Leaders have the right and responsibility to refuse anyone whom they believe cannot complete the hike or is not adequately equipped. Easy, moderate, or strenuous hikes are relative terms; call leader if in doubt.

More than 100 clubs belong to the Trail Conference, and many of our affiliate groups sponsor hikes not listed in the Hikers' Almanac. For a descriptive list of Conference clubs, consult our website or send a SASE with your request to NY-NJ Trail Conference.

### Club Codes

Only those clubs with hikes offered in this issue are listed below. Please call numbers listed to confirm.

ADK-MH	ADK Mid-Hudson	RVW	Rip Van Winkle Hiking Club
AFW	Adventures for Women	SOAS	Sundance Outdoor Adventure Society
AMC NY-NoJ	AMC New York-North Jersey	TNC	Tenafly Nature Center
ECGA	East Coast Greenway Alliance	UHC	Union County Hiking Club
EHT	East Hampton Trails Preservation Society	UOC	University Outing Club
GAHC	German-American Hiking Club	WTA	Westchester Trails Association
IHC	Interstate Hiking Club		
NYR	New York Ramblers		

Clubs wishing to have hikes listed in Hikers' Almanac should send their schedules to [tw@nynjtc.org](mailto:tw@nynjtc.org) or to the Trail Conference Office. The deadline for the July/August issue is May 15.



Sunday, June 12

**EHT. Hither Woods Preserve, Montauk, NY.** Leader: Rick Whalen, 631-267-6608. Meet: 10am at Rod's Valley Park, west end of Navy Rd., Montauk. 10+ miles at moderate pace; about 6 hours. Enjoy the solitude and vastness of Montauk's great wilderness; views of ocean and bay, plus deep woods. Call if weather doubtful.

**IHC. Deer Pond Park, NJ.** Leaders: Pat and Ursula Davis, 973-786-7087. Meet: 9am at Byram Plaza shopping center (McDonald's), Rt. 206 and Lackawanna Ave., Byram, NJ. Moderately strenuous 8 miles. Stevens Park to Deer Pond, return by Waterloo Village and Highlands Trail. Come see this little-known part of Allamuchy. Shuttle required.

**UCHC. South Mountain Reservation, NJ.** Leader: Louise White, 973-746-4319. Meet: 10am at Tulip Springs parking off Cherry Lane, Millburn, NJ. Easy 4-mile hike; about 2 hours.

Wednesday, June 15

**UCHC. Randolph Trails, NJ.** Leader: Jim McKay, 973-538-0756, jrmmckay@verizon.net. Meet: 10am at Freedom Park parking. Moderate 4 miles. Hike to Brundage Park and back. Steady rain cancels.

**TNC. Full Moon Silent Hike, Tenafly Nature Center, NJ.** Leaders: Environmental Educators. Meet: 7pm; must register at [www.tenaflynaturecenter.org](http://www.tenaflynaturecenter.org) or call 201-568-6093 for further information. Two-hour guided walk through Lost Brook Preserve (1.5 miles) by the light of the full moon. Participants will stop for a quiet rest along the hike; this meditative hike encourages reflection and connecting with nature. \$10 per person; this walk is for adults ages 18 and over. Bad weather postpones.

Saturday, June 18

**AMC NY-NoJ. Sterling Forest Fire Tower, NY.** Leader: Renate Jaerschky, 845-368-1749; call before 9pm. Meet: contact leader for meeting time and place. Moderate 5 miles with rolling hills. A leisurely hike up to the ridge, where we'll enjoy a grand view from the fire tower. Explore the new Mining History Trail.

**EHT. Miller's Ground Preserve, East Hampton, NY.** Leader: Richard Poveromo, 631-283-4591 (917-584-7280 day of hike). Meet: 10am at Daniels Hole Rd. and Powerline Rd., one-half mile north of East Hampton Airport. Moderate 5 miles. Walk little-used Radio Tower Trail and an uncharted loop into Toyland. Call if weather doubtful.

**AFW. Manitoga, Garrison, NY.** Leader: for info and to register call 973-644-3592 or visit [www.adventuresforwomen.org](http://www.adventuresforwomen.org). Meet: 9:30am; call for location. Easy to moderate hike at leisurely pace; out by 2:30pm.

**UOC. Allaire Village and Trail Hike, Farmingdale, NJ.** Leader: Mary Munn, 732-679-4041. Meet: call for time and carpooling location. Hike a wooded trail and tour this historic village; bring picnic lunch. Rain cancels.

Sunday, June 19

**AMC NY-NoJ. Popolopen Torne, Harriman State Park, NY.** Leader: Michael Brochstein, 212-678-7881; call before 9pm. Meet: contact leader for meeting time and place. Moderately strenuous 6 miles with hills, some rock scrambling. Beginners welcome, but hiking boots required and don't underestimate this hike based on shorter length. Rain cancels; call 7:15-8am morning of hike if in doubt.

**TNC. Father's Day Hike, Tenafly Nature Center, NJ.** Leader: Environmental Educator. Meet: 1pm; must register at [www.tenaflynaturecenter.org](http://www.tenaflynaturecenter.org) or call 201-568-6093 for further information. Two-hour guided hike. \$5 per person (members and all fathers free); this walk is intended for adults and children of all ages (no strollers please). Bad weather cancels.

**UCHC. Dunnfield Creek, Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area, NJ.** Leader: Pat Horsch, 908-693-8331. Meet: 10am at Dunnfield Creek/Appalachian Trail parking. Moderate to strenuous climb at a leisurely pace up Mt. Tammany. Descend to a scenic waterfall (option for an early out), then along Dunnfield Creek and up Holly Springs Trail; out on the AT. Steady rain cancels.

Thursday, June 23

**UCHC. Pine Meadow Lake, Harriman State Park, NY.** Leader: Ellie King, 908-233-8411; must register day before hike (no calls day of hike). Meet: 10am at Reeves Meadow parking, Seven Lakes Dr. Moderately strenuous 6 miles to beautiful Pine Meadow Lake for lunch; some rock scrambling.

Saturday, June 25

**AMC NY-NoJ. Skannatati Skedaddle, Harriman State Park, NY.** Leader: Art Almeida, 914-271-8659, arta@croton10520.com. Meet: contact leader for meeting time and place. Moderately strenuous 9 miles with hills. Steep initial climb, then wander around as many interesting trails as we can find. Hiking boots and two quarts water required. Call morning of hike if weather doubtful.

**AFW. Burroughs Range, Catskills, NY.** Leader: for info and to register visit [www.adventuresforwomen.org](http://www.adventuresforwomen.org) or call 973-644-3592. Meet: 8:30am; call for location. Strenuous hike at moderate pace; out by 5pm.

**ADK-MH. Shawangunk Ridge Trail through Bashakill, Wurtsboro, NY.** Leader: Pete McGinnis, pmcgini@aol.com. Meet: 8am in Newburgh; call for location. Moderate 7-9 miles, mostly level. Beautiful section of trail through the Bashakill Wildlife Management Area, Bashakill rail trail and Long Path.

**UCHC. Jockey Hollow National Park, Morristown, NJ.** Leader: Pat Curley, 908-868-7510. Meet: 10am at visitor center parking. Moderate 4-5 miles. Bad weather cancels.

Sunday, June 26

**UOC. Delaware & Raritan Canal Walk, N.J.** Leader: Mimi Wolin, 732-249-9166. Meet: call for time and carpooling location. 4-mile, level walk from Blackwell Mills to Criggstown, where we will meet a park staffer for a tour of the Mule Tenders House, now being restored.

**WTA. Fort Montgomery to Silvermine, Harriman State Park, NY.** Leader: Carol Ann Benton, aquarius2950@hotmail.com. Meet: contact leader for details and to register. Moderate 9-10 miles. One-way hike on Timp-Torne and Popolopen Gorge trails to Torrey Memorial, where the summit affords panoramic east-facing view. Then Long Path to Cave and Stockbridge shelters, and out on Menomine Trail.

**IHC. Coppermines Trail & Raccoon Ridge (Kittatinnies), NJ.** Leader: Al MacLennan, 973-451-1435, ajmaclelland@verizon.net. Meet: 9am at Coppermines Trail parking, River Rd. (Rt. 606), Pahaquarry, NJ. Moderate strenuous 8 miles. Come see a beautiful hemlock and rhododendron ravine and climb to Raccoon Ridge for spectacular views of the Delaware and Pocono Plateau. Steady rain cancels.

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**You can recoup the cost of your membership in one visit!**



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We encourage our members to take advantage of this incredible opportunity that comes with a Trail Conference membership. New discounts and offers are continually being added so be sure to visit our website's membership benefits area at [www.nynjtc.org/content/retail-partners](http://www.nynjtc.org/content/retail-partners) for current offers.

- 25% Discount** on Trail Conference publications and clothing when purchased directly from the Trail Conference.
- FREE Subscription** to the *Trail Walker*, the Trail Conference's bi-monthly newsletter filled with timely articles and columns that will enhance your hiking experiences.
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- Volunteer Opportunities** to "learn by doing" in areas as varied as trail maintenance, construction, publications, environmental monitoring, and cartography.
- Access to the Hoeflerlin Library** at the Trail Conference office that includes more than 1,000 books on hiking worldwide, along with maps, guides and a historical archive.

## Leave No Trace: Ethics & Trail Tips

By Bob Russo

### Etiquette on the trail!

Trail etiquette is a subject often neglected by hikers both novice and seasoned. The following are Leave No Trace suggestions that might be considered etiquette 'rules' on the trail.

- The little things are often the most important: courtesies such as offering a friendly greeting or wearing earth-tone colored clothing to blend in with your surroundings.
- Take rest breaks a short distance from the trail on durable surfaces such as rock or bare ground. If the vegetation is thick or easily crushed, pick a wide spot on the trail so others can pass by.
- Equestrians have the right of way on multiuse trails. Hikers should move to the downhill side and talk quietly to the riders as they pass because horses frighten easily.

- Be considerate with your cell phone. Carry and use it out of sight and sound of other hikers. Leave it in your case on vibrate or silent. (Safety tip: If you're depending on your cell phone to call for help in an emergency, remember: in many mountain areas there is poor or nonexistent reception. Always carry an orienteering compass and map of the area and know how to use them.)



*Bob Russo is a Trail Conference member and volunteer and a Leave No Trace Master Educator. Find more Leave No Trace principles at [www.lnt.org](http://www.lnt.org).*

## Search & Rescue NJSAR Open House



**What happens when someone is reported lost in the woods?** Find out on Saturday, May 14 at Ramapo Valley County Reservation in Mahwah when New Jersey Search and Rescue volunteers demonstrate the techniques and equipment used to find and rescue unfor-

tunate victims and offer guidance on how to avoid getting lost. The unit will conduct the open house between the hours of 9am and 3pm.

There will be displays and demonstrations for all ages to observe or participate in. This will include preventive search and rescue classes to teach children and parents how to avoid getting lost and how to be prepared to deal with such a situation if it should occur. The team's Mountain Rescue Unit will be demonstrating a real rope rescue scenario, and its K-9 unit will give a search and location demonstration. In addition, on display will be the team's cutting edge Mobile Operations Center. There will be instruction in direction finding, map reading, wilderness first aid and proper gear. Members will be present in full field gear prepared to answer questions.

So, come out, see how this vital organization works. You can enjoy a day in the great outdoors at the same time.

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Tributes are only printed for donations of \$25 or more.

# I N M E M O R I A M



## Donald Derr, Trail Conference President 1978-1984

Donald Derr, president of the Trail Conference from 1978 to 1984, died March 6, 2011, after a long illness. Don's influence on the Trail Conference was significant and pervasive. He attracted and mentored dedicated volunteers and staff who themselves have made lasting impact on the organization and trails community. An accomplished cartographer, Don is credited with developing the Trail Conference's map publication program and produced several trail maps published in the 1970s.

H. Neil Zimmerman, Trail Conference president 1987-1999, recalls Don as the person who got him involved with the Trail Conference. "In the mid-70s, I started some mid-week hiking in Harriman using the new Trail Conference maps. Each week I'd do a new trail (it was all new to me) and often send in minor map corrections. At the time, Don was the map chair. He basically started the Trail Conference map program.

"Within a very short time, Don called and explained he was soon to become Trail Conference president and would I take on the Map Committee? I was very surprised and explained I knew very little and initially turned him down. But Don was persistent, persuasive, and, above all, encouraging. I took the 'job.' Whatever I have done for the Trail Conference can be traced back to my mentor, Donald Derr."

JoAnn Dolan, executive director 1980-

1985 and again 1991-1999, recalls Don's impact: "First hand, day to day, I was privileged to experience Don's terrific management style as Conference president. With volunteers and staff he was superb at mentoring and delegating. With clear vision, Don promoted organizational growth at a vigilant and steady pace.

"Don's tenure as president was a highly charged time in the history of the Trail Conference. The National Park Service was rapidly protecting Appalachian Trail corridor lands. Trail Conference volunteers were given one month to scout and plan a bi-state trail route. Planning was quickly followed by negotiations with landowners and presentations at town meetings.

"With this new idea of a federally protected trail corridor, some saw it as a Federal Government land grab. Town folks were not always pleased and, in fact, sometimes expressed opposition in rather rowdy displays. In *Vistas and Vision: A History of the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference*, Don refers to these meetings, saying, "I don't think they threw anything at us, but it nearly came to that. They didn't want 'trail weirdoes and hippies' threatening their children." But Don and others in the Trail Conference leadership were masters at consensus building. Don's dignified, gentle and unflappable personality especially engendered trust among our partners, and brought high regard and a new status to the organization.

"Don was a significant force and stellar among leaders throughout the 90-year history of the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference. His spirit is very much alive."

A resident of Somers, NY, Don worked in engineering and management positions with Union Carbide and IBM, retiring in 1990. An avid hiker, he also served as president of the Westchester Trails Association. In 1989, the Trail Conference made Don an Honorary Member. In 1994, then Governor Mario Cuomo appointed Don as Regional Commissioner (Taconics) of State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation. He served until 2006.

Don's wife, Carol, predeceased him in 2004. He is survived by children Bryan, Bruce, and Nina and three grandchildren.



Former Trail Conference Presidents Don Derr (left) and George Zobelein with Governor Mario Cuomo

# Winter Trails Gathering in NYC

Our Annual Winter Meeting returned to New York City on a spring-like February 19. Two city hikes—one led by New York Hiking Club's Bob Ward in midtown and the other by Shorewalkers' Cy Adler from Battery Park along the Hudson River—attracted large groups. Others participated in workshops—one focusing on Metro region trails, the other, led by Jan Barry, on how to effectively advocate for trails. Hikers, along with other Trail Conference members, delegates, and friends, met up at our meeting place on 35th Street to enjoy a buffet dinner of hot and cold foods and beverages, a presentation by author Tony Hiss (pictured at bottom), and a short meeting on Trail Conference business.

We thank our hike leaders Bob Ward and Cy Adler, speakers Jan Barry and Tony Hiss, retail partner Gear To Go (which displayed and sold gear from a booth at discounted prices). Special thanks go to the New York Hiking Club, which helped to underwrite the event.

## Next Meeting Dates

**Saturday, June 4**  
(National Trails Day) at Bear Mountain (see ad on page 3)

**Saturday, October 15, 8am-2pm**  
in Ossining (Caputo Community Center): Mark your calendar!



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## News about the Long Path Guide: Now Online, and Free!

The *Long Path Guide*, last published in 2005 and out of stock for some time, is now available on the Trail Conference website; search for “Long Path Guide (softcopy)”. Alternatively, click on “Long Distance Trails” in the left column, then select “Long Path”, then click on “electronic edition”. This version of the *Long Path Guide* is free to all users.

Jakob Franke, chair of the Long Path South Committee, spent a good part of the winter cozier up with his computer transposing and updating content from the 2005 edition. In March, Jakob declared Phase 1 of the project to be finished—for the time being. He has added the complete text of the 2005 edition to the website and incorporated updates and corrections into the descriptions.

Information of the web edition is organized in the same manner as in the printed book: geographically from south to north, with mileage descriptions within each region. Two brand-new section descriptions—for Schenectady and Saratoga Counties—have been added.

As in the print edition, this electronic version includes a separate section near the end describing the route of the Shawangunk Ridge Trail. It too includes updated information.

Still to be added to the web edition are maps and photos and an updated version of “Backpacking the Long Path” by Ed Walsh. Text will be updated as appropriate.

The Publications Committee is investigating the possibility of converting some Trail Conference books, possibly including the *Long Path Guide*, to a format accessible via e-Pubs or print-on-demand. Until then, this electronic edition of the *Long Path Guide* fills an important information niche for trail users.

We extend a hearty *Thank-you* to Jakob for completing this very big volunteer job.



## CATSKILL FIRE TOWER *continued from page 6*

state’s Dept. of Environmental Conservation and nonprofit groups including the Adirondack Mountain Club and the Catskill Center for Conservation and Development, they were all restored and reopened in 2000 and 2001.

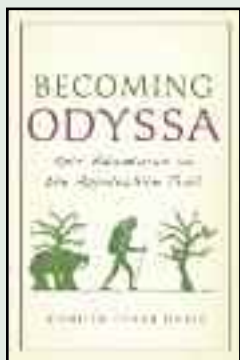
Today, the soaring, 70-foot-tall structures offer visitors stunning 360-degree views of neighboring peaks and the surrounding landscape, as well as a thrilling “climb back in time.”

Volunteers (about 90 in all) work in pairs to meet and greet visitors and answer their questions about the towers, the Catskill Mountains, and related topics. Each volunteer works a minimum of three weekend

## Book Review

### Becoming Odysssa: Epic Adventures on the Appalachian Trail

By Jennifer Pharr Davis



Beaufort Books, 2010  
Reviewed by Jared Catapano

Jennifer Pharr Davis’s memoir *Becoming Odysssa: Epic Adventures on the Appalachian Trail* is this young woman’s account of personal growth through her experiences hiking the Appalachian Trail from Georgia to Maine. Unfortunately, the book falls short of delivering on the title’s promise. The trouble is not in the story, but in the telling.

The title hearkens to the epic travels of the classical hero Odysseus and immediately creates high reader expectations: these will be exciting stories of extreme challenges, physical endurance, mental and emotional stamina, and high drama! No doubt Davis had such experiences and demonstrated such qualities in the course of her long-distance hike. Unfortunately she thwarts her narrative ambitions with too much detail. I had trouble staying attentive to the movement of her story as I slogged through the minutia of her travels. Fleshing out detail is important, but Davis goes overboard to accomplish it.

Davis opens with a quick explanation of her life as it is in 2008, three years after she first thru-hiked the AT. She is back on top of Katahdin in Maine, stepping off with her new husband on a southbound thru-hike. She writes of her love for her life, her husband, and God. This short section is well executed.

days, plus a day or two of on-site training, during a season that runs from Memorial Day through Columbus Day.

The trails leading to the towers are all moderate hikes of one to three miles. Volunteers may hike in and out on the same day or stay overnight in summit cabins.

Volunteering for the Catskill Fire Tower Project is a fun and fulfilling way to meet people, share the experience of the beautiful Catskill Mountains, and help preserve a key piece of Catskills history.

For more information, email [catskillfiretowers@yahoo.com](mailto:catskillfiretowers@yahoo.com) or call the Catskill Center for Conservation and Development at 845-586-2611. Visit [www.catskillfiretowers.org](http://www.catskillfiretowers.org).



She then makes a jarring jump back to a hiking class she took with famed hiker Warren Doyle at the Appalachian Trail Folk School prior to her initial AT hike and begins her detailed chronicle of that earlier thru-hike. Davis reaches back across the years to deliver anecdotes from her trail experiences about her feelings (both physical and mental), how to overcome shortfalls and mistakes, how to deal with homesickness in the wilderness, loneliness, vulnerability, and the happiness she feels in basic human interaction. These anecdotes contain important life lessons regarding the human condition, but I had difficulty caring about her overarching narrative.

Chapter after chapter the reader watches Davis’s movement toward her ultimate destination in Maine. When she gets there, I wanted to share Davis’s full satisfaction in accomplishing her journey. I was disappointed that my feelings fell short of that. Instead, all I took away from the book were some anecdotes and lessons to keep in mind whether on a hike or on the job.

*Becoming Odysssa* documents the power of being able to look inward while dealing with adversity on a daily basis. The trouble is that if one does plan to read this book, one should not expect a flowing read.

*Jared Catapano is an occasional contributor to Trail Walker.*



## UPDATE ON PARKS FUNDING *continued from page 4*

not include new cuts to parks and forestry operating budgets. We remain concerned, however, that staffing levels are 35% below what has been determined to be necessary for good stewardship, including monitoring pipeline projects being constructed through parks and the immediate need to repair and replace critical equipment after a three-year moratorium on equipment upgrades.

Gov. Christie’s proposal provides a modest increase in funds for the state Dept. of Environmental Protection (DEP), calls for an increase in parks and forestry appropriations, and continues funding for several programs charged with protecting the state’s natural resources.

In addition, \$6.2 million in funding for the operations of the state’s parks and forests is being restored from the state’s general fund, assuring that all state parks will remain open. Many of the 54 state parks have been operating with critically low staff levels, which the governor has proposed increasing to better serve the more than 17 million visitors who make use of these sites annually. Capital development projects required to improve facilities at state parks would be allocated \$2.6 million in Gov. Christie’s budget, helping to assure that visitors can use them safely and enjoyably.

The budget process is still in the negotiating phase; the state’s fiscal year begins July 1. Those who love parks and open space need to stay vigilant and vocal. Let your state representatives know your views.

**Find links to your representatives and updates on issues on our website: [www.nynjtc.org/panel/protectourtrails](http://www.nynjtc.org/panel/protectourtrails)**



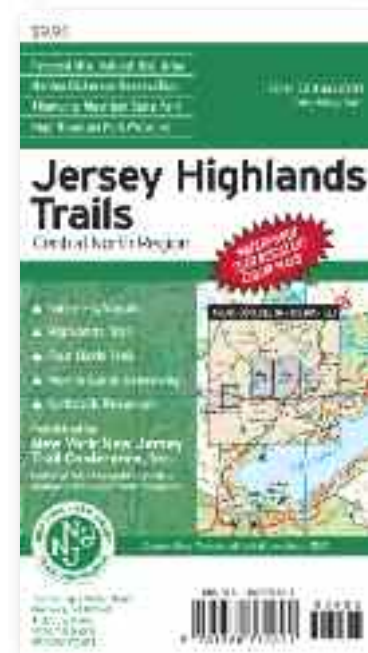
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## 230+ Miles and More than 30 Parks! New Map Set Expands Trail Coverage for Jersey Highlands

The Trail Conference’s brand new, digitally-produced first edition of **Jersey Highlands Trails: Central North Region** (previously identified as Central Region) is now available.



This two-map set shows more than 230 miles of marked trails within more than 30 parks in the central north region of the New Jersey Highlands and adjacent areas, including Pyramid Mountain, High Mountain Park Preserve, Allamuchy Mountain State Park, Mahlon Dickerson Reservation, and the Fanny Highlands. More than 45 miles of the Highlands Trail are also shown on the maps along with the nearly-20-mile-long Four Birds Trail and portions of the Morris Canal Greenway. While focused on northern Morris County, the maps also include portions of Passaic, Sussex, and Warren counties.

The trail network shown on this map set has been compiled using Global Positioning System (GPS) technology. Trail Conference volunteers spent numerous hours walking the trails with GPS receivers to obtain accurate trail information. Parking areas, scenic viewpoints, and other points of interest are identified, and as always, the maps are printed on waterproof, tear-resistant Tyvek. At \$9.95 (\$7.46 for Trail Conference members), the **Jersey Highlands Trails: Central North Region** map set is an essential resource for exploring the many parks and trails throughout this region of the New Jersey Highlands.

The map set was produced through a partnership with The Land Conservancy of New Jersey and with additional financial support from Robert C. Rooke, Jr.

To obtain this map set, see the Hikers’ Marketplace on page 12, shop online at [www.nynjtc.org](http://www.nynjtc.org), call 201-512-9348, or stop in at the Trail Conference office.

This map set complements our current **North Jersey Trails** map set, which focuses on an area of the Jersey Highlands further north. We are making both map sets available from the Trail Conference as a money-saving combo pack.

Visit [trailpubs.nynjtc.org](http://trailpubs.nynjtc.org) and click on the **Jersey Highlands Trails: Central North Region** cover for additional resources, including suggested hikes, enlarged inset maps, and much more!

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# Featured Hike



## Hawk Watch Loop at Wildcat Ridge WMA



DANIEL CHAZIN

Hikers enjoy a view from the Hawk Watch in March.

**Time:** 2 hours  
**Difficulty:** Easy to Moderate  
**Length:** 2.4 miles  
**Features:** Panoramic views, seasonal hawk migrations, beaver pond, historic features  
**Dogs:** Allowed on leash  
**Map:** Jersey Highlands Trails: Central North Region (new), #125

Wildlife, especially creatures with wings, is a characteristic feature of the 3,745-acre Wildcat Ridge Wildlife Management Area in the Fanny Highlands of Morris County, NJ. "No other area in north Jersey has the large unfragmented forests needed to preserve populations of endangered hawks, owls, and increasingly rare songbirds," New Jersey's Division of Fish & Wildlife says of this area. Beaver, otters, two species of bats, waterfowl, reptiles and amphibians also continue to reside in this large Highlands forest.

The area is an official Hawk Migration Association of North America "hawk-watch" site, a great place to see migrating hawks in the spring and fall. Volunteers have counted as many as 18,000 raptors during the fall, and 3,000 in the spring.

A hike to the Hawk Watch overlook leads to panoramic views of these Highlands forests and, on a clear day, a portion of the New York City skyline. Hike of the Week writer Daniel Chazin (his column appears in the Bergen County-based newspaper *The Record* and on our website) recommends a 2.4-mile, easy-to-moderate loop hike to the Hawk Watch that starts in the parking area at the end of Upper Hibernia Road.

Trails in the Jersey Highlands lead to panoramic viewpoints, wildlife, and history.

His route follows multi-use trails (blazing and maintenance for these are the responsibility of JORBA—Jersey Off Road Bicycle Association) and the charmingly named, white-blazed Four Birds Trail (maintained by Trail Conference volunteers). The hike skirts a beaver pond that is home to a variety of wildlife, and passes an

empty stone building that is a remnant of the abandoned Marcella Mine. Old, unused telephone poles that stick up from the beaver pond and a television transmission tower on the ridge attest to a continuous human presence in the region.

As NJF&W reports: "The breathtaking view of the Highlands is well worth the walk even when the hawks are not moving. The view provides an otherwise hard to obtain understanding of the vastness of the Highlands forest resource and its value to hundreds of species including humans, in northern New Jersey."

Dan Chazin's detailed directions for the hike and getting to the parking area can be found on our website: [www.nynjtc.org](http://www.nynjtc.org), search for "Hawk Watch." Trails in this

WMA are among the 230+ miles of marked trails, spanning more than 30 parks, that are shown on the Trail Conference's brand new map set: Jersey Highlands Trails: Central North Region.

From popular trail networks like the ones found at Pyramid Mountain and Mahlon Dickerson Reservation, to more recently established areas such as Jonathan's Woods and sections of the Morris Canal Greenway, the new set of maps is an excellent resource for discovering the wealth of hiking opportunities in this "breathtaking" region of the New Jersey Highlands. (Read about the map set on page 11.)

## Hikers' Marketplace



NY-NJ TC member?  YES  NO  JOINING NOW Member # \_\_\_\_\_

Please order by circling price Retail Member P/H Total

**Maps (TC published except where noted. Discounted shipping available for orders of 8 or more.)**

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Harriman-Bear Mountain Trails (2010) & see combo	\$ 9.95	\$ 7.46	+\$1.60	_____
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<b>NEW!!</b> Jersey Highlands Trails: Central North Region (2011)	\$ 9.95	\$ 7.46	+\$1.60	_____
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Catskills (6-map set & ADK Catskills Trails book)	\$31.73	\$23.80	+\$3.25	_____

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Note Cards: TC Collection	\$12.00	\$ 9.00	+\$3.20	_____
Long-sleeve Denim Shirt Circle: S M L XL	\$29.90	\$22.42	+\$6.00	_____
Polo Shirt (Forest Green) Circle: S M L XL	\$19.90	\$14.93	+\$6.00	_____
Trail Conference Baseball Cap	\$ 5.00	\$ 3.75	+\$2.30	_____
Trail Conference Logo Patch	\$ 2.50	\$ 2.50	postpaid	_____
Long Path Logo Patch	\$ 2.75	\$ 2.75	postpaid	_____
Trail Conference Logo Decal Circle: Inside Outside	\$ .85	\$ .85	postpaid	_____

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