

Rockefeller State Park Preserve

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For Immediate Release: 02/28/2018

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New York State Funds Carriage Road Rehabilitation in Rockefeller State Park Preserve

(Pleasantville, N.Y., February 28, 2018) – A State-funded capital project to rehabilitate eroded sections of Rockefeller State Park Preserve's historic carriage roads is getting underway. The total cost of the project is \$621,417. \$500,000 of the total funds were from the NY Parks 2020 Fund.

The crushed stone trails of Rockefeller State Park Preserve are the carriage roads laid out by John D. Rockefeller Sr. and Jr. in the first half of the 20th century. Today they are popular for walking, riding, jogging, and carriage driving through the beautiful landscape of the former Rockefeller estate, most of which is now owned and managed by New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation.

Nicky Diggs Excavation and Masonry will improve the drainage and regrade and resurface sections of several roads in the western side of the Preserve: Big Tree trail, Witch Spring trail, Gory Brook trail, Pocantico River trail, and Eagle Hill access. The three magnificent stone arch bridges across the Pocantico River will be repointed.

During construction the trails and bridges will be subject to short-term closure. Alternative routes may be used while roads are closed. Signs will be posted at the Preserve's main office and key entrances to help visitors plan their routes. Up-to-date information can be found at the Preserve's Facebook account, www.facebook.com/pg/RockefellerSPP and website at www.nysparks.com/parks/59.

The project is funded by Governor Andrew M. Cuomo's NY Parks 2020 initiative to revitalize the state park system and expand access to outdoor recreation. NY Parks 2020 is a multi-year commitment to leverage \$900 million in private and public funding for State Parks from 2011 to 2020.

Explore 2000 scenic acres in Sleepy Hollow, NY along 45 miles of historic carriage roads leading through forests and fields of the former Rockefeller Pocantico Hills property. Attractions include Swan Lake, Hudson River vistas, tree peony garden, conservation programs and an Art Gallery with changing exhibits.

The New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation oversees more than 250 parks, historic sites, recreational trails, golf courses, boat launches and more, which are visited by 69 million people annually. A recent study found that New York State Parks generates \$5 billion in economic activity annually and supports 54,000 jobs. For more information on any of these recreation areas, call 518-474-0456 or visit www.parks.ny.gov, connect with us on Facebook, or follow on Instagram and Twitter.

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