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You Gotta Have Friends

a newsletter for friends of the NYS Park System



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Dear Friend:

While the calendar may say it's still spring, it certainly feels like summer in New York's state parks. Thanks in part to the 6,000 Friends members and volunteers who pitched in to clean up and enhance parks on I Love My Park Day, more than 80 state parks and historic sites are more than ever ready to welcome New Yorkers and visitors alike looking to cool off at beaches and pools, unplug at campgrounds, learn about our past, and take in iconic views.

My family spent part of last weekend picnicking and walking the trails at Moreau Lake State Park. We're looking forward to many more weekends enjoying all that state parks have to offer. Where will this summer take you?

Best,



Laura DiBetta
Director, Parks Program & Government Relations



New Tourism Campaign Celebrates State Parks

New York's State Parks and Historic Sites are front and center in a new NYS summer tourism advertising campaign. The I LOVE NEW YORK ads, which feature famous New Yorkers such as Robert DeNiro, Billy Joel and Meryl Streep, include breathtaking images of some of our treasured state parks and historic sites.



It's Official: Buffalo's First State Park is NY's 180th

With the transfer of 340 acres of land on Buffalo's Outer Harbor to New York State In May, Buffalo Harbor officially became the 180th State Park in New York's system and the first in Buffalo.



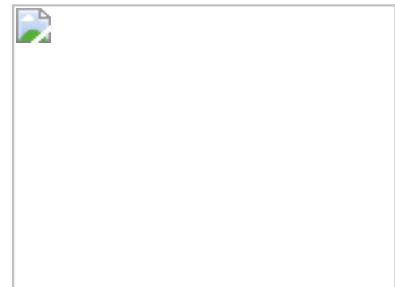
PTNY Petitions Court in Support of State Parks No Smoking Regs

A lower court judge overturned State Parks' smoking regulations last fall. The State has appealed, and PTNY has taken steps to support the agency's authority to limit smoking as an aspect of overall management of its properties.



Who Says History Can't Be Fun?

A chance conversation led local fiber artists, knitters, schools, yarn shop owners, and other groups to create a unique, community-wide fiber event at Clermont State Historic Site this spring. The results are bursting with color.



Restoring Two Icons

A series of announcements over the last couple of months by the Governor and State Parks have meant good news for two of the state's flagship parks and major tourist draws. The projects include exciting efforts to breathe new life into Jones Beach and Niagara Falls.



Break Out the S'mores

State Parks will soon begin building its first new tent-trailer accessible campground in decades. The new campground at Schodack Island State Park will include 63 campsites and is expected to open in 2015.



Friends Groups Help Raise Big Money for Parks

Friends groups are helping to raise the funds necessary for big projects at state parks and historic sites. From restoration efforts to brand new buildings, Friends groups are more and more becoming essential partners in major capital fundraising campaigns.



You Gotta Have Tips: Complying with the 2013 NYS Not-For-Profit Revitalization Act

For the first time in over 40 years, New York has enacted major revisions to the state's nonprofit laws. Is your Friends group ready to comply with the Nonprofit Revitalization Act of 2013?



Featured Friend: Volunteer Profile

Sometimes all it takes is a phone call. That's all it took for Deb Cohen, and she's been a driving force behind the success of Friends of Taconic State Park since.



Short Takes

We love this [video](#) from I Love My Park Day at Robert H. Treman State Park in Ithaca.

Reports/Resources

[Snapshots of Success](#) - PTNY's Growing the Grassroots State Park and Historic Site Grant

Dates

June 16: 2014 [Consolidated Funding Application](#) (CFA) applications due

Recipients 2012 and 2013

They've done it again. Another unofficial [record](#) is broken at the Walkway Over the Hudson.

PTNY's Online [Friends Resource Kit](#)

September 13: [Thacher Park's Centennial Celebration](#)

The Saratoga Springs Preservation Foundation recently honored Saratoga Spa State Park and its many partners with a [Spirit of Preservation Award](#).

September 27: [National Public Lands Day](#)



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