



FORCES

Friends of Recreation, Conservation and Environmental Stewardship

Summer 2017 Newsletter

Vol. 2 Issue 2

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Goose egg oiling, Chenango Valley State Park. Photo credit: FORCES

The FORCES mission is to engage New York State college students to simultaneously improve OPRHP resources and enrich student academic, recreational, and career opportunities.

The Friends in FORCES

Tom Hughes, NRS Biologist
Central Region FORCES Program Manager

As I flip through the pages of our newsletter, I am always excited to see photos of our FORCES students. I feel lucky to witness the formation and strengthening of so many friendships as our stewards, ambassadors and club members share common experiences with the environment, projects and other activities within our State Parks. Through my observations over the last nine years, I can tell you that these friendships are meaningful and long lasting.

Our college years can be among the most stressful times of our entire lives—struggling to get good grades, dealing with financial woes and desperately trying to maintain a healthy social life. While FORCES may not unfortunately alleviate the financial burdens of most, I know our program significantly enhances the academic and personal experiences of so many of our participants.

Nowhere is this more evident than at our annual student events—FORCES Summit (Page 1), Trainapalooza (Page 14), and the Fall Gathering, this year on October 1st (Page 11). I am proud to have been present at all of them! These events capture and showcase the enthusiasm, talents and successes of our FORCES staff and students. In addition, we get to gather at some of the most amazing State Parks and academic campuses. For example, Le Moyne College, Hartwick College and Wells College have all hosted the FORCES Summit, and we have plans



3rd Annual FORCES Summit, Wells College, April 9, 2017. Photo credit: OPRHP

to visit many more campuses in the future. We are grateful for the strong relationships that we have with our academic partners and State Parks' community that make this all possible.

On a more personal note, I am grateful for all the friendships and professional relationships I have gained as a direct result of the FORCES program. I have enjoyed mentoring and guiding students as they embark on their professional journeys. In addition, I am happy to see so many of our former FORCES students now working as NYS employees within our agency. I hope that these opportunities will continue to expand in the coming years.

"Truly great friends are hard to find, difficult to leave, and impossible to forget." - Unknown

Central Region Update

Amy Kochem, FORCES Program Coordinator

Our SUNY ESF Federal Work Study partnership continued to remain strong with 6 work study stewards on board for the spring semester. Additionally, 7 stewards worked on projects that included native seed collection and propagation planning, aquatic education planning and implementation at the YARE (Youth Aquatic Resource Education) Workshop held in April at the Onondaga Lake Visitor's Center, environmental education programs, Chittenango ovate amber snail (COAS) lab work at ESF, and American hart's-tongue fern mapping at Clark Reservation. FORCES sustained its strong presence at the Women in Nature (WIN) 11th Annual Workshop held in April.



OPRHP's Mat Bilz and Shannon Fabiani alongside ESF FORCES Social Media Chair, Adelaide Dumm at the YARE Workshop on Onondaga Lake. Photo credit: OPRHP



Members of the SCA and ECC identify macroinvertebrates collected from the creek. Photo credit: OPRHP

Tom Hughes teamed up with Mat Webber, educator from the Izaak Walton League of America (IWLA), to provide water quality instruction to members of the Student Conservation Association (SCA) and New York State's Excelsior Conservation Corps (ECC). Using IWLA's Creek Freaks water-based curriculum, participants learned about water quality assessment, sampled for macroinvertebrates in the stream, and participated in hands-on aquatic activities.

For the second consecutive spring, stewards participated in Canada goose egg oiling at Chenango Valley State Park. While Canada geese are one of the most readily recognized birds and enjoyed by many, they can have significant negative impacts on property, agriculture, public safety, and disease threats. Using food-grade corn oil, the eggs are coated and placed back into the nest. The oil blocks the pores in the eggs' shell, and prevents further development. Though the high water posed a bit of a challenge and may have hindered pairs from building nests at the typical time in the season, four nests were located and oiled.

Finger Lakes Region Update

Josh Teeter, FL Region FORCES Program Manager

We had two FORCES Stewards for the spring semester. Laura Young joined us as an Education and Outreach Steward from Ithaca College (B.S. in Outdoor Adventure Leadership), and Caitlin Niederhofer as a Conservation Steward from SUNY Cortland (B.S. Conservation Biology). Caitlin and Laura used their FORCES Stewardships as internships for their respective degrees, receiving course credits for their work.

Laura contributed 492 hours to various projects with FORCES. These projects focused on creating digital content, including 14 brochures for the majority of the parks in the Finger Lakes Region. These e-brochures will help offset the OPRHP need for paper products. Laura also worked on interpretative signs for Sampson, Buttermilk Falls, and Fillmore Glen State Parks. She both updated and created new content for these signs.



Caitlin Niederhofer measuring the diameter at breast height (DBH) of an eastern hemlock. Photo credit: OPRHP

Caitlin conducted post-treatment surveys for eastern hemlock trees that had been treated for the invasive insect, Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (HWA). Caitlin also co-wrote a grant for invasive species control and pollinator meadow creation, and worked on finalizing Emerald Ash Borer management plans. Caitlin now works for the OPRHP as a Landscape Restoration Specialist for the Finger Lakes Region.

Upcoming Events

8/5/17 Summer Fun Day
Chenango Valley State Park

8/18/17 Kayaking
Delta Lake State Park

8/19/17 Kayaking
Verona Beach State Park

8/19/17 Stargazing
Verona Beach State Park

8/23/17 - 9/4/17 NYS Fair

9/3/17 The Ring of Lights
Delta Lake State Park

9/5/17 Ethnobotany Workshop
Ganondagan State Historic Site

9/5/17 First Saturday Hike
Watkins Glen State Park

9/30/17 National Public Lands Day
Glimmerglass State Park

10/13/17 Ghost Reveal and Hunt
Fort Ontario State Historic Site

For more information, email
amy.kochem@parks.ny.gov or visit
www.nysparks.com/events

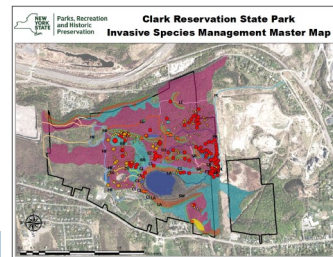
"I loved being a part of everything including invasive species management, interpretation, trail work, biological control, grant work, and native plant workshops." - Caitlin Nierderhofer

Coordinator's Corner

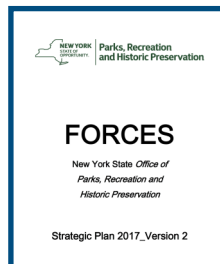
Amy Kochem, FORCES Program Coordinator

After reading through each newsletter edition, I am always amazed at the diversity of FORCES projects that stewards get involved with, and this spring season followed suit. Stewards worked on projects that included planning and conducting interpretive programs, assisting staff in creating and writing the FORCES Strategic and Operational Plans, working in the lab at ESF with the Chittenango Ovate Amber Snail population, GIS mapping of invasive species populations, native seed database creating, and co-writing the NYS Regional Envirothon aquatics test, just to list a few. It is a very satisfying feeling knowing that our stewards are gaining valuable real-world, hands-on experiences in our parks.

FORCES offers a myriad of opportunities to students hungry for experiences in their academic field, to those seeking credit for an internship, capstone or thesis project, to those looking to build their resumes, and to those who just want to spend more time working on a project that they feel passionate about. With our recent expansion to the Taconic, Niagara, and Allegany Regions, the possibilities for steward projects broadens immensely, providing a unique array of project ideas.



CNY REGIONAL ENVIROTHON
TEST WRITERS
AQUATICS
Amy Kochem & Kaylyn Zipp
NYS Department of Parks, Recreation &
Historic Preservation



Affiliated Institutions

Cazenovia College
Columbia University
Cornell University
Finger Lakes Community College
Hartwick College*
Hobart & William Smith Colleges
Ithaca College
Le Moyne College*
Niagara County Com. College
Niagara University

Onondaga Community College
Pace University
Rochester Institute of Technology
SUNY Binghamton
SUNY Brockport
SUNY Cobleskill
SUNY Cortland
SUNY ESF*
SUNY Geneseo*
SUNY Morrisville
SUNY Oneonta*

SUNY Oswego
SUNY Purchase
St. John Fisher College
Syracuse University
University of Rochester
Wells College*

*Denotes active FORCES Clubs

Niagara Region Update

Jillian Harris, FORCES Program Specialist

Spring has been a breath of fresh air with the return of FORCES in the Niagara Region. From attending career fairs, Earth Day events, and the annual FORCES Leadership Summit, our connections and the word that were here are spreading like wildfire.

Over the spring we had one steward, Jeffrey Simoneit, who worked vigorously on multiple projects, as well as interpretive programs with our interpretive staff. Jeffrey's star project was the continuation of a terrestrial invasive species book started by another intern from the fall semester. This book serves as a great tool for educating not only the public on the various types of invasive species but also our incoming summer stewards who don't have a strong background on the topic.

This summer season is filled with many projects that our Native Seed Steward and Invasive Species Management Steward are going to assist on, including water quality at Woodlawn Beach State Park and installation of pollinator gardens at Evangola State Park and Beaver Island State Park.



Jeffrey Simoneit and Jillian Harris at Evangola State Park mapping vernal pools. Photo credit: OPRHP

Contact Us

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FORCES NYS Parks, Recreation and
Historic Preservation

#forcesnysparks

To subscribe or unsubscribe to the
newsletter email: forces@parks.ny.gov



De Veaux Woods State Park. Photo credit: OPRHP

"I feel prepared and exponentially more qualified for a parks job... the knowledge I gained has educated my decisions in choosing a career path by revealing opportunities I hadn't thought of." – Chloe Miller

Steward Spotlight

Emma Kubinski, Grassland Conservation Steward

Hi, I'm Emma Kubinski and I have been involved in FORCES for about three years now. I cannot say enough about how great FORCES is and how many wonderful opportunities it has created for me.

I became involved in the summer of 2014 when the conservation team at Ganondagan State Historic Site hosted a camp for young people interested in the environmental field. I loved everything I was exposed to at the camp and decided to follow up and asked to intern there.

For the remainder of the summer I volunteered and then continued to intern there throughout my junior and senior year of high school. Despite only being a high school intern, the conservation team at Ganondagan kept me involved in all aspects of their work. They always went the extra mile to help me gain both knowledge and experience. With their help, I was able to narrow down my passions within the environmental field.

Then to my delight they offered me a paid position last summer. I spent the summer mapping invasive plant species on site and assisting in removals and other work. This past fall I started my Freshman year at ESF, and my involvement with FORCES also assisted me at school. The experiences helped me academically and I am now involved with the FORCES club on campus.

FORCES has also opened doors for assisting with research both during the school year and this summer. In addition, I returned to Ganondagan again as a Grassland Conservation Steward where we are continuing working to restore a native grassland. I absolutely love working there and continue to learn every day.

For more information about 2017 FORCES Stewards see the *Who's Who* publication on our website in January 2018.

"I learned valuable skills about how to manage a project in a government department."

-Amanda Klaben



Emma Kubinski began volunteering with FORCES in 2014, and has now transitioned to employment as a Grassland Conservation Steward. Photo credit: OPRHP

I am so grateful to be a part of FORCES and all that it has to offer. I am constantly preaching to people about how amazing the program is and how impactful it has been for me. The people with FORCES are passionate and committed to helping those involved with the program.

FORCES has provided incredible experiences and great connections that in-turn create potential for future opportunities. The people I have come across through FORCES and Ganondagan continue to inspire me and I can never thank them enough for all they have done for me and many others. Thank you FORCES!!


FORCES

Friends of Recreation, Conservation and Environmental Stewardship

NEW YORK STATE Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation

FORCES mission is to engage New York State college students to simultaneously improve OPRHP resources and enrich student academic, recreational, and career opportunities.

2017 FORCES STEWARDS: THE FORCE BEHIND FORCES

 <p>Xinhui Liao Conservation Steward</p>	Xinhui Liao is a member of the Cornell University class of 2018, majoring in Environmental and Sustainability Sciences with a concentration in Environmental Biology and Applied Ecology. She is from Syracuse, NY. She enjoys herpetology and ornithology, and finds environmental and natural resource ethics interesting. The majority of her spare time is spent drawing and storytelling, and she hopes to be able to merge her degree interests and art in her future career.
 <p>Nate Henderson Invasive Sp. Mgt. Steward</p>	Nathanael (Nate) Henderson recently completed his Sophomore year at Ithaca College, where he studies Environmental Science and plans to graduate in May of 2019. He is originally from Califon, NJ. Outside of classes, Nate is a player for the Ithaca College Men's Club Rugby team and is involved in the school's Red Cross Club. His future ambitions include traveling the world, working in the environmental field, learning to surf and going white water rafting.

Hartwick College

Caitlin Hawley, Club President



Invasive Species removal at Robert V. Riddell State Park.
Photo Credit: Hartwick FORCES

Hartwick FORCES has held many events this spring, including a rock climbing event at Pine Lake, invasive species removal at Robert V. Riddell State Park, a hike at Taughannock Falls, and a volunteer earth day event! Despite the late start due to weather conditions, our FORCES club continued to plan events and get more students involved. The club will have new e-board members for next year including Elizabeth Karson as president, Rebecca Nathan as Vice president, Hunter McRee as Secretary, and Gabrielle Urban as Treasurer. For next year, we have events planned at Robert V. Riddell, Glimmerglass, and Gilbert Lake State Parks. There will also be more on-campus events. We look forward to working with more students and doing more volunteer work with the community and the local State Parks.



Hiking at Taughannock Falls State Park. Photo Credit: Hartwick FORCES

Le Moyne College

Erica Mackey, Club President

We began the spring semester by participating in our school's annual spring club fair. We enjoyed recruiting people to join FORCES! We also did eco-friendly Friday's twice a month outside of our cafeteria where we passed out eco-friendly facts and people could decorate a canvas bag to help promote sustainability. We had planned to do a spring camping trip, but unfortunately the weather did not cooperate. In April, we were busy with participating in the Syracuse satellite March for Science and volunteering at Women in Nature. Members enjoyed participating in the March for Science and doing fun activities at Women in Nature. Also in April, we did Earth Jam on our campus where people could make succulent and air plant terrariums. We had people make over eighty terrariums! We also planted flower seeds in flower pots for our community service event to donate to Tiny Homes for Good. Everyone had a lot of fun planting seeds! In the fall we are looking to growing our membership, doing more on campus events, and participating in more events at state parks!



March for Science, April 22nd, Syracuse, NY.
Photo Credit: Le Moyne FORCES



"I'm very happy/excited to continue being a part of this club and making a difference!"
- Kaylee Townsend

Wells College

Shania Dauphinais, Club President



The garlic mustard haul at Robert H. Treman State Park I Love My Park Day. Photo credit: Wells FORCES



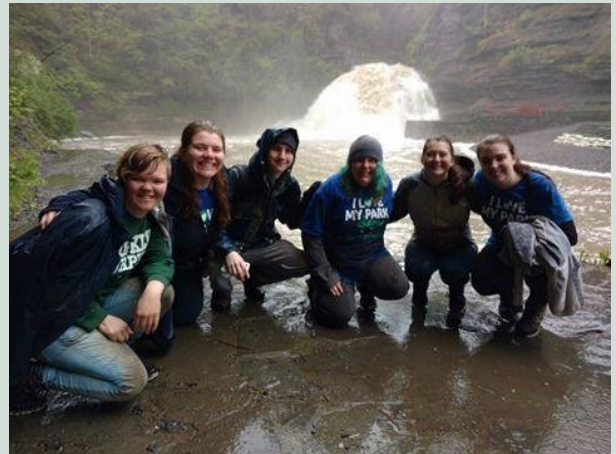
Wells College
FORCES

In the spring we did several HWA surveys. One of them was at Wells College working with

Cornell Cooperative Extension. The other two were with Cayuga Lake Watershed Network at Long Point and Great Gully. We went to Fillmore Glen and helped to remove pine needles from the park area. Lastly, we went to Robert H. Treman for I Love My Park Day. We helped to remove garlic mustard, plant trees and helped to remove excess dirt and rocks after planting trees.



Above and below: I Love My Park Day at Robert H. Treman State Park. Photo credit: Wells FORCES



SUNY ESF

Samantha Hollister, Club President



Hemlock Woolly Adelgid Surveying at Green Lakes State Park. Photo credit: ESF FORCES

This past semester, ESF FORCES has again been very busy, both on and off campus. We started off the semester by up-cycling and tie dying old FORCES t-shirts. At ESF's winter carnival, we made pine cone bird feeders with sunflower butter and bird seed.

We spent a beautiful February morning at Green Lakes State Park in February doing a Hemlock Woolly Adelgid survey (don't worry, we didn't find any). In April we selected new officers for next year, and attended the annual FORCES summit at Wells College. The following week, we designed Earth Day activities for Pine Grove Middle School students that included a science experiment, a bird walk, and a pledge poster.

On April 22nd, ESF FORCES proudly represented our club at the Syracuse Science March, with signs we made at one of our meetings. We wrapped up the semester by volunteering at the 11th annual Wildlife Festival at the Montezuma Audubon Center. Overall, it's been a great year. Our new officers are in place to take over in the Fall, and I know they will do an incredible job!



SUNY Geneseo

Steve Sicari, Club Vice President



Hemlock Woolly Adelgid and Emerald Ash Borer monitoring hike at Letchworth State Park. Photo credit: Geneseo FORCES

We began our semester with a recreational hike and introduction to FORCES for new members on 1/28. In early February, we were certified to survey for Hemlock Woolly Adelgid and Emerald Ash Borer. We conducted surveys for these invasive species at Letchworth State Park in mid-February and early March. Hemlock Woolly Adelgid has heavily invaded some parts of the park, but the Emerald Ash Borer was not found.

Ryan Colling, our former Club President, led a survival workshop. Topics included gear that one should have in the back country, fire-making techniques for wet conditions, and map and compass usage. We held a spring clean-up event with Stony Brook State Park on April 1st. A week later, FORCES teamed up with Geneseo's own Professor Apple to plant native trees in the Arboretum at Geneseo.



In mid-April, we held our biannual camping trip at Letchworth. The trip included a recreational hike to the lower falls and an invasive *Vinca minor* removal event. We teamed up with the Genesee Valley Conservancy to remove invasive Parsnips and plant various native trees. Our educational coordinator, Kyle Sanduski, gave a talk on the fluidity of the EPA on 4/26, after we held the elections for Fall 2017.

FORCES Programs

Amy Kochem, FORCES Program Coordinator

Wells College hosted our 3rd Annual FORCES Leadership Summit on April 9, 2017. As is typical of our gatherings, a diversity of colleges was represented with 25 stewards from 9 different academic institutions. We were treated with an informative presentation from Carrie Brown-Lima of the NYS Invasive Species Research Institute. Kyle Webster, Supervising Conservation Steward at Ganondagan State Historic Site, delivered an instructional presentation on native seed collecting and Tom Hughes provided a comprehensive discussion on the scope of the FORCES Program.



Interpretative walk through Watkins Glen provided by Josh Teeter. This was one of many training sessions held during Trainapalooza 2017. Photo credit: OPRHP

FORCES Member Awards

Service Awards: Lukas Evans, Caitlin Hawley
Club of the Year : SUNY Geneseo FORCES

Our 3rd Annual Trainapalooza was held at Watkins Glen State Park May 31st - June 1st, with 29 stewards from 12 colleges. Communicating with park patrons, trail maintenance, HWA phenology and surveys, and an interpretive hike through the ancient gorge were topics included in the workshop.

"This position has given me excellent leadership skills and has given me insight on how things are accomplished on my campus." -Erica Mackey

Taconic Region Update

Steven DiFalco, Natural Resource Specialist

We've been off to a great start this summer, with lots of projects. We have two seasonal stewards this summer, John Zeiger and Brian Keating, and our high school intern Ian Konigsberg just left after 6 weeks of working with us. We are starting our vegetation monitoring for the summer, which includes surveying our miniature deer exclosures and deer browse monitoring plots, which help us identify how deer are affecting our forest. We are propagating native wildflowers for restoration along designated wildflower trails. As always, we're prioritizing our invasive species removal and have a lot of work ahead of us, but have seen improvements from last year.



Invasive species removal at Rockefeller Preserve State Park
Ian Konigsberg, John Zeiger, Steven DiFalco, and Brian Keating.
Photo Credit: Rockefeller State Park Preserve

Featured Project

Patricia Shulenburg, GLRI Dune Restoration Project Coordinator



Shaina Johnson and Alivia Sheffield install predator monitoring cameras at the bird sanctuary at Sandy Island Beach State Park.
Photo credit: Patricia Shulenburg

Stewards Shaina Jonson and Alivia Sheffield are hard at work this summer collaborating with partners from SUNY ESF, Onondaga Audubon, Audubon New York, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and The Student Conservation Association to promote the recovery of the federally endangered Great Lakes piping plovers at Sandy Island Beach State Park. We are actively working to make habitat improvements by mapping and managing invasive species, transplanting native species, hosting educational workshops, providing erosion control of the dunes in addition to monitoring and protecting piping plovers.

FORCES Stewards and volunteers are working hard to educate beachgoers to "share the shore" with piping plovers and promote stewardship of the dune ecosystem. If you are interested in volunteer opportunities or learning more about this project please contact Patricia Shulenburg, patricia.shulenburg@parks.ny.gov for more information. Thank you to the 2016 and 2017 piping plover and dune restoration stewardship crew for an incredible field season not only promoting the recovery of this species but protecting the dunes and wetlands system for both wildlife and recreational visitors for years to come.



State University of New York
College of Environmental Science and Forestry



Ganondagan Historic Site

Julie Delles, Volunteer Coordinator

The Environmental Field Team would like to thank our hard-working FORCES interns for supporting all of our projects. We couldn't do it without you!

Ornithology Stewards

Martha VanBork, Ryan Felske, Austin Higgins, and Michelle Gianvecchio have teamed up with Alexis Vanwinkle (Supervising Conservation Steward) to expand bird surveys at Ganondagan. Stay tuned as Ganondagan edges closer to becoming the Finger Lakes Region's first Bird Conservation Area!



The first burn ever conducted entirely under OPRHP jurisdiction took place on June 16, 2017 at the Ganondagan State Historic Site.

Plant Materials Program Stewards

Erika Ester, Michaela Freeman, and Lindsey Ayers have been hard at work in the greenhouses at Sonnenberg Gardens & Mansion State Historic Park. Already, the greenhouse is full of plants going towards multiple projects at Ganondagan, and a Pollinator Meadow at Cayuga Lake State Park – thanks to the dedication of these stewards! We can't do it all though – please reach out (EnvironmentalFieldTeam@parks.ny.gov) to get involved!

Environmental Conservation Steward

Charlie Ippolito is joining Kira Broz (Riparian Restoration Steward) this summer, starting up our newly awarded Riparian Corridors Grant (co-written with the Finger Lakes Institute, this Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Grant is funded by the US Forest Service). Charlie will be spending this summer surveying, planting, and removing invasive species along our waterways at Ganondagan.

Allegheny Region Update

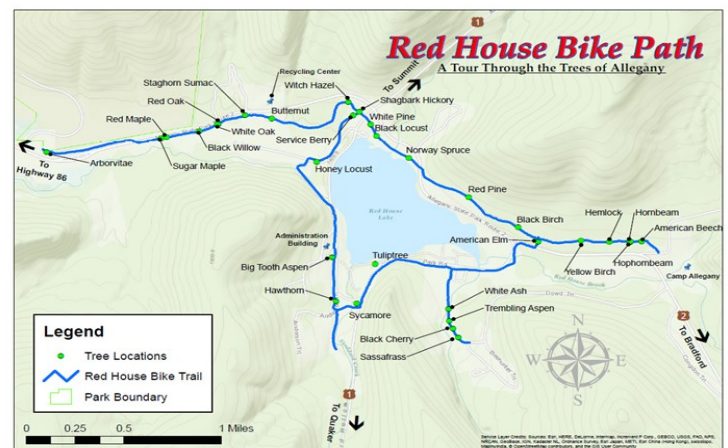
Jordan Taylor, FORCES Intern

Being an intern and FORCES volunteer in Allegheny State Park brings both great opportunities as well as experiences. As an intern I was able to learn how to run public programming for park patrons, put on my own program, and have fun in the process. However, the learning opportunities didn't stop there; I was also able to assist in various types of environmental stewardship practices such as water quality testing, invasive plant management, and map making to help expand my skill set.



Jordan Taylor posts new signage for The Red House Bike Path. Photo credit: OPRHP

My FORCES project for the winter months was the new interpretive tree trail that is on the Red House bike path. I was able to plan out what trees went on the trail, assist in mapping them, and condense all the information into a brochure. The trail features trees such as yellow birch, sugar maple, and tuliptree along with 28 other species. The majority of the trees incorporated into the tour are native to the region.



The Red House Bike Path hosts new signage for a tour of the trees of Allegheny State Park. Photo credit: OPRHP

Faculty Spotlight: Brandon Murphy

Coordinator Teaching and Learning Collaboratory Online Programs, SUNY-ESF Outreach

The ESF FORCES club has had a fairly busy year this past academic year. In September, ESF FORCES participated in Aquaday at Willow Bay in Onondaga Lake Park, an event hosted by the American Fisheries Society at ESF to educate the public about our aquatic resources. The club also held a weekend camping trip to Green Lakes State Park in September, which included collecting native seeds of things like milkweed and dogwood for winter storage and eventual planting in Ganondagan State Historic Site.

October saw some ESF FORCES members heading to the annual FORCES gathering at Chenango Valley State Park, participating in the Creek Freaks stream ecology and biological monitoring training workshop down in Morrisville, and around Halloween assisting at the Wicked Woods event at Green Lakes. The end of the fall semester featured a training on and assistance with a Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (HWA) survey at Clark Reservation in partnership with Cornell Cooperative Extension. The Spring semester saw those skills from the December training being put to use to conduct another HWA survey at Green Lakes State Park.

On campus activities in the spring included participation in the Winter Carnival at ESF, and running bird call trivia during Earth Week at ESF. Other highlights included helping with an education event for East Syracuse Minoa students, the FORCES leadership summit, and as always the end of the academic year was capped with some members volunteering at the Montezuma Audubon Center's annual Wildlife Festival. Congratulations and best of luck to all of our graduating seniors and to our new officers. See you in the fall, or at the State Fair.



Brandon Murphy demonstrates herpetology techniques by capturing a turtle using a net. Students gather around to learn how to identify this specimen. Photo credit: SUNY ESF

SAVE the DATE
Fall Gathering
October 1, 2017

Fillmore Glen State Park

The FORCES Gathering is an event for students to develop networking, attend natural history trainings, and to celebrate program accomplishments in a social setting.



State University of New York
College of Environmental Science and Forestry

"All of these things were opportunities that I may have never had if it weren't for FORCES: invaluable experience that will help jump start my career in conservation and environmental science...I would highly recommend the FORCES program to anyone who is interested in a career in environmental science, or anyone who wants to make a difference." – Mike Ferri

2016 FORCES Stewards

Cazenovia College

Haley Korcz, Hellbender Conservation Steward
Hannah Graether, Invasive Species Mgt. Steward
Lucas Evans, COAS Conservation Steward
Sara Petersen, COAS Conservation Steward

Cornell University

Jessica Pearson, FORCES Program Steward
Mitch Riley, FORCES Program Steward

Corning Community College

Jane Suhey, Env. Interpretation Steward

Finger Lakes Community College

Mary Benincasa, Conservation Steward

Ithaca College

Adriana Del Grosso, Invasive Sp. Mgmt. Steward
Chloe Miller, Invasive Species Mgmt. Steward
Emelia Breen, Environmental Interpretation Steward
Jake Barney, Land Management Steward
Mackenzie Stevenson, Culture and Comm. Steward
Otto Meilick, Invasive Species Mgmt. Steward
Paula Merkle, Invasive Species Mgmt. Steward
Tanner Slutzky, Invasive Species Mgmt. Steward
Zachary Connor, GIS/Inv. Species Mgmt. Steward

Le Moyne College

Amanda Klaben, Plant Propagation Steward
Ben Rodgers, Dune Restoration Steward
Jensen Porter, Community Conservation Steward
Kathryn Meyer, Conservation Steward

Onondaga Community College

Brett Trainor, Dune Restoration Steward
Nicole Carey, Conservation Steward
Rebecca Cosgrove, FORCES Project Steward
Sam O'Connor, Dune Restoration Steward
Sydney McCoombie, Dune Restoration Steward

Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT)

Jake Young, Conservation Steward

St. John Fisher College

Alyssa Gaffney, Invasive Species Mgmt. Steward
Derek Boland, Conservation Steward

SUNY Brockport

Cameron Heasley, Dune Restoration Steward
Kira Hansen, Grassland Steward
Wyatt Jackson, Grassland Steward

SUNY Cortland

Dom Zeppetella, Invasive Species Mgmt. Steward
Levi Anderson, Hellbender Conservation Steward
Madeline Ulinski, Hydrilla Film Steward
Michael Ferri, Invasive Species Mgmt. Steward
Sara McNamara, Invasive Species Mgmt. Steward

SUNY ESF

Alden Morris, Conservation Steward
Alivia Sheffield, Conservation Steward
Becky Groff, Conservation Steward
Cara Keogh, Community Conservation Steward
Claire Michaud, Conservation Steward
Cody Gilbertson, COAS Cons. Steward
Courtney Pitman, Park Planning Steward
Courtney DeOrdio, Env. Interpretation Steward
CJ Cerio, Social Media Steward
Diana Jagde, Community Conservation Steward
Gwen Stark, Conservation Steward
Julia Fairbanks, Conservation Steward
Julia Woznicki, Data Management Steward
Kaitlyn Shanahan, Conservation Steward
Kaylyn Zipp, Aquatic Resource Steward
Kelsey West, Conservation Steward
Lexi Grove, Env. Interpretation Steward
Megan Jarvis, Conservation Steward
Mike Serviss, Natural Res. Conservation Steward
Nichole Henger, Natural Resources Mgmt. Steward
Nick Dietschier, Invasive Species Mgmt. Steward
Sarah Kirkpatrick, Conservation Steward
Selene Munoz, COAS Conservation Steward
Shannon Fabiani, Env. Interpretation Steward
Sienna McDonald, Plant Propagation Steward
Stephen Garney, AHTF Conservation Steward
Tessa Janicke, Env. Interpretation Steward
Wendy Burgess, Community Conservation Steward

SUNY Geneseo

Alexis Pike, Invasive Species Mgmt. Steward
Brandyn Balch, FORCES Ambassador/Cons. Steward

SUNY Oswego

Nina House, FORCES Ambassador

SUNY Plattsburg

Dan Ruede, Conservation Steward

Victor High School

Emma Kubinski, Conservation Steward
Kinsey Ashe, Conservation Steward

Wells College

Angela Paul, Dune Restoration Steward

Western Invasive Species Management Strike Team

Dallas Ortel, Supervisor, Finger Lakes Comm. College
Melissa Kirby, SUNY ESF
Phil Bossert, SUNY ESF
Sienna McDonald, SUNY ESF

The Force Behind FORCES Picture Page



Above: Youth Aquatic Resource Education (YARE) Workshop at Honeywell Visitor Center on Onondaga Lake, co-instructed by Tom Hughes.

Right: Megan Jarvis records data for Canada Goose egg oiling at Chenango Valley State Park.



Above: FORCES stewards help organize the 11th annual Women in Nature outdoor skills workshop, April 29, 2017 at Camillus Sportsmen's Club.

Left: SUNY Geneseo FORCES receives 'Club of the Year' award at the Leadership Summit, April 9, 2017.



Above: Hartwick FORCES club members participate in team building activities at Hartwick College's Pine Lake Preserve. Photo credit: Hartwick FORCES



Above: Laura Young updated many park brochures to be 'mobile friendly' for her internship project.

**Photo credits:
FORCES
NYS OPRHP**



Above: Canada goose egg oiling team from left to right: Amy Kochem, Megan Jarvis, Becky Sibner, and Kaitlyn VanOrman. Chenango Valley State Park.



Left: Participant takes aim at the 11th Annual Women in Nature Workshop.



Above: Le Moyne FORCES Club members create terrariums at the 2017 Earth Jam. Photo credit: Le Moyne FORCES



Parks, Recreation
and Historic Preservation

FORCES

Friends of Recreation, Conservation
and Environmental Stewardship

New York State

Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation

Central Region

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FORCES Newsletter
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3rd Annual FORCES Trainapalooza at Watkins Glen State Park, May 31st - June 1st.

The FORCES mission is to engage New York State college students to simultaneously improve OPRHP resources and enrich student academic, recreational, and career opportunities.
