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MAKE A DONATION | April 2014 | BECOME A MEMBER

Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart.

~Elizabeth Andrew

Dear Friend,

This is the time of year when we all can't wait to get outdoors to enjoy our favorite park or trail -- especially after this long winter. We can look forward to many wonderful days hiking, bicycling, or simply relishing the peacefulness of being in nature.

Why not consider spending a day giving back to these treasured outdoor places?

PTNY is spearheading two statewide volunteer events this spring: [Canal Clean Sweep](#) **April 25-27** and [Love My Park Day](#) **May 3**.

Please join us! You'll feel great giving back to the places you use and enjoy all year long.

We know you have the heart, why not make the time!

Best,

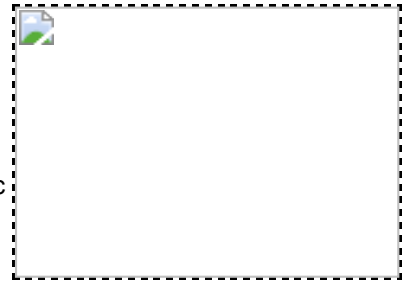
Robin Dropkin
Executive Director



Spring into action--volunteer

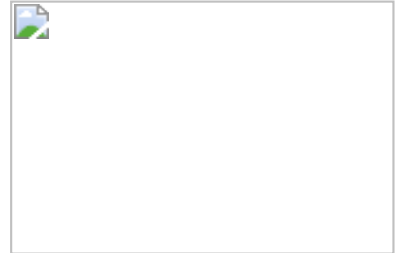
opportunities x 2

Parks & Trails New York is helping to usher in spring with two, statewide volunteer events. Canal Clean Sweep will clean up and beautify sections of the NYS Canal System and Canalway Trail, while I Love My Park Day allows volunteers to show their favorite state parks and historic sites some love.



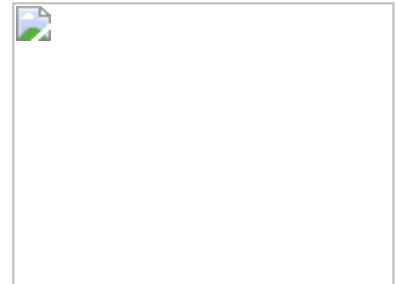
Saddle up - summer bike tours

Now that winter has finally lost its grip, it's time to plan a summer escape! Join us for Cycling the Erie Canal (July 13-20) and Cycling the Hudson Valley (July 29-August 3).



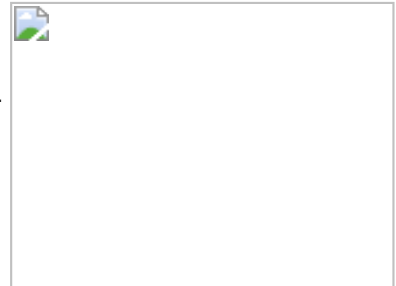
Victory for parks

It took some twists and turns to get there, but thanks to the support of our members and friends and the entire parks community, the final NYS budget includes \$90 million in state parks capital funding.



New York rail trails safe

New York's rail trails are safe. Contrary to several media reports, the U.S. Supreme Court's decision is limited in scope and will have **no effect on existing or planned rail trails in New York State.**



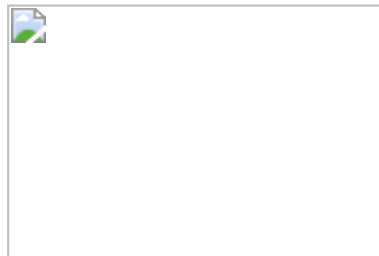
In remembrance: David Sive, Environmental Law Pioneer

We mourn the loss of David Sive, a pioneer of environmental law, who passed away March 19. Mr. Sive, who received PTNY's George W. Perkins Award in 2011, argued many precedent-setting environmental cases.



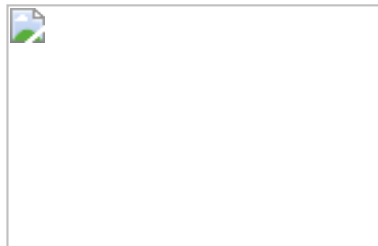
Push is on to "Close the Gaps"

Parks & Trails New York and the Canalway Trails Association New York have renewed calls for funding to close the existing gaps in the Erie Canalway Trail. Trail advocates have stepped up their campaign for funding with a letter to the Governor and an advocacy day in Albany at the end of April.



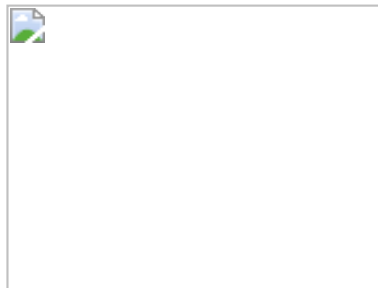
Support New York's parks and trails

PTNY is made up of thousands of individuals across the state who are passionate about New York's parks and trails. Together, we make up one of the strongest voices for protection and promotion of New York's outdoor places. Won't you join us?



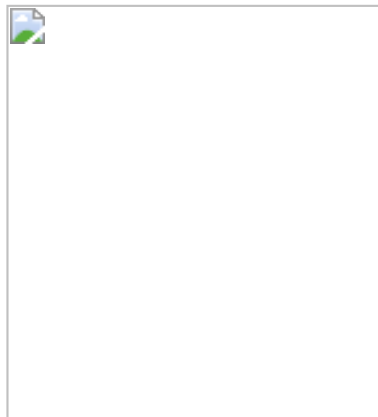
NYSDOT releases new Complete Streets Report

With the recent release of the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) Complete Streets Report, our state has reached a major milestone in the implementation of the seminal Complete Streets Law.



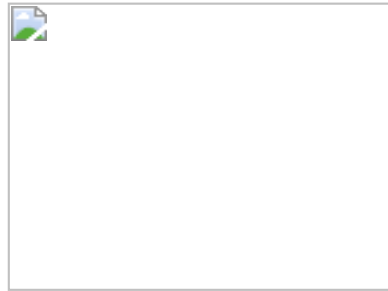
Downtown trails hub emerging in Kingston

In Ulster County, the Kingston Greenline project continues to make progress in creating an integrated network of trails that will link neighborhoods and retail districts within the City and provide connectivity to regional destinations.



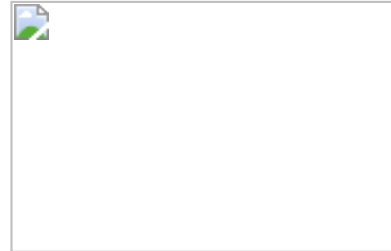
Slow down! Local speed limit control gains traction

The New York Senate moved one step closer to ensuring pedestrian and cyclist safety by passing a local speed limit bill.



Safer cycling and walking can start in Washington

We tried but were unsuccessful this year in getting extra state money in this year's budget to support safer bicycling and walking. But we can still work at the federal level to change things. Here's what you can do.



Short Takes

Great progress has been made protecting the Palisades. [Read more here.](#)

Welcome new [NYC Parks Commissioner](#) Mitchell Silver

[Take Action](#): High Speed Rail Public Comment Period Extended to April 30

Reports/Resources

[Amazing video](#) on intelligent street design

A new [map of pedestrian fatalities](#) in New York can be an effective advocacy tool.

New [Bicycle Master Plan](#) for Watervliet identifies Erie Canalway Trail connections and other trail opportunities

Events & Trainings

May 13: 2014 [National Outdoor Recreation Conference](#) in San Francisco

May 21-22: PTNY is co-sponsoring the [Walk-Bike New York Symposium](#) in Suffern. Join us for two days of bike/ped love.

[National Sustainable Trails Workshops](#) in June and October to focus on new federal trail accessibility guidelines

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