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Erie Canalway Trail delivers big



The Erie Canalway Trail is making a difference and PTNY's new study has the data to prove it. The first comprehensive study of the Erie Canalway Trail, recently released by Parks & Trails New York (PTNY), found that the Erie Canalway Trail (ECT) experiences more than 1.58 million visits per year and generates \$253 million in economic impact.

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500 riders, 400 miles, 300 photos, 200 Communities: Cycling the Erie Canal

There is no better way to see the amazing history and beautiful scenery New York has to offer than traveling by bike. This year PTNY hosted more than 500 bicyclists on the 16th annual Cycling the Erie Canalbike tour July 13–20. Check out the amazing photos.



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Sun shines on 3rd annual Champlain Canalway Trail bike tour



More than 50 bicyclists, including NYS Canal Corporation Director Brian Stratton, set out on the 3rd annual Champlain Canalway Trail bike tour to explore parts of the emerging trail corridor in Stillwater, Mechanicville, and Saratoga.

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9th annual Canal Splash! a success



Hundreds of people participated in nearly 50 different events and activities across the New York State Canal System during the 9th annual Canal Splash! held August 8–11. The weekend celebration of attractions, events and activities included historic and nature walks, bike tours along the Canalway Trail, museum and gallery exhibits, boating events, lectures festivals and live performances.

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Register now for the New York State Canal Conference

September 21–23 23, Geneva, NY

Don't miss three days of all things canal and Canalway Trail – presentations, seminars, field visits, social activities, and networking events. Register now for the 2014 New York Canal Conference to be held September 21–23 in Geneva at the head of the Cayuga–Seneca Canal



and Cay-Sen Trail on the northern shore of Seneca Lake.

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First ECT end-to-end thru-hiker relates his experiences



Scott "Atlas" Benjamin -- the first thru-hiker (that we know of) to complete the entire Erie Canalway Trail and become an ECT End-to-Ender provides a guest post about his experiences. Scott is a disabled veteran who returned to the U.S. with both physical and emotional injuries. Scott has hiked more 3,000 miles along the Appalachian Trail and credits long-distance hiking with restoring his faith in mankind, showing him the best of humanity, and helping him to recover.

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Our Ability finds a way: 2nd annual journey along the Erie Canal



In July, OurAbility, a non-profit advocacy organization for people with disabilities, completed a 12-day cycle across New York State on the Erie Canalway Trail. Fifteen riders powerfully demonstrated the capabilities of individuals with disabilities on the 350-mile trek.

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Row for Hope - young Clean Sweep participants continue to give back



The McQuaid Jesuit High School crew team uses the Erie Canal and Canalway Trail near Rochester for training. In return, the group has been an active participant in Canal Clean Sweep. And, for the last two years, the canal's water trail has played an additional role in the team's continuing efforts to give back.

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Canal corridor murals earn international audience



The eyes of the world will soon be on the historic murals and heritage art of the Erie Canal region with the announcement that the 2016 Global Mural Conference will be held in Western New York. Just in time for the conference, a new canal-themed mural was dedicated in Minetto.

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Our own "Wedding of the Waters" reenactment



Two Cycling the Erie Canal riders recreated the famous 1825 "wedding of the waters" ceremony in which a barrel of water from Lake Erie was transported to the Atlantic Ocean via the Erie Canal.

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Schenectady County linking the Erie Canalway Trail to neighborhoods



More people than ever will soon have safe, easy access to the Erie Canalway Trail in Schenectady County thanks to federal funding from the Capital District Transportation Committee.

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New directory points the way to canal corridor sites



There's a lot to be said for online guides and apps, but sometimes it's nice to have an old fashioned hard copy brochure in hand – or in your bike bag or glove compartment– to help you find your way to interesting places. The Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor has produced a new free directory of canal sites and museums to introduce you to more than 45 sites all along the canal system.

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TRAILSIDE

Karen's Ice Cream & Produce is a must-stop



Inventive ice cream flavors, such as Caramel Cheesecake Cookie and Cappuccino Crunch, and healthy, fresh produce make Karen's Ice Cream and Produce in Fort Hunter a must-stop on the Erie Canalway Trail. Located right off the trail, across Route 5s where the Mohawk River and Schoharie Creek meet, Karen's serves up homemade treats including specialty ice cream, delicious pies and burgers and fries.

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ADOPT a TRAIL Spotlight

Welcome the newest ECT Trail Adopters: Wayne ARC



Wayne ARC Group Day Habilitation Program, one of the newest Erie Canalway Trail Adopters, gives back to the community by maintaining a half-mile section of trail between Lock 28B and Old Lyons Road in the Village of Newark.

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The Canalway Trail Times is made possible by financial support from the New York State Canal Corporation. www.canals.ny.gov/

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