

New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation

MISSION STATEMENT and GUIDING PRINCIPLES

This policy sets forth the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation's mission statement and guiding principles.

Mission Statement

The mission of the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation is to provide safe and enjoyable recreational and interpretive opportunities for all New York State residents and visitors and to be responsible stewards of our valuable natural, historic and cultural resources.

Guiding Principles

Fundamental to the successful achievement of our mission is the dedication of our employees and the adherence to a common set of values. These guiding principles serve as a pledge to the people we serve and a commitment to ourselves and to each other.

- **A Commitment to People.** We are committed to serving and protecting the public to the best of our ability, with courtesy and respect. We are committed to our employees and volunteers, encouraging teamwork, self-improvement and mutual support.
- **A Commitment to Preservation.** State Parks and Historic Sites are unique and irreplaceable public assets. We are committed to wise acquisition, planning, and, where appropriate, development; timely and professional care and maintenance; and a responsibility to future generations in whose trust we manage our resources. We are committed to providing encouragement to all agencies and individuals to identify, evaluate and protect recreational, natural, historic and cultural resources.
- **A Commitment to Service.** The availability of recreational, educational and cultural opportunities to all is vital in today's society. We are committed to equal access and outreach to all segments of our society, recognizing individual needs and interests. We are committed to safety, security, creativity and accountability in providing our programs and services.
- **A Commitment to Leadership.** We recognize the preeminence of the New York State Park and Historic Site System. We are committed to excellence, innovation and professionalism. We are committed to forging partnerships with others who are responsible for providing recreational, natural, historic and cultural services.

This policy is effective immediately, and continues without change the agency's Mission Statement and Guiding Principles as previously adopted September 9, 1992.

Dated: March 12, 2009

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Carol Ash".

Carol Ash
Commissioner