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PTNYenews



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Dear Friend-

We all probably know special individuals, organizations or businesses that go the extra mile for a park or trail. We consider them heroes--that's why we want to honor them this spring. But we need your help.

Please think about park and trail heroes you know and take a few minutes to [nominate](#) them for our 2015 Park & Trail Hero Awards. The deadline for nominations is April 15. Awards will be presented at a ceremony in Albany in early June.

You can be a hero this spring, too, by volunteering at one of our two statewide clean-up and beautification events: [Canal Clean Sweep](#) April 17-19 and [I Love My Park Day](#) May 2.

Here's to spring,

Robin Dropkin
Executive Director



Know a park or trail hero?

Behind every successful park and trail project there are dedicated individuals and organizations that rarely

receive the recognition they deserve. It's time to honor their efforts with Park & Trail Hero Awards. Nominate a park or trail hero today - deadline for nominations is April 15.

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Parks supporters push for continued revitalization

New Yorkers from across the state came together in Albany on March 3 for the 9th annual Park Advocacy Day to urge policymakers to protect and preserve New York's state parks. Representatives from more than 30 park Friends groups and other organizations made the case for state park funding and a new grant program for Friends groups in meetings with 50 state legislators.

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March membership madness

This winter has made us do crazy things, like kicking off our March Madness Month with an offer you won't be able to resist. Anyone who becomes a PTNY member or renews at the \$50+ level will be entered to win an Empire Passport to the parks. And we're drawing a new winner every week in March.

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Our eye is on the prize - a completed Erie Canalway Trail

The Erie Canalway Trail is almost 80% complete and on its way to becoming the longest continuous multi-use trail in the nation. PTNY's 2014 "Closing the Gaps" report highlights the 25 miles that are under construction or have received funding and outlines the 54 miles of trail left to complete.

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Keep it Clean! Canal Clean Sweep, April 17-19

Join us April 17-19 for the 10th Anniversary Canal Clean Sweep to commemorate Earth Day 2015 and prepare the Canal and Canalway Trail for the 191st consecutive navigation season.

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Show your park love on May 2!

Do you love your state park? Show it on May 2 and join thousands of volunteers to clean up, improve, and beautify parks on the 4th annual I Love My Park Day.

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Help us honor the transformation of Governors Island

The transformation of Governors Island from a stark military base to a thriving public green space has been nothing short of magnificent. Join us in honoring The Trust for Governors Island, Governors Island National Monument and Governors Island Alliance at our annual George W. Perkins reception April 21 in NYC.

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Ready, Set, Cycle the Erie Canal

Riders ages 2 through 91 from 27 states, Canada, and Australia have registered for Cycle the Erie Canal 2015! Have you? Reserve your spot for an unforgettable week-long adventure across New York State!

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PTNY Growing the Grassroots Grant delivers double benefits

A PTNY Growing the Grassroots grant did more for the Friends of Robert H. Treman State Park in the Finger Lakes than give them a new membership brochure - it also inspired them to envision a new future for the organization.

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Two NYS cities take top honors in active transportation planning

Ogdensburg and Troy have been awarded the distinction of having the best complete streets policies of 2014.

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New ideas on the table in Washington for bike/ped funding

Congress will soon be crafting a new transportation bill that will affect the future of trails and bicycle and pedestrian projects. So stay tuned because we will need your help.

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Short Takes/Resources

Tri-State Transportation Campaign [most dangerous roads report](#).

The outdoor economy is big. Its voice in Washington is not. [An interesting thought piece](#).

Report on how closing the gaps in North Carolina's American Tobacco Trail is [reaping big benefits](#).

Amtrak [roll-on bike service amendment](#) passes House.

Calendar

March 15: [Cycle the Erie Canal Open House in Brooklyn](#)

March 16 - Public [meeting](#) on renewal of gas storage lease in Allegany State Park

April 15: Deadline for [Park and Trail Hero Award](#) nominations.

April 17-19: [Canal Clean Sweep](#)

April 21: [George W. Perkins Reception](#) honoring Governors Island.

May 3: [I Love My Park Day](#)

May 6: [National Bike to School Day](#)

July 12-19: [Cycle the Erie Canal](#)



Join **GObike Buffalo May 30** for the 2nd annual Skyride featuring a scenic ride over the Skyway!

Help protect New York's parks and trails



Parks & Trails New York • 29 Elk St. • Albany, NY 12207
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