

Annual Report 2012

and GreenSpace
Spring 2013 newsletter



Protecting New York's parks & trails
from the ground up



“We New Yorkers really love our parks and trails.”

– 20-year PTNY member





Dear Friends of New York's Parks and Trails,

Thank you for your commitment to New York's parks and trails. We know you love them as much as we do.

It's elemental, our love of nature. And whenever we make the effort to get outdoors we are repaid many times over – in feeling good, bonding with family, friends, and neighbors, getting healthy, and reconnecting with our natural heritage.

Our mission at Parks & Trails New York is to protect these precious green spaces and make it possible for every New Yorker to experience this joy, wherever they live and whatever their age, ability, or economic circumstances.

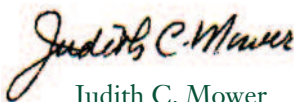
These days, we're beginning to feel more optimistic about the future of parks and trails:

-  Thousands of volunteers from Niagara to Montauk turned out on our inaugural I Love My Park Day to rebuild nature centers, plant flowers, and give their state parks and historic sites some love.
-  Our advocacy helped win a second \$90 million in capital funding for state parks, plus a five-year capital budget commitment.
-  PTNY's Close the Gaps campaign is bringing the iconic Erie Canalway Trail ever closer to completion, with 20 miles in or nearing construction during 2012.
-  Our Growing the Grassroots capacity building grants are enabling trail and park groups in urban, rural, and suburban communities to be even better stewards of New York's green space.

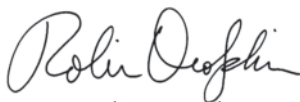
There is much more to do. The \$1 billion backlog of needed repair and reconstruction projects at our long-underfunded state parks and historic sites must be eliminated. And we need a stronger and even more effective grassroots park and trail constituency.

Let's continue to work together to achieve these goals.

With our warmest regards,



Judith C. Mower
Chair of the Board



Robin Dropkin
Executive Director



We're giving New York's parks some love

Good Budget News for State Parks — PTNY's Advocacy Gets Results

The final state budget includes a \$90 million investment to address the state park system's backlog of infrastructure needs.

In addition, the five-year capital plan includes \$90 million for the state park system in each of the next five years, signaling a long-term commitment by Gov. Cuomo and the State Legislature to providing ongoing support for state parks and historic sites.

Hurricane Sandy caused severe damage to New York's coastal parks, including Roberto Clemente in the Bronx, Nyack Beach in Rockland County, and Jones Beach and Robert Moses on Long Island. But with the cooperation of the state, federal, and local governments, repair and restoration work is already underway.

BEFORE SANDY



AFTER SANDY



PTNY's first-ever I Love My Park Day, in May 2012, touched a chord: thousands of New Yorkers, including Governor Cuomo, turned out to celebrate and improve their favorite parks by volunteering for clean-up, beautification, and stewardship activities.

JOIN US!

I Love My Park Day 2013

PTNY is organizing the 2013 event at twice as many parks and historic sites around the state. There's one near you — for more information, go to www.ptny.org.

**I LOVE
MY PARK
day**
www.ptny.org

Did you see PTNY in *The New York Times* ? At State Parks, \$143 Million Infusion Goes Toward Tackling Overdue Repairs

By LISA W. FODERARO
Published: October 11, 2012

HARRIMAN STATE PARK, N.Y. — Along the roads past lakes and campgrounds here, workers have been busy laying down fresh asphalt. Near Lake Cohasset, aging sewer lines are being replaced. Soon, dozens of frayed cabins that house disadvantaged children in the summer will receive makeovers, including new roofs.

The construction in Harriman is part of a push to address the backlog of deferred maintenance and infrastructure projects across New York's state parks, which last spring received an infusion of \$89 million from the governor and the Legislature for capital improvements....

Laura DiBetta, parks program director at Parks & Trails New York, said she hoped the money represented a down payment on a "multiyear commitment," with \$100 million dedicated to capital improvements in each of the next 10 years....

We're ready to ride

More than 500 riders from 35 states and four countries took part in PTNY's 14th annual Cycling the Erie Canal bike tour July 8-15. In addition, we had some special VIP guests this year. ➤

“Cycling the Erie Canal was eight great days of indulgence in things both spiritual and physical. Thanks to organizers, volunteers, riders and all those who offered friendly waves from porches, tractors, and factory loading docks. I Love NY!”

– 2012 CTEC Rider



NYS. Canal Corp. director Brian Stratton (front row, middle) led Team NY, including Rose Harvey, State Parks Commissioner (on stairs, second from left), and Ken Adams, President and CEO of Empire State Development (front row, second from right), on PTNY's 2012 Cycling the Erie Canal bike tour.

Eighth Wonder of the World

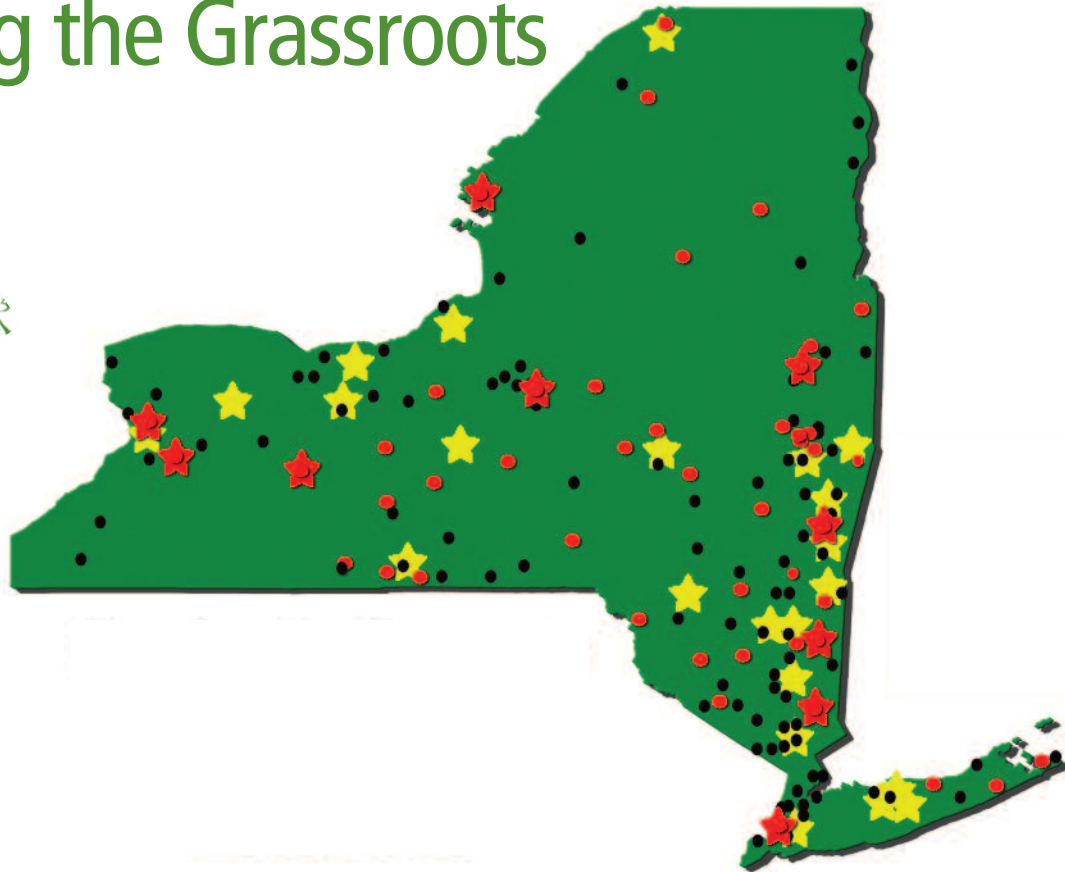
The legendary Erie Canalway Trail enables visitors from near and far to experience the complex and fascinating world of American history. An increasingly popular tourist destination, it draws millions of visitors each year.

PTNY's Close the Gaps campaign, to complete the trail, is achieving significant results, with more than 20 additional miles under or near construction in 2012.



Discover the outstanding bicycling and sightseeing awaiting you in New York State. PTNY's NEW *Cycling the Hudson Valley* and NEWLY UPDATED *Cycling the Erie Canal* guidebooks are indispensable resources for cyclists – and for walkers, boaters, and auto travelers, too. Find out more at www.ptny.org/guidebook.

We're Growing the Grassroots



PTNY's Growing the Grassroots is a unique program that provides small grants and ongoing technical assistance to help grassroots park and trail groups become stronger and more effective stewards.

The ten 2012 grantees included:

- Friends of Letchworth State Park — \$2,550 for logo designs, display panels and membership rack cards
- New York City Water Trail Association — \$1,000 for printing tide wheels to promote memberships
- Friends of the Old Croton Aqueduct — \$1,250 for post-production for a short film to solicit memberships and donations
- Adirondack Recreational Trail Advocates — a special challenge grant of \$1,600 for outreach to develop a multi-use trail between Lake Placid and Tupper Lake

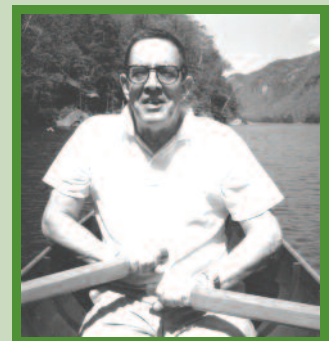
PTNY Also Helps Create Local Trails

In 2012 we added three trail projects to the 35 we were already working with under our Healthy Trails, Healthy People program. Our intensive technical assistance is helping local visionaries create more than 260 miles of new trail throughout New York, especially in lower-income communities.

A great loss

Arthur Savage (1926-2012)

Longtime PTNY leader and board member; pioneer and influential environmental lawyer and policymaker; Adirondack Mountains climber, hiker, rower, and protector – Arthur V. Savage died in December, age 86. For more than half a century Arthur was a tireless champion of New York's public parks and trails. His commitment to the work of Parks & Trails New York will continue to inspire us.



A large and lively crowd joined PTNY in October to celebrate and honor three park and trail champions: Governor Andrew Cuomo, Congressman Maurice Hinchey, and Brookfield and its Co-Chairman John Zuccotti.

In left photo, Mr. Zuccotti accepts PTNY's Perkins Award from PTNY Advisory Council member Diana Taylor; in center, PTNY Board Chair Judith Mower presents PTNY's Park Legacy Award to Parks Commissioner Rose Harvey and Parks Council Chair Dr. Lucy R. Waletzky, both representing Gov. Cuomo; in right photo, PTNY Advisory Council member Joan K. Davidson presents Congressman Maurice D. Hinchey with his award.



Ways to Support NY's Parks & Trails

Visit www.ptny.org to learn more

- **Get involved** – join us on I Love My Park Day, Canal Clean Sweep, and Trail and Park Advocacy Days, join a Friends group, and help make New York greener, from the ground up
- **Become a member of Parks & Trails New York or make a donation**, online or by phone or mail
- **Double your donation** by sending us your employer's matching gift form
- **Remember Parks & Trails New York in your will**
- **Give at the office** via EarthShare New York

We are accountable to you!

Thanks to the generosity of our members and donors, in 2012 PTNY was able to do even more to protect, sustain and promote New York's green network of parks and trails. Thank you!

Financial Statement

Statement of Activities for the year ended June 30, 2012

Support and Revenue

Individual contributions	\$ 228,991
Grants	763,583
Corporate contributions	73,900
Special events	75,037
Program revenue	411,408
Other	2,412
Total support and revenue	\$ 1,555,331

Expenses

Program services	
Conservation	\$ 981,753
Public education	184,546
Membership	113,565
Total program services	\$ 1,279,864

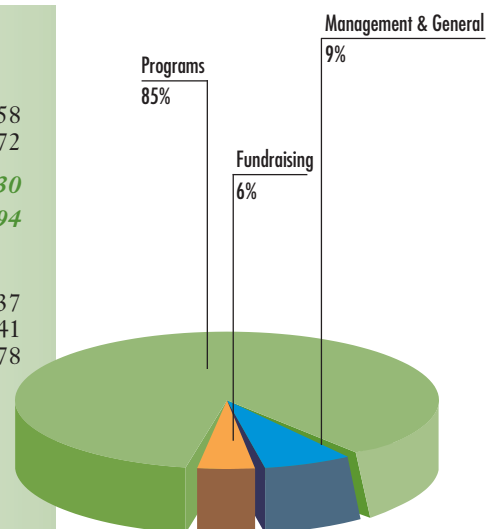
Expenses (continued)

Supporting services	
Management and general	\$ 141,958
Fundraising	85,172
Total supporting services	\$ 227,130
Total expenses	\$ 1,506,994

Net Assets

Change in net assets	48,337
Net assets, beginning of year	895,841
Net assets (deficit), end of year	\$ 944,178

A copy of our most recent audited financial statement is available upon request to Parks & Trails New York



Thank You Members and Donors

Gifts of \$100 or more

Parks & Trails New York is deeply grateful to the members and donors whose gifts of \$1 to \$99 also made our work possible.

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PTNY thanks the hundreds of volunteers who joined us last year to build and maintain our state parks and local trails; served as trail ambassadors on community trails; and helped our bicycle tour participants safely and happily experience the pleasures of the Erie Canalway Trail and Hudson Valley byways. Thank you!

*Every effort has been made to produce an accurate listing of PTNY supporters.
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