

To: Member Organization Delegates
Delegates-at-Large

From: Jane Daniels, Board Chair

Date: January 26, 2005

Re: Winter Delegates Meeting, Saturday, February 26, 2005

Dear Delegates and Club Presidents:

If you have never attended a Trail Conference delegate's meeting before, and even if you have, I want to extend a personal invitation to attend the upcoming meeting, and especially the full-day *Idea Incubator*, scheduled for Saturday, February 26 at the **Fresh Air Fund's Camp Mariah in Fishkill, NY**.

As described in excerpts of Ed Goodell's latest *Trail Walker* column (See enclosed) the purpose of the *Idea Incubator* is bring club and at-large delegates together in a format where important issues of the day can be discussed and interested parties can create working groups to achieve particular outcomes.

By expanding the delegates meeting format, we hope to create more collaboration among groups and individuals around mutually held priorities for protecting and expanding high quality hiking opportunities in the region. What are the most important issues for you and your club? How would you be willing to work with others to make a positive difference?

There will be up to 12 topics discussed in each of two sessions for a total of up to 24 separate discussion groups. So, bring your most important issues and be prepared to discuss them with others. But most importantly, just come prepared to participate. It should be an interesting and productive day.

Camp Mariah is situated on 3,000 beautiful acres, so bring your hiking boots, snowshoes, or skis as conditions dictate. (An orienteering map is available.) The main meeting room will be in the cafeteria and there will be breakfast snacks, lunch and afternoon snacks.

To be assured of food and refreshments, you must pre-register! (201-512-9348 ext. 10).

For those interested, it is also possible to stay in onsite cabins on Friday or Saturday for a charge of \$20 per night per person. Accommodations are primarily bunkrooms including bed linen and blanket. There is no food in the evening, but there are lots of restaurants nearby on Route 9. Reservations for overnight accommodations must be made by February 11, 2005.

c. Member Organization Presidents