



### Get Ready for Fall Trail U

Our instructors are prepping for a full season of trail workshops throughout our region.

READ MORE ON PAGE 5 ▶



### Noise Makers

The loud call and response of katydids is a signature sound of late summer in our region.

READ MORE ON PAGE 9 ▶



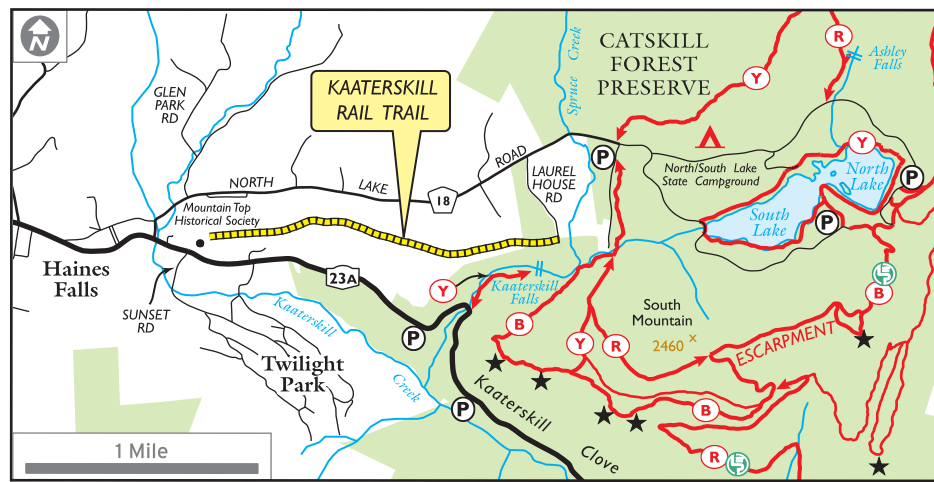
# TRAIL WALKER

September/October 2011 New York-New Jersey Trail Conference – Connecting People with Nature since 1920

www.nynjtc.org

## Kaaterskill Rail Trail Seen as Key Link in Catskill Trail System

The Trail Conference is working with the Town of Hunter, the Kaaterskill Rail Trail Committee, the Greene County Soil and Water Conservation District (GCSWCD), and the NY Dept. of Environmental Conservation (DEC) to develop the Kaaterskill Rail Trail in the northeastern Catskill Mountain village of Haines Falls. The Kaaterskill Rail Trail is a 1.5-mile section of the abandoned Ulster & Delaware Railroad between the Mountain Top Historical Society property in Haines Falls and DEC land at the end of Laurel House Road (above Kaaterskill Falls). The objective is to open the trail to the public for non-motorized, multi-use activities, and, eventually, connect with the trail network surrounding North/South Lake Campground



Map showing the preferred route of the Kaaterskill Rail Trail. Final trail location conditional upon landowner approvals

The Trail Conference and its partners aim to reclaim a 1.5-mile rail bed to create a new recreation and economic resource for the village of Haines Falls.

Easements for the trail sections across private property are currently being finalized. These easements will allow access to the railroad bed via North Lake Road. In addition to working with private landown-

ers, the committee is working with the DEC to connect the Kaaterskill Rail Trail to the trail system on the nearby Forest Preserve lands. The project will require a pedestrian bridge within the Forest Preserve, along with an amendment to the DEC Unit Management Plan for this area, details of which are currently being worked on with the DEC.

Creating a link from Haines Falls to the North and South Lake Campground along the old railroad has been envisioned for years by many in the community. Given the rich history of the railroad and grand hotel era of this region, the project offers great potential to interpret the natural, historic and cultural resources that have been the hallmark of the northern Catskills for generations. Efforts to

make the dream a reality were renewed as a result of the Mountaintop Community Resource Strategy, a recreation improvement strategy the GCSWCD facilitated in 2009.

As part of the Trail Conference's involvement with the Kaaterskill Rail Trail effort, we will be offering trail maintenance and trail building training for the volunteers who will be working on rehabilitating the rail bed to create the Rail Trail. We hope to adopt the Kaaterskill Rail Trail for regular maintenance following its opening, as the Trail Conference maintains the majority of the trail network located on the surrounding Forest Preserve lands.

## Walking Our Trails, Cultivating Artistry, Making an Impact

Trail Conference launches a new photography web section to promote partnership between photography and conservation

By Arnab Banerjee



Hudson River vista from Storm King Mountain.

Historically, photography has been one of the most effective and powerful tools behind the conservation movements in the USA and beyond. The simple reason for that is: A great picture can provide a deep and powerful message that even thousands of words cannot.

Realizing the power of images, the great masters of conservation photography harnessed it to help protect some of the best natural assets of the world. The creation of the first National Park—Yellowstone—as well as the preservation of Yosemite, had a lot to do with the photography of William Henry Jackson and Carleton Watkins. Ansel Adams then carried the mantle. Adams' bold and unique black and white photographs of the great American West landscapes inspired everyone and helped in getting passed legislation to protect many of these lands. In the East, George Masas' inspirational photographs of the Smoky Mountains helped create Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

Many great nature photographers have followed the footsteps of these giants and contributed in their own ways to generate awareness, document what we have and what we are going to lose, and become strong advocates for conservation. The art of photography has been an indispensable tool for conservation efforts.

In the region covered by the Trail Conference, landscape painting (think Hudson

continued on page 8

## ATC Names Ron Rosen Honorary Member; Award Cites 35 Years of AT Leadership

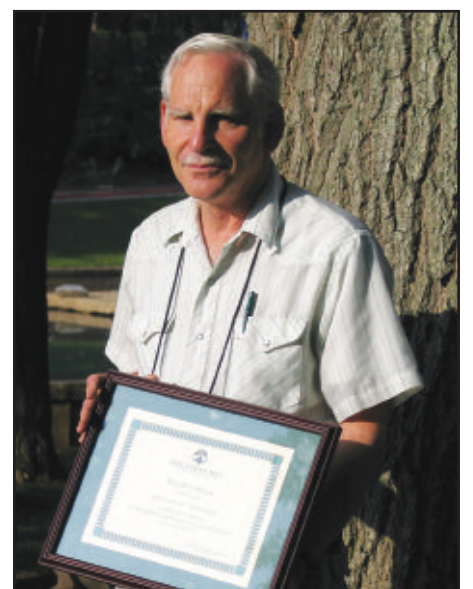
Ron, of Poughkeepsie, NY, is a Trail Conference life member and an Appalachian Trail volunteer since 1976. The Appalachian Trail Conservancy announced the award at its 38th biennial meeting in July in Virginia.

Ron Rosen's engagement with the Appalachian Trail started with what seemed an innocent invitation. In 1976, Ron and his wife Marilyn, living in Poughkeepsie and members of Appalachian Mountain Club (AMC), were invited by the club's local AT maintainer in eastern Dutchess County to join him for a day of trail work. "At the end of the day," Ron recalls, "he said he was being transferred to France and would I replace him as AT maintainer. This was before all the AT land acquisition, and most of the section was road walk." Ron said yes.

Next came pancakes. At an overnight Trail Conference workshop in Harriman State Park, Ron, "not knowing any better," volunteered to help with breakfast. His helpful gesture caught the attention of Don Derr, then Trail Conference president, and Elizabeth Levers, former president. "Don was looking for someone in Dutchess County to give some relief to Liz, who was doing most of the Appalachian Trail work in the region," Ron recalls.

"This was about the time that land acquisition for the AT was ramping up, and Liz was scouting new routes." Both ATC and the Trail Conference were restructuring to meet the new and growing challenges. Dutchess County was an AT focal point because the National Park Service's first AT acquisition was to be a parcel in East Fishkill on Hosner Mountain—

continued on page 3



Ron Rosen is one of just 54 individuals who have been made honorary members in ATC's history. Other Trail Conference members who have earned the honor include the late Elizabeth Levers, who served stints as president of both ATC and the Trail Conference, and Larry Luxenberg, founder of the AT Museum, which opened in Gardners, Pennsylvania in 2010.

# TRAIL WALKER

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GEORGETTE WEIR EDITOR  
LOUIS LEONARDIS GRAPHIC DESIGNER

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New York-New Jersey Trail Conference, Inc.  
156 Ramapo Valley Road (Rt. 202)  
Mahwah, NJ 07430  
201-512-9348

e-mail: info@nynjtc.org

editorial e-mail: tw@nynjtc.org

World Wide Web: 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.

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The New York-New Jersey Trail Conference is a volunteer, non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. It is a federation of 103 hiking and outdoor groups, and 10,000 individuals.

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## From the Board of Directors

### NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING

The Board of Directors of the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference has called a regular meeting of the Trail Conference to take place Tuesday, December 6 at 6pm at Ramapo College, 505 Ramapo Valley Road, Mahwah, NJ 07430.

### NOTICE OF PROPOSED BYLAW AMENDMENTS

July 30, 2011

The following proposed amendments to the bylaws of the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference shall be submitted for reading at the Annual Meeting of the Conference on October 15, 2011, and then shall be submitted for adoption at the regular meeting on December 6, 2011.

#### PROPOSED AMENDMENT NO. 1 –

##### MISCELLANEOUS UPDATES AND CORRECTIONS

Proposed Change: This Amendment No. 1 covers certain minor and technical changes intended to correct and update the bylaws in the following respects:

1. Throughout the bylaws, references to the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference as “the Conference” are changed to “the Trail Conference”.

2. In Section 6.1 and Section 7.5, the name of the standing Board committee formerly known as the “Administrative Committee” is changed to “Finance Committee,” in order to reflect the committee’s scope of business.

3. In Section 7.6, paragraph C, the word “instruments” in the list of permitted depositories is changed to “institutions.”

4. In Section 8.1: The reference in the caption to “Appalachian Trail Conference” has been corrected to read “Appalachian Trail Conservancy.”

#### PROPOSED AMENDMENT NO. 2 –

##### VOTING ELIGIBILITY

Proposed Change: Section 3.4 of the bylaws is modified by adding a definition of “Voting Members” covering all persons entitled to vote at Trail Conference meetings. In addition, this Amendment No. 2 clarifies the description in Section 3.4 of the various categories of members entitled to vote; eliminates Section 2.2D, which refers to “Active Members,” a category no longer in use; and makes conforming changes throughout the bylaws in order to reflect the changes in Section 3.4. As revised, Section 3.4 would read as follows:

#### 3.4 Voting Eligibility

*The principle of one-person-one-vote shall be adhered to, so that no Voting Member shall have more than one vote at any meeting, regardless of the number of positions held. The following are eligible to vote at any regular or special meeting of the Trail Conference, provided that their dues are current:*

*A. Organization Delegates: Each Organization that is a member of the Trail Conference shall be entitled to select from among its members an “Organization Delegate” who shall have one vote.*

*B. Delegates-at-Large: Individual members shall be represented by “Delegates-at-Large.” There shall be one Delegate-at-Large for each 400 individual members of the Trail Conference. Each Delegate-at-Large shall have one vote and shall serve for a term of one year.*

*C. Others: Each Director, Regional Trails Committee Chair, Program Committee Chair and Honorary Member shall have one vote.*

*The Organization Delegates, the Delegates-at-Large, Honorary Members and the individuals referred to ex officio in Paragraph “C” above in this Section are collectively referred to in these bylaws as “Voting Members.”*

**Reason for Change:** In the bylaws as they now exist, members entitled to vote at Trail Conference meetings are variously (and inconsistently) referred to as “Delegates,” “Delegates who are present and voting,” “persons entitled to vote” and “voting members.” In order to make clear that non-Delegates (for example, Directors, Regional Trails Committee Chairs, Program Committee Chairs and Honorary Members) all have voting rights, the more comprehensive definition of “Voting Members” is proposed.

#### PROPOSED AMENDMENT NO. 3 –

##### QUORUM AT MEMBERS’ MEETINGS

Proposed Change: Section 3.5 of the bylaws is modified by reducing the quorum requirement for members’ meetings from one-sixth to one-tenth of the members entitled to vote. As revised, Section 3.5 would read as follows:

#### 3.5 Quorum

*One-tenth of the Voting Members shall constitute a quorum. If a quorum is not present at any meeting of members, a majority of the Voting Members present may adjourn the meeting or choose to continue discussion but not conduct business.*

**Reason for Change:** The proposed change will reduce the risk that voting members who attend meetings of the Trail Conference will be unable to conduct business because a quorum is not present, as has often occurred.

#### PROPOSED AMENDMENT NO. 4 –

##### CHANGE OF FISCAL YEAR

Proposed Change: Section 7.3 of the bylaws currently designates the period October 1–September 30 as the fiscal year of the Trail Conference. The proposed amendment would change the fiscal year to the January 1–December 31 calendar year, commencing with the calendar year beginning on January 1, 2012. As revised, Section 7.3 would read as follows:

#### 7.3 Fiscal Year

*The Fiscal Year of the Trail Conference shall begin on January 1 of each year and shall terminate on December 31 of such year.*

**Reason for Change:** The proposed change will enable the Board committees and management staff of the Trail Conference to focus more efficiently on certain activities – including member recruitment, fund-raising, promotional work and trail development matters – that typically peak during the Summer months of the year. The change will facilitate off-season scheduling of internal tasks such as the formulation of corporate strategies and policies, and the year-end gathering, analysis and reporting of financial and membership data.

## Letters to the Editor

### More on the AT

Two unfortunate choices of words mar Ed Goodell’s otherwise excellent article about the wheelchair-accessible section of the AT on Bear Mountain (“An Appalachian Trail for Everyone,” July/Aug. 2011, page 3). Ed describes the section as “the first mountaintop section of the AT that complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Guidelines.” While this is literally true, it leaves the impression that most of the AT is out of compliance with the ADA.

In fact the AT, except where it follows paved paths and boardwalks for reasons other than the ADA, is not subject to ADA guidelines, because it was built, and is specifically maintained, as a hiking trail. Federal Regulations for the operation of state facilities do not require “the agency to take any action that it can demonstrate would result in a fundamental alteration in the nature of a program or activity or in

undue financial and administrative burdens.” This provision is based on a U.S. Supreme Court decision, *Southeastern Community College v. Davis* (1979).

While the top of Bear Mountain may be an excellent choice for a wheelchair-accessible trail section, the Appalachian Trail, like professional baseball and many other things, is not for everyone. But speaking of boardwalks, the Pochuck Bridge should be made wheelchair accessible.

— Robert Moss  
Bloomfield, NJ

My husband and I hike the Appalachian Trail in the area of our home, Warwick, NY, and recently hiked from Seven Lakes Drive up to Perkins Memorial. My husband had said he heard “they” re-did some washed out areas with steps. I just wanted to let whoever it was that did the job know that it was AMAZING! What a great job! I can’t imagine how they got the steps in there, and all the time they had to have spent doing it. Thank you!

— Karen Laiso  
Warwick, NY

### Send Us a Letter

Email it to 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.

## The Trail Conference welcomes these new member organizations:

**Hyde Park Trails:** Promotes healthy recreation use and care of over 14 miles of hiking trails linking parks, preserves and historic sites throughout the town of Hyde Park, NY. Visit their website at [hydeparkny.us/Recreation/Trails](http://hydeparkny.us/Recreation/Trails) or contact them at [hptrail@gmail.com](mailto:hptrail@gmail.com).

**NYC Audubon Society:** Offers classes and seminars about the city’s bird population and leads outdoor tours and excursions to experience NYC’s bird life first-hand. Programs are available for children, young adults, and adults. Website: [nycaudubon.org/home](http://nycaudubon.org/home).

**Phoenix Hikers:** This group enjoys hiking in Connecticut, New York, and Massachusetts. Occasional backpack or camping. Most members come from Fairfield University, but membership is open. Contact Curt Naser, [cnaser@fairfield.edu](mailto:cnaser@fairfield.edu). (no website)

**Women About:** A non-profit organization offering a supportive environment for lesbian women age 18+ to meet for year-round urban walks, hiking, biking, camping, canoeing, kayaking, and x-c skiing. Website: [womenabout.org/cms/wab](http://womenabout.org/cms/wab).

### PROPOSED AMENDMENT NO. 5 – PROCEDURE FOR AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS

Proposed Change: Section 9.1 is modified to eliminate the requirement that proposed bylaw amendments must be submitted at two separate meetings of the members. Approval by the members at a single meeting would be sufficient. In addition, the Board of Directors acting by majority vote would be authorized to initiate the procedure for submitting bylaw amendments to the members for approval. Under Section 9.1 as it currently exists, such submission can be initiated only upon signature by five or more members. There would be no change in the present requirement of 45 days’ notice prior to the meeting. Moreover, a two-thirds affirmative vote of the members who are present and voting would still be needed for approval of an amendment to the bylaws. As revised, Section 9.1 would read as follows:

#### 9.1 Amendments

*These bylaws may be amended in the following manner: A proposed amendment signed by five or more Voting Members, or approved by a majority vote of the Board, shall be submitted at the following regular meeting, following distribution and publication of the proposed amendment under the rules of section 3.3 of these bylaws pertaining to meeting notices. A two-thirds affirmative vote of the Voting Members who are present and voting shall be required for adoption of the proposed amendment.*

**Reason for Change:** In recent years the operations, policies and financial controls of nonprofit organizations such as the Trail Conference have drawn increased regulatory attention from Federal and State government. New legislative and regulatory requirements call for prompt responses, which may, on occasion, include bylaw revisions. Moreover, as competition for financial support intensifies in the current economic climate, another reason for seeking increased flexibility in governance matters has emerged: the need to move quickly to meet the expectations of private donors and governmental grant sources. Under these circumstances, the current two-meeting procedure for amending the bylaws is viewed by the Trail Conference’s Board and officers as slow and cumbersome—especially as the Trail Conference membership meets only three times in each year. By keeping the 45-day notice requirement and continuing to require a two-thirds vote of approval by the voting members, the proposed amendment assures ongoing member control over bylaw changes.

\*\*\*\*\*

Members who wish to view online a complete set of the revised bylaws marked to show the proposed text deletions and insertions may do so at [www.nynjtc.org/panel/aboutnynjtc](http://www.nynjtc.org/panel/aboutnynjtc) (look in Official Documents box).

## From the Executive Director



### The Power of One: A visionary with an action plan

It's true that Trail Conference has all the trappings of a stable nonprofit organization—a central office, professional staff, ongoing programs, newsletter, website, etc.—all supported by a generous membership. But at our core, from our founding 91 years ago to today, is a diverse collection of individuals from all walks of life who together create a powerful grassroots movement dedicated to protecting natural areas and making them accessible to the public.

It never ceases to amaze me how the efforts of a single individual can create great and lasting effects. Joan Ehrenfeld is an exemplary case in point.

Joan and her husband David have been long-time Trail Conference members. They spent their honeymoon hiking the first hundred or so northbound miles of the Appalachian Trail. In the years that followed, Joan hiked constantly with family, students and friends.

When I started working for the Trail Conference at the beginning of the last decade, the Board wanted me to deal with the issue of hikers' impact on the environment. A Science Committee had recently been formed under co-chair Joan Ehrenfeld, a Rutgers ecology professor with a huge amount of confidence that Trail Conference volunteers could play a critical role in advancing scientific understanding of a variety of field

biology and ecology questions.

Joan's vision was infectious, and she backed it up with real hands-on effort. A few weeks after I arrived on the job, Joan and David met with me to brainstorm how to bring that vision to a reality. This was the beginning of a decade-long demonstration of how to build a successful program, during which Joan wrote several proposals that helped launch the Trail Conference's environmental research and monitoring efforts.

First, we received funding from the Education Foundation of America and the New York Community Trust to hire Edwin McGowan as our Science Director. (Ed now has that title at the Palisades Interstate Park Commission.) Later, we received a grant to assess the impact of trails on bird populations in Black Rock Forest. The results showed no statistical difference in the size or diversity of bird populations found near trails or far away in interior woodlands.

Next, we received support from the USDA to determine whether volunteers could be trained to collect high-quality invasive plant data along trails to be used in scientific analysis. The answer was "yes" — citizen scientists can produce reliable data and help expand the breadth of scientific studies of field ecology. Furthermore, the notion that invasive plants enter park woodlands via trails was called into question. The manuscript submitted for publication in the *Torrey Botanical Society Journal* states, "Our data and these other studies do not support the idea that trails specifically promote dispersal and movement of exotics into off-trail locations."

In that four-year study, we trained over 100 volunteers and surveyed 166 miles of trails. Learning from that experience, we revamped the program, applied for and won funding from new sources and, start-

ing this spring, trained another 103 volunteers, many of them current trail maintainers, and assigned 200 additional miles of trails to be surveyed. Invasive plant monitoring has become our signature science program.

None of this would have happened without Joan's persistent encouragement and prolific grant preparation, which always seemed to come together in the nick of time.

Joan was an avid educator, eager to convey the findings of field and lab researchers to the public in accessible language. She wrote numerous articles for the *Trail Walker* and recruited colleagues and graduate students to contribute articles as well. Each one was addressed to hikers and aimed to give us greater understanding of the plants and wildlife along our trails.

Joan also wrote the Ecology chapter in the *New Jersey Walk Book*, ending it with this sentence: "In sum, there is much to learn from reading the woods, and this knowledge can only enhance the experience of hiking." Joan really could read the landscape, which was sometimes a burden, for example when she could see the decline of hemlocks from the woolly adelgid years before the rest of us.

Scientist, mother, educator, volunteer: Joan was a visionary with an action plan, and the Trail Conference is among those bettered by her life. We mourn the loss of Joan, who passed away in June after a year-long battle with acute leukemia.

— Edward Goodell  
Executive Director  
goodell@nynjtc.org



Joan Ehrenfeld: The force behind the Trail Conference's science program

### Joan Ehrenfeld, thinking ahead to the Trail Conference's 100 anniversary

*I would love to see the TC become more involved in environmental stewardship—at least advocating for the care of the lands we hike through. It used to be one could simply count on nature to take care of itself, but that is no longer the case, and if we want beautiful and healthy forests to hike in, we need to take an active role in caring for them and advocating for better care of them. This might include control of exotics, protection of endangered species, and advocacy for better deer management policies, better surveillance for emerging problems like emerald ash borer or longhorn beetles. The membership of the TC provides a powerful community of eyes and ears to report problems, and a powerful opportunity to influence governmental and other environmental groups to engage in better stewardship.*



## Survey Map Winners

Congratulations to the following map winners. These 10 were randomly selected from among 419 entries in a drawing for a free Jersey Highlands or Sterling Forest map set. The drawing was an optional part of our spring membership survey, completed by more than 1300 respondents. (See story on survey in July/August *Trail Walker*.)

Richard Hollmann	George Davenel
Robert Havlena	Patricia Wooters
Brian Carroll	Wayne Gibbons
Cherie Clapper	Vincent C. Jones
Ayelet Gezow & Eric deRolland	Susan Gerhardt

# The Annual Meeting & Pancake Breakfast

Saturday, October 15



Caputo Community Center • 95 Broadway • Ossining, NY  
RSVP for breakfast and find event details at [nynjtc.org/content/pancakes11](http://nynjtc.org/content/pancakes11)  
Questions, comments, or phone reservations, contact Joanne Reinhardt: [jreinhardt@nynjtc.org](mailto:jreinhardt@nynjtc.org) or 201.512.9348, x26 at the office.

### RON ROSEN...

*continued from page 1*

deed number 001. The Trail Conference created an AT Management Committee and Ron became its first chair.

In Dutchess, he says, "there was never a dull moment." In the mid 1980s, AT volunteers in Dutchess confronted a nuclear waste issue—and a local protest group—at the beautiful and now swimmable Nuclear Lake. There was the stand-off between a feisty corridor monitor—Jane Geisler, then in her 80s—and a bulldozer clearing trees on AT lands. (Jane won.)

There were shelters to build, wells to dig, ("Our stretch has half the wells on the entire AT," Ron says, adding that maintaining and testing their purity is an ongoing challenge), and neighbors to inform and win as supporters. All of this on top of the important and ongoing work of identifying and buying land to secure the AT corridor and recruiting volunteers to maintain and protect it.

In time, with challenges proliferating, the Trail Conference created three AT Management Committees, all staffed by volunteers: Dutchess-Putnam, Orange-Rockland, and New Jersey. Ron chaired the D-P committee until 2004. In 2005, he became Trail Conference delegate to the Mid-Atlantic ATC Regional Partnership Committee.

Camaraderie, he says, has played an important part throughout his time as an AT volunteer. Charles W. Maynard, Chair of the Honorary Membership Committee of ATC's Board of Directors, noted in announcing Ron's award that volunteers recruited by Ron stayed on for years and gave thousands of hours of service. "Eight volunteers have served 25 years or more and seven of them have volunteered over 4,000 hours. Ron kept records of hours of service so that 'his' volunteers were eligible for the NPS hours of service awards... As one of ATC's regional directors said of our honoree, 'The guy is amazing, year after year, decade after decade!'"

"It's been a good challenge with a lot of surprises along the way," Ron says. "And you will have a sense that the work you are doing will have a legacy."

Beyond the AT, Ron is deeply engaged with his family and community: active with his temple and Habitat for Humanity, heav-

ily involved with Boy Scouts when his sons were younger, and now, with two granddaughters, involved with Girl Scouts. The latter organization celebrates its 100th anniversary next year, and Ron plans to bring the Girl Scouts-Trail Conference-AT together for some events. He welcomes contact and volunteers from "people with their feet in both camps": [info@nynjtc.org](mailto:info@nynjtc.org), put "For Ron Rosen" in subject line.

Friend and current D-P AT Management Committee Chair Jim Hagggett speaks for all of us in the trail community: "Ron is certainly deserving [of ATC's Honorary Member award], and we are fortunate to have him active in the Trail Conference." Congratulations Ron, and thank you!

### 25-Year AT Service Awards

The following Trail Conference volunteers, all active with the Dutchess-Putnam AT Management Committee, were honored by the National Park Service at the ATC biennial meeting in July: Salley Decker, Dorothy "Dot" Dwyer, and Joseph Hrouda were given 25-Year Service Awards from NPS for their long-term volunteer work on the Appalachian Trail, Salley and Dot as trail maintainers and Joseph as a shelter caretaker.

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# Regional Field Notes

## Catskills

Jeff Senterman,  
Catskills Program Coordinator  
jsenterman@nynjtc.org



Volunteers from the Trail Conference, the Rip Van Winkle Hikers, the Catskill 3500 Club and the Catskill Mountain Club all took part in a Trail Conference sponsored maintenance trip on the Pine Hill-West Branch Trail in the central Catskills (TC map 142). This trail is not currently adopted by the Trail Confer-

ence, but a special agreement with the NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation (DEC) allowed us to work on it. Thank you to everyone involved for getting some much needed trail clearing done! We hope to work with the DEC to fully adopt this trail in the future.

We have hit an administrative snag in planning reconstruction of the Shandaken Brook Lean-to, which has delayed the work to the end of summer and the fall at the earliest. We are continuing to work with the DEC to move this project ahead. On a more positive note, the rehabilitation of the Devil's Acre Lean-to is on track. A new roof and a new floor will be installed by volunteers from the Trail

Conference and the Catskill 3500 Club this season.

Other trail projects: We will be helping to build a trail relocation near the Little Pond State Campground. Trail Conference staff and volunteers are active in relocating the Silver Hollow Notch Trail near the Devil's Tombstone Campground. In addition, staff is working on the Kaaterskill Rail Trail (see story on p. 1).

The Trail Conference continues to expand our outreach efforts at events throughout the region, which have included the Batavia Kill Stream Fest, a trail talk at the Hunter Village Bookstore, and a meet and greet at Morgan Outdoors. We are also working on getting more involved with activities at the state campgrounds and working with local organizations and businesses to raise awareness of the region's trails and recreational opportunities.

The Lark in the Park celebrations will be occurring October 1 through the 10. This annual event is a celebration of the Catskill Forest Preserve and includes hikes, bike trips, and other activities throughout the Catskill Region. The Trail Conference's October workshops (see Trail U listings) will be official events on this year's schedule.

The Trail Conference welcomes a new Retail Partner from the Catskill region! Kenco Outfitters now offers a 10% discount (on non-sale items) to our members (you must show a current member card). Kenco is located in Kingston, on Route 28.

Lastly, we have launched a Trail Conference Catskill Region page on Facebook! Keep up with our Catskill happenings at [www.facebook.com/NYNJTC.CatskillRegion](http://www.facebook.com/NYNJTC.CatskillRegion).

## New Jersey

Chris Ingui,  
New Jersey Program Coordinator  
cingui@nynjtc.org



**REI Funds Trail Crew**  
Trail crews in New Jersey are looking forward to a boost thanks to a recently awarded grant of \$10,000 courtesy of REI's new store in Paramus, NJ. The money will be used to recruit and train volunteers and to buy tools for trail crews in New Jersey. As part of a kick-off to launch the work that will begin in developing these crews, in July, 30 members of REI's staff joined Trail Conference volunteers in the Ramapo Reservation to begin work on a reroute of the Yellow-Silver Trail to the beginning of MacMillan Reservoir. This project will be used as a training ground for aspiring crew member as it continues this fall.

## Kiosks Installed

Eagle Scout candidate Alexander Butflowski of Troop 2121 has successfully completed his Eagle Scout project of installing six trailhead kiosks in West Milford, NJ. The project is part of the Trail Conference's Universal Signage Program. The kiosks can be seen at various parking areas in the Pequannock Watershed and will have map, trail descriptions, and area information panels installed on them. The Universal Signage Program is a Trail Conference effort to encourage stewardship and awareness of our trails by educating trail users at trailheads. Eight kiosks have been installed in our pilot project with West Milford.

## Lenape Trail Maintainers Assigned

The newest long-distance trail in the Trail Conference network, the Lenape Trail in Essex County, NJ, now has maintainers for its entire 34-mile stretch thanks to an orientation held by new Lenape Trails

Chair Steve Marano. The orientation was held in Nutley, NJ, at the Nutley Museum and introduced potential maintainers to this unique greenway, which is part of the larger 150-mile long Liberty-Water Gap Trail. All 10 sections of the trail were assigned to volunteers.

## Trail U New Jersey

Keep your eyes peeled for beginner and advanced Trail University workshops in New Jersey this fall as part of an effort to build New Jersey's Trail crews. Courses to be held include Introduction to Trail Construction, Tool Use and Safety, Stone Shaping, and Stone Step Installation. Anyone interested in the workshops or in joining a New Jersey trail crew should contact Chris Ingui at [cingui@nynjtc.org](mailto:cingui@nynjtc.org) or visit the Trail Conference website at [nynjtc.org/view/workshops](http://nynjtc.org/view/workshops)



Central North Jersey Committee and REI invited volunteers to help clear and create a new trail in Mountainside Park in Pequannock. This new route will enhance loop hike opportunities in this geologically fascinating park, where there are over seven miles of hiking trails. The project was the first step in improving the trail system in this newly adopted park. Pictured, in back: Estelle Anderson (NYNJTC), Laura Nulman (REI), Layla Ben-Ali, Wanda Martinez, Dawn Bender; in front: Maria Ricardo and Bob Jonas (NYNJTC). Not present for photo: Brian Powell (REI).

## East Hudson

Leigh Draper,  
East Hudson Program Coordinator  
draper@nynjtc.org



**Update on the Community Trails Program**  
In celebration of IBM's 100th anniversary, over 100 employees volunteered in July for trail clean-ups and maintenance with Yorktown Trails, Fahnestock State Park, the Appalachian Trail, Wappinger Greenway, and the Sharpe Reservation.

Also in July, four New York City hiking groups volunteered for a trail work day held at Yorktown Trails. The event was organized by David Brotsky of Davetrek Adventures and coordinated by Jane and Walt Daniels of our Yorktown Community Trails Committee. Since all of the groups make extensive use of the trails in the area, they decided to come together to give back some of their time and energy to help with

the maintenance and upkeep of existing and new trails. Tasks included creating a "bucket brigade" to move bags of wood chips into the trail site and then spread them out to prepare a boardwalk site, and carrying boards and supplies into the work area. A smaller group prepared ground and began assembling the boardwalk. Other volunteers removed invasive plants near the trail. The following groups participated: The Jewish Outdoors Club ([jewishoutdoorsclub.org](http://jewishoutdoorsclub.org)), Davetrek Adventures ([davetrek.com](http://davetrek.com)), Mosaic Outdoor Mountain Club of Greater New York, and Anshe Chesed Outings Group.

Twenty-five YMCA Camp Coombe Service Corps members provided three days of trail work at Yorktown Trails and Franklin D. Roosevelt State Park. Work included installation of waterbars, relocating a trail, and removing invasive plants.

Thirty volunteers attended an Invasive Strike Force workshop held at Teatown Lake Reservation July 10. Volunteers will identify invasive plants in their region and contribute data to a multi-state database.

## Metro Trails

The Friends of Van Cortlandt Park Trail Restoration Crew is still accepting new members. Visit the John Muir Trail in the park to see a section of boardwalk and stone steps that were installed by the crew



Sona Mason (left) points out invasive plants to volunteers at an Invasives Strike Force training at Teatown Lake Reservation.

and the Trail Conference in the spring.

The organizational meeting of the newly formed Alley Pond Environmental Center Hikers Club was held in Queens in July. The club is holding hikes and trail work trips. Contact [tom0153@hotmail.com](mailto:tom0153@hotmail.com) to learn more.

## Correction...

to last issue's field notes: The Friends of Pelham Bay Park joined with the Appalachian Mountain Club, not the Adirondack Mountain Club, for the 5th Annual Lagoon Cleanup. This event was originated by AMC, is organized by AMC, and incorporates both AMC paddlers and trail folks (who built and maintain the Siwanoy Trail). Paddlers were led by AMC Membership chair and Trails Supervisor Jill Arbuckle (also an active Trails Conference member).

## West Hudson

Larry Wheelock,  
West Hudson Program Coordinator  
Wheelock@nynjtc.org



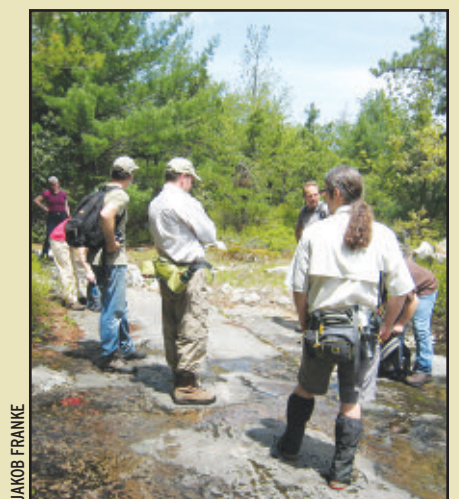
The big news for this region has to do with the Long Path (LP). Planning for a major relocation of the LP across Orange County and off the 25-plus miles of road walk between Schunemunk Mountain State Park and the Shawangunk Ridge has begun. Moving the LP to a new location (likely involving the Heritage Rail Trail between Monroe and Middletown) is a significant change and will involve approvals from a number of agencies. Initial support for the project from the

Orange County Parks Department is promising. Look for more news on this in the fall.

Another much anticipated reroute of the LP in Ulster County, is also moving forward. The LP is to be co-aligned with the new Mine Hole Trail, which crosses the former Shevchenko property, now part of Minnewaska State Park Preserve. Most of the route for the Mine Hole Trail, intended to connect the Smiley Carriage Road and the Berry Picker Trail down to Berme Road, has been approved, and work began on the upper sections of the trail in July and August. If you would like to help build this trail, you can find the work schedules and registration information at: [nynjtc.org/content/long-path-shawangunk-ridge-trail-crew](http://nynjtc.org/content/long-path-shawangunk-ridge-trail-crew).

Other news from our region: We welcome Patty Lee Parmalee as our new Chair for the West Hudson North Trails Committee. Patty will be watching over our trails in Minnewaska, Storm King, and Schunemunk Mountain State Parks, and at Black Rock Forest. Also, Andrew Garrison and Jakob Franke have agreed to co-chair both the LP North and LP South Committees. Andy continues in his role as Supervisor of the Shawangunk Ridge Trail.

In Harriman-Sterling Forest State Parks, Arnie Seymour-Jones, a retired engineer, has completed an inventory of all foot bridges (40+) on the trails to aid in monitoring and maintaining these structures. This inventory includes photographs and an assessment of the condition and construction materials of each bridge. Thank you, Arnie!



Trail Conference volunteers and officials from New York State Parks scouted the Mine Hole Trail at Minnewaska State Park Preserve in May.

# Trail Crew Schedules

September – October 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 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

### 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.)

### Saturday, September 10 Iris Trail, High Point State Park

We will install water bars and check dams on an eroding section of the Iris Trail.

### Saturday, September 17 Jenny Jump Trail, Jenny Jump State Forest

We will install water bars and check dams on the spur trail from Mountain Lake.

### Saturday, September 24 Jenny Jump Trail, Jenny Jump State Forest

We will install stepping stones across several streams on the Jenny Jump Trail.

### Saturday, October 8 Iris Trail, High Point State Park

We will work on the wet areas of the trail that we didn't get to on our spring trip.

### Saturday, October 22 To Be Determined

### Saturday, October 29 To Be Determined

### Saturday, November 5 Douglas Trail, Worthington State Forest

We will install water bars and check dams on another steep section of the Douglas Trail.

### Saturday, November 12 Douglas Trail, Worthington State Forest

We will install water bars and check dams on another steep section of the Douglas Trail.

### HIGHLANDS TRAIL WEST CREW

**Leaders:** Adam Rosenberg  
**Phone:** 973-570-0853  
**Email:** 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;  
Linda Sullivan **Phone:** 347-721-6123  
**Email:** marmilinda@yahoo.com;  
Lizbeth Gonzalez **Email:** 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.

### WEST HUDSON SOUTH CREW

**Leaders:** Chris Ezzo (crew chief): 516-431-1148, musicbynumbers59@yahoo.com  
Brian Buchbinder: 718-218-7563, brian@grandrenovation.com  
Claudia Ganz: 212-633-1324, clganz@earthlink.net  
Bob Marshall: 914-737-4792, rmarshall@webtv.net  
Monica Day: 732-937-9098, Cell: 908-307-5049, westjerseycrew@trailstobuild.com

### Thursday, September 29 Menomine Trail, Harriman State Park

**Leader:** Bob Marshall

### Saturday, October 1 TBD, Harriman State Park

**Leader:** Monica Day

### Thursday, October 13 Menomine Trail, Harriman State Park

**Leader:** Bob Marshall

### Saturday, October 22 TBD

**Leader:** Claudia Ganz

### Thursday, October 27 Popolopen Gorge Trail, Harriman State Park

**Leader:** Bob Marshall

### Saturday, October 29 TBD

**Leader:** Brian Buchbinder

### Thursday, November 10 Popolopen Gorge Trail, Harriman State Park

**Leader:** Bob Marshall

### Saturday, November 12 TBD

**Leader:** Chris Ezzo

### WEST HUDSON NORTH CREW

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

Look for fall trail work schedule at [www.nynjtc.org/content/trail-crew-schedules](http://www.nynjtc.org/content/trail-crew-schedules)

*continued on page 11*

## Attention Volunteers!!

We want your feedback to help enhance the volunteer experience here at the Trail Conference. Please take our short survey found online at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/TCVolSatisfaction>

Thank You!~The NY-NJ Trail Conference Volunteer Committee

# TRAIL U

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

September/October 2011

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

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)

### Bear Mountain Trails Project Orientation Saturday, September 10; 9am-3pm Bear Mountain State Park

### Tool Use & Safety Saturday, September 17; 8:30am-4:30pm Sunday, September 18; 8:30am-4:30pm Bear Mountain State Park

### Rock Cutting & Shaping Saturday, September 24; 8:30am-4:30pm Sunday, September 25; 8:30am-4:30pm Bear Mountain State Park

### Trail Maintenance 101 Saturday, October 1; 10am-3pm Catskill Region Frost Valley YMCA, Claryville, NY

### Stone Setting (Retaining Walls & Steps) Saturday, October 1; 8:30am-4:30pm Sunday, October 2; 8:30am-4:30pm Location TBD



Jakob Franke (above) and Andy Garrison, co-chairs of the Long Path North and South Committees, will teach Trail Maintenance 101 this fall in Port Jervis, NY.

### Shelter Caretaker Sunday, October 2, 10:30am-4pm John Robb Lean-to, Catskills

### Intro To Rigging Saturday, October 8 Location TBD

### Trail Maintenance 101 Saturday, October 29; 9am-4pm West Hudson Region (Shawangunks) Port Jervis, NY, Public Library



## First Update for Jersey Highlands Map

It didn't take long. Trail volunteers in Morris County, NJ, announce completion of a new, 3-mile trail in Silas Condict County Park. The new trail is not shown on the recently published Jersey Highlands Trails: Central North Region Map Set. A map detail of the new trail (shown here) is available in PDF form and can be downloaded from our website at no cost. Find it at [nynjtc.org/view/maps](http://nynjtc.org/view/maps).



Ron Luna is one of several Trail Conference members and volunteers who also volunteer with the Morris Trails Partnership, a Trail Conference member group that builds footpaths for the Morris County Parks Commission. Ron was involved in the trail project at Silas Condict and reports that he, Duncan Douglas, and Tom Carr laid out the trail and developed it at the county's request. The park has seen several expansions as the result of recent land acquisitions, and the goal was to make interior areas of the park accessible to the public.

Ron describes the trail as a 3-mile loop, blazed white, that includes "a lot of elevation climb—up to almost 1,000 feet," though he assesses the difficulty level as moderate. With the expectation that the trail will be popular with novice hikers, Ron notes that it is "heavily blazed."

"There is dense forest and it feels isolated in terms of road or housing incursions. There are spectacular views from several points. It's a beautiful trail." Ron adds that there is considerable wildlife in the park. Indeed, several hikers have reported encounters with a "very large bear."

To learn more about the new trail and how to access it, see the Featured Hike on page 12.

## Catskills Erosion Targeted on Long Path in Platte Clove Preserve

In June, 20 Trail Conference volunteers joined six staff members from the Catskill Center for Conservation and Development for a work day on the Long Path through the Catskill Center's Platte Clove Preserve in the northeastern Catskills. This large crew completed a huge amount of work along this challenging section of trail, which has been notoriously difficult to maintain owing to years of erosion issues. The group installed a number of water bars and completed two relocations that moved the trail away from areas with serious erosion. Future work trips will continue the improvement of this trail to create a more sustainable route, as this is a very popular trail that accesses the Devil's Kitchen Lean-to, Indian Head Mountain, and the Echo Lake area.



# 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!

## September

### Saturday, September 3

**UHC. Watchung Reservation, Mountainside, NJ.** Leader: Eck Khoo Goh, 908-790-0939. Meet: 10am at Trailside Nature Center, Coles Ave. 4-5 miles at a brisk pace. Rain cancels.

### Sunday, September 4

**IHC. Patriots' Path, Chester to Long Valley, NJ.** Leaders: Guy and Jennifer Percival, 973-590-7437, jenguy@optonline.net. Meet: 9am at Black River Recreation Park, Rt. 513 (Rt. 24, Main St.), Chester, NJ. Moderately strenuous. See a new Morris County park and what was once Bell Labs property. Then Patriots' Path through historic Chester and back to Long Valley (and the Long Valley Brew Pub). Shuttle required.

**ADK-NoJR. Bare Rock Vista, Sterling Forest, NY.** Leader: Fred Hodde, 973-728-3223, bullwink1@aol.com. Meet: 9:30am at upper parking lot, Sterling Forest visitor's center. Moderate 6 miles. Climb to the fire tower, to Bare Rock vista for lunch, then stroll back to cars on the Bare Rock Trail. [www.hudsonhikers.org](http://www.hudsonhikers.org)

**UHC. Pyramid Mountain, Montville, NJ.** Leader: Jim Schlegel, 973-731-4339. Meet: 10am at Pyramid Mtn. parking lot. 4-5 miles to Tripod Rock and back along the reservoir. Rain cancels.

### Monday, September 5 (Labor Day)

**UHC. Boonton Falls and Grace Lord Park, NJ.** Leader: Susan Jacobs, 973-402-2555. Meet: 10am at Boonton Falls. Easy 3 miles. Steady rain cancels.

### Thursday, September 8

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

### Saturday, September 10

**AFW. Appalachian Trail in NJ.** Leader: call 973-644-3592 or visit [www.adventuresforwomen.org](http://www.adventuresforwomen.org) for info and to register. Meet: 8:30am. Strenuous hike at a moderate pace; out by 5:30pm. We'll hike from Blue Mtn. Rd. to Stokes.

**AMC-NYNJ. Mt. Taurus, East Hudson Highlands, NY.** Leader: Richard Seibel, 973-839-7795, call 11am-10pm, or Richard@richardseibel.com. Meet: contact leader for meeting time and location. Very hilly 7-8 miles at moderate, compassionate pace; well prepared beginners welcome. Expect 2,000 feet elevation gain. Early outs available.

**UHC. Cooper Mill to Kay Environmental Center, Chester, NJ.** Leader: John Gilris, 973-386-1168. Meet: 10am at Cooper Mill. 4-6 moderate miles, suitable for beginners. Hike along the Black River. Rain cancels.

**UOC. Watchung Reservation, NJ.** Leader: Coleen Tighe, 732-568-9241. Meet: call leader for meeting time, place and carpool information. Moderate. Hike wooded trails in Union County, including a visit to the Trailside Nature and Science Center.

### Sunday, September 11

**NYNJTC. Camp Smith Trail to Anthony's Nose, NY.** Leaders: Jane and Walt Daniels, wjdhikes@gmail.com. Meet: 9:30am; contact leaders for location. 3.7 miles, very difficult and strenuous. Running parallel to the Hudson River, the Camp Smith Trail's spectacular views make this strenuous hike with its many ups and downs worth the effort. A Hudson River Valley Ramble event. Bring lunch, windbreaker, above-the-ankle hiking boots.

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

**IHC. Large Tuxedo Circular, Harriman State Park, NY.** Leader: Roy Williams, 570-828-6207, royhiker1@aol.com. Meet: 9am at Tuxedo metered commuter lot, Village Dr. Strenuous, hilly 10-12 mile hike for experienced hikers only. North on the R-D Trail to Tom Jones Mountain. Rain cancels.

### Wednesday, September 14

**RWW. Lindenwald Walk, Kinderhook, NY.** Leader: For more information call 845-246-2945. Meet: 9am; call for meeting place. Easy 4 mile walk at Lindenwald, home and farm of Martin Van Buren, in Kinderhook, NY. Entrance fee.

### Saturday, September 17

**AMC-NYNJ. Ramapo Valley Reservation, NJ.** Leader: Renate Jaerschky, 845-368-1749. Meet: contact leader for meeting time and location. Moderate 5 miles. Leisurely hike along the Ramapo River, a brook, and past the reservoir up to the ridge. Lunch at a beautiful overlook. On the return we go around a lake.

**AFW. Blue Mountain Lake, Delaware Water Gap NRA, NJ.** Leader: call 973-644-3592 or visit [www.adventuresforwomen.org](http://www.adventuresforwomen.org) for info and to register. Meet: 10am. Moderate hike at a moderate pace; out by 2pm.

### Sunday, September 18

**ADK-NoJR. Terrace Pond, NJ.** Leaders: Peter Tilgner and Suzan Gordon, 201-871-3531, browning.27@verizon.net. Meet: 9:30am at A&P parking, Rt. 511, Hewitt, NJ. Shuttle to trailhead of Terrace Pond North Trail. Moderate 8.5 miles. To Terrace Pond and beyond. [www.hudsonhikers.org](http://www.hudsonhikers.org)

**AMC-NYNJ. Sunday at the South Pole, Staten Island, NY.** Leader: Steve Galla, 914-953-2222, steve@stevegalla.com; must preregister. Meet: contact leader for meeting time and location. Moderate 7 miles. Tour the southern tip of Staten Island, a natural and historic area not often visited. Hike through scenic village of Tottenville, a Revolutionary War site, Butler Manor Woods, and Mt. Loretto State Park (noted for its grasslands, wetlands, and beach loop trails). Inclement weather cancels. Limited to 30 adults; family members over age 10 are welcome.



Glow of an October sunrise, Sterling Lake, Sterling Forest State Park

JEREMY APGAR

**NYR. Will Monroe Loop, Haskell, NJ.** Leader: Teresa Wandas, 914-961-2440. Meet: 7:30am at Port Authority Bus Terminal for 7:45 NJ Transit bus to Haskell (#197, RT, zone 8; leader will meet group in Haskell). Posts Brook and Hewitt-Butler Trails, continuing over Torne Mountain. Then Torne Trail, Highlands Trail, and several others to Will Monroe Loop. After hiking entire loop, return to Haskell via Wyanoike High Point. Call leader to check on hike length and difficulty.

### Monday, September 19

**RWW. Peter's Kill, Minnewaska State Park, NY.** Leader: For more information call 845-246-4590. Meet: 9am; call for meeting place. Easy 5 miles (3 hours). Inclement weather date is following Monday.

**UHC. Patriots' Path, Morristown, NJ.** Leader: Theresa McKay, 973-538-0756. Meet: 10am at Speedwell Lake. Easy hike along the old Rock-a-Bye Railroad and the Whippany River, suitable for beginners. Rain cancels.

### Saturday, September 24

**NYNJTC. Bushwhack and Scramble on the Palisades, NY/NJ.** Leader: Kevin Bukowski, tappan1776@gmail.com or phone: 845-825-3680. Long Path maintainer. Meet: 10:30am; contact leader for meeting place. 6 strenuous miles. Bushwhack to Skunk Hollow, site of an historic 19th century black settlement, follow the Long Path a bit along the crest of the Palisades, scramble over the rocks of the Giant Stairs on the Shore Path Trail along the Hudson River, and visit Peanut Leap Falls and the remnants of the Italianate style Lawrence Gardens. A Hudson River Valley Ramble event.

**ADK-NoJR. Hook Mountain Views, NY.** Leader: Peter Reiner, 845-323-7697, psr7777@gmail.com. Meet: 9:30am at Landing Rd. parking off the end of Rockland Lake State Park. Easy to moderate 4.5 miles. Long Path over Hook Mtn., with great views of the Hudson River. Shuttle required to Rt. 9W in Valley Cottage. [www.hudsonhikers.org](http://www.hudsonhikers.org)

**UOC. Scherman-Hoffman Wildlife Sanctuary and Cross Estate Gardens, Somerset Co., NJ.** Leader: George Straus, 732-469-2935. Meet: call leader for meeting time and place. Easy and moderate hikes will be offered as part of this UOC 80th Anniversary Year outing.

**RWW. Ramshorn-Livingston Sanctuary, Catskill, NY.** Leader: For more information call 518-622-3332. Meet: 9am; call for meeting place. Easy 3 miles.

**UHC. Lewis Morris Park, Morristown, NJ.** Leader: Louise White, 973-746-4319. Meet: 10am at lowest parking lot at Sunrise Lake. Moderate 4+ miles, with some hills. Steady rain cancels.

**VSHC. Sunken Meadow State Park, NY.** Leader: David Spiwak, 516-764-0607. Meet: 10am in front of the main bathhouse. 5-mile hike on the Long Island Greenbelt Trail along the Missequogue River to Smithtown Landing. Bring lunch and water.

### Sunday, September 25

**AMC-NYNJ. Arden, Harriman State Park, NY.** Leader: Nancy Tollefson, tolleffson@verizon.net, 212-727-8961; call before 9:30pm. Meet: contact leader for meeting time and location. Hilly 9 miles at a moderate but steady pace. We'll go in search of hills in this beautiful part of Harriman. Forecast of heavy rain cancels; call eve before if in doubt. Leader takes bus.

## October

### Saturday, October 1

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

**UHC. Pyramid and Turkey Mountains, Montville, NJ.** Leader: Al Verdi, 973-263-8569. Meet: 10am at Pyramid Mtn. parking lot. Moderate to brisk 4-5 miles with some steep, rocky trails. Not suitable for beginners; no lunch stop (out in about 3 hours).

### Sunday, October 2

**NYNJTC. To John Robb Lean-to on Shoulder of Hunter Mountain, NY.** Leader: Jeff Senterman, jsenterman@nynjtc.org or 518-703-1196. Join Trail Conference Catskill Program Coordinator Jeff Senterman on a 2.5-mile hike to the John Robb Lean-to on the shoulder of Hunter Mountain (5 miles round trip). Learn about the history and preservation of lean-tos and trails in the Catskills. Meet: at the Sprucecon Trail Trailhead, Sprucecon Road in the Village of Sprucecon at 10:30.

**AMC-NYNJ. Rockefeller Preserve with Camera or Sketchpad, NY.** Leaders: Barry and Kathy Skura, 914-779-0936, barryskura@gmail.com. Meet: contact leader for meeting time and location and to register. Moderate 7 miles. Hike scenic, less crowded parts of the park, from Gory Brook trailhead. Pointers given on photo composition and sketching. Eagle Hill, Potantico River, a giant glacial erratic, overlook trail; possible visit to Sleepy Hollow Cemetery.

**IHC. A Different Reeves Meadow, Harriman State Park, NY.** Leader: Roy Williams, 570-828-6207, royhiker1@aol.com. Meet: 9am at Reeves Meadow visitor center, Seven Lakes Dr. Moderately strenuous. Seven Hills Trail to Ramapo Torne, then HTS and Raccoon Brook Trails to Pine Meadow Lake. Rain cancels.

**UOC. Hacklebarney State Park, Morris Co., NJ.** Leader: Nona Henderson, 848-203-1806. Meet: call leader for meeting time and place. Moderate. Hike one of the most picturesque parks in NJ, with Black River Gorge and early autumn leaves.

### Saturday, October 8

**UOC. Delaware and Raritan Canal Path Walk, NJ.** Leader: Jean Romsted, 732-247-0316. Meet: call leader for meeting time and place. Moderate 3.6 miles. We'll walk from Bull's Island to Point Pleasant and back for a BYO picnic lunch.

**IHC. Lucy Mercer Memorial Hike, Allamuchy Mountain State Park, NJ.** Leader: Craig Nunn, 551-206-6823, dystopicnj@gmail.com. Meet: contact leader about a week before the hike for details. 10 strenuous miles on roads and trails, with substantial hills. We'll see sites associated with this historical figure, secretary to Eleanor and mistress to FDR.

### Sunday, October 9

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

**UHC. Round Valley Recreation Area, Lebanon, NJ.** Leader: Pat Horsch, 908-693-8331. Meet: 10am at south parking area; call for directions. Easy to moderate 4-5 miles on the Cushetunk Trail, with scenic views of the reservoir and fall foliage. Mostly level with one hill.

**WWW. Rock Rift Crevice & the Crag, Mohonk Preserve, NY.** Leader: Don Weise, donweise@hotmail.com. Meet: 9am, off-site location. Get ready to crawl through the fascinating, cave-like Rock Rift Crevice and climb the steep ledges of Bonticou Crag. A memorable day of beauty in the legendary Shawangunks. Mohonk day fee. Nonmembers of WWW: \$8 per person per hike, \$3 discount for NJ Audubon members.

### Saturday, October 15

**NYNJTC. Annual Meeting with Pancakes and Hikes, Caputo Community Center in Ossining, NY.** Hike options: The Quarries at Sylvan Glen, in Yorktown; Teatown Lake Reservation; Orienteering Adventure with Ed Hicks; The Weir at the Old Croton Aqueduct, Sponsored by Friends of the Old Croton Aqueduct; Downton Ossining, A guided stroll. Register and find more details about the day's events on our website: [nynjtc.org/content/pancakes1](http://nynjtc.org/content/pancakes1).

**AFW. Sunfish Pond, Worthington State Forest, NJ.** Leader: call 973-644-3592 or visit [www.adventuresforwomen.org](http://www.adventuresforwomen.org) for info and to register. Meet: 10am. Moderate to strenuous hike at a moderate pace; out by 3pm.

**UHC. South Mountain Reservation, S. Orange, NJ.** Leader: Louise White, 973-746-4319; call before 9pm. Meet: 10am at Tulip Springs parking; call for directions. Easy 4 miles in about 2 hours.

### Sunday, October 16

**GAHC. Prospects of the Hudson, Bear Mountain State Park, NY.** Leader: Brian Kassenbrock, 718-748-0624. Meet: 10:15am at Bear Mtn. Inn; must call to preregister. Public transportation available from NYC (Shortline Bus). Several different hike levels will be offered. Non-members \$2.

**IHC. The Timp from Jones Point, Harriman State Park, NY.** Leader: Roy Williams, 570-828-6207, royhiker1@aol.com. Meet: 9am at Jones Point parking on Rt. 9W, just south of Bear Mtn. Strenuous, hilly hike for experienced hikers only. Climb up R-D trail over Bald Mtn. for lunch on top of the Timp, with its dramatic panorama. Return past the never-completed Dunderberg Railway. Rain cancels.

**UHC. Turkey Mountain, Montville, NJ.** Leader: Jay Dibble, 908-289-8813. Meet: 10am at Pyramid Mtn. parking. Moderate 5-6 miles. Rain cancels.

### Saturday, October 22

**Annual Byram Fall Charity Hike to Celebrate Birth of the AT, Byram, NJ.** The Appalachian Trail Conservancy and the Trail Conference will join Hudson Farm to celebrate the birth of the AT at Hudson Farm during a summer of writing by Benton Mackaye. For info: call Marie Raffay at 973-347-7303 or email [rmraffay@verizon.net](mailto:rmraffay@verizon.net). Hudson Farm is located at 270 Stanhope-Sparta Road, Byram Twp, NJ 07821.

**AMC-NYNJ. Gertrude's Nose, Minnewaska State Park Preserve, NY.** Leader: Bill Hladky, 914-410-4385, no calls after 9pm; wehladyk@yahoo.com. Meet: contact leader for meeting time and location. 6 miles with significant hills and rock scrambles, moderate pace. All day, challenging adventure with some rough spots and a nasty patch of mountain laurel. Different approach to the Nose and maybe a new waterfall. Think dinner in New Paltz.

**UOC. Walk the Historic Town of Perth Amboy, NJ.** Leader: Carol Foe, 732-634-7244. Meet: call leader for meeting time and place. Easy walk through this waterfront treasure, with many historic buildings in this town founded in 1683. The marina and park is the prettiest spot on the bay.

### Sunday, October 23

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

**AMC-NYNJ. Timp Torne, Harriman State Park, NY.** Leader: Joe Bonner, hiker4169@yahoo.com. Meet: contact leader for meeting time and location. Hilly 9 miles at a moderate pace. We'll climb Timp, West and Bald mountains. Heavy/steady rain cancels. Limited to 12. No public transportation.

**NYR. Orrs Mill/Moodna Gorge, Cornwall, NY.** Leader: Chris Zeller, 212-260-4879, dlonglegs@earthlink.net. Meet: 8:15am at Port Authority Bus Terminal for 8:30 Shortline bus (one-way to Vails Gate). Use local streets to Cornwall Town Park and Hudson Highlands Nature Museum. Then trails over Black Rock and on to Storm King State Park. Local streets at end to pick up old railroad grade running above the gorge of Moodna Creek. Call leader to check on hike length and difficulty.

**UHC. South Mountain Reservation, Millburn, NJ.** Leader: Lee Fanger, 973-376-3160. Meet: 10am at Locust Grove parking, Glen Ave. opposite Millburn RR station. 4+ mile hike in about 2 or so hours. Hoping for good fall foliage. Rain cancels.

### Saturday, October 29

**AMC-NYNJ. Storm King State Park, NY.** Leader: Ellen Blumenkrantz, eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com. Meet: contact leader for meeting time and location and to register. Hilly 10 miles at a moderate pace. Strenuous hike with great views of the Hudson River. Limited to 12. No public transportation.

**WWW. Harriman's Finest Mines, Harriman State Park, NY.** Leader: Don Weise, donweise@hotmail.com. Meet: 9:30am, off-site location. We'll discover many mines, two of which are absolutely cavernous. Back by popular demand, this hike takes you deep into the quietest corners of Harriman State Park. Nonmembers of WWW: \$8 per person per hike, \$3 discount for NJ Audubon members.

**IHC. Mohonk Preserve and Sky Top, NY.** Leader: Charlie Kientzler, 973-835-1060. Meet: 8am at Harriman RR Station, Rt. 17, Arden, NY. Moderately strenuous. No area in the Shawangunks is more scenic, and the 360-degree view from Sky Top shows it all. Possible stop at nearby apple orchard and early supper in the area. Shuttle required. Entrance fee.

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-NoJR	Adirondack Mountain Club,	NYNJTC	NY-NJ Trail Conference
	North Jersey Ramapo Chapter	NYR	New York Ramblers
AFW	Adventures for Women	RWW	Rip Van Winkle Hiking Club
AMC-NYNJ	Appalachian Mountain Club,	UHC	Union County Hiking Club
	New York-North Jersey Chapter	UOC	University Outing Club
GAHC	German American Hiking Club	VSHC	Valley Stream Hiking Club
IHC	Interstate Hiking Club	WWW	Weis Wyanoike Wanderers

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 November/December issue is September 15.

# Pipeline to Cross Northern New Jersey... Again

By Chris Ingui

In March 2011, work on the expansion of the Tennessee Gas Pipeline in northern New Jersey's Wawayanda State Park became visible.

The initial gas pipeline was constructed in 1955 when the state granted a 50-foot-wide right-of-way through state park lands. The second pipeline, which will follow the route of the existing pipeline, is slated to widen the clearance of trees an extra 75 feet, expanding the current passage from 50 to 125 feet through 15 miles of state and county park lands. Fifty feet of the 125-foot right-of-way will be revegetated after the pipeline is buried, though there is some skepticism about whether planted trees will reach maturity.

The affected parks include Ramapo Valley County Reservation, Ringwood State Park, Long Pond Ironworks, and Wawayanda and High Point State Parks. The pipeline is expected to bisect or coalign with trails more than 20 times along this 15-mile stretch through park land; close to 6 million square feet of land is to be cleared of trees.

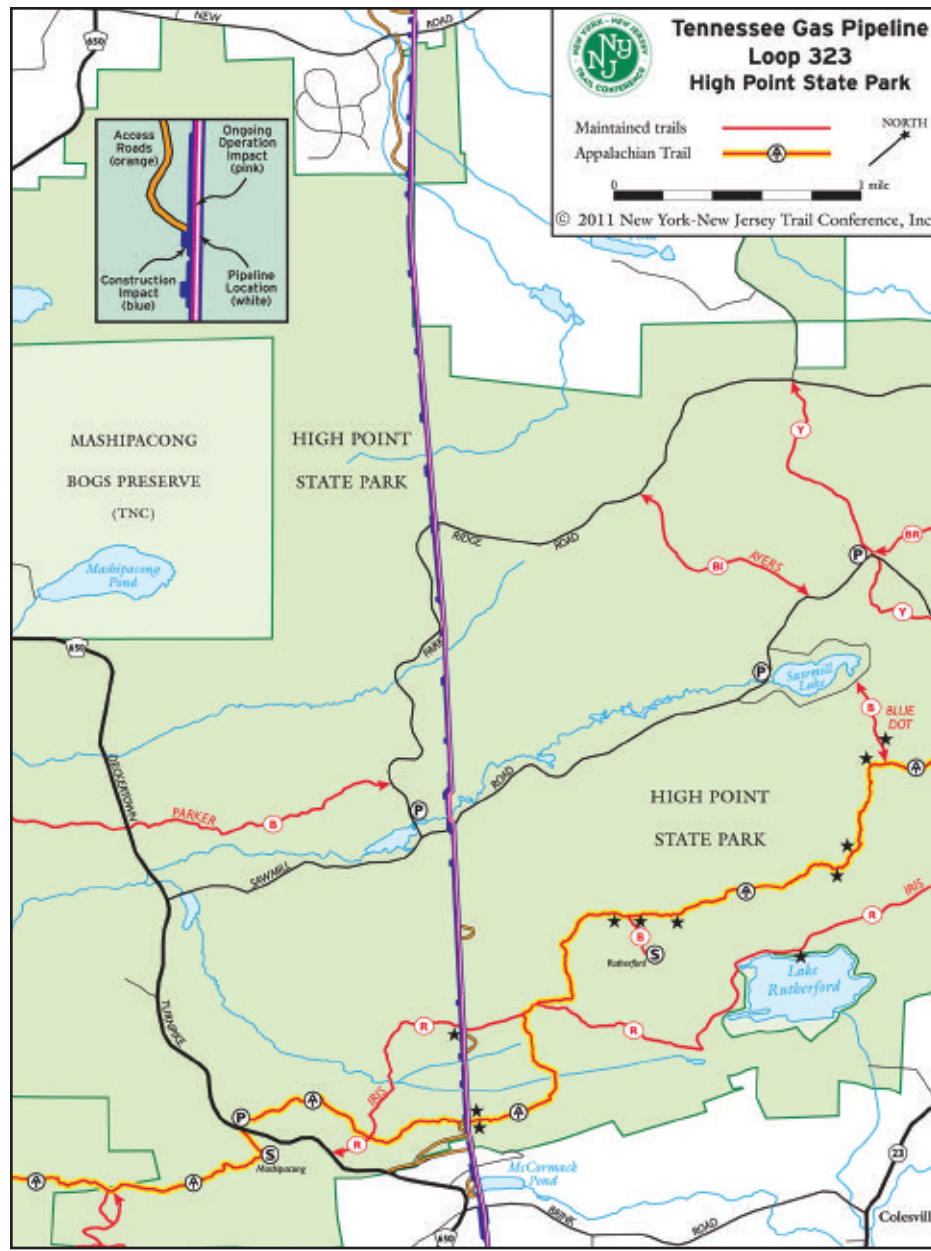
With construction already under way in Wawayanda and scheduled to continue through the summer, Bergen County Parks

Department and NJ Department of Environmental Protection each scheduled public hearings to establish what mitigation of natural resource damage and public recreation hindrance the company should provide. New construction would begin in January 2013.

The Trail Conference is working to assess and document possible impacts on trails and surrounding land. Through testimony at public meetings and working with landowners (federal, state and county), we hope to ensure that the company is required to make appropriate and significant mitigation of its construction impacts.



Pipeline corridor work in Wawayanda State Park as it appeared in April. The view is toward the Terrace Pond North Trail.



## Partner News

### West of Hudson

**Friday, September 30**  
Celebrate the Preservation of Arrow Lake in Orange County, NY. Four hundred acres of natural landscape have been protected and added to nearby Sterling Forest State Park providing even more protection to the Appalachian Trail Corridor. The event will start at 11am with hikes, drum music around the lake, and a film presentation on the incredible journey of the totem pole at Arrow Lake. Bring a picnic for lunch by the lake. At 2pm a brief ceremony will honor all those who helped protect Arrow Lake.

### Catskills

**October 1-10**  
**A Lark in the Park**  
Hiking, paddling, cycling, arts and cultural activities are all a part of Lark in the Park—a 10-day celebration of the Catskill Mountains. From Saturday, October 1 through Monday, October 10, the Catskill Mountain Club and the Catskill Center for Conservation and Development invite everyone to join healthy and exciting outdoor activities. The complete schedule of events can be found on the Lark in the Park website: [www.catskillslark.org](http://www.catskillslark.org)

### East of Hudson

**Saturday, October 8**  
**Explore Your Park Event**  
**Franklin D. Roosevelt State Park**  
9am to 12pm, 2957 Crompond Road, Yorktown Heights, NY. Ranger-led hikes and other activities, snacks, speakers, partner demos, as well as giveaways. [www.exploreyourparks.com](http://www.exploreyourparks.com)

**Saturday, October 15**  
**Teatown Lake Reservation, Annual Fall Festival**  
11am to 4:30pm, 1600 Spring Valley Road, Ossining, NY. Come for a fun time with family or friends. This year the Fall Festival offers hayrides, pumpkin carving, scarecrow making, educational activities, crafts, vendors, food, animal shows & live music. [www.teatown.org](http://www.teatown.org)

### New Jersey

**Saturday, October 22**  
**Annual Byram Fall Charity Hike to Celebrate Birth of the AT**  
The October 1921 publication of "An Appalachian Trail: A Project in Regional Planning" in the *Journal of the American Institute of Architects* is almost universally seen as the moment of birth for the Appalachian Trail. Benton MacKaye had written the article while staying at the Hudson Guild Farm in Byram Township, NJ, the previous July.

Hudson Farm today is still a 3,000-acre preserve which the Highlands Trail traverses in New Jersey. On October 22, Hudson Farm will host its annual Bryam Fall Charity Hike. The hike is free. Participants are given \$1 of Farm Money for each year of their age and at the end of the 3.5-mile hike they donate the money to various charities selected by the organizers. Hudson Farm then donates the actual amounts to the charities.

This year the Appalachian Trail Conservancy and the Trail Conference will recreate the Appalachian Trail in miniature. ATC board members and staff as well as Trail Conference staff will provide interpretive stations along the 3.5 miles to explain what participants would be experiencing were they actually on the A.T.

Picnic fare will be provided. There will be gear giveaways throughout the day. Hikes start anytime from 7:30am to 10:30am.

For more information call Marie Raffay at 973-347-7303 or email [mr Raffay@verizon.net](mailto:mr Raffay@verizon.net).

Hudson Farm is located at 270 Stanhope Sparta Road, Byram Twp, NJ 07821

**Starts October 7**  
**Wilderness First Aid**  
New Jersey Search & Rescue, a Trail Conference member group, will present a 16-hour Wilderness First Aid Class at Ramapo Valley County Reservation, Mahwah, NJ, beginning October 7. Enrollment is open to Trail Conference members. For more information contact Rick Savino at: [rjsavino@gmail.com](mailto:rjsavino@gmail.com).

## Trails and Open Space in Shawangunks Get Big Boost

In recent months, the Open Space Institute (OSI) has acquired or pledged to purchase three parcels on the Shawangunk Ridge that will preserve important trails and open space.

In June, OSI announced the acquisition of three miles of rail trail along the old O&W rail bed in the Sullivan County town of Mamakating, NY. The rail bed runs north from Sullivan Street in the village of Wurtsboro to Route 209 and the D&H Canal Linear Park. The acquisition allows for the development of a nearly 8-mile-long loop for hikers, walkers, bikers, and other recreational users. From one end, the trail will head north from the village of Wurtsboro along the historic O&W rail bed before doubling back to the south along the historic D&H Canal Linear Park and canal path.

The Sullivan Street terminus connects to the current route of the Shawangunk Ridge Trail/Long Path. Further north, a trail connects a parking area at Ferguson & Shawanga Lodge Roads on the ridge to the more western Long Path/Shawangunk Ridge Trail (LP/SRT). Long Path North Co-chair Andy Garrison notes that the plan is to extend that trail all of the way to the D&H Canal Path to the west. When completed the connector will cross the O&W rail bed newly preserved by OSI. The project is on hold pending completion a Unit Management Plan for the Wurtsboro Ridge State Forest by the New York State Dept. of Environmental Conservation.

"OSI's acquisition sets the stage for a recreational corridor that connects the village and the state forests, with beautiful wetlands along the way," said Trail Conference Executive Director Ed Goodell. "We believe this will become a very popular destination for local residents and tourists alike."

Further north on the ridge, OSI announced in July that it had agreed to purchase 874 acres of scenic and historic lands on the eastern escarpment of the Shawangunk Ridge from Smiley Brothers, Inc. (SBI), which owns and operates the historic Mohonk Mountain House in New Paltz, NY.

Open Space Institute makes three important land purchases along the ridge.

The acquisition is expected to close later this year, and includes three scenic and historic farms, hundreds of acres of open fields, rolling forested hills and streams, and important segments of the historic carriage road system used by hikers, bikers, and skiers. It is located along Route 299, Butterville Road, Gatehouse Road, and Pine Road west of the village of New Paltz.

The third parcel being acquired by OSI comprises 17 acres of forested land located near the entrance to the nearby Minnewaska State Park Preserve in the town of Rochester. This parcel is an important inholding to the park preserve and includes the last stretch of historic carriage road connecting the Mohonk Preserve and the Minnewaska State Park Preserve that is still in private ownership.

12th Annual Hudson River Valley  
**Ramble**  
Create Your Own Adventure  
3 weekends in **SEPTEMBER**  
10&11 17&18 24&25  
Over 200 guided walks, hikes, paddles & biking adventures, estuary explorations, heritage site tours & cultural events from the CAPITAL REGION to NEW YORK CITY  
Presented by the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area and Greenway  
For all Ramble event locations visit: [www.hudsonrivervalleyramble.com](http://www.hudsonrivervalleyramble.com)

## TRAIL CONFERENCE VOLUNTEERS

May 21, 2011 – July 24, 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.

**Trail Chair:** Patty Lee Parmalee

**Trail Co-Chair:** Andy Garrison, Jakob Franke

**Trail Corridor Monitor:** Kyle Parenzan, Tom Priest, Jerry Ruocco

**Trail Maintainer:** Anne Baumann, Patti Binko, Chris Carter, Bethany Clark, Bethany Clark, Bethany Clark, Jodi Clark, Erik Garnjost, Joel Knutson, John Kopp, Anna Kurz, William Linteris, Brian Lubbert, Douglas Lundeen, Frank March, Patrick Moore, Richard Neely, Paul Neuman, Mark Oyer, Mark Oyer, Mark Oyer, Clarence Putman, Allen Rockkind, Kyle Sherry, Andrew Stoll

**Trail Shelter Caretaker:** Howard Raab

**Trail Supervisor:** Guy Peifer

**Videographer:** Andrew Seirup

**Web Associate:** Guy Peifer

**Invasives Strike Force:** Alan Abramowitz, Debra Adamsons, Janet Albrecht, Heather Apgar, Ann Autieri, Darren Bua, Michael Butler, Thomas Butler, John Carey, Lisa Chiariello, Dylan Coffey, Brian Collins, Michael Cunningham, Walt Daniels, Neil DiBernardo, Margaret Dickson, Mary Dodds, Diane Dugan, Marc Elfenbein, Daniel Farkas, Terry Fiedler, Thomas Flattery, Margaret Foster, Cindy Frank, Daniel Fredericks, Howard Friedman, Robert Gavin, Jim Gmelin, Bennett Goldstein, William Hansen, Michaela Harkins, Melissa Harris, Ryan Hasko, Peter Heckler, Robert Hergenrother, Kathleen Herguth, Denise Hewitt, Charles Holmes, Viviana Holmes, Saranda Ibrahim, Schuyler Jenks, Peter Johnson, Micheline Kagan, Holly Keller, Anna Kurz, Michael LaGue, Doug Lawrence, Richard Leonard, Jason Li, Richard Lynch, John Mack, Mary Mack, Martha Mahady, Thomas Mahady, Geraldine Mahoney, Nancy Males, Bill Males, Sona Mason, Diane Mateo, Ann McDuffie, Kathy Mertrud, Paulette Muller-Girard, Keith Mulvihill, Amanda Nesheiwat, Claiffertene Nystrom, Michael Nystrom, Elysia Ochs, Pinchas Ovide, Patty Lee Parmalee, Eric Perlmutter, Allison Petryk, George Petty, Lawrence Randall, Marla Randall, John Reidy, Laura Rice, Linda Rohleder, Marcia Samuel, Philip Savoie, Scott Sherwood, Elaine Silverstein, Kay Spurlock, Lynn Swanson, Paul Tarlowe, Judith Terlizzi, Bruce Thaler, Julia Tran, Michelle Tuorto-Collins, Margie Turrin, Brent Turrin, Jennifer Vitella, Georgette Weir, Larry Wheelock, Gary Willick, Jeff Wilson, Pat Wilson, Bob Wilson, Lisa Wyssession, Melda Yildiz, Steve Zubarik, Therese Zubarik

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)



## Major Gift Creates New Legacy Fund

In June, the Board of Directors created a quasi-endowment fund to be named the Legacy Fund. The Fund was established with a gift of \$100,000 from an anonymous donor.

A common feature of not-for-profit organizations, a quasi-endowment is a self-created fund (as opposed to donor-created) whose rules resemble in some ways an endowment but without the legal restrictions of trust law. Distributions of the Fund's income are to be determined by the Finance Committee and made available to the Executive Director in the budgeting process. The principal of the Fund may be used only upon Board approval. Donors to the Trail Conference may elect the Legacy Fund as the destination of their gift. Contact: Development Director Kevin Melchionne, [Kevin@nynjtc.org](mailto:Kevin@nynjtc.org) or 201.512.9348, ext. 28.

## New Staff Member Is Avid Hiker



In June, Melissa Bean of Towaco, NJ, joined the Trail Conference staff as Administrative Assistant. Melissa is a graduate of Loyola University in Maryland and holds a Master of Divinity degree from Princeton Theological Seminary. She has spent many an evening poring over Trail Conference maps. She loves to spend time outdoors with her dog, Simba, who has survived a bear attack and a recent porcupine quilling. Melissa, who has been known to bush-whack mountains in a ballgown, is a Catskill 3500 Club member, and is eagerly awaiting the return of snowshoe season so she can continue working on her Winter 35 patch. In the meantime, she is training for her second marathon.

## We Welcome Two New Business Partners



Find details about member benefits offered by our business partners at [nynjtc.org/content/retail-partners](http://nynjtc.org/content/retail-partners)

With quality gear from **Silva** at **RAMSEY OUTDOOR**

Paramus, NJ - Ramsey, NJ - Succasunna, NJ  
(800) 699-5874  
[www.ramseyoutdoor.com](http://www.ramseyoutdoor.com)

**HILLTOP ACRES RESORT**  
Small resort near Hunter Mountain in Northern Catskills. Beautiful mountain view. Private lake & woods. Ideal for hiking, skiing or relaxing getaway. Central European cuisine. Modestly priced. Open all year. Box 87, Jewett, NY 12444/Tel: 518-734-4580  
[www.windham-area.com/hilltopacres.htm](http://www.windham-area.com/hilltopacres.htm)

## DONORS TO THE ANNUAL FUND

May 24 – July 20, 2011

### GIFTS

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Charlene A. Bitzas

*In memory of Donald B. Derr*  
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*In memory of Dr. Joan Ebrenefeld*

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*In memory of Bill & Bert Myles*  
Erwin F. Conrad

*In memory of Dr. Roger*  
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*In memory of Thea Seibel*  
Anonymous, David & Naomi Sutter

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

## MAKING AN IMPACT

*continued from page 1*

River School) has, perhaps, played a bigger role than photography in past conservation efforts. Certainly, the role of photography in these efforts is not as well documented as it is in the West. But we are fortunate that so much of our landscape has been protected for us and today inspires the work of countless talented photographers, who in turn inspire us to protect the landscape for the next generation.

In the spirit of the harmony between conservation and photography, I hope that the new photography section on the Trail Conference website will serve a role in the future. Our aim is to provide beautiful photographic presentations of and from our trails, provide information and suggestions for our readers to motivate them to explore and capture great images of our natural assets and share with each other.

The website, along with the many maps and books that the Trail Conference publishes already provides the most authentic and reliable information about trails in our region. We seek to build on that with strong imagery and to inspire, motivate, and encourage photographers to take part in this movement.

With the advent of digital photography, most of us now own and carry a camera when we go out on the trails. Though the technology has made it much easier to capture good images, the ingredients to create really great images still remain the same: vision, the art of seeing, patience, light,

knowledge and understanding of the subject—all need to come together.

On the website, we plan to share insights from professional and inspiring photographers on how to and where to take great images. We also want to make you, the readers, a big part of this page—by showcasing your best photographs and your stories. Every month, we will pick some of your best shots and share them on the Trail Conference website.

Our vision is to make this page the nature photography resource of the area. I especially thank photography friends who agreed to help jump start this effort by contributing articles and photos: Robert Rodriguez, Jr., Luke Ormand, and Greg Miller.

I think that there is no better place for something like this than the website of New York-New Jersey Trail Conference. Please check out our inaugural articles, and feel free to contact me with your suggestions and ideas (links are on the site). Together we can make an impact. Go to [nynjtc.org/content/photography](http://nynjtc.org/content/photography).

*Arnab Banerjee, founding editor of our new photography web section, is a Hudson valley-based fine art nature and travel photographer. His works have been widely collected and published internationally. See more of his work at [www.arnabbanerjee.com](http://www.arnabbanerjee.com).*



## Volunteer! The Trail Conference Needs You!

### OUTDOOR OPPORTUNITIES

**Become a Trail Maintainer! Great Work Environment!**

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:

- Black Rock Forest
- Long Path South
- Shawangunk Ridge Trail
- Minnewaska S. P.
- Neversink River Unique Area
- AT Orange/Rockland Shelter Caretakers
- AT Orange/Rockland Maintainer
- Storm King S. P.
- Schunemunk Mtn. S. P.

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)



## Science &amp; Ecology

## Katy Did, Katy Didn't. Who's making that summer racket?

By Edna Greig

From midsummer through autumn, the woods and fields resonate with the sounds of crickets, katydids, grasshoppers, and cicadas, collectively referred to as the singing insects. One of the better known of these insects in our area is the common true katydid (*Pterophylla camellifolia*) whose loud, raspy songs fill the nights from late July until the first killing frost.



LYLE BIUSS, UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

Juvenile *Pterophylla camellifolia*

Katydids impressed early Europeans arriving on our shores. The earliest settlers feared them as they had never before heard such raucous nighttime sounds. And J.F.D. Smyth, in his 1784 book, *A Tour in the United States of America*, wrote of the katydids on Long Island "... their noise is loud and incessant, one perpetually and regularly answering the other in notes exactly similar to the words Katy did, or Katy Katy did, repeated by one, and another immediately bawls out Katy did'n't, or Katy Katy did'n't. In this loud clamour they continue without ceasing until the fall of the leaf, when they totally disappear."

Katydids have prompted some interesting folklore. One tale attributes the "katy did" and "katy didn't" songs to an insect debate over the guilt of a young woman named Katy who allegedly poisoned the man she loved after he jilted her. Another tale says that the first night of katydid singing predicts the first autumn frost, which would arrive six weeks later in the northern part of its range to three months later in the south. For this reason, katydids are also occasionally called frost bugs.

There are about 30 species of katydids in our area, including meadow katydids, conehead katydids, false katydids, and shieldback katydids—but common true katydids are by far the most frequently heard. They're stout bright green insects, about one to two inches long, with long

slender antennae. Although often heard, they are seldom seen. This is because they spend their lives high in the treetops, where their coloration and distance from the ground make them nearly impossible to see. They have large, leaf-like wings but they cannot fly. *Instead, they walk about the tree canopy or sometimes use their large wings as parachutes to glide to an adjacent tree. Occasionally, they may flutter to the ground, which offers us the greatest chance of actually seeing one.*

The flightless wings of the katydid serve another important purpose. At the base of the male's forewings are brown structures called a file and scraper which he rubs together in a process called stridulation to

produce his raspy song. Males begin to sing at dusk and continue for several hours into the night hoping to attract a desirable female. Katydids are able to locate each other amid the chorus due to their excellent hearing. Their hearing organs, called tympana, are located just below the "knees" of their front legs. By shifting the position of their legs, they can better pinpoint the location of potential mates as well as predators.

If the male katydid successfully lures a female, he will approach her and clasp her abdomen. He will transfer to her a sperm packet as well as a nutritious gelatinous morsel that he created called a "nuptial gift." The nuptial gift is an important food source for the female and her eggs.

Immediately after mating, the female deposits her eggs in plant tissue, where they will overwinter. The eggs hatch the following spring, and the young nymphs feed on tree leaves. They reach adulthood around late July, and the katydid chorus begins anew.

To learn more about katydids and the other singing insects and to hear recordings of their songs, visit [www.musicofnature.org/songsofinsects](http://www.musicofnature.org/songsofinsects).

Member Edna Greig is a regular contributor to Trail Walker on natural history topics.



## Leave No Trace: Ethics & Trail Tips

By Bob Russo

### Principle #6: Respect Wildlife

When you're lucky enough to spot wildlife on a hike, watch or photograph it from a distance, don't invade their comfort zone. Some animals will abandon their young or critical habitat when frightened by humans. Quick movement and direct eye contact may be seen as aggression. Don't shout or wave your arms to get a good photo.

If an animal is moving in your direction, get out of their line of travel.

Hike quietly, except in bear country. Then, make noise, especially when the trail is sided by blue or black berry bushes. Pick a handful if you hike, but keep moving, it's a very important food source for them.

Wildlife face seasonal stresses. Raptors and song birds, for instance are wary in spring when looking for nesting sites and mates, giving birth, and guarding their young, nests, and territories.

**DON'T FEED WILDLIFE!** People food and byproducts are harmful to wildlife. It stops them from foraging and eating nutritious food in their own habitat. Wildlife can become sick or even die when eating food wrappers or other inedibles.

Trail tip: if you would like to observe wildlife when you take a break on the trail, sit as quietly and as still as possible. In 10 to 15 minutes, everything in the area will go back to normal. With practice you will be able to observe and hear what is going on in the surrounding environment.

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



## Member Group Profile: Appalachian Mountain Club, NY-North Jersey Chapter

Maintaining 120 miles of trails, the New York-North Jersey Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club continues the commitment to trail maintenance it first demonstrated as a founding member of the Trail Conference in 1920.

Under the leadership of trail supervisors Jill Arbuckle (New Jersey), Bob Fuller (West of Hudson), Herb Hochberg (East of Hudson) and Chapter Trail Committee Chairperson Kate Whitney-Bukofzer, the Chapter has about 60 officially assigned trail maintainers. Maintainers go out two or more times a year, often taking family or friends along to help. They clip shrubs, cut grass, repaint faded blazes, remove small blowdowns (small enough for a bow-saw), and break up fire-rings. They also give invaluable help to the land-owning agencies, who have far too few rangers to cover every trail regularly, as "eyes on the ground," giving early warning of things like a bridge that got washed away, a huge tree blocking a trail, tracks showing illegal ATV usage.

This summer has been a particularly busy season for maintainers, who dealt with many large blowdowns and fast-growing vegetation, the result of a rainy spring.

East of Hudson, Herb Hochberg reports that he would like to recruit a few more members interested in the joys of battling invasive species, poison ivy, and blowdowns. (The Chapter uses its publication, *Trails and Waves*, to advertise for new maintainers. You can download a copy at [amc-ny.org](http://amc-ny.org).)

West of Hudson, AMC is working with PIPC and the Trail Conference in Harriman/Bear Mountain State Park to arrange the rebuilding of the 1779 bridge – (AMC-assigned) which was destroyed when a large tree fell onto it.

In New Jersey, AMC recently funded replacement of a short bridge that vanished over the wintertime and which the local New Jersey maintainer rebuilt.

It is worth noting that many AMC members are active individual Trail Conference members, serving as maintainers, sawyers, and trail crew members.

Each region has unique challenges, but as the AMC New York-North Jersey Chapter approaches its 100th anniversary in 2012, trails stewardship remains a key component of the Chapter's mission.

—Kate Whitney-Bukofzer

AMC NY-North Jersey Chapter Trail Committee Chairperson



AMC trail volunteers take care of 120 miles of trails in our region.

## Club Hosts Annual Food & Trail Work Smorgasbord

The Ralph's Peak Hikers Cabin Volunteers Club commenced their 11th annual Appalachian Trail weekend work party on the evening of Thursday, July 7th, when several members of the club purchased enough food at Sam's Club to feed the volunteer workers and thru-hikers breakfast, lunch, and dinner for three days. With a dozen or so coolers filled with food and ice, they proceeded to the RPH Shelter, located on the Appalachian Trail in Dutchess County, NY, to set up for the next three days of trail work.

Tim Messerich, club president, recruits volunteers from near and far. This year, volunteers came from as far away as Maryland, Brooklyn, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, Maine, and South Carolina. Several trail maintenance groups were represented, including the Trail Conference, the Trail Conference's Roving Stonework Crew "The Jolly Rovers," and the Appalachian Long Distance Hikers Association. Additionally, several thru-hikers also participated. Many of the volunteers camped out for the weekend near the shelter.

On Thursday, 10 volunteers helped purchase food. On Friday, 18 volunteers started the actual work. On Saturday, 23 volunteers showed up, and on Sunday there were 14.

This year's projects included:

- Removing, rebuilding, and repairing two sections of puncheon on the AT;
- Replacing a gate post at the entrance to the RPH Cabin property;
- Painting the Seth Lyon Memorial Bridge, replacing three rotten planks, and building a retaining wall under the north side of the bridge;
- Building 14 stone steps south of Long Hill Road on the AT, which was completed by the Jolly Rovers along with other volunteers;
- Repairing the steps south of Miller Hill Road;
- Planting a flower garden next to the shelter.



A few of the volunteers at the annual AT work and food weekend organized by Ralph's Peak Hikers Cabin Volunteers Club proudly pose next to their newly built steps.

This year's event was sponsored by the following, who made donations of materials or money:

- B-Dry Systems of Southern Dutchess
- Chelsea Forest Products
- Appalachian Long Distance Hikers Association
- Acorn Tree Service

The weekend was very successful and resulted in an estimated 5 to 10 thru-hikers being fed each day. Fare included, but was not limited to, hamburgers, hot dogs, steaks, chicken, pork chops, salad, pancakes, and eggs. Quite a few projects were completed and the volunteers accumulated an astounding 426.5 work hours. A job well done!



**Hudson Valley Cottages** Friendly, historic 3-season wooded community in Westchester County near Hudson River. Enjoy hiking, tennis, pool, wifi cafe, social activities, organic community garden. 1-3 bedroom cottages, \$35-129,000. [www.reynoldshills.org/bungalowshop](http://www.reynoldshills.org/bungalowshop). Contact Mel: 347-307-4642 or [melgarfinkel@yahoo.com](mailto:melgarfinkel@yahoo.com).

## Trail Conference members can take advantage of exclusive discounts and benefits with participating retailers and businesses!

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



# NY-NJ Trail Conference BENEFITS

The Trail Conference is proud to offer a Membership Benefit Program, which was created to provide our members with money-saving discounts at area retailers and service providers – **benefits only available to Trail Conference members.**

As part of your Trail Conference membership, you are issued a card identifying you as a Trail Conference member, making you eligible for all program discounts. To receive your member discounts, you must present your valid membership card at the time of purchase. Some stores offer the discount only on select items, so be sure to ask.

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.

**Money-Saving Discounts** at participating retailers and businesses.

**Workshops and Seminars** on trail maintenance and construction, leadership training, wilderness first aid, chainsaw operation, environmental monitoring and GPS operation.

**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.



### Some of Our Discount Partners



VISIT [WWW.NYNJTC.ORG/CONTENT/RETAIL-PARTNERS](http://WWW.NYNJTC.ORG/CONTENT/RETAIL-PARTNERS) FOR COMPLETE LIST OF MONEY-SAVING DISCOUNTS!

## Catskill Trail Partners

An inaugural meeting of Catskill Trail Partners, with more than 20 representatives of organizations and agencies in the Catskills interested in improving trails and moving toward more sustainable recreational opportunities in the Catskill Region, was co-hosted by the Trail Conference and the Catskill Center for Conservation and Development in May.

Attending the meeting were staff from the NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and representatives from Catskill 3500 Club, Catskill Mountain Club, Finger Lakes Trail Conference, Rip Van Winkle Hikers, Ulster County Trails Advisory Committee, Catskill Fire Tower Project, Catskill Mountainkeeper, Catskill Center for Conservation and Development, and the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference.

The group began to inventory trails that are currently maintained by organizations

and those that are still available for adoption by groups like the Trail Conference. DEC offered a list of major projects to be done in the Catskills by their staff and contracted trail crews during the 2011 season. A number of major, potential projects were identified by the partners. The group also discussed ways to facilitate communication to better coordinate and plan trail work. Additionally, initial planning for the 2011 Lark in the Park 10-day festival began at the meeting (see story on page 7).

The Catskill Trail Partners expect to meet annually each spring in order to review trail work and news from the previous season and plan for the upcoming season. We hope to engage additional partners who were unable to attend our first meeting.

— Jeff Senterman  
Trail Conference Catskill  
Program Coordinator

## Yorktown Trails



A massive glacial erratic (aka the Giant Boulder, pictured above) in Yorktown's Granite Knoll park, symbolizes for me the massive trail building efforts of volunteers in the Town of Yorktown in Westchester County, NY. The Yorktown Trails project aims to build new trails and connect several parks in the town. In its first year (2010), volunteers built 4.3 miles of trails and a 16-foot bridge. This season their accomplishments so far include building 7.1 miles of trails and making numerous repairs to existing trails.

### Sylvan Glen Nature Preserve

- Community Service (adjudicated youth) installed over 200 feet of puncheon.
- Several hiking organizations carried in materials for 72 feet of puncheons and helped remove invasive plants.
- IBM employees and retirees moved a bridge, worked on waterbars, and moved wood chips.
- Domenick Velardi built a new section of trail as his Eagle Project.
- The Jolly Rover stonework trail crew is constructing stone steps next to an abandoned quarry.

### Woodlands Legacy Field Park

- Volunteers from the biking and hiking communities built a 26-foot bridge, installed about 70 feet of board walk, and built 0.9 mile of new trails.
- For her Bat Mitzvah project, a 13-year-old girl worked with her father and installed a 10-foot box bridge.

### Granite Knolls Park

- Volunteers built 2.9 miles of new trails and blazed 2.7 miles of woods roads.

### Yorktown Trailway

- Volunteers from Westchester Mountain Biking Association installed an information kiosk donated by Danny's Cycles.

All projects have dedicated volunteers; Yorktown Trails is especially fortunate to have people who regularly volunteer above and beyond the call of duty, and many others who can be counted on to help on a routine basis.

In addition to my husband Walt Daniels, four members of the mountain biking community have made my job of orchestrating construction of the trails possible and a lot easier. Tom Schmitt has designed and built 2.7 miles of mountain biking trails in Granite Knolls. His trail design highlights the terrain and includes features in and around a former quarry. Tim O'Connell has been like the energizer bunny – always busy working on projects, be it building bridges or board walk or laying out new trails. His nudges have brought in funding and new ideas. Tom Oakes has been the trail blazer extraordinaire. Armed with hammer, nails, and blazes, he has blazed eight miles of trails in Granite Knolls and Woodlands Legacy Fields parks. My "inside guy" is Brian Kelly, whose efforts as a cartographer make a map simple to read and worth having. I simply cannot thank them enough.

Yorktown Trails is part of the East Hudson Community Trails Program, an initiative to bring trails close to home. Since June 2010, when the initial permissions were granted, volunteers have added 11.4 miles of trails to the parks in the Town of Yorktown financed through grants from the Hudson Valley Greenway and Westchester Mountain Biking Association. The overwhelming support given by local residents has shown that people like being able to walk or ride to nearby trails. They have discovered the trails before they were completely finished and clearly enjoy using them.

Our next steps include improving trails in existing parks, negotiating with a condo association and the NYS Dept. of Transportation to extend the trails on both sides of the Taconic State Parkway, building trails to complete the circle crossed by the Parkway, and connecting to other parks in the town.

To learn more about the project visit [nynjtc.org/group/yorktown-community-trails](http://nynjtc.org/group/yorktown-community-trails) or contact Jane Daniels at [yorktowntrails@nynjtc.org](mailto:yorktowntrails@nynjtc.org).



# A Tip for Varying Your Walking Technique: Try the Rest Step

By Howard E. Friedman, DPM

Walking is a two-step process. First, lose your balance. Then, regain your balance, moving in the direction you wish to travel. Continue moving one foot in front of the other.

Walking is inherently efficient and smooth. Walking allows one to continue long after the distance runner has run out of energy, albeit at a slower pace. A walker can go places a cyclist cannot. Skiers and swimmers can cover long distances in shorter times, but the walker needs neither snow nor water.

Walking does not naturally allow for any respite without completely stopping, breaking the rhythm and cadence of the gait cycle. The fluidity of walking could prevent the hiker from taking in all of the sights on the trail.

Enter the rest step. This modification of walking is popular with mountaineers ascending steep snowy grades. It allows them, often carrying heavy gear and breathing oxygen-poor air at a high altitude, a moment to recoup strength before continuing higher. With the rest step, body weight is borne more by the skeletal structure of the leg and less by the quadriceps and other muscles. It's a technique that can be adopted by hikers in Harriman State Park, the Catskills, or even on a moderately graded uphill carriageway in Westchester County.

The modification to your walk is simple. In normal walking one foot swings forward while the other is on the ground, the back heel beginning to lift. As the back foot is almost completely off the ground, the front foot has contacted the ground, and the cycle repeats. To perform the rest step lock the knee of the back leg when that foot is on the ground. Place all your weight on the back leg for a second or so before continuing on. The back leg in essence becomes a temporary walking stick or trekking pole.

Maximize the rest benefit by using two hand-held hiking poles. Together with the locked back leg, these create a temporary three-legged stool, allowing for a brief rest.

The rest step is best appreciated going uphill, but it can be utilized on moderately sloped or even flat terrain. And while the primary goal of the rest step is to rest the leg muscles, the rest step may even allow the hiker an extra moment to take in the scenery otherwise missed during the steady pace of hiking.

*Howard E. Friedman, DPM, is a podiatrist and frequent contributor to Trail Walker. Find links to his articles on foot care, hiking shoes and poles, and related topics on our website: [nynjtc.org/panell/healthandsafety](http://nynjtc.org/panell/healthandsafety)*

## I N M E M O R I A M



**Dr. Joan Ehrenfeld**, an expert on invasive species, wetlands ecology, and urban ecology, and a long-time Trail Conference member and volunteer, died at her home in Highland Park, NJ, on June 25, 2011, after a year-long battle with acute leukemia.

Dr. Ehrenfeld spent her 35-year career as a Rutgers University professor of ecology, studying plant communities in both New Jersey's wildest and most settled places, from the Pine Barrens to the urban wetlands of Rahway. She was recognized around the world as a leading voice on plant ecology.

Joan was an avid hiker, often hitting the trails with her husband, David, also a Rutgers biology professor, four children, and any other friends, colleagues, or children of friends she could find. She contributed her considerable energy and expertise to the Trail Conference, helping to create and guide the development of our science program, with its special focus on monitoring invasive plants along trails and in parks, over the past decade. She wrote articles on science and ecology for *Trail Walker*, focusing on topics relevant to trails and hikers, translating scientific insights into language accessible to interested lay readers. She recruited colleagues and graduate students to contribute articles on their research as well.

Joan authored or co-authored more than 120 scientific papers, continuing to work on data analysis, advising students, collaborating with others, and contributing to the Trail Conference throughout her battle with leukemia. Joan's family asked that memorial donations be made to the Trail Conference.

**Gerard Hoekstra Jr.**, age 84 of Jewett, NY, formerly of Oakland, NJ, died peacefully in his home surrounded by his children on Wednesday, June 15, 2011. An avid hiker, Gerard was a long-time Trail Conference volunteer in both North Jersey and the Catskills. He volunteered as Trails Supervisor at Ramapo Valley County Reservation in North Jersey, was a trail maintainer at Morris County High Mountain from 1992-2003, served stints as Trail Supervisor in the Hunter Mountain and Westkill regions of the Catskills, and as a shelter caretaker in the Catskills from 1992-2010. He earned USFS chainsaw certification, participated in the USDA Rutgers-Trail Conference Invasive Species monitoring program, and was a Trail Conference delegate-at-large. Gerard was a manufacturing manager for National Beryllia of Haskell, NJ, for 35 years before his retirement. He is survived by six children and 12 grandchildren.



## TRAIL CREW SCHEDULES

*continued from page 5*



Volunteers with the Long Path North Hiking Club on their newly built White Birch Pond Bridge.

### 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, September 17**

**Saturday, October 8**

**Saturday, October 22**

### Mine Hole Trail, Minnewaska S.P. Preserve New Route for Long Path

Work this season will be on the unmarked Mine Hole Trail in Minnewaska State Park Preserve. This trail is going to be part of a major relocation of the Long Path that will eliminate many miles of road walking from the Gunks to the Catskills. We will be cutting back the vegetation and constructing waterbars. Clippers, hedge shears, shovels, mattocks and rock bars are the tools of choice for these tasks. Bring work gloves, water, lunch and friends.

**Meet:** 9am at 132 Foordmore Rd, Kerhonkson, NY, at the gate to Mine Hole. For directions, go to <http://mapq.st/kMSs5l> and put in your starting point.

### CATSKILL TRAIL CREW

**Contact:** Jeff Senterman

**Phone:** 518-703-1196

**Email:** [jsenterman@nynjtc.org](mailto:jsenterman@nynjtc.org)

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.

### ROVING CREW OF STONEMAKERS

**Contact:** Chris Ingui, [cinguin@nynjtc.org](mailto:cinguin@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).

### EAST HUDSON COMMUNITY TRAILS

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  
**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

**Contact:** Walt Daniels at [wdhikes@gmail.com](mailto:wdhikes@gmail.com) or 914-245-1250

## PARTNER & MEMBER GROUP TRAIL WORK OUTINGS

### MINNEWASKA STATE PARK PRESERVE

**Sunday, September 18**

**Trails Day**

**Contact:** Park Office at 845-255-0752

Trail Conference volunteers and Park Preserve staff invite volunteers of all levels of experience to help improve an existing footpath. Volunteers will use hand tools to clip back overgrown shrubs and clear woodland debris. More experienced trail volunteers interested in more challenging trail work are also encouraged to participate. Recommended for adults and teenagers, who must be accompanied by a parent or guardian over the age of 18 years. Students in public school looking to accrue necessary community service hours for completion of their requirements may be particularly interested in volunteering for this program.  
**Preregistration is required.**

### NEW JERSEY PALISADES

**Monthly, First Sundays**

Help keep our park clean and enjoyable for all. Check [www.njpalisades.org/calendar](http://www.njpalisades.org/calendar) for location. For info, contact: Christina Fehre, [cfehre@njpalisades.org](mailto:cfehre@njpalisades.org) or 201-768-1360, ext. 107. Park will provide litter sticks, trash bags, treats and gloves, though participants may want to bring their own gloves. Inclement weather cancels.

### PELHAM BAY PARK, BRONX

Trail Maintenance Outings scheduled by Friends of Pelham Bay Park Trail Committee. Most trips are 10am-2pm (Oct. 22 starts at 9:30am). For further information, contact the Trail Committee chairperson, Clinton Robinson at [cl.robinson@verizon.net](mailto:cl.robinson@verizon.net) or 347-512-5048.

**Saturday, September 10**

Catwalk re-enforcement at Hunter Island and shoreline clean up. Meet at the northeast corner of the Orchard Beach parking lot.

**Saturday, September 24**

Invasive Removal – Orchard Beach Meadow. Meet at the southeast corner of the Orchard Beach parking lot.

**Saturday, October 8**

Invasive Removal – Orchard Beach Meadow. Meet at the southeast corner of the Orchard Beach parking lot.

**Saturday, October 22**

Turtle Cove Tree Planting with Million Trees NYC and NRG. Meeting location to be determined.

**Saturday, November 5**

Invasive clearance in Huntington Woods. Meeting location to be determined.

### HYDE PARK TRAILS VOLUNTEER DAY

**Saturday, September 24**


The Hyde Park Trail Committee will hold "Seth Lyon Volunteer Day" at Hackett Hill Park, 79 East Market Street in Hyde Park, NY. The event, dedicated to the memory of an active volunteer, coincides with National Public Lands Day. Event hours are 10am – 4pm. Snacks and drinks will be provided by the Hyde Park Trail Committee. Please bring work gloves and hand tools. To register, please call Kathleen Davis at 845-229-8086, ext. 5, or email her at [recdirector@hydeparkny.us](mailto:recdirector@hydeparkny.us). Scout troops, trail groups, and civic organizations are all welcome. A few workers with carpentry skills and tools are sought to help repair a kiosk. All materials will be provided.

### RPH CABIN VOLUNTEERS


**Most Saturdays**

**Dutchess-Putnam Appalachian Trail**

**Contact:** Tim Messerich, [bascomgrillmaster@yahoo.com](mailto:bascomgrillmaster@yahoo.com) or 845-297-9573



**Camp Glen Gray**  
**Mahwah, NJ**  
Weekend Camping In The  
Beautiful Ramapo Mountains  
Web: [www.GlenGray.org](http://www.GlenGray.org)  
Phone: (201) 327-7234  
Email: [CampGlenGray@aol.com](mailto:CampGlenGray@aol.com)



A Proud Part of the Bergen County Park System

Kathleen Donovan  
County Executive

# Featured Hike



## New Loop Trail at Silas Condict County Park



DANIEL CHAZIN

See *Trail News* on page 5 for more about this new trail.

**Time:** About two and one-half hours  
**Difficulty:** Moderate  
**Length:** About 3.0 miles  
**Features:** This hike in New Jersey's Morris County climbs to several panoramic viewpoints, passes a balanced rock, and goes through a rock tunnel.  
**Dogs:** Allowed on leash  
**Map:** Jersey Highlands Trails: North Central Region (for park) + see page 5. (This new trail was built since publication of the Jersey Highlands Trails map earlier this year.)  
**How To Get There:** Follow N.J. Route 208 to I-287 South and take Exit 52B of I-287 (N.J. Route 23 North). Follow Route 23 north for 2.6 miles and take the exit for Kinnelon Road/Kiel Road. Turn left at the traffic light, following the sign for "Kinnelon," cross Route 23, and continue for 1.1 miles to the entrance to Silas Condict County Park, on the right. Turn right and follow William Lewis Arthur Drive (the park entrance road) for 0.7 mile, passing two parking areas. With the lake and a stone building (known as the Casino) visible on the left, park in the third parking area along the road.

**Description:** A detailed description of this hike by Trail Conference writer and editor Daniel Chazin can be found in our website's Find a Hike section (under Go Hiking); search for Silas Condict County Park.

From the parking area, head south, passing to the right of the lake and the Casino. Continue ahead across a lawn, passing a ballfield on the right, and bear left onto a gravel road. About 400 feet beyond the end



DANIEL CHAZIN

The trail goes through this boulder tunnel.

of the lake (before reaching a chain-link fence across the road), you'll notice a kiosk and a triple-white blaze on a tree to the right. This marks the start of the White Trail, which will be your route for the entire hike.

Although this trail includes rugged terrain, numerous ups and downs—some of them steep, but most of them short—and a total elevation gain of about 1,000 feet (according to the trail builders), it can be considered a "moderate" hike for anyone in reasonable physical condition. Trail builders have placed a bench with a view at the crest of the first panoramic viewpoint for those who may think otherwise and want to rest a bit before moving on (or back).

The trail is blazed (white) more heavily than usual—every 60 to 75 feet rather than the more customary 150-200 feet, a nod to the expectation that it will get heavy use from novice hikers. Even so, it pays to watch for the blazes as the trail makes numerous

twists and, being still new, the tread has not yet been pounded into self-evidence.

Along the way you'll pass by, or through, dramatic rock features, including a balanced boulder and a "tunnel" of boulders. Pitch pines and thickets of mountain laurel are common on the ridgetop. A special feature of this hike are the several panoramic viewpoints it offers to the east, west, and south.

Wildlife, including deer, turkeys, and bear are plentiful. Shortly after Daniel Chazin published his description of this hike in *The Record* and on our website, two hikers in separate instances reported seeing "a very large bear" on the trail.



## Hikers' Marketplace



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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.)

Catskill Trails (2010) & see combo	\$16.95	\$12.71	+\$1.75	_____
East Hudson Trails (2010)	\$10.95	\$ 8.21	+\$1.60	_____
Harriman-Bear Mountain Trails (2010) & see combo	\$ 9.95	\$ 7.46	+\$1.60	_____
Hudson Palisades Trails (2009)	\$ 8.95	\$ 6.71	+\$1.60	_____
Kittatinny Trails (2009) & see combo	\$13.95	\$10.46	+\$1.75	_____
<b>NEW!!</b> Jersey Highlands Trails: Central North Region (2011)	\$ 9.95	\$ 7.46	+\$1.60	_____
North Jersey Trails (2009)	\$ 9.95	\$ 7.46	+\$1.60	_____
<b>NEW!!</b> Shawangunk Trails (2011) & see combo	\$10.95	\$ 8.21	+\$1.60	_____
South Taconic Trails (2006)	\$ 4.95	\$ 3.71	+\$1.20	_____
<b>NEW!!</b> Sterling Forest Trails (2011)	\$ 7.95	\$ 5.96	+\$1.40	_____
West Hudson Trails (2009)	\$ 8.95	\$ 6.71	+\$1.60	_____
Old Croton Aqueduct, NYC				
(Friends of OCA, 2008) & see combo	\$ 4.95	\$ 3.71	+\$1.10	_____
Old Croton Aqueduct, Westchester				
(Friends of OCA, 2004) & see combos	\$ 4.95	\$ 3.71	+\$1.10	_____

### Books

<b>NEW!!</b> Harriman Trails:				
A Guide and History (2010) & see combo	\$19.95	\$14.96	+\$5.50	_____
Walkable Westchester (2009) & see combo	\$24.95	\$18.71	+\$3.70	_____
Hiking the Jersey Highlands (2007)	\$22.95	\$17.21	+\$3.70	_____
New York Walk Book (2005) & see combo	\$22.95	\$17.21	+\$3.70	_____
New Jersey Walk Book (2004) & see combo	\$19.95	\$14.96	+\$3.70	_____
Hiking Long Island (2008)	\$22.95	\$17.21	+\$3.70	_____
Kittatinny Trails (2004) & see combo	\$18.95	\$14.21	+\$3.20	_____
Scenes & Walks in the Northern Shawangunks				
(2006) & see combo	\$13.95	\$10.46	+\$3.50	_____
AMC Catskill Mountain Guide (2009)	\$23.95	\$17.96	+\$3.20	_____
ADK Catskill Trails (2005 ed. with revisions, 2009)				
& see combo	\$19.95	\$14.96	+\$3.20	_____
Walking Manhattan's Rim (2003)	\$13.95	\$10.46	+\$3.20	_____
50 Hikes in the Lower Hudson Valley (2008)	\$16.95	\$12.71	+\$3.70	_____
Best Hikes w/ Children in New Jersey (2005)	\$15.95	\$11.96	+\$3.20	_____
Best Hikes w/ Children in the Catskills &				
Hudson River Valley (2002)	\$14.95	\$11.21	+\$3.20	_____
West Milford Baker's Dozen (2008)	\$ 9.95	\$ 7.46	+\$2.70	_____

### Combo-Packs

<b>NEW!!</b> New Jersey map combo (Jersey Highlands Trails: Central North and North Jersey)	\$17.11	\$12.84	+\$3.20	_____
Harriman (2-map set & Harriman Trails book)	\$25.71	\$19.29	+\$5.50	_____
Old Croton Aqueduct (2 maps)	\$ 8.51	\$ 6.39	+\$1.80	_____
<b>NEW!!</b> Westchester (Old Croton Aqueduct map, Westchester & Walkable Westchester book)	\$25.71	\$19.29	+\$5.50	_____
NY & NJ Walk Books	\$38.60	\$28.95	+\$4.75	_____
Shawangunk (3-map set & Scenes & Walks book)	\$21.65	\$16.24	+\$3.50	_____
Kittatinny (4-map set & book)	\$28.60	\$21.45	+\$3.25	_____
Catskills (6-map set & ADK Catskills Trails book)	\$31.73	\$23.80	+\$3.25	_____

### The Personal Touch

Note Cards: TC Collection	\$12.00	\$ 9.00	+\$3.20	_____
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
<b>NEW!!</b> Trail Conference Cap	\$12.00	\$ 9.00	+\$2.75	_____

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\*Tax must be paid on books, maps, misc., but not on clothing or shipping, by customers with NJ ship-to (not billing) addresses. Prices are subject to change. (9/11)

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