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## Group fosters NY trail development

by Amanda Cedrone

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Five New York trail projects have been selected to receive assistance from Parks and Trails New York, a statewide organization dedicated to preserving and creating new parks throughout the state.

The trails were chosen for assistance as part of the organization's "Healthy Trails, Healthy People" program.

"From the many applications we received, it's clear that communities big and small, rural and urban, now recognize that trails can offer important economic, health and quality-of-life benefits," said Robin Dropkin, executive director of Parks and Trails New York.

The trails selected are the Black Walk Creek in the village of Mexico, Oswego County; the D&H Rail Trail in Salem and Granville, Washington County; the Erie-Cattaraugus Rail Trail in Orchard Park, the O&W Rail Trail in Fallsburg and the Upper Hudson Rail Trail in Tahawus.

The selected communities will receive assistance with technical issues, planning, public outreach, grant writing, fundraising, programming, organizational development and other activities that cater to the long-term success of trail projects.