

Annual Report of the
Natural Heritage Trust
2010-11



**Advancing Parks, Land and Water Conservation
and Historic Preservation in New York State since 1968**

Table of Contents

Overview	1
<i>Background and Mission</i>	2
<i>A Tradition of Philanthropy</i>	2
<i>Board of Directors</i>	3
Project and Programmatic Highlights	4
<i>Capital Projects & Improvements</i>	5
<i>Cultural & Recreational Programming</i>	8
<i>Environmental & Outdoor Education</i>	10
<i>Resource Protection & Restoration</i>	13
<i>Historic Preservation</i>	17
<i>Other Partnerships and Collaborations</i>	19
Financial Highlights	21
Our Supporters	24
Ways to Give	24
Contributors & Sponsors	25
NHT Staff and Contact	27



Saratoga Spa State Park

Overview

The Natural Heritage Trust (NHT) is pleased to present its Fiscal Year (FY) 2010-11 Annual Report. This report highlights ways in which funds raised and administered through the NHT are put to use to directly support parks, recreation, cultural, land and water conservation and historic preservation purposes throughout the State of New York.

The support of our donors and friends over the year proved especially important as the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP), the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), and the Department of State (DOS) have sought increased partnerships and private support in response to the fiscal challenges facing New York State. Private funding through the NHT provided vital support for a variety of agency projects and programs.

The NHT received over \$1.5 million from corporate contributors and sponsors such as Citibank, First Niagara Bank and Bethpage Federal

Credit Union to help maintain and enhance programs and events throughout the State. In other cases, individual donations both large and



Citibank Clean-Up Day

small helped support a variety of projects. In still others, funds raised in concert with the NHT's agency partners were used to purchase sorely needed equipment to support the operation of parks and sites to the benefit of the public. The NHT also received foundation grants, including an extremely generous \$2 million grant from the Alphawood Foundation, Chicago.

At the close of the year the NHT held \$25.9 million in trust. During FY 2010-11, the NHT expended approximately \$11.7 million on a host of programs and projects throughout the State, while at the same time raising just over \$12.3 million from a variety of sources including donations, grants, corporate sponsors, programs and activities and other fundraising initiatives. The NHT is pleased to report that during FY 2010-11 administrative costs were held to under three percent of total assets held in trust.

While safeguarding trust funds is of primary importance, of equal importance is putting trust resources to work. This report provides numerous examples of how funds administered by NHT supported projects and programs throughout the State during FY 2010-11. None of this would be possible without the contributions of the NHT's supporters. The NHT gratefully acknowledges the individuals, businesses and foundations that generously supported the NHT's work throughout the year.



Letchworth State Park

Background and Mission

The Natural Heritage Trust (NHT) was established in 1968 as a public benefit corporation of the State of New York. The NHT is tax exempt pursuant to Section 170 (b) of the Internal Revenue Code and is a publicly supported 501(c)(3) charitable organization.

The NHT's mission is to receive and administer gifts, grants and contributions to further public programs for parks, recreation, cultural, land and water conservation and historic preservation purposes of the State of New York. The NHT accomplishes its mission by accepting donations, raising funds, building public/private partnerships, and through cooperative programs and projects with its agency partners: New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP), New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and the Department of State (DOS). The NHT ensures the safekeeping of funds held in trust and invests such funds prudently and in a manner consistent with the underlying gift, grant, program and/or project.

The NHT does not charge administrative overhead fees on donated funds, but does retain interest gained on these funds. In cases where the NHT receives a larger donation or grant that may be held in trust for a longer term, the NHT

may invest the funds more aggressively with all investment returns, less an agreed to management fee, accruing

to the benefit of the project or program supported by the donation.

A Tradition of Philanthropy in New York State

Dating back to the conservation movement of the late 19th and 20th centuries, philanthropic gifts formed the backbone of the State's system of parks and open spaces – gifts that millions of visitors continue to enjoy to this day.

- The magnificent Genesee River gorge in Letchworth State Park and the views from the Helderberg escarpment in John Boyd Thacher State Park are examples of treasures preserved in public parks through gifts made by philanthropists like William Pryor Letchworth and Emma Treadwell Thacher.
- In 1910, Mary W. Harriman bestowed 10,000 acres and \$1 million to help establish public parks in the Palisades region. Moreover, she challenged her fellow New Yorkers to step up and contribute \$1.5 million more and their combined generosity endures in park system jewels like Bear Mountain State Park and Harriman State Park.
- The Rockefeller family is well known as a champion of conservation and public parks – helping protect

assets in the Palisades, Rockefeller State Park Preserve and other remarkable natural areas along the Hudson River.

- In the 1970's, the Radio Corporation of America (RCA) donated 7,100 acres of Pine Barren lands on Long Island to the State Department of Environmental Conservation, which now protects the Island's precious underground water supplies and provides terrific outdoor recreational opportunities.
- In 2005, DEC received a gift easement of more than 15,800 acres of land in the heart of the Adirondacks from International Paper, to help create what has become the John Dillon Park, the first wilderness area designed specifically for people with disabilities and their caregivers.

The NHT is proud to be a part of this rich tradition of philanthropy. The NHT has been at the forefront of some of the State's most progressive parks, environment and community enhancement initiatives and looks forward to continuing this tradition well into the future.

The Board of Directors

as of March 31, 2011

The NHT is governed by a Board of Directors comprised of the Commissioner of OPRHP, the Commissioner of the DEC, the Secretary of State, and the Chair of the State Council of Parks, a statewide advisory board that provides guidance and makes recommendations on matters affecting parks, recreation and historic preservation.

Rose Harvey, Chair, Natural Heritage Trust

*Commissioner, Office of Parks,
Recreation and Historic Preservation*

Ms. Harvey has served as senior fellow at the Jonathan Rose Companies, where she acted as an advisor and researcher on parks and open space issues and launched a non-profit organization to fund, design and develop safe parks in urban neighborhoods. She was recently a McCluskey Fellow and Lecturer at the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies. Ms. Harvey has held multiple leadership positions with The Trust for Public Land where she oversaw all real estate acquisitions, urban park design and developments and managed the finances of a \$20 million annual operating budget. Ms. Harvey received her B.A. from Colorado College in 1977 and M.E.S. at the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies in 1984. She also currently serves on the Board of the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation and the Yale Leadership Advisory Council.

Lucy R. Waletzky, M.D.

*Chair, State Council of Parks, Recreation
and Historic Preservation*

Dr. Waletzky has been Chair of the Taconic Region Parks Commission since 2004 and Chair of the State Council of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation since March 2007, and has been involved with numerous committees and organizations for natural preservation over the years. In 2003, working to preserve the Northeast corner of the Rockefeller State Park Preserve she donated 84 acres to New York State and ten acres to Westchester County. Dr. Waletzky received the Governor's Parks and Preservation Award in 2004 and both the State Council of Parks Commission Chair Award and Friends of Westchester County Parks Best Friend Award in 2006.

Joe Martens

*Commissioner, Department of
Environmental Conservation*

Since 1998, Mr. Martens has served as President of the Open Space Institute, directing and overseeing land acquisition,

sustainable development, historic preservation and farmland protection. Previously, Mr. Martens served as Deputy Secretary to the Governor for Energy and the Environment from 1992-94 and before that Assistant Secretary from 1990-92. His experience includes serving as the Chair of the Olympic Regional Development Authority and Chair of the Adirondack Lake Survey Corporation. Mr. Martens studied Resource Economics at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst and received an M.S. in Resource Management from the State University of New York, College of Environmental Science and Forestry at Syracuse University.

Ruth Noemí Colón

Acting Secretary of State, Department of State

Ms. Colón joined the Department of State in 2007 and has served in a number of positions within the agency, most recently as Special Counsel. During her tenure at DOS, she has supervised the Administrative Law Judge Unit, and serves as the final arbitrator of decisions pertaining to licensing disputes. She has managed the agency appointment processes, in which she identified vacancies and candidates for boards and commissions. She has also served as Executive Director of the New York State Athletic Commission, Deputy Director for Communications at the New York City Housing Authority, and acted as a liaison to the New York City Mayor's Office on issues concerning the Latino community. Ms. Colón is a graduate of the University of Puerto Rico and the Pace Law School. She has been admitted to practice law in New York, Connecticut and Washington, D.C.

John Boyd Thacher State Park





Hudson River Valley

Project and Programmatic Highlights

For over four decades, the NHT has collaborated with OPRHP, DEC, and DOS in facilitating private investment in the state's natural, recreational, and historic resources.



Emma Treadwell Thacher Nature Center

Millions of private dollars have been secured to support cultural and recreational programming, capital projects and

improvements, environmental and outdoor education, natural resource protection and restoration, and historic preservation throughout the state. The NHT is dedicated to building and sustaining relationships with private supporters to protect and enhance these important programs and projects.

Additionally, the NHT provides support to its state agency partners by accepting

public grants and other funds to help further agency goals and initiatives. Funds received and administered by the NHT enhance the agencies' abilities to carry out their missions by supplementing scarce state resources. These cooperative relationships allow NHT to provide fiscal and administrative assistance and achieve efficiency that cannot be matched by other organizations.



Midway State Park

The NHT partners with New York State agencies, as well as a number of other public and private entities, not-for-profits and friends

groups to administer funding for programs supporting conservation, preservation, outdoor recreation and land stewardship. The NHT manages its funds through segregated project



Bayard Cutting Arboretum State

and program accounts. At the close of FY 2010-11, the NHT managed 175 program accounts dedicated to specific projects and programs – and in some cases multiple programs – throughout the State.



Franklin D. Roosevelt Four Freedoms Park
PHOTO: Amiaga Photographers



Five Rivers Environmental Education Center

Capital Projects and Improvements

Franklin D. Roosevelt Four Freedoms Park

On March 29, 2010 construction crews broke ground on the long-awaited development of the Franklin



Franklin D. Roosevelt Four Freedoms Park

D. Roosevelt Four Freedoms Park on Roosevelt Island in New York City, for which planning initiated in the 1970s. Construction of the park, the last architectural design by the famous Louis I. Kahn, is being undertaken by Franklin D. Roosevelt Four Freedoms Park, LLC and is expected to cost approximately \$50 million. To date over \$47 million has been raised from a variety of sources including government

funds and over \$10 million generously contributed by the Alphawood Foundation, Chicago. Under a 1973 agreement, OPRHP is to provide for the operation and maintenance of the park upon its completion. In order to assist OPRHP in its responsibilities Alphawood Foundation granted \$2 million to the NHT which will be administered as an endowment dedicated to the ongoing management and operation of the park. The park's name is inspired by Roosevelt's famous speech in which he proclaimed four essential human freedoms: freedom of speech and worship, and freedom from want and fear. To date, the section of the park Kahn referred to as the "Room" at the very southern tip of the island has been completed, and the entire park is slated to be opened in fall 2012.

Copake Gateway Project

Thanks to a generous donation of \$500,000 from long time supporter of OPRHP, Dr. Lucy Waletzky, construction of the first official park office at the Copake Falls area



Taconic State Park - Copake Falls Area

of Taconic State Park began in the late fall of 2010. The new office will create a recognized park entry and significantly improve park functions such as office activities, patron contact, vehicular access control, administrative oversight, parking and pedestrian circulation. The park offers many recreational opportunities including an extensive network of trails, camping, fishing and nature programs focusing on the park's wildlife and environment. In addition, the park includes the newly created Iron Works museum where visitors can learn about the iron industry at the former site of Copake Iron Works, established in 1845.

Saratoga Spa State Park Centennial Capital Project

The Saratoga Capital District Regional Park Commission completed a private fundraising initiative in 2010 to restore the historic “Vale of Springs” area of Saratoga Spa State Park in honor of the 100th anniversary of the State’s preservation of the mineral waters in Saratoga. The NHT received over



Saratoga Spa State Park

\$125,000 in individual and corporate donations in support of the project. With assistance from community volunteers, in-kind donations from contractors, and the Friends of Saratoga Spa State Park, this \$250,000 project restored historic plazas and pavilions, improved access, developed a stairway to connect the upper and lower mineral springs trails, and added landscaping and interpretive signs. Visitors can now easily access, explore, and perhaps even taste, the fascinating spouting mineral waters of Saratoga.

Hallock State Park Preserve

As part of the original purchase agreement of the 225-acre Hallock



Hallock State Park Preserve

State Park Preserve, formerly known as Jamesport State Park, the State retained a conservation easement for 10 adjacent agricultural parcels to ensure permanent

availability of farmland in the region and the continued compatibility of that farmland with use of the adjoining park. In partnership with the Trust for Public Lands (TPL) the resulting parcels were sold and the \$3.3 million in proceeds were donated by TPL to the NHT to support the design and development of the park. Over the past two years, the NHT has used funds from this gift to help support the planning process and in 2010 OPRHP adopted the completed Master Plan. During 2010-11, NHT retained a consultant to commence the designs for the entrance road, parking area, access to the beach and other site amenities in addition to completing all environmental studies and permitting. Currently all design work is in the schematic phase.

Minnewaska Carriage Trail Project

Minnewaska State Park, managed by the Palisades Interstate Parks Commission, has 21,000 acres with 24 miles of carriage roads. The roads are remarkable, gracefully following the



Minnewaska State Park

contours of the land, highlighting the beautiful natural features and taking full advantage of the most impressive views. The Minnewaska landscape harbors an equally impressive diversity of wildlife, with over 40 distinct types of natural communities that provide habitat to many rare and endangered plants and animals. Although many roads are over 100 years old, there has never been a comprehensive, network-wide restoration campaign. Instead, routine maintenance—clearing brush, filling potholes and repairing culverts—has been supplemented by piecemeal restoration and rebuilding projects. The deferral of the most expensive maintenance projects has accelerated

the roads’ rate of deterioration. The Millbrook Carriage Road, a core multi-use carriage road that is used for hiking, biking and equestrian, is currently under construction thanks to various private donations, including a generous \$250,000 contribution to the NHT from Dr. Lucy Waletzky, and a grant from the State’s Environmental Protection Fund.

Five Rivers Guided School Program Building

Thanks to the dedication of the Friends of Five Rivers, a citizens’ group, the NHT recently finalized the cooperative agreement with DEC and the Friends setting forth terms related to



Five Rivers Environmental Education Center

administration of \$500,000 in gift funds to support the construction of a new Five Rivers Guided School Program Building. The gift funds are being held in trust by the NHT to support costs of supplies and materials for the building at the Five Rivers Environmental Education Center. Located in Delmar within an area of rapid residential development, the Center consists of 446-acres that include 12 miles of trails and interior roads, 16 ponds and wetlands, and expanses of forest, field and brush land habitats. The guided school program provides on-site, outdoor lessons to classes throughout the school year. The program is run by volunteers and provides instruction to nearly 6,000 children each year. The program had been run in an outdated building on the site, but thanks to the generous donation a new building is under construction.

The Repass family of Massachusetts made the donation in memory of their daughter Wendy Repass Suozzo. Wendy was an educator at Five Rivers for many years and will now be part of a lasting legacy at the site. The new building will serve as a classroom for students and will provide space for teaching materials. The new

building is expected to be LEED Silver certified. The anticipated completion date for the building is early 2012 and at present seven geothermal wells have been installed.

Letchworth Nature Center Scoping Study

Through another generous donation by Dr. Waletzky, the NHT is funding a conceptual study to facilitate possible future development of a Nature Center for Letchworth State Park. Genesee Regional and park staff are working with consultants who are also partnering with a design firm to complete the study. The goals of the study include identification of building components and opportunities for sustainable design, recommendations on how to engage the public as well as civic, educational and environmental organizations to support the nature center's mission, identification of fundraising and sponsorship opportunities, and development of interpretive themes and programs. It is expected that the study's final report will be used as a major tool for an anticipated



Letchworth State Park

capital fundraising campaign for final design and construction of the Nature Center.

Betty and Wilbur Davis State Park

Betty and Wilbur Davis State Park, located in the Town of Westford in Otsego County, is named for the generous New York couple who donated the land to the State via the NHT. All totaled, the Davises have donated more than \$2 million to the NHT which supported the initial development of the park, as well as ongoing capital improvements. Recent improvements include the new playground, public restrooms and pavilion. In FY 2010-11 the NHT

helped to fund ongoing maintenance at the park. With expansive views and tranquil surroundings, Betty and Wilbur Davis State Park is a favorite



Betty and Wilbur Davis State Park

among birdwatchers and other nature lovers. The 200-acre park is intermixed with hardwood forests, gently rolling meadowlands and two ponds. The park also features an extensive network of hiking trails and a woodland stream.

Bear Mountain Trailside Museum

During FY 2009-10, the NHT received a \$1.2 million gift from the estate of Robert J. Drew for the benefit of the Trailside Museum at Bear Mountain State Park. During 2010, the final distribution was made to the NHT from Mr. Drew's estate. The funds are now managed by the



Bear Mountain State Park

Palisades Interstate Parks Commission (PIPC). Mr. Drew spent time at the park as a child while growing up in New York City in the 1920s and 30s. The park introduced him to nature and wildlife, which he would continue to enjoy throughout his life. Today's Trailside Museum and Zoo occupy 40 acres on a bluff overlooking the Hudson River. In 2010-11, plans for the coyote enclosure and exhibit were completed and are expected to go to bid in mid-2011. The beaver and otter enclosures and exhibits will be the next projects to be undertaken with the gift funds.

Robert G. Wehle State Park

Robert G. Wehle State Park, the former estate of Mr. Wehle, is the Thousand Island region's newest state park featuring over 1,100 acres and over 17,000 feet of



Robert G. Wehle State Park

spectacular Lake Ontario shoreline. After Mr. Wehle's death, the Robert G. Wehle Charitable Trust was established to fund development and long-term upkeep of the park. Annual distributions from the Wehle Trust are received by the NHT to support a wide variety of projects and programming at the park. In 2010, the distribution totaled just over \$100,000. Funds were dedicated toward improvements at the Wehle property, including the main cottage, guest house, artist studio, and formal gardens. Funds also went toward upkeep of several roads as well purchasing of equipment to support ongoing maintenance of the park's facilities.

East River State Park

During FY 2010-11, funds raised through the NHT at East River State Park are being used to assist in the construction of a new solar lighting system. The project is expected to cost over \$650,000 with \$260,000 in



East River State Park

support from the NHT. The funds were raised through a collaboration of the Open Space Alliance (OSA) of North Brooklyn. For the past two years East River State Park has hosted a Summer Concert Series, managed cooperatively by OPRHP, the NHT and OSA. As a result, approximately \$290,000 has been raised to support this and other projects.



Darien Lakes State Park

Cultural and Recreational Programming

Niagara Falls State Park 125th Anniversary

The nation's oldest state park, Niagara Falls, marked its 125th anniversary during 2010. Leading up to and throughout the year, the NHT provided support by



Encounter Niagara

accepting patron and corporate donations, as well as funds raised through a

collaboration with the Hard Rock Cafe of Niagara Falls. On July 15, 2010 the park commemorated its official birthday with a free concert on Goat Island by the Buffalo Philharmonic and the dedication of Heritage Park, a small pocket park celebrating the history of Niagara Falls State Park. The park also released a documentary film to celebrate the park's anniversary. The documentary was produced by Niagara

County Community College, and it recounts the history of the park and its natural, recreational and economic values.

2010 Jones Beach Air Show

The Long Island region held its 2010 Bethpage Federal Credit Union Jones Beach Air Show during Memorial Day weekend on Saturday, May 29th and Sunday, May 30th. Nearly 370,000 people attended and on Sunday the park filled to capacity at the earliest time in its history. The U.S.



Bethpage Federal Credit Union Jones Beach Air Show

Navy Blue Angels Jet team headlined the show and performed a precision demonstration over the Atlantic Ocean for spectators. The show also included aerial performers from each branch of the U.S. Military. The NHT received

contributions from corporate sponsors and from the sale of hospitality tickets. These funds were used to cover expenses related to the show. Thanks to the generosity of sponsors totaling more than \$160,000, as well as in-kind contributions, there was no fee charged for admission beyond the standard per vehicle park entrance fee.

Genesee Recreational Programs and Events

The NHT received donations and other revenue to support festivals and events throughout the Genesee region. Events included summer and fall concerts at



Hamlin Beach State Park

Lakeside Beach, Hamlin Beach, and Darien Lakes State Parks, as well as Hamlin Beach's Earth Day and Darien

Lakes' "Kid's Day". At Letchworth State Park, funds supported a concert series, as well as the Arts and Crafts Show, The Stone Tool Technology Show and "Fire on the Genesee" Civil War encampment and re-enactment. Funds raised through the NHT supported costs such as performers, sound and lighting, tents and fireworks.

Riverbank Recreational Programs

Riverbank State Park provides youth programming, funded through the NHT, from swim meets to cheerleading



Riverbank State Park

competition, summer camp and college fairs. The park hosts a number of youth athletic teams; some compete solely in-house while others travel to compete. The teams include youth basketball, baseball, ice hockey, football, swimming and cheerleading. Registration revenue from the participants is held at the NHT and expended on league and tournament entry fees, uniforms and transportation. Other funds are raised through bake sales and other community fundraising events. During 2010-11, the NHT also received donations from numerous individuals and companies including NYC Elite Enterprises, Steiner Sports Memorabilia, Moriarty & Associates, and Keches Law Group in support of these programs.

Taughannock Falls Concert Series

The Summer Concert Series at Taughannock Falls State Park in Trumansburg highlights the Finger Lakes region's rich, local talent. FY 2010-11 marked the 32nd year of the concert series which is one of the most popular events in the region. The



Taughannock Falls State Park

annual series features a wide variety of high quality music performed on the shore of Cayuga Lake. The concerts take place on seven consecutive Saturday evenings from July through August. Approximately 18,400 people attended the summer concert series this past year. This year's sponsors included Tompkins Trust Company, Tompkins Insurance Agencies, the Cayuga Wine Trail and WSKG Public Radio.

Allegany State Park Programs

The NHT receives donations to support a variety of programs and activities at Allegany State Park. During the March for Parks event, held in April



March for Parks

2010, supporters of Allegany State Park gathered to walk as part of a nationwide movement to raise money and awareness about state parks. The event raised thousand of dollars through contributions and the sale of t-shirts and buttons. Additionally, the park held its 4th annual "Catch Me If You Can" children's fishing derby in late July 2010 at Red House Lake. The NHT received donations for the event which were used to purchase prizes and trophies for participants.

Long Island Summer and Winter Run Series

The Long Island State Parks Summer Run series is held every Monday night from June through August in a different park throughout the region. It is the largest running series on Long Island and hosts some of the biggest

races in the area.

The 2010 summer schedule included runs at Heckscher,



Hempstead Lake State Park

Sunken Meadow, Caumsett, Hempstead, Belmont, Robert Moses, Bethpage, and Jones Beach State Parks. The region also hosted its Annual Winter Run Series starting in January 2011. The series began at Heckscher State Park and additional runs were held at Robert Moses, Caumsett, and Jones Beach State Parks. The NHT raises funds through participant registration and event sponsorships which are then used to fund these and other related programs throughout the region.

Niagara Region Disc Golf

The modern game of disc golf, a hybrid sport combining golf and frisbee, has roots in Rochester and has become a well-recognized sport over the past several years. The sport has become popular in the Niagara parks region and over the past few years disc sales and the efforts of volunteer disc golf organizations have resulted in thousands of dollars in proceeds to the NHT. Funds raised have helped support



Beaver Island State Park

construction and improvements to disc golf courses in state parks in the Niagara region. Throughout 2010-11, the Niagara region used these funds to update its public disc golf facilities at Evangola, Beaver Island and Niagara Falls state parks.



Fahnestock Winter Park

Environmental and Outdoor Education

DEC Camps

DEC runs four environmental education camps across New York State: Camp Rushford in the Genesee River Valley, Camp DeBruce in the Catskills, as



Camp Rushford

well as Pack Forest and Camp Colby in the Adirondacks. These camps connect children to the wilderness and instill in them a life-long appreciation of nature. Campers participate in a variety of educational programs and activities that teach about water quality, forests, environmental stewardship, and outdoor sports and survival skills. Campers participate in week-long summer sessions and oftentimes children's camp fees are supported by community, environmental groups and individuals. For the past two years the

NHT has accepted donations to help sponsor underprivileged children for week-long summer camp sessions. During 2010-11 these funds subsidized the transportation costs for 53 children to attend camp.

Also during 2010-11 two teens were chosen for an environmental camp scholarship created in memory of Emily Timbrook. Christopher Berry



Timbrook Scholarship winners with Mr. and Mrs. Timbrook

of Livonia, Livingston County, and Ashlyn Tehoke of Winchester, Va., were selected from essays they wrote about their experiences at DEC's Camp Rushford. Timbrook, a former Camp Rushford attendee and volunteer who resided in Alfred Station, Allegany

County, died tragically in a car accident in April 2009. At the suggestion of her parents, DEC and the NHT created a summer camp scholarship fund in Emily's name to encourage other young people to get outdoors and appreciate nature the same way Emily did.

Environmental Field Days at Green Lakes State Park

In October 2010, Green Lakes State Park welcomed nearly 900 fifth and sixth grade students from 14 different schools in the greater Syracuse area for the much celebrated 2010 Environmental Field Days. Environmental Field Days consists of two days of fun-filled environmental presentations and activities designed to fit the science curriculum for those students in attendance. Topics range from ecosystems and recycling to lake ecology and fish identification. Students had the opportunity to interact with professionals from a variety of careers in the physical and biological sciences. Many presenters from several different organizations contributed their time and expertise, including Page Wildlife Rehabilitation Center, Rosamond

Gifford Zoo, NYS DEC - Rogers Environmental Education Center, Barefoot Bob Astronomy, Onondaga County Resource Recovery Agency and SUNY College of Environmental



Green Lakes State Park

Science and Forestry. Programming during the Field Days was supported through funds raised through the NHT.

Allegany Environmental Education

The NHT receives donations through and in support of interpretive programs at Allegany State Park, including the Junior and Senior Naturalist Program, Girls Day and National Public Lands Day. The Junior and Senior Naturalist Program is a family oriented program which has been recognized by the Roger Tory Peterson



Allegany State Park

Institute for its excellence in place-based environmental education. Participants complete a series of tasks and attend a set number of environmental programs to earn the title of Jr. Nats (Jr. Naturalists), Nits (Naturalists in Training) or Snits (Senior Naturalist in Training). Girls Day brings middle school girls together with woman professionals in the natural science fields to learn about different careers and to promote the pursuit of natural sciences as a curriculum choice.

National Public Lands Day is the nation's largest hands-on volunteer effort to improve and enhance the public lands Americans enjoy. This year funding raised through these programs allowed Allegany State Park to replace a raccoon mount for the museum, as well as a large display case for a bear mount.

Taconic Outdoor Education Center

The Taconic Outdoor Education Center (TOEC), located in Fahnestock State Park, provides year-round environmental education, outdoor recreation and opportunities for team



Taconic Outdoor Education Center

building. Activities include low and high rope courses, maple sugaring, retreats and public programs. Groups can visit for the day or stay overnight. Schools from elementary to college, Scouts, clubs, community and business groups have immersed themselves in the forested hills of the park. Highland Lodge, with a colorful nature displays, comfortable woodland cabins, friendly service, excellent meals and knowledgeable educators is a perfect fit for these activities. The Center's programs have benefitted children throughout the tri-state area. The Center and programming are partly funded by foundation, corporate and individual support through the NHT.

Emma Treadwell Thacher Nature Center

The Emma Treadwell Thacher Nature Center, located at Thompson's Lake State Park, was made possible



Emma Treadwell Thacher Nature Center

through the generosity of Fred and Martha Schroeder. The Schroeders donated \$750,000 to the NHT to establish the nature center, designating \$400,000 for the building construction and \$350,000 to establish an endowment fund. The NHT manages the endowment in support of programming at the Center. The Nature Center opened in July of 2001. The Center serves as an interpretive center and is open to the public year-round, six days a week. Exhibits and displays include a geologic model of the area, a live honeybee observation hive, amphibians and reptiles, fossils, skulls, furs and other hands-on materials. Educational and interpretive programs are presented to school groups and the general public throughout the year.

Clay Pit Ponds Interpretive Center

The Clay Pit Ponds State Park Preserve is located within a 250 acre natural area near the southwest shore of Staten Island on the former site of a clay mining operation. Today the park supports a variety of



Clay Pit Ponds Park Preserve Interpretive Center

habitats including wetlands, fields, sandy barrens, spring-fed streams and woodlands, and the area is rich in plant and animal life. The Clay Pit Ponds Park Preserve Interpretive

Center located within the park was made possible through a public-private partnership involving the NHT and OPRHP. The new Interpretive Center



Clay Pit Ponds Park Preserve Interpretive Center

houses three classrooms and exhibit space. It provides the Preserve with the space needed to display the area's natural environment and man made history while hosting interpretive programming. The recently constructed Interpretive Center was supported by City and State Capital Funds, as well as \$200,000 in private donations to the NHT. In FY 2010-11, the NHT funded a variety of educational programs and events at the Interpretive Center including "spooky science" series, wreath-making classes, performances and storytelling about Native American culture.

Wellesley Island State Park

One of the main attractions of the Wellesley Island State Park is the Minna Anthony Common Nature Center, which includes a museum, varied habitats such as wooded wetlands, three miles of shoreline and open granite outcrops, and miles of trails for hiking, cross-country skiing and nature education. The Nature Center provides educational and recreational programs for all ages. Thousands of school children visit the Nature Center each year from fall through spring to learn about the environment. Each season features unique programs. The NHT provides administrative support for the Nature Center funded through gift



Minna Anthony Common Nature Center

shop proceeds and donations, including support from the Friends of Minna Anthony Common Nature Center.

Genesee Interpretive Materials

The NHT supports the production of park maps and informational brochures



distributed throughout Letchworth State Park, as well as The Genesee Naturalist. Donations to the NHT support The Genesee Naturalist, a free quarterly

publication sent to nearly 500 subscribers across the Northeast and made available at state parks throughout the region. The Genesee Naturalist is also sent to hundreds of schools, libraries, not-for-profit organizations, tourist promotion and news agencies across a ten county area of Western New York. The NHT also funds the publication of two media that are currently being sold at Letchworth State Park; a video entitled "Echoes from the Glen", a documentary of Letchworth History from Mary Jemison to present day and a coffee table book entitled "Canyon Light: The Seasons of Letchworth State Park," a pictorial display of Letchworth by local photographer Ray Minnick.

Letchworth State Park





Niagara River Fish and Wildlife Habitat Improvement Program

Resource Protection and Restoration

Mt. Loretto

In 1999 New York State purchased the 194-acre Mount Loretto property,



Mount Loretto

a crown jewel of undeveloped open space along Staten Island's south shore, overlooking Raritan Bay. The State was assisted in the acquisition by the Trust for Public Land (TPL), which reached agreement on behalf of the State with the Archdiocese of New York to acquire the property for \$25 million in EPF and Bond Act funds. The property contains extensive meadows and sensitive shore front with freshwater and tidal wetlands that contain grassland species, a rare ecosystem in New York City. The property is now being managed by

DEC to conserve these important natural resources and to provide exciting new outdoor educational opportunities for New York City residents.

The NHT entered into a gift agreement with TPL and DEC under which the NHT received just over \$1.5 million in gift funds to establish an endowment dedicated toward maintenance, operation and programming at Mount Loretto. The property contains the only natural red clay bluffs in NYC and ecologically rich and diverse habitats including grassland, coastal woodland, freshwater and tidal wetlands, shorelines, beach and open water and bay bottom. The endowment enables the State to manage the property as a nature preserve and outdoor educational resource for visitors and school groups. At present, the endowment stands at \$2.1 million and the NHT is working with DEC to identify additional projects and programs to be supported with the investment earnings.

Master Park Planning

Since 2008, NHT has provided support for the OPRHP Master Planning Initiative through a combination of public, foundation and gift funds to provide staffing assistance and to administer contracts in support the development of master plans. This partnership has allowed for the creation of several dynamic master plans throughout the state park system that



Caumsett State Historic Park Preserve

guide development, programming and park operations in a manner that protects natural and cultural resources. Through a process that brings many different disciplines together within a core planning team these master plans/

environmental impact statements achieve a balance between resource use and protection. Public participation is an important component of the planning process and has contributed in a positive



Grafton Lakes State Park

manner to park and site plans. Master plans are also important (and required) resources when applying for grants and other outside funding. The research, public outreach and analysis done to prepare a master plan yield a thorough document that clearly describes the future direction of the park.

To date, nine master plans have been completed for facilities across the state, including: Allegany State Park, Caumsett State Historic Park Preserve, Minnewaska State Park Preserve, Clarence Fahnestock Memorial State Park/Hudson Highlands State Park Preserve, Saratoga Spa State Park, Midway State Historic Park, Robert Wehle State Park, Green Lakes State Park, and Hallock State Park Preserve. For 2010-2011, the master plans currently under development include: Grafton Lakes State Park, Alfred E. Smith Sunken Meadow State Park, and Ogden and Ruth Livingston Mills Memorial State Park/Margaret Lewis Norrie State Park and Staatsburgh State Historic Site.

CleanSweepNY Environmental Benefit Project

The NHT receives and administers environmental benefit/mitigation funds to support activities of CleanSweepNY, a DEC initiative started in 2002 to provide for the safe and economical collection, removal and disposal of

unwanted and unusable chemical pesticides. These chemicals are collected from farms, greenhouses, nurseries, landscapers, marinas, certified pesticide applicators, and other entities across the State that do not have any other practical way to dispose of these materials. To date, fourteen CleanSweepNY collection events have taken place throughout the State with over 1,059,043 pounds of unwanted chemicals safely collected and removed for disposal or recycling. More recently,



CleanSweepNY

the collection and disposal of laboratory chemicals from schools was added to the CleanSweepNY toxic chemical cleanup efforts and 379 schools have participated thus far.

Brownfield Opportunity Areas (BOA) Program

The BOA program provides a neighborhood approach to brownfield assessment and redevelopment. NHT project staff administer and oversee projects located in New York City, Nassau and Suffolk Counties, lower Hudson Valley and in the major upstate cities of Buffalo, Rochester, Syracuse and Oswego. The program provides a flexible framework for participants to generate revitalization strategies through a locally-driven process. The program supports a variety of revitalization activities including: existing conditions analysis; strategic site identification; economic and market studies to assist in determining the best use of brownfields; investigations to assess site contamination and environmental conditions; marketing to attract developers; and other actions to spur investment in, clean-up of, and redevelopment of brownfield

sites. Since the program began in 2005, more than 100 BOA revitalization strategies have commenced statewide. Communities use the BOA approach to attract new uses and businesses to surrounding neighborhoods and include housing and retail, commercial, manufacturing and public amenities such as parks or recreation facilities.

Invasive Species

The NHT has partnered with OPRHP to manage grant funds to support invasive species management. The NHT supports the office of Invasive Species Management at Minnewaska State Park Preserve which provides guidance and direction on projects in all 11 OPRHP regions. The office has developed the statewide framework for invasive species management including; planning, data management, training, education,



Finger Lakes Invasive Species Management

project oversight and implementation. During FY 2010-11 major focus projects included work at Robert H. Treman State Park, Watkins Glen State Park and Minnewaska SPP. Guidance and on-site direction was provided through the office on more than 30 staff and volunteer projects statewide, including an important project to control swallow-wort in Robert G. Wehle State Park, in partnership with the Robert G. Wehle Trust.

Project work at Minnewaska State Park Preserve involved eradication of invasive species and establishment and verification of an invasive species prevention zone (ISPZ) comprised of 16,500 acres of quality habitat. In the ISPZ the level of invasive plants is such that eradication is possible and the area

will soon be declared invasive free. In total the staff and volunteers removed approximately 1.3 million plants,



Japanese stiltgrass removal, Minnewaska State Park Preserve

surveyed 99.5km of trails and 69.95km of park interior, and collected data on 114 invaded sites.

Niagara River Fish and Wildlife Habitat Improvement Program

In March 2010 the NHT entered into a cooperative agreement with DEC and the New York Power Authority (NYPA) through which the NHT provides



Osprey

administrative and fiscal assistance to the Fish and Wildlife Habitat Improvement Program in the Niagara River Corridor (Corridor). Under this cooperative program eight habitat improvement projects (HIPs) will be implemented



Niagara River Fish and Wildlife Habitat Improvement Program

in the Corridor. In the first year of the program, significant improvements in the nesting habitats for Common Terns and Ospreys have been achieved. Four

new fish habitats were created in the Niagara River to benefit valuable game fish species. Planning for the remaining HIPs is underway, with full program implementation anticipated for 2014.

Coastal Consistency

The NHT provides assistance to DOS in performing regulatory reviews (“Consistency”) under the State’s Coastal Management Program. All coastal area projects requiring federal permits or funding must get prior approval from DOS. Coastal Consistency program staff review applicant proposals, communicate with applicants for additional information, and provide recommendations to DOS on whether such proposals are consistent with the NYS Coastal Management Program. Consistency reviews cover a wide range of projects, including large energy projects, such as the proposed Champlain Hudson Express power line under the Hudson River, the Galloo Island wind turbine farm in Lake Ontario, and the Verdant tidal turbines in NYC.



Montauk, New York

Ocean and Great Lakes Program

The NHT provides fiscal and administrative support to OPRHP and DEC in the implementation of the Ocean and Great Lakes Program. The NHT staff work to further a broad-based ecosystem-based management (EBM) program in the Ocean and Great Lakes watersheds, which encompass much of the State. A major goal of the program includes incorporation of EBM into agency natural resource stewardship and master planning initiatives. Training of agency Resource Management staff and

other regional staff has been provided under this program.

To better provide for more place-based information, science-based decisions, defining measurable objectives and adaptively managing state parks and open spaces, NHT staff have also assisted in the creation of a statewide scientific research tracking, permitting system, and database. EBM input has been incorporated into agency policies as applicable, including fish and wildlife management, and native species. NHT staff are also responsible for coordination of agency involvement in the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI), a federal program that provides multiple sources of funding to state agencies and others that partner with agencies to accomplish projects directly improving the environmental quality of the Great Lakes and their watersheds. NHT staff assist in grant preparation for GLRI applications and monitor and assist in taking advantage of other funding opportunities for the ocean and Great Lakes environment. Three projects totaling over \$800,000 have been funded thus far under the GLRI. The NHT looks forward to continuing to work with OPRHP, DEC and other agencies to further EBM in the State.

Wilson Hill Management Area

The NHT provides fiscal and administrative support to implement projects in the Wilson Hill Wildlife Management Area (WHWMA) adjacent



Wilson Hill Management Area

to the St. Lawrence River. As part of the New York Power Authority’s (NYPA) relicensing of its St. Lawrence-FDR Power Project hydroelectric facility, NYPA and DEC entered into a settlement

agreement whereby NYPA agreed to provide funding for certain habitat improvement projects, improvements to the WHWMA and various public access projects. The project funds are paid by NYPA to the NHT, and the operation, management and maintenance of the projects are overseen by NHT staff and DEC.



Wilson Hill Management Area

Wilson Hill WMA is an open water wetland located in St. Lawrence County approximately six miles west of the village of Massena. The 3,434-acre area

consists of several large open water pools of approximately 1,800 acres bordered by cattail, shrub swamp, forest, and meadows. The area is ideal for nesting and migrating waterfowl, and provides habitat for wading birds, shore birds, song birds, and raptors. The area also supports an abundance of wetland furbearers and terrestrial wildlife. The projects supported by the funds will enhance and protect water quality, fishery, bird, waterfowl and terrestrial resources impacted by the St. Lawrence-FDR Power Project.

Golf Course Integrated Pest Management (IPM)

The NHT continued its relationship with Cornell University to explore reduced risk and integrated pest management methods for maintaining the State's golf courses. This program began in 2001 at Bethpage State Park and studied traditional management techniques of greens compared to systems utilizing



Pinnacle State Park Golf Course

biologically-based controls and reduced risk chemicals. For the past two years, Cornell, OPRHP and the NHT have been working cooperatively to expand reduced risk practices to all 29 golf courses in the state park system. These practices have been shown to reduce the environmental impact of golf course maintenance. The NHT looks forward to continuing this program and furthering the State's efforts to provide recreational opportunities to the public in environmentally responsible ways.

Bethpage State Park





Sackets Harbor Battlefield State Historic Site

Historic Preservation

Crown Point State Historic Site

Crown Point State Historic Site, featuring 18th century British and French fort ruins, has been recently rejuvenated thanks to a collaboration



Crown Point State Historic Site

between the NHT, OPRHP and DEC. Through a variety of funding sources managed by the NHT, this National Historic Landmark on Lake Champlain has a new high-definition, digital video presentation and a sound-and-light show to greet guests at the museum and explain the remarkable significance of this site to our nation's history. The museum has been upgraded with a fresh and engaging history exhibit, "Raids, Redoubts, Redcoats, and Ruins". The NHT is also assisting with a current project to turn a dilapidated 19th century horse barn into a usable

storage facility for the maintenance of this 377-acre property.

Saratoga Sword Surrender Site Development

British General Burgoyne surrendered his sword to Colonial General Gates during the end of the Battles of Saratoga on October 17, 1777. As a defining military engagement during the Revolutionary War, the sword surrender proved to the French government that Colonial forces were capable



of winning the war and this led the French to ally with the Americans. In July 2010, the NHT was awarded a \$75,000 grant from the National Park Service's American Battlefield Protection Program to produce a Cultural Landscape Treatment and Site Development Plan (Plan) for the Sword Surrender site.

The Plan is an important preliminary step towards the proper preservation and interpretation of this culturally and historically significant landmark. The NHT is working collaboratively with the Historic Saratoga-Washington on the Hudson Partnership (the Partnership) on the project. As of year end, the preliminary survey work was underway. The NHT and the Partnership anticipate that the Plan will be completed by August 2011.

Sampson WWII Naval Museum

Today's Sampson State Park was the site of the US Navy's second largest training facility from 1942-1945 during WWII and was an Air Force training base from 1950-1956 during the Korean Conflict. In total, more than 750,000 servicemen and -women were trained at the base. Between the two wars, the base was converted to Sampson State College to educate returned servicemen and -women. In 1960, Sampson became a state park. It is also home to the Sampson Naval Veteran's Museum and Memorial. The museum has been operated by a volunteer group of veterans and is in the process of transferring assets to

the NHT. The NHT has entered into a cooperative operation and maintenance



Sampson WWII Naval Museum

agreement to keep the museum running and accepts donations on the museum's behalf.

Hyde Hall Historic Site

The NHT has partnered with Hyde Hall, Inc. to accept donations on its behalf to further fundraising efforts for the historic site, located on the shores of Otsego Lake. Hyde Hall was built by George Clarke (1768-1835) who wanted an estate similar to his childhood home in England. Philip Hooker, whose previous design work included the original New York State Capitol, Albany City Hall, and the facade of the Hamilton College chapel, was tapped to design the mansion. Hyde Hall, Inc.,



Hyde Hall Historic Site

in collaboration with OPRHP, operates, maintains and supports Hyde Hall State Historic Site. Hyde Hall, Inc. is currently in the process of obtaining 501(c) (3) charitable status from the Internal Revenue Service. In the interim, the NHT has agreed to act as a fiscal agent and receive donations on its behalf.

Sonnenberg Gardens & Mansion State Historic Park

Located in Canandaigua, Sonnenberg Gardens & Mansion State Historic Park is one of the nation's most extensively preserved country estates from the Victorian era. The gardens, the brainchild of Mary Clark Thompson nearly 100 years ago, include thousands

of perennials, annuals and other plant life. The property is operated by a not-for-profit organization, Sonnenberg Gardens and Mansions, which recently embarked on a \$3.2 million rehabilitation project that includes reconstruction of the mansion's veranda and several architectural features in the historic gardens. In 2010-11, gift funds administered through the NHT went



Sonnenberg Gardens & Mansion State Historic Park

toward restoration of the mansion's veranda and the Beveledere pavilion.

Battle Flag Preservation

The NHT continued to support the New York State Battle Flag Preservation Project by continuing the restoration of several State-owned flags. The Division of Military and Naval Affairs (DMNA) owns the collection of approximately 2,000 flags dating back from the War of 1812



New York State Battle Flag after restoration.

to the present. The collection also includes the nation's largest collection of Civil War battle flags. The flags are conserved by NHT staff working at OPRHP's Peebles Island Resource Center. During FY 2010-11, the NHT received \$10,000 in private donations and a \$30,000 grant from the Coby Foundation in support of these efforts. Each year, a small number of the treated flags are displayed in the State Capitol or DMNA's NYS Military Museum in Saratoga Springs. With the year 2012 marking the bicentennial of the War of 1812, many of the restored flags will also be incorporated in commemorative events throughout the State in the upcoming year.

In FY 2010-11, NHT staff also conserved eight Civil War flags from both the Wisconsin Veterans Museum and the Illinois State Military Museum. The NHT is proud to partner with these and other organizations committed to preserving these remarkable symbols of our state and nation's history.

NYS Barns Program

For over ten years, the NHT has assisted OPRHP in administering the historic barns grant program. In addition to being symbols of the culture and lifestyles of earlier generations, New York's historic barns tell a unique story of the State's agricultural history and heritage.



NYS Barns Program

The purpose of the competitive grant program is to preserve the historic character and extend the useful life of these historic agricultural structures.

Beginning in 2000, barn owners that met certain historical criteria were eligible to apply and receive grant funds for restoration and preservation of their barns. Since that time 545 barn grants, totaling just over \$12 million have been awarded to historic barn owners statewide. FY 2010-11 marked the last and final year of this program. As of year end, 32 remaining barn projects, totaling over \$500,000 came to completion.

This program was a significant accomplishment in highlighting an important element of New York's farming history and appreciation for the stewardship barn owners have provided for generations. The NHT is thankful to the many barn owners that have made this program a success.



Minnewaska State Park Preserve

Other Partnerships and Collaborations

Citibank Partnership

In collaboration with OPRHP, NHT administered a \$100,000 donation by Citibank to the Long Island State Park



Jones Beach State Park

region to restore some of its summer services and programs that were cancelled during the 2009-10 fiscal year. The funds enabled the extension of operating

hours at many locations including several swimming facilities and the historic Carousel at Hempstead Lake State Park. The funds were also used to support cultural and recreational events, such as the annual volleyball tournament at Jones Beach State Park, the children's summer theatre series, concerts, and more. In an effort to further its commitment to parks, Citibank employees also spent a day planting trees and flowers throughout Jones Beach State Park. Additionally, Citibank co-sponsored 2010 International Coastal Clean-up Day, where volunteers assisted with the cleanup of beachfront and lakefront state parks.

South Shore Estuary Reserve

The South Shore Estuary Reserve (Reserve) was created by the New York State Legislature in 1993 to protect and restore the resources of bays along the south shore of Long Island, their watersheds and the barrier islands that separate the bays from the Atlantic Ocean. The NHT is currently partnering with Department of State (DOS) staff to make improvements in three main areas: Water Quality



Bay Shore Kiosk unveiling

Improvement, Habitat Restoration, and Climate Change Adaptation. In conjunction with DOS goals, NHT project staff work to identify specific threats and potential changes to State Coastal Management Program policies, assist in conducting research and data gathering, and help to implement recommended initiatives.

Over the past few years, NHT project staff reached out to Reserve partners to compile information for an "Implementation Status Report" which presents all the projects undertaken within the Reserve and will be used to guide future changes to the Reserve's Comprehensive Management Plan. Additionally, NHT staff worked with the Citizen's Advisory Committee of the Reserve to develop a process for nominating and recognizing individuals and groups in the Reserve who exhibit exceptional stewardship. The award process, drafted by NHT staff, is currently under review with expected implementation occurring in late 2011.

Walkway over the Hudson

Over the past two years, the NHT has accepted donations in support of the Walkway over the Hudson, New York's



Walkway Over the Hudson State Historic Park

newest state park. In 2010, the Walkway introduced the “Talkway Over the Walkway,” a self-guided cell phone tour, funded by patron donations. The tour offers information about the history of the bridge and the Hudson Valley, local ecology, the visionary groups that led to the development of the park, and the public-private partnerships that continue to enhance the park. Additionally, funds raised through the NHT were used to purchase interpretive panels, providing educational information and historical images.

Niagara River Greenway

The NHT acts as fiscal agent for and provides administrative support to the Niagara River Greenway Commission. The Commission was established



Leuchner East River Marsh

by the New York State Legislature in 2004 to develop and implement the Niagara River Greenway Plan (Plan). The Plan calls for the Commission to incorporate the parks, conservation and ecologically significant areas of the Greenway into a cohesive, accessible space. Key elements of the Plan include increased public access to the Niagara River, development of a trail system with complimentary connections to land access points, balanced economic growth that compliments the natural and scenic environment, preservation and enhancement of environmental resources and the celebration of the region’s cultural and industrial heritage. Consistent with the Plan, the Commission has identified and reviewed ninety (90) projects from stakeholders within the Greenway totaling approximately \$85 million. A portion of project costs will come from

funds dedicated to the establishment of the Greenway resulting from the relicensing of the New York Power Authority’s (NYPA) Niagara Power Project. Over the three-year project review process, nearly \$8.5 million for seventeen projects was announced to benefit several state parks in Western New York. The projects include construction of trails and boat launches, operations plans, safety improvements and rehabilitation projects at various parks in the region. During FY 2010-11 operational costs of the Commission were supported through a grant of \$300,000 from the State’s Environmental Protection Fund, which has been administered by the NHT.

State Park at the Fair

The State Park at the Great New York State Fair is a three-acre mini-park which provides fairgoers a sample of various programs and activities found



State Park at the Fair

throughout the 178 state parks and 35 state historic sites located across the State. The NHT works closely with the Central region to provide fiscal support in running exhibits and the gift shop at the park. For the 12-day duration of the Fair, this unique setting helps showcase various state park regions and facilities. OPRHP and the NHT offer interactive programming, vacation ideas and general park information. The manicured park features a visitor welcome center, shaded picnic benches, a large reflecting pool, a miniature golf course, environmental education and costumed interpreters. In 2010 an estimated 300,000 fairgoers visited the State Park at the Fair.

Albany Pine Bush Preserve Commission

The Albany Pine Bush Preserve Commission (APBPC) was established by NYS statute to manage and protect the globally rare inland pine barrens known as the Albany Pine Bush, and to provide visitors to the 3,200 acre Albany Pine Bush Preserve with educational and recreational opportunities. The



Albany Pine Bush Discovery Center

APBPC also manages the Albany Pine Bush Discovery Center which offers students and families fun, educational outings and programs about the

ecology, natural and cultural history of the pine bush area. In June 2009, the NHT and APBPC



Albany Pine Bush Earth Day

entered into a partnership whereby the NHT served as both the fiscal agent and employer of the APBPC’s staff. The partnership was mutually beneficial as the missions of both the NHT and the APBPC reflect shared commitment to environmental protection, public education and recreation. The formal partnership concluded at the start of the 2011 calendar year as the APBPC had evolved to manage its finances and resources independently. The NHT is pleased to have assisted the APBPC in its efforts and looks forward to working together again in the future.

Financial Highlights

Condensed Statement of Activities

(For year ended March 31, 2011)

REVENUES, GAINS AND OTHER SUPPORT

Gifts and Private Grants	\$3,663,000
Grants and Contracts	\$3,229,000
Investment and Administrative Income	\$2,541,000
Activity Program Income	\$1,381,000
Sponsorship Support	\$862,000
Mitigation and Environmental Benefit Fund	\$419,000
Other	\$254,000
Total Revenues, Gains and Other Support	\$12,349,000

EXPENSES

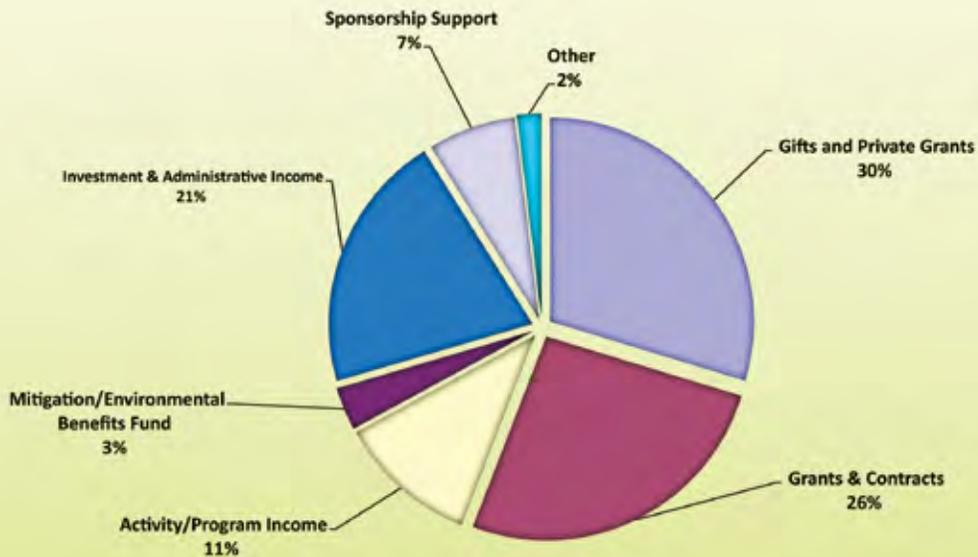
Program Support	\$6,178,000
Construction/ Capital Projects	\$1,537,000
Activity and Event Support	\$1,335,000
Administrative	\$703,000
Grant Awards	\$624,000
Professional Services	\$518,000
Promotional Materials/Merchandise Resale	\$506,000
Gift Reassignment	\$223,000
Other	\$36,000

Total Expenses	\$11,660,000
Results from Operations	\$689,000
Net Assets at Beginning of Year	\$21,553,000
PLUS: Fund Balance Used in Current Year	\$266,000
Net Assets at End of Year	\$22,508,000
PLUS: Liabilities	\$1,175,000
PLUS: Remaining Fund Balance	\$2,200,000
Total Assets Held In Trust	\$25,883,000

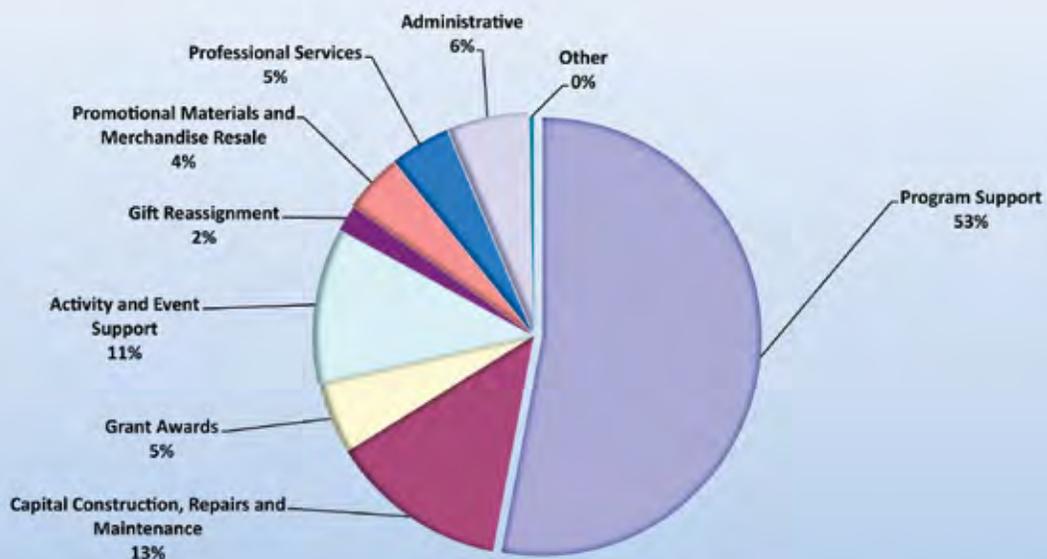
Financial Highlights

Revenue and Expenses (For year ended March 31, 2011)

Revenue by Source



Expenses by Source



Financial Highlights

Investment Accounts

(For year ended March 31, 2011)

CAPITAL PROJECTS

Jamesport Park	\$3,670,000.00
Davis Park	\$193,000.00
Taconic Capital Projects	\$516,000.00
Main Reserve	\$724,000.00
Total Capital Projects	\$5,103,000.00

ENDOWMENT

Four Freedoms	\$2,335,000.00
Mount Loretto	\$2,113,000.00
Emma Treadwell Thacher	\$490,000.00
Huttleston	\$89,000.00
Main LTI	\$1,195,000.00
Total Endowment	\$6,222,000.00

OPERATING

Main Management	\$14,558,000.00
Total Operating	\$14,558,000.00

INVESTMENT TARGETS

	Capital Projects	Endowments	Operating
Fixed Income	85%	40%	95%
Equities	15%	60%	0%
Cash/Money Market	0%	0%	5%



Vale of Springs Ribbon Cutting
Saratoga Spa State Park



Taconic State Park - Copake Falls



The Repass Family
Five Rivers Environmental Education Center

Our Supporters

We thank our many donors, partners, foundations and sponsors who, despite this difficult economy, contributed to the preservation of New York's historic treasures and natural resources. Our supporters have given to the NHT in a multitude of ways and at a variety of levels. Contributions, both large and small have enhanced programs and projects that directly benefit parks, conservation and historic preservation. We deeply appreciate the personal commitment and dedication of our generous supporters.

Ways to Give

For over 40 years, thousands of individual and private organizations have contributed the financial resources that make the work of the NHT possible. We realize that many supporters are considering how to include philanthropy in effective personal financial planning. We are dedicated to assisting those who wish to make gifts now and in the future in ways that can contribute powerfully to the mission of the NHT and be effective tools for managing your own money. A broad range of flexible ideas are available to plan gifts whether you are single, married, raising a family, planning for retirement, or already retired.

Direct Gifts

You can make a one-time or recurring donation online at www.naturalheritagetrust.org or mail a check directly to the Natural Heritage Trust at: 1 Empire State Plaza, Albany, New York 12238

Bequests

By remembering the NHT in your will, you will make a lasting contribution. You can designate a specific amount, a percentage of your total estate, or a share of the residual amount after gifts to your heirs. Your bequest can be designated

for general purposes or to a specific park, historic site, or program area.

Memorial and Tribute Gifts

The NHT accepts memorial and tribute gifts to honor or remember family members and friends. A memorial gift is a beautiful testimony to the life of a beloved person who has passed on. It can be just the right touch for expressing compassion to someone who has had a loss. The NHT also accepts tribute gifts, which are a great way to celebrate the special people, events and milestones in life. When your memorial or tribute gift is received, the NHT will send a personalized letter to the person you indicate, notifying them of your thoughtful gift.

Employer Matching Gifts

You can double or even triple the impact of your gift if you or your spouse's employer participates in a matching gift program.

Gifts of Stock and Securities

The NHT accepts stock, bonds, mutual funds, and other securities. Donors receive a formal acknowledgment and tax substantiation upon successful completion of a gift. If you are considering a gift of stock or securities please contact the NHT for the correct transfer information.

Charitable Remainder Trust

Charitable remainder trusts are popular plans because of the flexibility they offer. They are similar to other types of trusts, except that the NHT receives the remainder interest. You assign cash or securities and specify how trust income and the remainder interest will be distributed.

Charitable Lead Trust

Charitable lead trusts are the reverse of charitable remainder trusts in that payments from the trust are given to the NHT for a specified term in years. Upon your death or the end of the term, the net assets of the trust pass to your family or other designees.

Gifts of Life Insurance

When your life insurance policy was originally purchased, you had a need for the benefits. Perhaps today you don't need the coverage. To contribute your life insurance policy, simply name the NHT as its beneficiary or partial beneficiary.

If we can be of assistance to you or your advisors in your charitable gift planning, please don't hesitate to contact us. And if you've made the NHT the beneficiary of your charitable planning, please let us know. We would like very much to acknowledge your special gift.

**The NHT gratefully acknowledges the individuals, corporate contributors,
sponsors and charitable foundations that generously
supported the efforts of the NHT this year.**

Individual Donors:

\$250 +

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We make every effort to ensure our donor list is accurate but mistakes and omissions may occur. If you or your company name are missing from this list, please contact us.

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Chittenango Falls State Park

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