

# New York State Council of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation

*2011 Annual Report*





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*Cover: Roberto Clemente State Park  
Inside Cover: Moreau Lake State Park*



## New York State Council of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation

**Andrew M. Cuomo**  
Governor

**Rose Harvey**  
Commissioner

**Lucy R. Waletzky, M.D.**  
State Council Chair

The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo  
Governor  
Executive Chamber  
Albany, NY 12224

December 2011

Dear Governor Cuomo,

The State Council of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation is pleased to submit its 2011 Annual Report. This document highlights the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation's (OPRHP) achievements during 2011, and sets forth recommendations for New York's state parks and historic site for the coming year.

The past year has, in many ways, been transformative for New York's state parks and historic sites. To your credit and the credit of Commissioner Harvey and agency employees, state parks and historic sites were open and more than 50 million people came to escape, explore and experience all that we have to offer.

At the same time, the agency continues to respond to the severe economic challenges facing our state. Whether it is through new operational partnerships with municipalities, an increased role of volunteer friends groups or a more streamlined management model, OPRHP has proven to be both agile and creative as it works to get through these difficult times.

As you know from our previous conversations, a more pressing concern for the State Council is the continued deterioration of our state park and historic site facilities. Amidst the natural beauty and cultural resources of our parks and sites are collections of failing, outdated and dilapidated buildings, roads, bridges and utility systems. In total, our parks and sites are facing a capital backlog of more than \$1 billion.

Reversing decades of capital underinvestment in our state park system and restoring them to greatness will require a significant and sustained public-private effort. The State Council of Parks and the regional commissions have been raising awareness for the infrastructure challenges facing our parks and have embarked on a number of successful private fundraising campaigns to aid our parks and sites.

Seeking to build on these regional efforts and foster further success, I was one of a group of founders who formed the Alliance for New York State Parks, a private statewide initiative, devoted to the restoration, maintenance and support of New York's state parks. Working with Commissioner Harvey, the State Council, regional commissions, individuals, foundations and corporations, the Alliance raises private funds and, consistent with the goals outlined in your Cleaner, Greener NY Agenda, seeks to build stronger public-private partnerships to revitalize the state's aging park system.

It is important to note that these investments will be a key component of your efforts to promote economic development and job growth. From Niagara Falls and Saratoga Spa to Olana and Jones Beach, our state parks and historic sites are a vital component of New York's tourism industry – providing some of the major draws for tourists to visit New York State. Similarly, the park system has many shovel-ready projects that would create an immediate economic boost in local economies – creating construction and engineering jobs for local small and mid-sized companies.

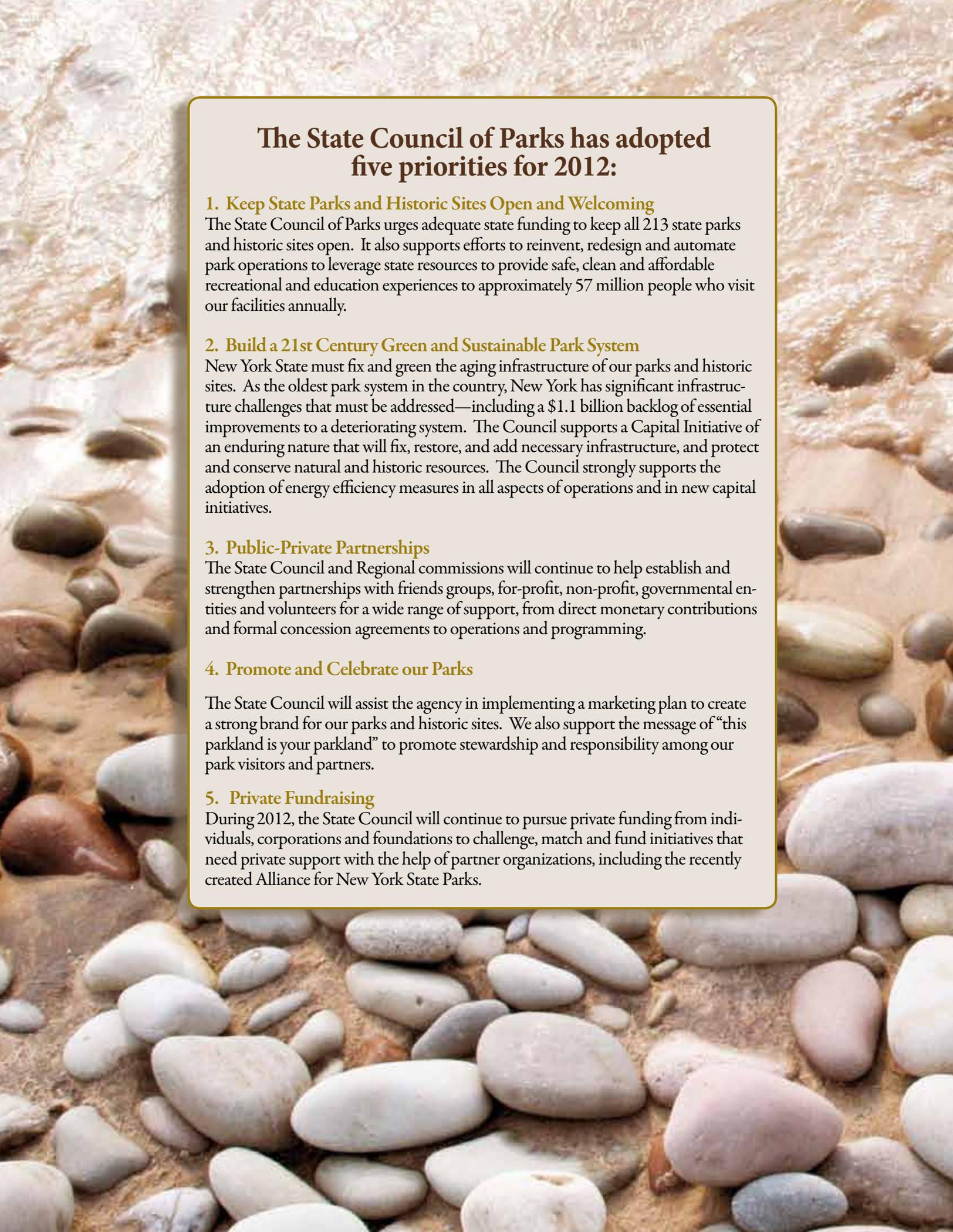
Once again, thank you for your leadership and your continuing support of our efforts. I hope you find the recommendations set forth in this report helpful as we strive, together, to restore our world-class state park system

Best Wishes,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lucy R. Waletzky M.D.".

Lucy Rockefeller Waletzky, M.D., Chair





## The State Council of Parks has adopted five priorities for 2012:

### 1. Keep State Parks and Historic Sites Open and Welcoming

The State Council of Parks urges adequate state funding to keep all 213 state parks and historic sites open. It also supports efforts to reinvent, redesign and automate park operations to leverage state resources to provide safe, clean and affordable recreational and education experiences to approximately 57 million people who visit our facilities annually.

### 2. Build a 21st Century Green and Sustainable Park System

New York State must fix and green the aging infrastructure of our parks and historic sites. As the oldest park system in the country, New York has significant infrastructure challenges that must be addressed—including a \$1.1 billion backlog of essential improvements to a deteriorating system. The Council supports a Capital Initiative of an enduring nature that will fix, restore, and add necessary infrastructure, and protect and conserve natural and historic resources. The Council strongly supports the adoption of energy efficiency measures in all aspects of operations and in new capital initiatives.

### 3. Public-Private Partnerships

The State Council and Regional commissions will continue to help establish and strengthen partnerships with friends groups, for-profit, non-profit, governmental entities and volunteers for a wide range of support, from direct monetary contributions and formal concession agreements to operations and programming.

### 4. Promote and Celebrate our Parks

The State Council will assist the agency in implementing a marketing plan to create a strong brand for our parks and historic sites. We also support the message of “this parkland is your parkland” to promote stewardship and responsibility among our park visitors and partners.

### 5. Private Fundraising

During 2012, the State Council will continue to pursue private funding from individuals, corporations and foundations to challenge, match and fund initiatives that need private support with the help of partner organizations, including the recently created Alliance for New York State Parks.



# State Council of Parks and Regional Park Commissions

The State Council of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation – known simply as the “State Council of Parks” – is a 14-member body established by Article 5 of the state Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation Law (PRHPL). The State Council is comprised of the chairs of the eleven Regional Park Commissions, the chair of the State Board for Historic Preservation, and the Commissioners of the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation and the Department of Environmental Conservation.

As defined in PRHPL Section 5.09, the State Council’s powers and duties are to: a) review the policy, budget and statewide plans of the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, and make appropriate recommendations regarding their amendment or adoption; b) submit reports to the Governor, not less than once each year, concerning progress in the area of state parks, recreation and historic preservation, including recommendations for the future, and covering such other matters as the council may deem appropriate; and c) act as a central advisory agency on all matters affecting parks, recreation and historic preservation.

The eleven Regional Parks Commissions, created by Article 7 of PRHPL, represent each of the state parks regions, with the exception of the Palisades (which is represented by the Palisades Interstate Park Commission) and the Adirondack & Catskill Park Region (which is under the jurisdiction of the Department of Environmental Conservation). Regional Commission members must be residents of the state and

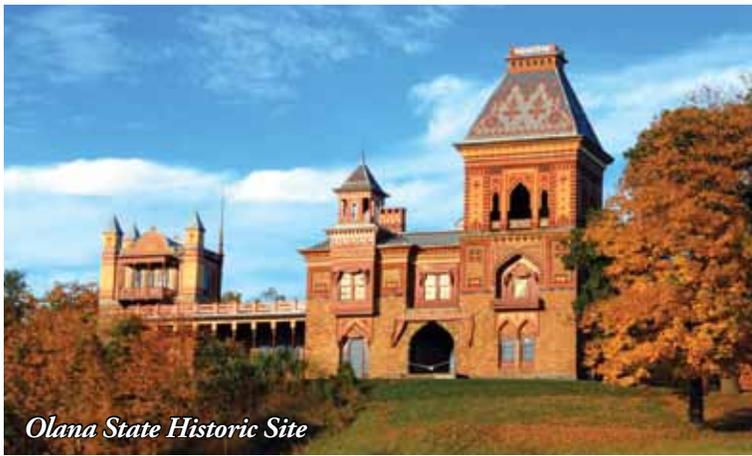
are appointed to seven-year terms by the Governor confirmed by the Senate, and serve without compensation. Regional Commissions serve as a central advisory body on all matters affecting parks, recreation and historic preservation within their respective regions, with particular focus on the operations of the state parks and historic sites. The Commissions are also charged with reviewing and approving the region’s annual budget request prior to its submission to the Commissioner of State Parks.

## State Council of Parks Members

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>LUCY ROCKEFELLER<br/>WALETZKY,</b><br>Chair and Taconic Commission | <b>JEAN KNOX,</b><br>Niagara Frontier<br>Commission               |
| <b>DALTON BURGETT,</b><br>Allegany Commission                         | <b>KEVIN COLLINS,</b><br>Palisades Commission                     |
| <b>EDWARD AUDI,</b><br>Central Commission                             | <b>HEATHER MABEE,</b><br>Saratoga-Capital District<br>Commission  |
| <b>DAVID BANFIELD,</b><br>Finger Lakes Commission                     | <b>HAROLD JOHNSON II,</b><br>Thousand Islands<br>Commission       |
| <b>PETER HUMPHREY,</b><br>Genesee Commission                          | <b>ROBERT MACKAY,</b><br>State Board for<br>Historic Preservation |
| <b>BRYAN ERWIN,</b><br>Long Island Commission                         |   |
| <b>JANET FELLEMAN,</b><br>New York City Commission                    |   |

# OVERVIEW

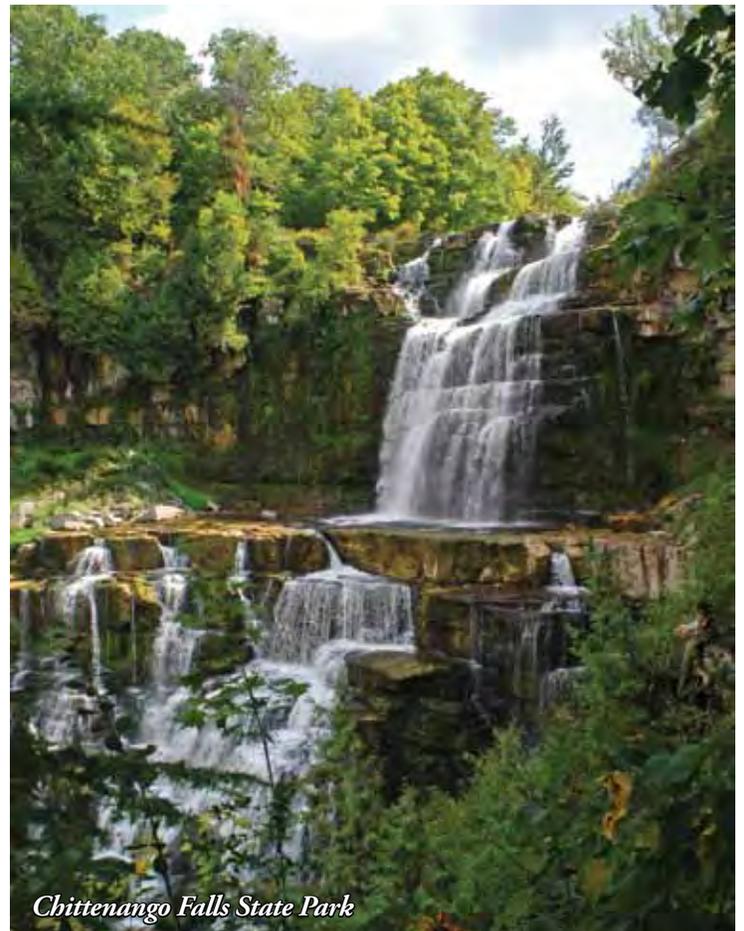




*Olana State Historic Site*



*Riverbank State Park*



*Chittenango Falls State Park*

## *New York State Parks & Historic Sites Overview*

The state park system is one of New York's greatest treasures. Today, the system totals 213 state parks and historic sites encompassing nearly 350,000 acres. New York's parks and historic sites provide affordable outdoor recreation and education opportunities to approximately 57 million visitors each year. These facilities contribute to the economic vitality and quality of life of local communities and directly support New York's tourism industry. Parks also provide a place for families and children to recreate and exercise, promoting healthy lifestyles and helping combat childhood obesity.

The Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) is responsible for the operation and stewardship of the state parks system, as well as advancing a statewide parks, historic preservation, recreational, and open space mission. The agency has an "all funds" operating and capital budget of approximately \$214.3 million (FY2011-12 adjusted budget) and is staffed by 1,785 permanent employees and more than 4,200 seasonal positions. Drawing on these resources, OPRHP is responsible for operating an extensive network of public recreational facilities that includes 5,000 buildings,

28 golf courses, 53 swimming pools, 76 beaches, 27 marinas, 40 boat launching sites, 18 nature centers, 817 cabins, 8,355 campsites, more than 1,350 miles of trails, extensive utility systems, 104 dams, hundreds of miles of roads, and 604 bridges.

New York's state park system has long been recognized as one of the best and most diverse in the nation. Among the fifty states, we rank first in the number of operating facilities and first in the total number of campsites. We are fifth in total acreage and third in total annual visitation. Attendance at Niagara Falls State Park is greater than that of Grand Canyon and Yosemite National Parks combined, and more than twice as many people visit Jones Beach each year than visit Yellowstone. Niagara Falls is the oldest state park in the nation and Washington's Headquarters is the first property acquired with public funds for the express purpose of historic preservation and patriotic visitation.

<sup>1</sup> The term "state park system" as used in this report refers to New York's 178 state parks and 35 state historic sites.

# PRIORITIES





## State Council of Parks Priorities

The State Council of Parks has identified five priorities for 2012:

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# BUDGET





*Minnewaska State Park Preserve*

## State Parks Operating Budget

**O**PRHP is a direct operations agency, with ninety percent of the agency's operating budget paying the direct costs incurred in operating New York's 213 State Parks and Historic Sites.

The enacted 2011-12 State Budget includes \$214.3 million in appropriations for OPRHP agency operations (encompassing state General Fund support, federal programs, agency-generated special Revenue funds). This represents a General Fund spending reduction of about 10 percent (\$12.1 million), from the prior fiscal year.

All state parks and historic sites opened this year—the agency found ways to absorb the budget reductions without closing any facilities:

- **Savings from Personnel Actions Taken Last Year.** In the fall of 2010, OPRHP implemented workforce actions that reduced our permanent workforce to 1,785 positions. The full-year, annualized savings of staff reductions accounts for \$6.7 million of the agency's 2011-12 spending reduction target.
- **Agency Efficiency Actions.** The agency has advanced a number of administrative efficiencies and strategic actions such as expanding the practice of managing smaller parks as "satellite" facilities of nearby larger parks, and entering into new partnerships with local governments and non-profit organizations to operate parks and historic sites.
- **Workforce Issues.** The Governor's office reached agreement this summer and fall with the state's major unions on a new five-year contract, which avoided the need for lay-offs and realized significant savings for the agency's operating budget.

- **Park User Fees.** There were no park fee increases this year.
- **Park Police Academy.** For the third year, budget constraints precluded state parks from holding a 2011-12 police academy to hire and train new officers.

### State Parks Operations

#### 2011 Summer Season

We are pleased to report that during the 2011 summer season, all parks and historic sites remained open. Despite challenging weather, many parks hosted several successful major events. Jones Beach State Park had another success-



*Roberto Clemente State Park*

ful Memorial Day Air Show, a new and much needed \$20 million aquatic facility opened at Roberto Clemente State Park in the Bronx; and the Walkway Over the Hudson State Historic Park in Poughkeepsie celebrated its millionth visitor. The agency offered extended hours at swimming beaches across the state during the July heat wave, providing an affordable way for families to stay cool.

## Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee

State Parks experienced widespread impacts from Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee, including flooding, damage to structures and roads, power



outages, huge numbers of downed and hanging trees, and significant beach front erosion. The impacted area included the Long Island, Taconic, Palisades and Saratoga-Capital Regions (New York City did not suf-



*Saratoga Spa State Park*

fer significant damage.) Irene was followed by Tropical Storm Lee, which impacted parks in our Central Region.



*Grafton Lakes State Park*

Over the weekend of Hurricane Irene, OPRHP closed and battened down 95 state parks and historic sites—nearly half of the state system.

Beginning Monday morning, park crews began working to address facility-specific issues.



*Cherry Plain State Park*

Over the course of the week, parks and sites steadily were brought back on-line. Virtually all parks and sites, except those with severe damage, were open (or at least partially reopened) by Labor Day weekend.



*Guy Park Manor State Historic Site*

### **FY2012-13 Operating Budget Recommendation:**

The State Council urges the Governor and the Legislature to avoid any further cuts to OPRHP's operating budget.



*Wildwood State Park*

## State Parks Capital Budget

### OPRHP's capital program budget absorbed deep reductions in FY2011-12

The State Park's Infrastructure Fund, which is funded through a portion of the agency's annual revenue, will provide \$7 million for park rehabilitation projects. These funds are distributed as a "lump sum" allocation to each region and used for small rehabilitation and repair projects. The \$7 million SPIF spending level represented a \$10 million reduction from the previous year.

All funds from the 2008-09 and 2009-10 State Parks Capital Initiative have been expended (this initiative provided a total of \$200 million for parks projects over two years). This program was not renewed in last year's or current year's budgets.

In this year's budget OPRHP received \$8.1 million in Environmental Protection Fund support for capital "stewardship" projects, which funds larger capital projects. This is the same amount the agency received in 2010-11.

*Fillmore Glen State Park, Swimming Area Steps*



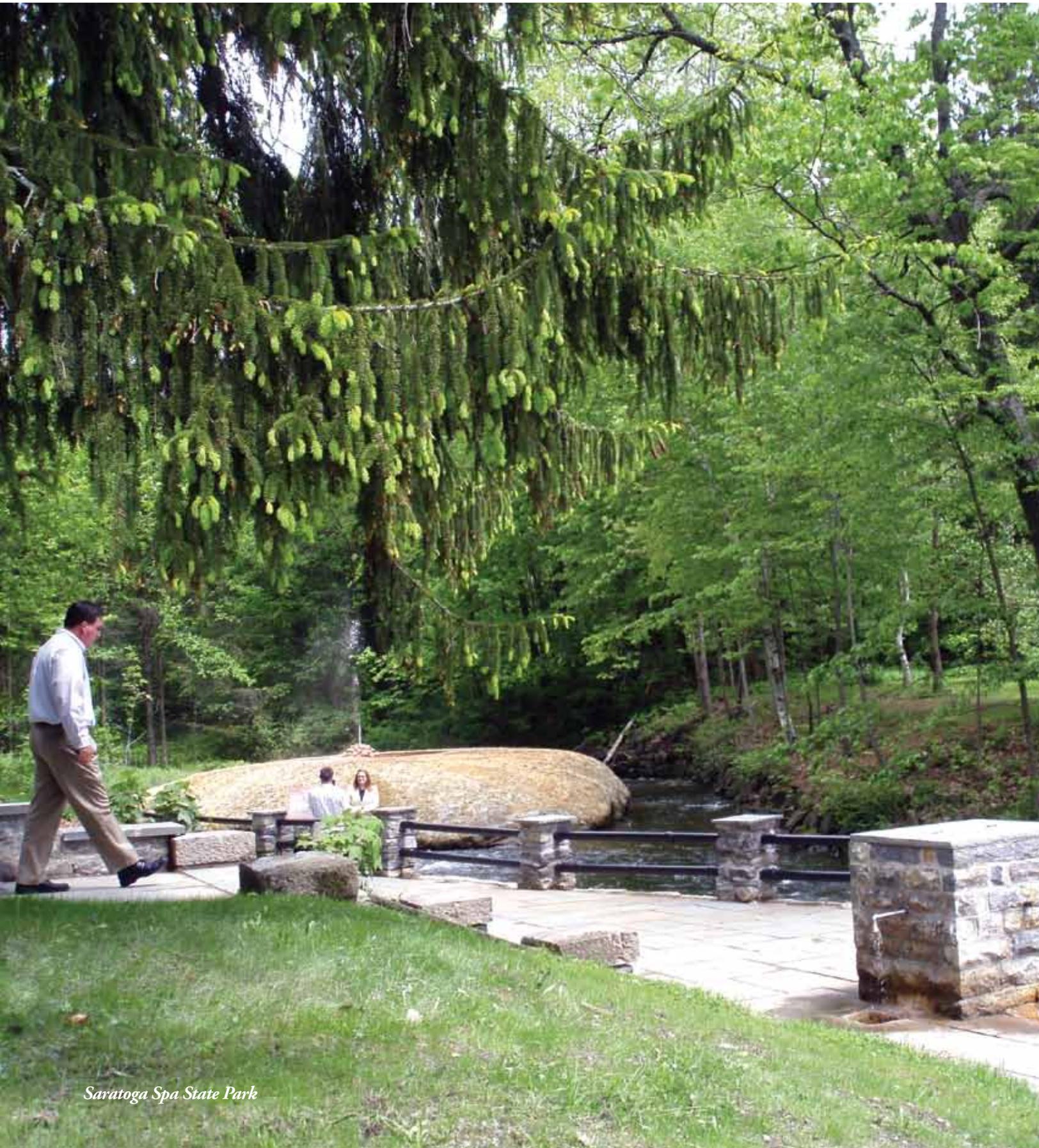
*Lake Taghkanic State Park, East Beach Bathhouse*

In the fall of 2011, the Division of Budget approved a \$7.5 million increase in OPRHP's SPIF capital spending ceiling, allowing the agency to put "unprogrammed" revenue to work. OPRHP plans to utilize the additional funds to purchase new trucks and park operation equipment, and to address damages to state parks and historic sites caused by Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee.

#### 2012-13 Capital Recommendation

Our state park system faces a capital rehabilitation backlog exceeding \$1.1 billion. In the 2012-13 state budget, New York should invest at least \$100 million in capital funds to rehabilitate deteriorated facilities and infrastructure in state parks and historic sites.

# ANNUAL HIGHLIGHTS



# Annual Highlights

Allan H. Treman State Marine Park

The mission of the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) is to provide safe and enjoyable recreation and interpretation opportunities for all New York State residents and visitors and to be responsible stewards of our valuable natural, historic and cultural resources. Below is a short sampling of highlights and successes achieved over the past year in each of the eleven OPRHP Regions and several statewide programs.

## Allegany Region

- **Allegany State Park:** Several important capital improvement projects were completed this year at Allegany State Park. New insulation and plywood were installed at the Camp Allegany Classroom, which was heavily damaged by last winter's ice and water. The bridge deck and guard rails at the Camp 6 Bridge were removed and replaced, and hand rails were added to the deck to accommodate pedestrian traffic. Renovations continue to Camp 5, where all of the barracks are framed up, roofs completed, walls are sheeted, house wrap applied and windows and doors installed. Most barracks have been rough-wired and are ready for interior completion.



*Allegany State Park-Camp 5*

The memorial bench program, which provided benches in key areas of Red House and Quaker areas, was expanded this year to the Amphitheater area located in Quaker. The amphitheater is the home to weekly summer concerts, plays, weddings and other special programs. Previously, the only seating available was a few park benches or seating provided by the patrons. With expanding the memorial bench option to the theater, eighteen contour benches were installed this year and sold. This now provides a fixed and more comfortable seating area for the patrons to enjoy the programs held at this facility.

Construction has begun on the Red House Summit Ski Area Groomer & Snowmobile Shed. When completed by the end of 2011, this building will house

all of the equipment used by the region to groom approximately 25 miles of cross-country ski trails.

- **Midway State Park:** The old park office, and several other dilapidated buildings at Midway State Park, have been removed and construction has begun for the new park office building.

The region anticipates initiating repairs at the Midway Carousel this year to the historic Carousel building.



*Midway State Park*

The Friends of Midway State Park had a successful year; helping to raise money to bring back the July 4th Fireworks, build their membership and begin raising money to restore the rounding boards on the historic 1946 Herschell Carousel.

- **Long Point State Park on Chautauqua Lake:** The region anticipates initiating removal of underground fuel tanks and installation of above ground tanks in the marina area at Long Point State Park on Chautauqua Lake.

## Central Region

- **Volunteer F.O.R.C.E.S.:** Natural Resource Stewardship efforts in the Central region continue to expand through the pilot program called Volunteer F.O.R.C.E.S (Friends of Recreation, Conservation and Environmental Stewardship). Since 2008, over 400 college students from SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry and other area institutions have

contributed to natural resource projects and environmental interpretation and outreach programs all across the region, including invasive plant control, native plant restoration, fish and wildlife surveys and K-12 education and stewardship initiatives.



*Volunteer F.O.R.C.E.S.*

For example, at this year's New York State Fair, over forty F.O.R.C.E.S. volunteers provided outreach for Natural Resource Stewardship that included displays and activities from OPRHP, Onondaga Audubon, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Cornell Cooperative Extension. F.O.R.C.E.S. volunteer hours are valued at \$10,000 annually.

- **Glimmerglass State Park & Hyde Hall State Historic Site:** In October 2011, the region completed the Pedestrian Access Reconstruction Project that re-established pedestrian access between Tin Top (gatehouse) and Hyde Hall. The project provided a bowstring bridge and ADA accessible footpath, parking area, and contact station/unisex restroom. Construction also included installation of a replacement culvert and repair to the access road, both damaged by a major



*Pedestrian Access Reconstruction Project*

flooding event in June 2006. This \$800,000 project was sponsored and managed by OPRHP, with guidance from Hyde Hall's friends group. Project funding came via a federally-approved Transportation Enhancement Project (TEP) grant administered by NYSDOT, and EPF funds.

- **Chenango Valley State Park:** In September, construction began on a new bathhouse, concession building and lifeguard facility at Chenango Valley State Park. The new, more energy-efficient building, which replaces the deteriorated 1960's structure, will significantly improve patron safety and enjoyment at the lake and waterfront. This project was designed by the OPRHP Statewide Design Group and is expected to be completed in June, 2012. The reconstruction of the

bathhouse, rehabilitation of the beach area and other improvements, including reduced water and energy consumption, increased lake water quality and better accessibility for people with disabilities is valued at over \$1.2 million.

- **Green Lakes State Park:** The final Master Plan and Environmental Impact Statement for Green Lakes State Park was completed and approved by Commissioner Harvey in May. The Master Plan designates portions of the park as Park Preservation and Bird Conservation Areas. Other highlights from the plan include updates to infrastructure, construction of a new regional interpretive center, trail improvements, lake management strategies and preparation of grassland and invasive species management plans. The park plans to advance grassland and invasive species projects in partnership with the Audubon in the Parks initiative, announced in July.

## Finger Lakes Region

- **Stony Brook State Park:** This spring the region signed an agreement with Klipnocky Cabins to build, install and maintain six cabins on selected campsites in Stony Brook State Park. The one pictured is accessible for persons with disabilities. These cabins were so popular that the region has asked Klipnocky to provide 19 more next year at Stony Brook, Watkins Glen, and Sampson state parks.



*Rustic Cabins*

- **Ganondagan White Corn Project:** Ganondagan State Historic Site, in cooperation with Rochester



Institute of Technology (RIT), is undertaking a project to promote the cultivation, processing and sale, primarily to specialty food stores and restaurants, of Tuscarora White Corn. This heirloom corn variety is the type historically grown by the Iroquois as part of the "three sisters," corn, beans and squash, that formed

the foundation of their agriculture. Ganondagan will serve as a site for growing and processing the corn. The Friends of Ganondagan (FOG) will serve as the

umbrella under which RIT students and staff carry out marketing and sales of the corn products, including gift shop sales at the site. Any profits from the sale of the corn and corn products will be retained by FOG and used to support the historic site. Through this project Ganondagan will increase its ability to teach that the Seneca people and culture is not simply a part of history, but continues today and that the traditional three sisters continues to be a part of the diet of many Seneca people.

## Genesee Region

- **Letchworth State Park.** Work is almost complete on the year-long feasibility study for a Nature Center at Letchworth. Several on-site meetings were held with consultants Jane Clark Chermayeff and Clark Patterson Lee to evaluate possible locations and



*Letchworth State Park*

brainstorm issues such as interpretive themes, exhibits, layout/design, sustainability, partnerships and fundraising opportunities.

The regional team also made several benchmarking visits to nature centers in New York and Pennsylvania to gather information that would aid the study efforts. The study and resulting document are expected to be complete by late fall.

This spring, in cooperation with Livingston County Tourism, Letchworth hosted the NYS Outdoor Writers Spring Safari. Dozens of outdoor writers from all over the state spent several days at the park, staying in our cabins and enjoying such activities as hiking, birding, fishing and turkey hunting guided by Letchworth and regional staff. They were extremely impressed with all the park and surrounding area had to offer and published numerous articles in newspapers, magazines and on the web praising the park's beauty and wealth of recreational opportunities.

The Friends of Letchworth have also been busy this year as they purchased and donated two covered glider swings for installation in the park, paid for materials to construct a parking area at the CCC statue site and applied for grants to restore the historic chimneys at two former CCC Camp sites in the park and produce interpretive signage for the Clan Trail at the Council Grounds.

- **Disc Golf:** The popularity of disc golf and the opportunities to enjoy it continue to expand in the region as a second course was installed at Lakeside Beach and a new course was just completed at Darien Lakes.



*Disc Golf*

Lakeside's "Shorewinds" courses have received kudos from disc golf aficionados and have even been dubbed by some as the "Pebble Beach of Disc Golf" because of the picturesque setting on the bluff overlooking Lake Ontario and the challenging winds coming off the water. The courses are played regularly by day-use patrons and several tournaments drawing competitors from all over the Northeast have been held. Darien Lakes' course has just opened for play and the word is starting to get out in the disc golf community. Its unique layout was carved out of an old apple orchard and, while not yet officially named, the President of the Niagara Disc Golf Association is affectionately calling it "The Angry Apple." The region is exploring the possibility of a district-wide tournament series including several courses previously established in Niagara Region state parks.

- **Hamlin Beach State Park.** The Friends of Hamlin Beach State Park continue to make good progress as they are now officially incorporated and are in the process of securing their non-profit status. The Friends Group continues its impressive work on the restoration of the former CCC Camp site and the development of an accompanying interpretive program. They also have been supporting and assisting with many other programs and events such as the "Learn about Hamlin" series and the park's annual Earth Day celebration. The park has also been working to expand its opportunities for winter recreation. Meetings were held with a local snowmobile club, "The Hilton Snow-Flyers," to improve access, maintenance and signage for trails in the park and connection to other club trails and plans are being made for development of cross-country ski trails in the park's campground. Park and Regional staff are also preparing for the kick-off in January of 2012 for the Hamlin Beach State Park Master Plan process.

## Long Island Region

- **Hurricane Irene:** On August 22, the Long Island Region began preparing for the potential effects of Hurricane Irene, which was predicted to hit Long Island the following weekend. Although the Hurricane's winds and wind gusts lessened to tropical storm strength, the storm's effects were highly destructive leaving a trail of devastation throughout the region. Some of Long Island's state parks were able to reopen after two days of intense cleanup while other state parks remained closed for a week or more. Over 500 trees fell, in addition to hundreds that were damaged, and many tree limbs were broken and hanging within parks and along trails. These uprooted trees were removed and tree limbs were taken down. In addition, some parks experienced significant flooding which caused off-road park roads to become undermined and impassable. Many parks also experienced power outages, but facilities reopened with generator power.
- **Stillwater Beach Access:** The Long Island Region worked with a citizen's committee to expand access for surfing, paddle boarding, and kayaking this summer at various stillwater parks, including Orient Beach, Wildwood, Sunken Meadow, and Heckscher State Parks.
- **Jones Beach State Park Water Tower**

**Rehabilitation:** A major rehabilitation of the world famous Jones Beach tower which had deteriorated



*Jones Beach State Park*

to the point where cracks appeared on its exterior facing was completed in 2011. This historic landmark, built in 1929, holds a steel cylinder containing 316,000

gallons of potable water. This water is from the wells beneath Jones Beach and supplies water throughout the park including comfort stations, swimming pools, water fountains, facility buildings and the United States Coast Guard Station located on the property. The project cost was \$6.1 million.

- **Robert Moses State Park:** During the winter of 2010-2011, Field 5 at Robert Moses State Park again was the site of significant erosion. A contract was awarded to move approximately 40,000 cubic yards of sand from the west end of Robert Moses to the east end

of Field 5. The \$250,000 project was completed in May, prior to the peak summer beach season.

- **Captree State Park:** For several years, the State Boat Channel at Captree State Park has had sand shoaling (building up) in the navigation lane used to enter the Great South Bay/Fire Island Inlet. Recreational boaters as well as the open and charter fishing boats which operate out of Captree State Park use this inlet. This year the Captree Boatman's Association authorized the use of funds to pay for dredging within the State Boat Channel in order to make it more navigable for their vessels. The \$280,000 project began May 15, 2011 and ended on June 1, 2011 with 6,000 cubic yards of sand dredged. It was paid for entirely with monies from the Captree Boatman's Association's R&R account.
- **Bethpage State Park:** The region announced this year that Bethpage State Park Black Course will host the 2012 Barclays Golf Tournament. This prestigious tournament is part of the PGA tour and attracts the world's best golfers. The tournament will generate significant economic impact for Long Island and the surrounding New York metropolitan area.



*Bethpage State Park Golf Course*

- **Jones Beach Sewage Treatment Plant:** Work is on-going regarding the connection of the Jones Beach Sewage Treatment Plant outflow pipe to the Nassau County Cedar Creek Sewage Treatment Plant outflow pipe. This work is being accomplished to redirect treated sewage, which is currently discharged into the back bay area of Jones Beach, to be discharged into the Atlantic Ocean. This is a much more environmentally preferred solution.
- **Major Motion Pictures and TV Network Filming:** More and more major motion pictures and TV network shows are being filmed in Long Island region state parks. This year, the movie "Men in Black III" filmed at Robert Moses and Jones Beach State Parks. This filming lasted approximately 4 weeks and resulted in a donation to Robert Moses of supplies and equipment in addition to State Park's permit fees. The cable television program "Royal Pains" filmed at Jones Beach and Caumsett State

Parks, and the network program “Person of Interest” filmed at Jones Beach State Park.

## New York City Region

- **Roberto Clemente State Park:** This summer the wonderful new aquatics complex opened at the park. There were over 29,000 visits from the end of school until the pool closed on Labor Day. The reconstruction of locker rooms, pools and new spray grounds was funded by the NYC Department of Environmental Protection mitigation fund for the water treatment plant in Van Cortlandt Park.

- **Riverbank State Park:** One of the many enhanced programs in the region this year was the Riverbank Summer Camp. For 2011, the camp was redesigned as an environmental camp. The children, aged 7-12, planted and grew vegetables, kept a nature journal, and went



*Riverbank State Park*

on field trips to other state parks. The highlight was an exciting overnight at the Taconic Outdoor Education Center at Fahnestock State Park, where fishing and wild-life viewing were topped by a very dark nighttime hike.

- **East River State Park:** This year saw the installation of long-awaited lighting at the park. East River became the first all-solar park. The park is off the electric grid, meeting environmental and economic goals, as well as reducing light pollution as patrons view the iconic night-time Manhattan skyline. This project was funded through donations by the Open Space Alliance of North Brooklyn and the Brooklyn Borough President’s Office.

- **Play Me, I’m Yours:** The public art project *Sing For Hope* again this year placed 88 pianos throughout public places in New York City. This year each of the New York City region’s state parks hosted a piano, and each park was able to keep its piano for the public’s continued enjoyment.



## Niagara Frontier Region

- **Niagara Falls State Park:** Niagara Falls State Park had another busy year hosting over 8 million visitors while undertaking several projects to address conditions at the park, including upgrading the electrical system. Additionally, the park’s Discovery Center began a



*Discovery Center*

\$3.4 million upgrade, funded by the New York Power Authority. The park also starred in several television productions including TLC’s “19 and Counting” and ABC’s “Extreme Home Makeover.”

- **Fort Niagara State Park** At Fort Niagara State Park, a \$1.4 million park-wide electrical project began this past summer. It was funded through the Niagara Power Authority “Greenway” Fund and is on schedule to be completed by the spring of 2012.
- **Artpark:** Artpark’s twelve-week, free, “Tuesday in the Park” concert series was the busiest ever this year. Average attendance was 14,000 people, with two



*Artpark*

evenings seeing over 30,000 people in attendance-all without any major incidents thanks to the cooperation of Parks Staff, State Park Police, Artpark & Co., and local police agencies.

- **Beaver Island State Park:** Beaver Island’s Little Beaver Wetland Habitat Restoration Project is nearing completion thanks to a partnership with the New York Power Authority.
- **Reservoir State Park:** Construction and renovations at Reservoir State Park continued this year and

when completed, will feature upgraded softball diamonds, hiking and walking trails, comfort stations, parking facilities as well as a warming station.

## Palisades Region

- Sterling Forest State Park:** The Palisades Interstate Park Commission (PIPC) expanded Sterling Forest State Park through the Shirazi acquisition, purchasing an additional 63 acres in fee. The Shirazi property is a prominent ridge immediately adjacent to the recently acquired Arrow Park parcel and plainly visible from Arrow Lake. The property abuts



*Sterling Forest State Park*

Sterling Forest State Park on its south, east and north boundaries for ¾ mile. Protection of this parcel had been recommended by the National Park Service in order to preserve an existing view from the Appalachian Trail, which passes through the park slightly to the south.

- Bear Mountain State Park:** PIPC in conjunction with Guest Services Inc., a major hospitality management firm in business since 1917 and operator at the Bear Mountain Inn Complex, completed renovations of the Bear Mountain Inn. A grand reopening celebration fundraiser was held on November 11, 2011 in cooperation with the Palisades Parks Conservancy. The re-opening of the Inn had been long anticipated and re-establishes its status as an important landmark and destination in the Hudson Valley.
- Minnewaska State Park Preserve:** PIPC completed a \$500,000 restoration of the Millbrook Carriage Road through a combination of an Environmental Protection Fund grant and private funds. This project is part of the effort to rebuild the 24



*Minnewaska State Park Preserve*

miles of 100-year-old historic Smiley family carriage roads in Minnewaska State Park.

## Saratoga-Capital District Region

- Saratoga Spa State Park:** Rehabilitation of the historic Vale of Springs was brought to completion with \$150,000 in donations and in-kind services raised by the Saratoga/Capital District Regional Park Commission. New interpretive signage and restored pavilions, plazas and pathways will welcome visitors to the natural wonders of the mineral springs in this historic area of the park. The success of the project has generated ad-



*Saratoga Spa State Park*

ditional donations of more than \$25,000 which will be used to restore additional springs throughout the park.

- Johnson Hall State Historic Site:** After a two-year hiatus, the always popular annual Market Fair event returned in the summer of 2011. The event is a reenactment of an 18th century domestic encampment with sutlers, music and dance, and other forms of period entertainment. The event marks a renewed commitment to public programming and events at Johnson Hall and other State Historic Sites in the Saratoga/Capital District Region.



*Johnson Hall State Historic Site*

- Moreau Lake State Park:** The beach-front nature center at Moreau Lake is one of the most popular public amenities at the park, housing kid-friendly displays of native flora and fauna and hosting popular butterfly-release programs in the summer. A \$120,000 addition to the nature center will provide room for classroom-style programming for school groups, thanks to mitigation funding from the Saratoga County waterline project.

- **Thompson's Lake State Park:** All five 1960's-era comfort stations have been demolished and are being replaced with new, energy efficient and ADA-compliant facilities in this popular 140-site campground. The new comfort stations will represent a dramatic improvement for our campers beginning in the 2012 season.

## Taconic Region

- **Taconic State Park:** In 1927 Taconic State Park opened as the Taconic Region's first state park. In 2011, the park completed a major project to improve the visitor experience. The Gateway Project, made possible through a very generous donation to the park, enhances the park's entrance with a classic park office and visitor center that



*Taconic State Park*

provides an energy-efficient, functional, accessible and attractive facility for visitors and staff. Redesigned parking, walkways and grounds have improved pedestrian and vehicular traffic. The building and site design for the project was completed by OPRHP architects, landscape architects and engineers. Construction was completed by contract and supplemented with regional staff completing building finish work. A dedication attended by OPRHP Commissioner Rose Harvey and State Council of Parks Chair Lucy R. Waletzky was held during the Friends of Taconic State Park's Annual Meeting in July.

- **Fahnestock Winter Park:** Situated in the heart of the Hudson Valley, Fahnestock Winter Park is a collaborative effort between the staff at Taconic Outdoor Education Center and Clarence Fahnestock Memorial State Park. The Winter Park offers 15km of machine groomed, tracked and mapped trails for beginning and experienced cross country skiers and snowshoers. The park features a lodge with ski rentals, food, beverages and restrooms and also an outdoor fireplace. The 2011 season was the most successful ever and the popular Nordic Center was prominently featured in New York Times and Poughkeepsie Journal articles.

- **John Jay Homestead State Historic Site:** The John Jay Homestead Farm Market, set on one of the few historic farms in the country once owned by a founding father, had a very successful first season. The independent farm market, open to the public every Saturday from late June through mid-October, is sponsored by The Friends of John Jay Homestead. Both organic and conventional produce and fruit harvested by select local farmers were offered by 29 unique vendors. More than 20,000 people shopped and enjoyed musical guests, attended workshops, participated in yoga classes and learned more about community organizations.

- **Walkway over the Hudson State Historic Park:** In April, 2011 the non-profit group Walkway Over The Hudson launched the Walkway Ambassadors Volunteer Program. Funded primarily with donations from the James J. McCann Charitable Trust and the Cunneen Hackett Charitable Trust, the Ambassadors program provides a vehicle for more than one hundred volunteers to support and enhance the park's staff in both daily operations and during special events. Clad in sporty red vests, the Ambassadors hail from throughout the Mid-Hudson Valley. Some are teachers, historians, river experts, bicyclists, runners and walkers; some are retired;



*Walkway over the Hudson State Historic Park*

some are students, but all are enthusiastic about sharing their love of the Walkway. The Ambassadors undergo a tailored training program that includes instruction in history, culture, ecology, and the Walkway's special relationship with the Hudson Valley. They serve as greeters, on site educators, tour guides, and support staff and offer the public an array of programs and events that would otherwise be impossible to afford or implement. Walkway Ambassadors have provided complimentary support for numerous events, including fundraisers to benefit breast cancer research and Alzheimer's disease to Bike New York's Bicycle Ride. Perhaps the most important contribution, however, is knowledge. Walkway Ambassadors help enlighten all visitors—from near and

far—to the culture, history, geology, and ecology of the Hudson River Valley.

- **Old Croton Aqueduct State Historic Park:**

The Old Croton Aqueduct State Historic Park is a 26-mile long trail that follows a portion of the Aqueduct that was built from 1837 to 1842 to supply water to New York City. In 1992 the Old Croton Aqueduct became a National Historic Landmark. The Old Croton Aqueduct Cedar Street Access project was spearheaded by the Friends of the Old Croton Aqueduct (FOCA) who recognized that navigation at this junction was difficult to manage because of its steep grade. FOCA submitted a successful application through the Federal Highway Administration's Recreational Trails Program and, through a strong partnership between FOCA, the Village of Dobbs Ferry and State Parks, the completed project includes a stairway, an accessible ramp, landscape planting, and an information kiosk. Construction began in June 2011 and the ribbon-cutting ceremony was held on October 1, 2011.

## Thousand Islands Region

- **Lake Champlain Flooding:** Record spring flooding on Lake Champlain led to severe damage



*Cumberland Bay State Park*

to Point au Roche and Cumberland Bay state parks and the eventual decision that Cumberland Bay would be closed for the season. But, out of adversity came opportunities. The beach at Point au Roche has been completely rehabilitated and is in the best shape in years. At Cumberland Bay the region used the temporarily closed park opportunity to install

a new playground, plan the reconstruction of the park's shore wall and fencing and the staining and painting of all park buildings. The region looks forward to welcoming visitors to the park again for the 2012 season!

- **Rock Island Light Station:** Rock Island Light Station, in

the main channel of the St. Lawrence River, is one of the nation's most intact, publicly-owned lighthouse complexes.



*Cumberland Bay State Park*

A \$1.2 million, federally funded rehabilitation is on schedule for a spring, 2013 opening. A small museum, telling the story of the St. Lawrence River's role in commercial and recreational transportation, together with public access to the lighthouse, will be the major features of this island tourist destination.

- **Regional Campground Improvements:**

Three recreational vehicle (RV) sewage pump-out stations are being constructed in the Thousand Islands Region over the winter of 2011-2012.



*Southwick Beach State Park*

And two more are on the drawing board for next year. The investment of approximately \$150,000 per facility will help the region meet the needs of campers and park visitors.



# Division of Law Enforcement

## New York State Park Police

The Park Police began 2011 with a very active snowmobile law enforcement program during the months of January through March. Park police patrols provided critical



*Letchworth State Park snow rescue*

services to the hundreds of thousands of New Yorkers and visitors from out of state who enjoy the state's more than 10,000 miles of maintained snowmobile trails. Patrols arrested intoxicated snowmobile operators, ticketed reckless operators and enforced the safety regulations to protect snowmobilers. Park Police patrols also provided public safety services over the vast miles of snowmobiling country, often after dark, during brutal weather conditions to assist snowmobilers who were stranded or injured. This unique service can only be performed by specially trained personnel with the equipment necessary to patrol the remote snowmobile country. OPRHP's Snowmobile Unit also provided technical assistance and training to local governments, law enforcement agencies and magistrates.

As warmer weather arrived, the Park Police shifted their focus to the management of multiple mass gatherings, sporting events and concerts. The agency's four concert venues attracted hundreds of thousands of spectators across the state. Artpark in Niagara County recorded the largest single night concert attendance in the history of that venue and had more than 200,000 visitors during 2011. Saratoga Performing Art Center, Jones Beach and East River State park also conducted multiple concerts and events. Park Police commanders coordinated with park managers and public safety officials throughout surrounding communities to protect these large crowds and manage traffic.

A mid-summer explosion and fire at the North River Sewage Treatment plant (located beneath Riverbank State Park) in Manhattan necessitated the evacuation of park visitors, youth groups, day campers and park staff. Park Police worked with New York City emergency management officials during the firefighting operation to ensure that all persons were safely evacuated.

A Park Police attempt to rescue two youths stranded in a vessel in the waters above Niagara Falls turned into an intense effort to rescue the responders. After the youths were located and removed from the river, the Park Police rescue vessel was grounded in the middle of the rapids. A helicopter was used to winch the two rescue officers from the stricken vessel. A military helicopter subsequently lifted the patrol vessel from the rapids. Both officers entered the rapids in darkness and heavy fog to attempt a rescue and risked their lives for the safety of others.

State Parks has an important role in the management of boating throughout the state. Park Police officers conduct marine law enforcement patrols to detect intoxicated boaters, reckless vessel



*Boardwalk Beach Patrol*

operators and other Navigation law violations. OPRHP's Marine Services Unit conducts vessel inspections and provides training and support services for local governments, law enforcement agencies and the boating public. The Marine Services Unit also regulates the training of vessel operators and the tracking of vessel accidents throughout the state.

Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee created havoc throughout much of eastern New York and the Southern Tier. Park Police swift water rescue personnel were deployed to assist with rescues of persons stranded by rising and raging floodwaters. Other Park Police personnel closed roads and bridges and assisted with the evacuation of Fire Island and other areas threatened by the storms.



# Division for Historic Preservation

*Sackets Harbor Battlefield State Historic Site*

**T**he Division for Historic Preservation (DHP) consists of the Historic Preservation Field Services Bureau and the Bureau of Historic Sites. The Division provides a wide range of services to individuals and communities as well as to state parks and historic sites.

## State Tax Incentive Expanded

The Division for Historic Preservation administers federal and state tax credits for the rehabilitation of historic commercial properties as well as state tax credits for homeowners of historic property. Legislation enhancing the state program took effect in January 2010, making the program more widely available, and the result has been a significant increase in the use of this effective revitalization tool. Over 500 homeowners have applied for the program, representing over \$12.6 million invested in rehabilitation in historic neighborhoods. Use of the state commercial credit is also on the rise, particularly in economically distressed areas in upstate New York. The division staff continues to hold workshops and to promote the use of tax credits as a proven means of economic development and job creation.

## Highlighting Preservation in Western New York

The annual conference of the National Trust for Historic Preservation was held in Buffalo in October, 2011, an event long-anticipated by the citizens of western New York. This conference, which brings together thousands of preservationists from across the nation, was the impetus for a myriad of activities that culminated in one of the most successful conferences in the history of the National Trust and, hopefully, a long-term positive effect on the tourism economy of Erie and Niagara counties. The participation of Division staff both at and leading up to the conference resulted in the following highlights:

- From 2010-2011, the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) staff listed an additional 1,900 buildings in western New York on the State and National Registers of Historic Places, qualifying them for the tax credit programs.
- Of the over 500 applicants for the homeowner tax credit program, 20 percent were from western New York.
- In the several years leading up to the conference, the SHPO staff was involved in successfully guiding 25 commercial projects in western New York (18 in downtown Buffalo) through the federal (and state) investment tax credit program, resulting in an estimated: 1700 construction jobs; 400+ new permanent jobs; 1100 jobs retained; 1.7 million square feet of rehabilitated space; and \$348 million invested.
- Division staff developed and/or participated in a number of field sessions and educational sessions, covering topics ranging from preservation basics to materials conservation to tax credits.
- The State Board for Historic Preservation met in Buffalo during the conference and recommended a total of 42 nominations, including 5 historic districts, to the Commissioner for listing on the State and National Registers of Historic Places.
- The Darwin Martin House State Historic Site was showcased during the conference, furnished for the first time since its restoration thanks to the efforts of the Bureau of Historic Sites.

## State Historic Site System Assessment Update

A comprehensive review of the state historic site and state historic park system is nearing completion. This system-wide assessment included extensive research, questionnaires completed by site managers, site visits, and web-based community surveys and telephone interviews. The purpose of the assessment was to evaluate the strengths, weaknesses, and needs of the sites and to develop short and long term recommendations to rejuvenate the system as a whole and its properties. The report, soon to be finalized, includes an analysis of the system and recommendations from a “global” perspective, individual site profiles with specific recommendations, and a series of appendices summarizing the assessment methodology, public input, statewide interpretive themes, and proposed thematic and management groups. As a final step, a panel of persons with expertise in various fields, including museums, tourism and education, was assembled to bring a larger perspective from outside the agency. Once finalized, the report will form the basis of action steps to strengthen the effectiveness of these irreplaceable public assets that chronicle our rich heritage.

# Statewide Stewardship Initiatives



In 2012, State Parks will expand the reduced mowing plan statewide. Over the past two seasons the agency has removed nearly 2,000 acres statewide from the mowing plan. The reduction resulted in a savings of over 20,000 work hours and 21,000 gallons of gas/diesel.

The agency plans to issue its first “Sustainability E-Newsletter” to employees statewide. The newsletter will describe sustainable/green projects throughout the State Park system while also giving the Commissioner and Executive Staff a vehicle to promote sustainability in the system.

State Parks has trained six employees in the installation of photovoltaic systems (solar) throughout the Park system. In the next six months to a year, it expects to install a total of 150 kilowatts of solar in Niagara, Genesee, Finger Lakes and Long Island. The photovoltaic installation training provided to the six Park employees gives the agency the expertise to install low-cost solar throughout the State Park system.

## Master Plan Initiative

The New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation’s planning initiative has produced nine\* state park master plans that have been adopted by the agency. Most recently adopted are plans for Robert G. Wehle State Park (12/10/10), Clarence Fahnestock State Park-Hudson Highlands State Park Preserve complex (12/29/10) and Green Lakes State Park (5/16/11).

Master planning projects for Grafton Lakes State Park, Mills-Norrie State Parks-Staatsburgh State Historic Site, and Alfred E. Smith/Sunken Meadow State Park are nearing completion. The Draft Master Plan/Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for Grafton Lakes State Park is currently available for public review. The draft for the Mills-Norrie-Staatsburgh Park/Site complex will be released for public review in February 2012. A draft plan for Sunken Meadow State Park is expected late spring 2012.

Beginning in January 2012, the Master Planning Initiative will focus on Master Planning projects for Rockland Lake State Park, Thacher-Thompson’s Lake State Park and Hamlin Beach State Park. An accelerated process will be in place for these plans in 2012.

## The nine completed State Park Master Plans are:

- Midway State Park (12/29/09)
- Saratoga Spa State Park (2/5/10)
- Minnewaska State Park Preserve(6/30/10)
- Allegany State Park (7/21/10)
- Caumsett State Historic Park Preserve (8/19/10)
- Hallock State Park Preserve (10/8/10)

## Audubon in the Parks

In July, 2011, OPRHP and Audubon New York, the state program of the National Audubon Society, announced the formation of Audubon in the Parks, a program that uses the strengths and resources of both organizations to provide a greater, lasting impact on bird conservation throughout the state. The initiative formed a unique



### *Audubon in the Park*

partnership among Audubon New York, its 27 affiliated chapters, and OPRHP and its friends groups, to advance bird conservation in State Parks through outreach, interpretation, and habitat enhancement efforts. Some examples of recent Audubon in the Parks projects include:

**Joe Davis State Park** Audubon New York, OPRHP, and the Buffalo Audubon Society (BAS) are working to evaluate and improve avian habitat and interpretation this park which will enhance and protect critical bird habitat along the upper Niagara River Corridor and restore sensitive bird habitat to attract migratory bird populations.

**Clarence Fahnestock Memorial State Park** - The Putnam Highlands Audubon Society (PHAS) conducts field trips and Christmas Bird Counts within Fahnestock State Park. Data collected from these efforts contributed to the creation of a bird checklist for the State Park.

**Connetquot River State Park Preserve** - The Great South Bay Audubon Society co-hosts a birding and breakfast event with the Friends of Connetquot River State Park Preserve. The Chapter is also working with the park to remove invasive plants and replace them with native species that benefit priority bird species, including Northern Bobwhite.

# *Appendix 1:*

## **Roles & Responsibilities of State Council and Regional Commission Members**



### **Roles and Responsibilities: Members, State Council of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation**

The State Council, created by Article 5 of PRHPL, consists of the Chairs of the eleven Regional Parks Commissions (including a representative of the Palisades Interstate Park Commission), the Chair of the State Board of Historic Preservation, the Commissioner of State Parks, and the Commissioner of Environmental Conservation. The Governor appoints the Chair and Vice Chair of the State Council. The Council meets at least four times per year through in-person meetings and conference calls. The Council's statutory responsibilities include:

- Act as a central advisory agency on all matters affecting parks, recreation, and historic preservation.
- Review the policy, budget, and statewide plans of the agency and make appropriate recommendations regarding their amendment or adoption.
- Submit reports to the Governor, not less than once each year, concerning progress in the area of state parks, recreation, and historic preservation.

#### **To advance these responsibilities, State Council of Parks members shall:**

1. Endeavor to attend all State Council of Parks meetings.
2. During State Council meetings and through other channels, educate other Council Members, the State Parks Commissioner, and other Executive and OPRHP Staff about issues, priorities, challenges, and opportunities within their respective regions.
3. Communicate State Council and agency priorities and initiatives to all Regional Commission members. Encourage, motivate, and support fellow Regional Commissioners to enable them to fully engage in state parks issues.
4. Become educated about statewide parks, recreation, and historic preservation issues.
5. Develop and submit a written annual report to the Governor each October.
6. Undertake all responsibilities of Regional Parks Commissioners (attached).



## Regional Park, Recreation and Historic Preservation Commissions Members' Roles and Responsibilities

The ten Regional Park, Recreation and Historic Preservation Commissions, created by Article 7 of PRHPL, represent each State Parks region, with the exception of the Palisades (represented by the Palisades Interstate Park Commission) and the Adirondack/Catskill park region. Each Regional Commission consists of seven to fourteen members (the number for each commission is set in law). All Commission members, who must be residents of the state, are appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate for seven-year terms. The Governor designates the chair of each Commission. Each Regional Commission meets at least four times per year. The Regional Commissions are charged with acting as a central advisory body on all matters affecting parks, recreation, and historic preservation within their respective regions, with particular focus on the operations of the state parks and historic sites.

### To advance these responsibilities, Regional Parks Commissioners shall:

1. Endeavor to attend all Regional Parks Commission meetings.
2. Learn about the operations, priorities, and programs of the region, and participate in the annual review and approval of the regional budget. Remain in regular contact with the Regional Director. Visit as many state parks and historic sites in the region as possible, and become acquainted with regional staff and park managers.
3. Serve as an advocate for the state parks and historic sites within the region, including:
  - “Adopt” one or more state parks, or historic sites, so that every park and site in the region has a Regional Commissioner with whom they have a special

relationship. Actively participate in the formation or enhancement of Friends Groups, including considering making personal financial contributions, and assisting in fundraising efforts.

- Meet with State Legislators and other elected officials to educate them about issues, challenges and opportunities facing state parks and historic sites and advocate for state park funding and policy priorities.
4. Enlist the support of parks user groups, environmental and historic preservation organizations, land trusts, local community and business leaders, tourism officials, and other partners to advance state parks goals and priorities.
  5. Become educated about parks, recreation, and historic preservation issues throughout the region, with particular emphasis on issues – such as inappropriate development, sprawl, illegal ATVs, climate change, invasive species, etc. – that threaten state parks and historic sites. Testify or appear as appropriate at environmental review hearings, local planning meetings, etc. regarding proposed projects that impact park and historic site resources.
  6. Participate as appropriate in continuing education opportunities such as: attending the annual Facilities Managers conference; participating in park master planning, trailway development, and parkland designation efforts (such as Bird Conservation Areas and Natural Heritage Areas) for individual parks; and attending parks, open space, and historic preservation conferences and training programs.
  7. Assist in identifying qualified individuals to fill vacant Regional Commission positions.

# Appendix 2: Partnerships

The New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation actively engages in a range of partnerships with for-profit, non-profit and governmental agencies. Below is a sample list of those organizations with which the agency has or has recently had such a partnership.

## Corporate Partners

Bethpage Federal Credit Union  
Bonacio Construction  
Brookfield Power  
Cablevision  
Cascadian Farms  
Citibank  
Clear Channel Broadcasting  
Clif Bar  
Cox Broadcasting  
D.A. Collins  
Dasani  
David Lerner Associates  
Dick's Sporting Goods  
DirectTV  
Dowling College  
Drake Bakeries  
Dunkin Donuts  
Emblem Health  
Entenmann's  
Farmingdale College  
First Niagara Financial Group  
Fisheye Virtual Tours  
FUZE Beverage  
Geico  
Good Solutions Group

Hard Rock Café  
Long Island Radio Group  
Macy's  
Naudus Communications  
National Grid  
Nestle/ Juicy Juice  
New Living Magazine  
New York Islanders  
Newsday  
Nissequogue River Fly  
Fishing School  
Odwalla  
Cablevision  
Radio Disney  
Red Bull  
Runner's Edge Sporting Goods  
Sony PlayStation  
Sports Authority  
Stewarts  
Street Gear Inc.  
Super Runners Shop  
The Fisherman Magazine  
The Northface  
Thompsons Water Seal  
TV 10/55  
Verizon  
WABC-TV  
Zippo Manufacturing Co.

## Concession Partnerships

Balloons over Letchworth  
Bethpage Associates  
Delaware North Parks & Resorts  
Destination Cinemas Inc.  
Golf/ Confer Bethpage Guest Services  
J&B Restaurant Partners  
Maid of the Mist Corp.  
Nikon at Jones Beach Theater/ Live Nation  
Professional Golf Inc.  
ReserveAmerica/Active Network  
Rich Products/Be Our Guest, Ltd.  
Tower Optical

## Non-Profit Partnerships

Adirondack Mountain Club  
Alliance for New York State Parks  
Audubon New York  
Citizens Campaign for the Environment  
Concerned Mountain Bikers of Long Island

Dyson Foundation  
Fire Island Lighthouse Preservation Society  
Harriman Group Camps  
Home Made Theater  
Islip Arts Council  
Long Island Philharmonic  
Mohonk Preserve  
National Museum of Dance  
New York Restoration Project  
NYS Broadcasters Association  
NY/NJ Trail Conference  
Parks and Trails New York  
Saratoga Automobile Museum  
Saratoga Performing Arts Center  
Scenic Hudson  
The Nature Conservancy  
United States Golf Assoc.

## Inter-governmental and Municipal Partnerships

Cattaraugus County Economic Development Department  
City of Niagara Falls  
Empire State Development Corporation  
Long Island Power Authority

Metropolitan Transportation Authority  
Metropolitan Transportation Authority Police  
MTA Long Island Bus  
National Park Service  
New York Lottery  
New York Power Authority  
Niagara Tourism and Convention Corporation  
Orleans County  
Oswego County  
The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey  
Town of Aurora  
Town of Babylon  
Town of Brookhaven  
Town of East Hampton  
Town of Hamburg  
Town of Hempstead  
Town of Islip  
Town of Lewiston  
Town of Oyster Bay  
Town of Schodack  
Town of Sodus  
United States Fish & Wildlife Service  
Wantagh Fire Department  
Washington County

## Friends Groups

Allegany State Park Historical Society  
Artpark & Company  
Bannerman Castle Trust  
Bayard Cutting Arboretum Trust and Bayard Cutting Horticultural Society  
Calvert Vaux Preservation Alliance  
Chittenango Landing Canal Boat Museum (agency affiliate Old Erie Canal State Park)  
Dutchess County Historical Society (Clinton House)  
Fort Montgomery Battle Site Association  
Foundation for Long Island State Parks, Inc.  
Friend of the National Purple Heart of Honor  
Friends of Caleb Smith State Park Preserve  
Friends of Chenango Valley State Park  
Friends of Cherry Plain State Park  
Friends of Clay Pit Pond State Park Preserve  
Friends of Clermont  
Friends of Connetquot State Park, Inc.  
Friends of Crown Point State Historic Site  
Friends of East River State Park  
Friends of Evangola State Park  
Friends of Fahnestock & Hudson Highlands State Parks  
Friends of Fort Crailo State Historic Site  
Friends of Fort Ontario  
Friends of FDR/Trump State Parks  
Friends of Ganondagan, Inc.  
Friends of Gantry Neighborhoods Parks  
Friends of Genesee Valley Greenway  
Friends of Glimmerglass State Park, Inc.  
Friends of Grafton Lakes State Park  
Friends of Grant Cottage, Inc.

Friends of Hamlin Beach  
Friends of Herkimer Home  
Friends of Higley Flow State Park, Inc.  
Friends of John Brown Farm/John Brown Lives  
Friends of John Jay Homestead  
Friends of Johnson Hall  
Friends of Knox Farm State Park  
Friends of Letchworth State Park  
Friends of Lorenzo  
Friends of Midway State Park  
Friends of Mills Mansion  
Friends of Mine Kill /Max V. Shaul  
Friends of Minna Anthony Common Nature Center  
Friends of Montauk Downs State Park  
Friends of Moreau Lake State Park  
Friends of Peebles Island  
Friends of Philipse Manor Hall, Inc.  
Friends of Point au Roche State Park  
Friends of Robert H. Treman State Park  
Friends of Robert Moses State Park Nature Center, Inc.  
Friends of Rockland Lake & Hook Mountain State Parks  
Friends of Sampson State Park  
Friends of Saratoga Spa State Park  
Friends of Schodack Island State Park, Inc.  
Friends of Schoharie Crossing  
Friends of Schuyler Mansion  
Friends of Senate House, Inc.  
Friends of Stony Point Battlefield and Lighthouse

Friends of Taconic State Park  
Friends of Thacher State Park and Thompsons Lake State Parks  
Friends of the 30 Mile Point Lighthouse  
Friends of the Catharine Valley Trail  
Friends of the Old Croton Aqueduct  
Friends of the Rockefeller State Park Preserve, Inc.  
Friends of the Shawangunks  
Friends of the State Historic Sites of the Hudson Highlands  
Friends of the Sterling Forest Partnership  
Grand Island Historical Society at River Lea (Beaver Island)  
Harlem Valley Rail Trail Association & Friends of the Iroindale School House  
Hyde Hall  
Jones Beach Rescue  
Little Stony Point Citizens  
Lloyd Harbor Historical Society  
Martin House Restoration Corporation  
Nissequogue River State Park Foundation  
Old Fort Niagara Association  
Palisades Camp Association  
Palisades Interstate Parks Conservancy  
Planting Fields Foundation  
Riverbank Partnership  
Sackets Harbor Battlefield Alliance  
Sonnenberg Inc.  
The Caumsett Foundation  
The Council of Parks Friends (Clark Reservation State Park)  
The Olana Partnership  
Walkway Over the Hudson  
Walt Whitman Birthplace Association





**New York State Council of Parks,  
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*Glimmerglass State Park*

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