

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
Natural Heritage Trust
2011-12



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



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COVER PHOTO: Steve Maslowski, US Fish and Wildlife Service



Green Lakes State Park

Overview

The Natural Heritage Trust (NHT) is pleased to present its Fiscal Year (FY) 2011-12 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 continuing fiscal challenges facing New York State. Private funding through the NHT provided vital support for a variety of agency projects and programs.

At the close of the year the NHT held just over \$25 million in trust. During FY 2011-12, the NHT expended approximately \$10.3 million on a host

of programs and projects throughout the State, while at the same time receiving just over \$9.7 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 2011-12 administrative costs were held to under three percent of total assets held in trust. The NHT does this without charging 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.

This model has consistently ensured that the maximum levels of funds are focused on benefiting public resources in our parks, open spaces and historic sites. This report provides numerous



Niagara Falls State Park

examples of how funds administered by NHT supported projects and programs throughout the State during FY 2011-12. None of this would be possible without the contributions of the NHT's supporters. The NHT gratefully acknowledges the individuals, small businesses, corporate sponsors and contributors, and foundations that generously supported the NHT's work throughout the year.

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.

Watkins Glen State Park



The Board of Directors

as of March 31, 2012

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

For 27 years, Commissioner Harvey 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. Commissioner Harvey recently served as senior fellow at the Jonathan Rose Companies and a McCluskey Fellow and Lecturer at the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies. She serves on the Board of the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation and the Yale Leadership Advisory Council. Commissioner 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.

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

From 1998 until 2011, Commissioner Martens served as President of the Open Space Institute, directing and overseeing land acquisition, sustainable development, historic preservation and farmland protection. Previously, Commissioner 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. Commissioner 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.

Cesar A. Perales

Secretary of State, Department of State

Secretary Perales has spent more than four decades as a dedicated public servant, including serving as Assistant Secretary at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services during the administration of President Jimmy Carter, as Commissioner of the New York State Department of Social Services under Governor Mario M. Cuomo, and as Deputy Mayor of New York City under Mayor David Dinkins. Secretary Perales is a co-founder of LatinoJustice PRLDEF and established the first Brooklyn Legal Services Office. Secretary Perales earned his B.A. from City College of New York and a J.D. from Fordham Law School. Among other distinctions, he is the recipient of an Honorary Doctorate from Lehman College, the Thurgood Marshall Award from Seton Hall University Law School, the Dean's Medal from the Fordham University School of Law, and the 2009 Lifetime Achievement Award from the Hispanic National Bar Association.

Niagara Falls State Park





Taconic State Park - Copake Falls Area

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. 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 respective 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.

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



Letchworth State Park



Hither Hills State Park

segregated project and program accounts. At the close of FY 2011-12, the NHT managed 189 program accounts dedicated to specific projects and programs – and in some cases multiple programs – throughout the State.



Emma Treadwell Thacher Nature Center



Franklin D. Roosevelt Four Freedoms State Park

Capital Projects and Improvements

Copake Gateway Project

Thanks to a generous \$500,000 donation from long time supporter, Dr. Lucy Waletzky, construction of the first official park office at the Copake Falls area of Taconic State Park began in the late fall of 2010. The office was officially dedicated in July of 2011 at a ceremony attended by OPRHP Commissioner Rose Harvey and Dr. Waletzky just prior to The Friends of Taconic State Park Annual Meeting. The new office has improved immensely the delivery of services to over 200,000 visitors who enjoy the park each year. Taconic State Park consists of more than 7,000 acres of diverse forested lands with an extensive trail system that provides spectacular views of the Taconic, Berkshire and Catskill Mountain Ranges and the Hudson Valley.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Four Freedoms Park

During Fiscal Year 2011-12 construction of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Four Freedoms Park on Roosevelt Island in New York City continued. Construction of the park,



Franklin D. Roosevelt Four Freedoms Park

the last architectural design by the famous Louis I. Kahn in the 1970s, is being undertaken by Franklin D. Roosevelt Four Freedoms Park, LLC. The approximate \$50 million cost of construction 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, the Alphawood Foundation granted \$2 million to the NHT. The funds are administered as an endowment dedicated to the ongoing management and operation of the park. At the close of the year the endowment was worth over \$2.4 million, representing an increase of over 20 percent since inception in August 2010. 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. The park is scheduled to be open to the public October 2012. During FY 2011-12 engraving of the essential text of the Four Freedoms began in the portion of the park known as the "Room" at the very southern tip of the island. During the spring, all park trees were planted and the park time capsule was installed. Bronze work is underway and will be installed in sculpture niche at the "Room" during the summer of 2012.

Five Rivers Guided School Program Building

A new building to house the Guided School Program (GSP) is under construction at Five Rivers Environmental Education Center in Delmar to replace the outdated building that housed the program for many years. Through a generous donation from the Repass family of Massachusetts, \$500,000 in materials were purchased by the NHT for the structure, covering about one-third of the building cost. The donation was made in memory of Wendy Repass Suozzo, who founded the program as a DEC environmental educator and later was the GSP coordinator for the Friends of Five Rivers.



Each year, more than 4,000 children participate in the GSP. About 30 volunteers instruct the classes; many are retired teachers or government employees who are skilled at sharing nature with children. The 30-year old program is a partnership between DEC and the Friends of Five Rivers, whose volunteers teach a variety of forest, field and pond studies to pre-K through 7th grade classes. Using hands-on techniques, students learn important environmental concepts that help them become better stewards of their natural resources. The lessons are also fun and correlate to New York State science-based learning standards.

Significant progress has been made on construction during FY 2011-12. The structural columns were harvested from trees at Five Rivers, the foundation is poured, structural insulated panels have been installed, windows are in, and siding is being put on. The building contains a classroom for student orientation and for other public and educational programs, an area for volunteer instructors to assemble teaching materials, and an administrative. Other environmentally-friendly features include a green roof which will support a rainwater reclamation system and photovoltaic cells. The GSP building itself will become an invaluable teaching tool and a lasting legacy to Wendy and her stewardship.

Bear Mountain Trailside Museum

During FY 2011-12 the Palisades Interstate Parks Commission (PIPC) continued to make improvements at the



Bear Mountain Trailside Museum

Trailside Museum at Bear Mountain State Park. These improvements are funded through a generous gift of \$1.35 million from the estate of Robert J. Drew. The bequest was received initially by the NHT and transferred to PIPC which manages the projects. 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. A portion of the gift funds are being used to support construction of a new coyote enclosure and exhibit. The new coyote exhibit will be a naturally constructed area, encompassing approximately 8,200 square feet, enclosed by fencing, which will allow the coyotes to roam freely in a natural setting. There will be an observation deck constructed so that all visitors will be able to view the coyotes. Construction started in March and is anticipated to be completed summer 2012.

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 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.



Robert G. Wehle State Park

In 2011, the distribution totaled just over \$120,000. Funds supported continued improvements at 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

In FY 2011-12 the NHT continued to collaborate with the Open Space Alliance (OSA) to serve the growing number of patrons due to the residential

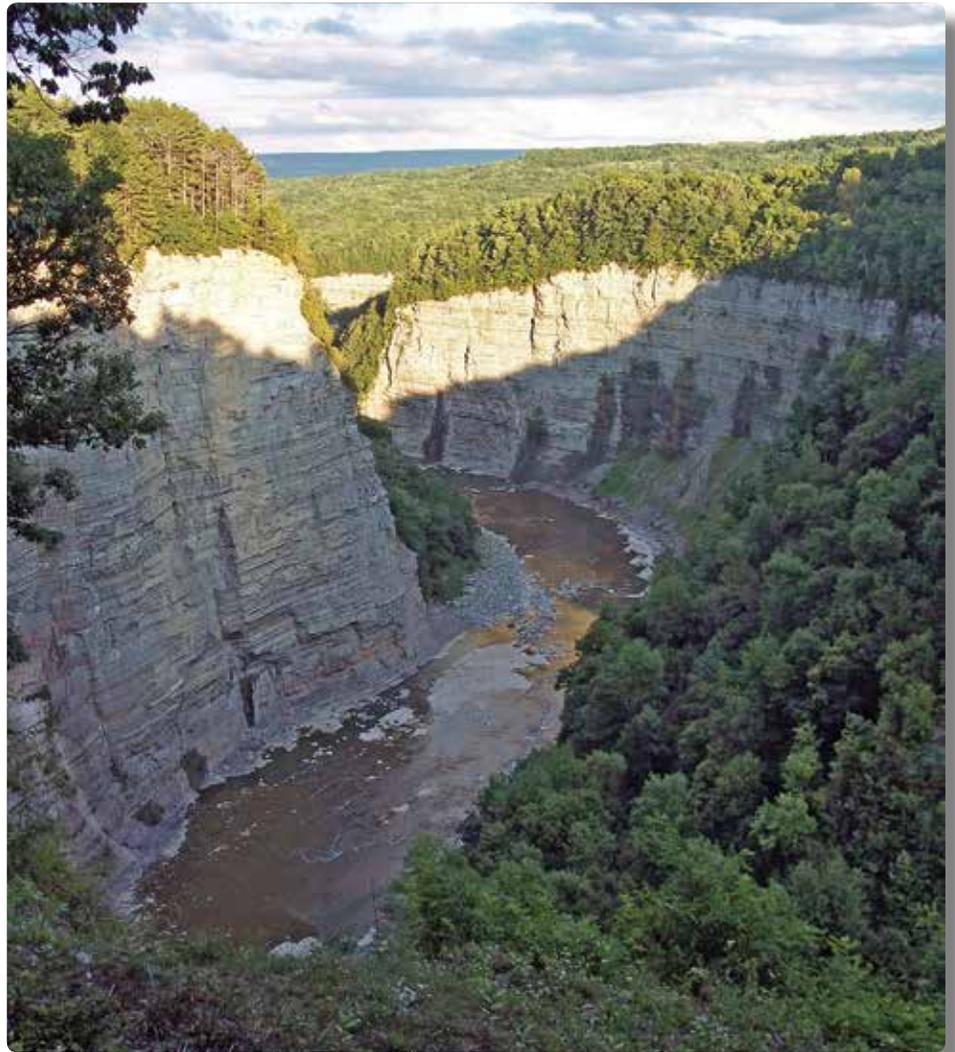


East River State Park

development along the waterfront in the Greenpoint and Williamsburg neighborhoods of Brooklyn. Funds generated from co-sponsored programs and activities at East River State Park allowed for the completion of a solar lighting system in the park. In addition a portion of these funds will be used to address waterfront stabilization in this seven acre site.

Letchworth Nature Center Scoping Study

During FY 2011-12, work continued on a conceptual study to facilitate possible future development of a Nature Center for Letchworth State Park. With funding in place and a consultant selected, a project team was formed comprised of staff from the Genesee Region, Western District and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Mount Morris Dam Visitor Center. Meeting sessions were held in the winter and spring of 2011 at Letchworth as the team worked with consultants Jane Clark Chermayeff and Associates to explore all facets of the project including interpretive themes, possible exhibits, suitable locations, operational needs, sustainable design and partnership opportunities. Visitor surveys were also conducted in late summer by Letchworth staff to obtain further information regarding patrons' interests, wants and expectations of such a facility. A draft report was prepared in the fall and circulated to team members. After comments and revisions were incorporated a final report was completed and delivered during the winter of 2011-12. Planning is now underway regarding next steps to develop final design and a fundraising campaign.



Letchworth State Park

Black Diamond Trail

During FY 2011-12 the NHT received a \$231,000 bequest from the family of Allan Treman. The bequest specified that the Finger Lakes State Parks Regional Commission would determine how to spend the money but expressed a preference that it be used at either Taughannock Falls or Treman Marina. The Commission determined that a trail linking these two facilities would fit the desires of the donor family and approved using the money toward the Black Diamond Trail. Funding for the rest of the project was approved in the 2011-12 Enacted Budget as part of Governor Cuomo's New York Works Fund.



Black Diamond Trail

The Black Diamond Trail is a multi-use trail network connecting Taughannock State Park, Allan H. Treman State Marine Park, Buttermilk Falls State Park and Robert Treman State Park. When built, it will provide over 15 miles of safe pathways for non-motorized users. Key to the completion of the project is replacement or rebuilding of two old railroad bridges that span substantial gorges along the way. The Treman bequest is being used to directly support the bridges and construction is underway.

The completion of the bridges will open the trail for hiking, but considerable additional work on drainage, trail base, and surfacing is required to make the trail ADA compliant and usable by bicyclists. Several local municipalities have pledged to help with this work, and some have already done so. These include the Town of Ithaca, the Town of Ulysses, the City of Ithaca, and Tompkins County. This intergovernmental cooperative effort is finally bringing to fruition a trail project that was first envisioned in the early 1970s.



Allegany State Park

Cultural and Recreational Programming

Jones Beach State Park/ Junior Lifeguard Program and Tournament

This year marks the tenth anniversary of Long Island State Parks' Junior Lifeguard tournament. The Junior



Jones Beach State Park

Lifeguard program began in 2000 and was later expanded to include a regional (metropolitan New York area) Junior Lifeguard tournament. Over 200 Junior Lifeguards ages 12 to 17 participate and compete. The program is a long-standing partnership between OPRHP, the Jones Beach Lifeguard Corp and NHT. The program has resulted in hundreds of lifeguards qualifying and becoming Long Island State Park Lifeguards. Funding for this program has come from a combination of donations, sponsorships and program

income administered by the NHT. Funds raised are used for lifeguard program supplies, services and equipment.

Genesee Recreational Programs and Events

The NHT received donations and other activity income to support festivals and events throughout the Genesee region. Events included summer and fall concerts at Lakeside Beach, Hamlin Beach, and Darien Lakes State Parks, as well as Hamlin Beach's



Darien Lakes State Park

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 displays.

Betty and Wilbur Davis State Park

On June 16, 2011 friends and family along with many current and former staff members from OPRHP in the Central region gathered to celebrate the 100th birthday of one of OPRHP's most generous donors, Wilbur Davis. The luncheon was held at the Sunset pavilion at Betty and Wilbur Davis State Park.

In addition to the park land, the couple has donated over \$2 million to the NHT.



Their donations supported the initial development of the park and continue to support ongoing maintenance. The most recent additions include a playground, public restroom facilities and pavilion. Early development included six full service cottages set on 200-acres of hardwood forests and continues to be a popular choice for families.

Riverbank Recreational Programs

The NHT provides support for youth programming and activities at Riverbank State Park. These activities include athletic teams in ice hockey, football, swimming, cheerleading, baseball and basketball, as well as support for community and cultural events. Funding for programs is raised by parents of team participants, small fundraisers, the Manhattan Community Board #9, local business contributions and registration fees for the teams. The NHT funds the athletic teams' competitions, uniforms and travel to meets

Taughannock Falls Concert Series

The Summer Concert Series at Taughannock Falls State Park in Trumansburg highlights the Finger Lakes region's rich, local talent. The 2012 season marks the 34th year of the concert series which is one of the most popular events in the region. The annual series features a wide variety of



Riverbank State Park

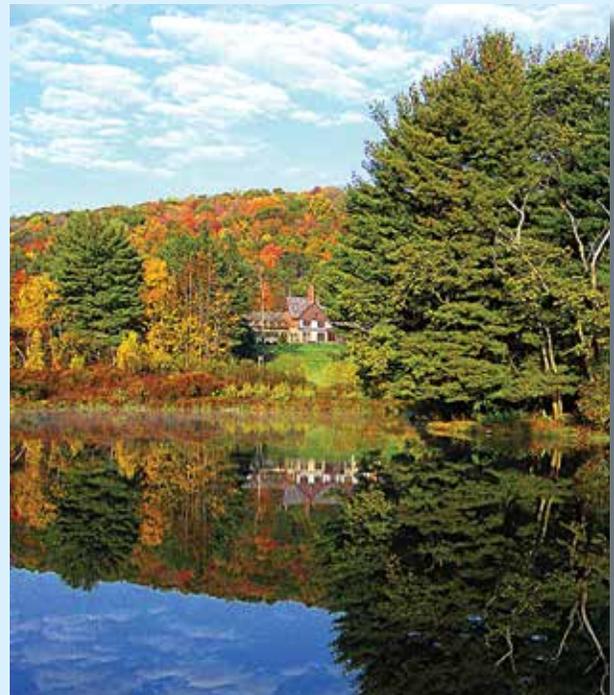
high quality music performed on the shore of Cayuga Lake. The concerts take place on seven consecutive Saturday evenings from July 7th through August 18th. Over 18,000 people attended the summer concert series this past year.

This year's sponsors included Tompkins Trust Company, Tompkins Insurance Agencies, the Cayuga Wine Trail and WSKG Public Radio, and Ithaca's Z-95 hit music channel.

Allegany State Park Programs

The NHT receives donations to support a variety of programs and activities at Allegany State Park. The park held its 5th annual "Catch Me If You Can" children's fishing derby in early July 2011. The NHT received donations for the event which were used to purchase prizes and trophies for participants. Likewise, donations supported the park's participation in National Public Lands Day, the nation's largest hands-on volunteer effort to improve and enhance the public open spaces Americans enjoy. Donations also supported the 4th of July fireworks display and music at Quaker Lake.

During FY 2011-12 a memorial bench program was initiated and proved to be very popular, resulting in the replacement of old benches, as well as the placement additional benches throughout the park. This program also resulted in new benches for the Quaker Amphitheater where programs and concerts are held throughout the summer season.



Allegany State Park



Golden Beach, Raquette Lake

Environmental and Outdoor Education

Environmental Field Days at Green Lakes State Park

In October 2011, Green Lakes State Park welcomed nearly 600 fifth and sixth grade students from 11 different schools in the greater Syracuse area for 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



Green Lakes State Park

ecosystems and recycling to lake ecology and fish identification. Students were given 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

DEC Camps

DEC runs four environmental education summer camps across New York State that connect children ages 11 through 17 to their natural surroundings, instilling a life-long appreciation of nature. During the week-long sessions, campers learn about ecology, conservation and environmental stewardship while engaging in a wide range of outdoor education programs and activities, including hiking, canoeing, kayaking, overnight camping and fishing. Camp Rushford is in the Genesee River Valley, Camp DeBruce can be found in the Catskills, and Camp Colby and Pack Forest are located in the Adirondacks.

Oftentimes, children's camp fees are supported by community, environmental and sportsman's groups and individuals. For the past three years, the NHT has accepted donations to help underprivileged children attend DEC camps. During 2011 these funds were used to sponsor five children to attend camp, and

College of Environmental Science and Forestry. Programming was supported through funds raised through the NHT.

subsidized the transportation costs for 20 children attending camps through DEC's "campership" program.

Each year, two teens are chosen to receive a special camp scholarship in memory



Camp Colby

of Emily Timbrook. 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 as Emily did. Alenna Streeter of Rochester and Emily Yax of Springwater were the Timbrook Award recipients in 2011. They were selected based upon essays they wrote about their experiences at DEC's Camp Rushford and how they carried lessons learned at camp back home and to school.

Moreau Lake State Park

In FY 2011-12, funds raised through the NHT were used to purchase new furniture for the newly expanded nature center at Moreau Lake State



Moreau Lake State Park

Park. The 810-square-foot addition to the nature center can accommodate up to one hundred people, and also houses the center's extensive taxidermy collection of animals native to the park. The nature center typically welcomes dozens of school field trips each year, and this new addition was designed to handle school groups more effectively. The NHT supported the costs of many new displays and learning tools for the nature center including animal mounts, fish tanks, a microscope, a track box, nature pictures and an outdoor display

case. Funds in support of the park and nature center were raised through donations, environmental education program income and other local initiatives.

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 the Naturalist Bookstore. The Junior and Senior Naturalist Program is a family oriented program which has



Allegany State Park

been recognized by the Roger Tory Peterson Institute for its excellence in

place-based environmental education. Girls Day brings middle school girls together with professional women in the field of natural science. The girls are provided the opportunity to learn about different careers in ecology, conservation and the environment. In 2011-12, the park also opened an environmental education bookstore featuring field guides on various topics including birds, butterflies, animal tracks, trees, wildflowers, stars and amphibians. The funds used to purchase the supply of books were raised through the NHT and the proceeds of bookstore sales are deposited in to the NHT, and will continue to support environmental education initiatives.

Taconic Outdoor Education Center

The Taconic Outdoor Education Center, located in Fahnestock State Park, provides year-round environmental education, outdoor recreation and opportunities for team building. Activities include low and high rope courses, maple

Emma Treadwell Thacher Nature Center 10th Anniversary

Emma Treadwell Thacher Nature Center, a gift to the state from Fred and Martha Schroeder, celebrated its 10th anniversary on Saturday, July 16, 2011. Since it opened, the nature center has hosted hundreds of educational programs, connecting tens of thousands of children and their families to the wonders of nature. At the anniversary event kids and adults of all ages enjoyed catching insects with an entomologist, netting fish with an ichthyologist and finding fossils with a geologist. They viewed the sun through solar telescopes, toured the native plant gardens, painted t-shirts and enjoyed cake and live music.



Emma Treadwell Thacher Nature Center

The celebration included a commemoration of the late Fred Schroeder with the dedication of the Fred Schroeder Memorial Trail. An avid hiker, Fred spent countless hours developing and maintaining trails around the Nature Center and in Thacher Park. The vision and generosity of the Schroeders will benefit many generations to come.

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 nature center. It is primarily used 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.



Taconic State Park, Copake Falls

sugaring, retreats and other public programs. Groups can visit for the day or stay overnight. Schools from



Taconic Outdoor Education Center

elementary to college, Scouts, clubs, community and business groups have immersed themselves in the forested hills of the park. The center's programs have benefitted children throughout the tri-state area. The center and programming are partly funded by foundation, corporate and individual donations through the NHT.

Wellesley Island State Park

One of the main attractions of the Wellesley Island State Park is the Minna Anthony Common Nature Center. 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 and the unique habitats of Wellesley Island. Each season features different and engaging programs. The NHT provides administrative support for the Nature Center funded through gift shop proceeds and donations, including contributions from the Friends of Minna Anthony Common Nature Center.



Minna Anthony Common Nature Center



Niagara River Fish and Wildlife Habitat Improvement Program

Resource Protection and Restoration

St. Lawrence Habitat Project

The NHT provides fiscal and administrative support to implement a series of Habitat Improvement Projects



Lake Sturgeon

adjacent to the St. Lawrence River, including one at the Wilson Hill Wildlife Management Area (WHWMA). 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 (HIPs), improvements to the WHWMA, and various public access projects. The project funds are paid by NYPA to the NHT, and since 2010 the operation, management, and maintenance of the projects has been overseen by DEC and NHT staff associated with the St. Lawrence Habitat Project. The

keystone project associated with improving DEC's ability to manage the wetland habitats at WHWMA was the planned construction of a pumphouse. Construction on the pumphouse started in 2011, and will be completed by summer of 2012. Additionally, implementation on eight of the ten planned HIPs is well underway, and is already benefitting lake sturgeon, common terns, osprey, Blanding's turtles and more. The last two HIPs are ambitious projects designed to improve the spawning habitat for native fish, while also improving habitat quality in nearly 300 acres of wetlands. All permits were obtained in 2011 and 2012, and construction on the two projects is planned to begin in summer of 2012.

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 continued its partnership with OPRHP to support invasive species management. Invasive species are one of the primary threats to our native biological diversity, second only to habitat loss. The office of invasive species management located at Minnewaska State Park Preserve (SPP) provides guidance and direction on projects and plans in all 11 OPRHP regions. The office has developed the statewide framework for invasive species management including planning, data management, training, education, project oversight and implementation. Through NHT support, OPRHP completed work under an Environmental Protection Fund grant for creation of an Invasive Species Prevention Zone (ISPZ) at Minnewaska SPP. Invasive species staff have worked diligently to gather as much information about invasive species locations in Minnewaska and other State parks, and enter this data in the statewide iMap Invasives database. Ranking and prioritizing removals and control projects are based on these data and observations. The protection of rare, threatened and endangered species, significant ecological communities and human health and safety are priorities for treatment in parks statewide. Over



the last year, guidance and on-site direction was provided on more than 30 staff and volunteer projects statewide.

The NHT and OPRHP are fostering invasive species partnerships on multiple fronts. During FY 2011-12 major focus projects included work at Robert H. Treman State Park and Watkins Glen State Park relating to the invasive insect, the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (HWA). Without treatment, the declining hemlocks will cause health and safety concerns, drastically alter park aesthetics, and spark dramatic changes in the function of the local ecosystem. This project is occurring in collaboration with Cornell University. Through a U.S. Forest Service grant, Cornell and NHT staff are working on surveying and developing a control plan. These two parks are serving as flagship efforts to combat HWA and will serve as a model to address future HWA outbreaks.

Coastal Consistency

The NHT provides staff assistance to DOS in performing project reviews (“consistency”) for the State’s Coastal Management Program. All actions requiring federal permits or funding within or affecting the Coastal Area must be reviewed by DOS. NHT staff review applicant proposals for energy and large utility projects, communicate with applicants for additional information, provide recommendations to DOS on whether such proposals are consistent with the NYS Coastal

Management Program, and have helped develop and implement recommendations to improve program efficiency. The NHT also provides valuable administrative support to consistency which keeps the reviews coordinated and on track. Over the past year, consistency reviews have covered a wide range of projects, including large energy/utility projects, such as the proposed Spectra Natural Gas Pipeline, the Rockland County Desalination Plant, and the NYC aqueduct bypass.

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. NHT staff work to further broad-based ecosystem-based management (EBM) in the Ocean and Great Lakes watersheds, which encompass much of the State. EBM for the program has four primary goals which are focused on: 1) biodiversity and habitat connectivity through targeted land acquisition and conservation; 2) ecosystem, watershed and biodiversity conservation; 3) patron EBM awareness; and 4) EBM policy and management.



The program utilizes a variety of approaches to protect, restore, conserve and enhance the chemical, physical and biological integrity of the waters and associated natural resources within New York’s Great Lakes basin. NHT project staff are working to finalize a new comprehensive action plan that will guide restoration and conservation activities in the state’s Great Lakes region. The draft plan, called the Great Lakes Action Agenda, is designed to be a multi-agency, multi-program, and cross-region strategic plan for New York’s bi-national Great Lakes region that will support innovative programs and new partnerships at multiple levels of local, state, and federal government.

In alignment with EBM principles, this all-inclusive plan will seek to address the multiple challenges unique to New York's Great Lakes basin, including contamination clean-up, restoration of fish and wildlife, waterfront revitalization, climate change resiliency strategies, and recreation and tourism development. Ultimately, this integrated planning approach will translate into more effective and sustainable projects at the local level to better protect state conservation lands, restore water resources, and support the human and wildlife communities that depend on them. The NHT looks forward to continuing to work with OPRHP, DEC and other partners to further EBM in the Great Lakes region and throughout State.

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 guide development, programming



Fahnestock State Park (Clarence Fahnestock)

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 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, ten 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, Grafton Lakes State Park and Hallock State Park Preserve. For 2011-2012, planning projects currently under development include: Alfred E. Smith Sunken Meadow State Park, Ogden and Ruth Livingston Mills Memorial State Park/Margaret Lewis Norrie State Park and Staatsburgh State Historic Site,

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 administrative and fiscal assistance to the Fish and Wildlife Habitat Improvement Program in the Niagara River Corridor (Corridor). Under this cooperative program DEC collaborates with NYPA and other member agencies and organizations of the Ecological Standing Committee to implement eight habitat improvement projects (HIPs) in the Corridor and make funding decisions on future HIPs under the Habitat Enhancement and Restoration Fund.

From 2001 to 2012, significant progress has been made on several HIPs. For example, an 8 acre wetland restoration at



Beaver Island State Park was completed and is already functioning as habitat for many species of flora and fauna. An additional 20 acres of emergent wetland habitat have been improved through the eradication of invasive species. The Common Tern nesting HIP in the Buffalo Harbor was so successful in 2011 that it is now the largest and most productive

nesting colony in the Great Lakes for this threatened species. The Osprey nesting platforms resulted in the fledging of three Osprey chicks, bringing the total up to seven since the project was initiated in 2008.

By the summer of 2012 work on the Motor Island HIP will be in full swing with the restoration of a natural shoreline and shallow water habitat around the perimeter of this mid-river island that serves as a nesting colony for herons and egrets. Final design plans have been formalized for the Frog Island HIP which will actually re-create an island and shallow water habitat in the Niagara River that was lost when the island was used as fill material for mid-century construction projects in the Buffalo region.

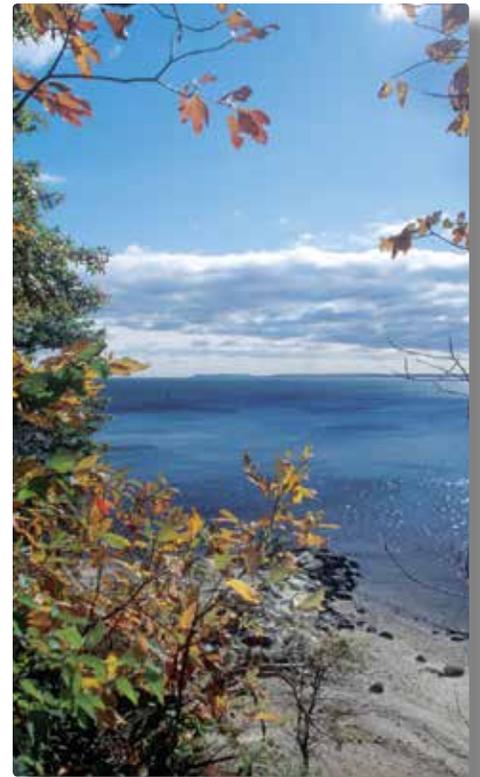
John Boyd Thacher/Thompson's Lake State Parks, Rockland Lake State Park Complex and Hamlin Beach State Park.

Mount Loretto

In 1999 New York State purchased the 194-acre Mount Loretto property, 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 \$2.185 million and the NHT is working with DEC to identify additional projects and programs to be supported with the investment earnings.



Mount Loretto

Minnewaska State Park Preserve





Sonnenberg Gardens & Mansion State Historic Park

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. NHT funding has leveraged on-site and OPRHP resources to accomplish important re-use of former farm structures at Crown Point State Historic Site. OPRHP uses a former horse barn (dating back to the 1840s) and shed for storage. They have been made much more useful for site storage by renovation work that included slate roof repair, foundation restoration, window replacement and the replacement of an unsafe plank

floor with a poured concrete floor. In summer 2012, NHT funds will be used to replace the wood siding on the horse barn and shed. In addition, the former cow barn that DEC uses for storage will benefit from concrete foundation work and the replacement of its metal roof.

Lorenzo State Historic Site

Lorenzo State Historic Site is host to many events and activities throughout the year. Events range from Christmas at Lorenzo to a schoolhouse immersion program. Built in 1814, Rippleton Schoolhouse is one of fifteen original schools in the town of Cazenovia. In 1997 the schoolhouse was moved to



Lorenzo State Historic Site

its current location at Lorenzo State Historic Site. A historically accurate restoration sets the stage for the

Rippleton Schoolhouse Immersion Program. Schoolmarm “Mattie Buckland” leads students on a journey to the late 19th century through a variety of lessons, activities and games funded in part through the NHT. Adorned in traditional garb, students learn about rural education, etiquette, leisure activities, crafts, history, transportation and art of the time period. The Rippleton Schoolhouse Immersion Program is a wonderful resource to give children a hands-on feel for what life was like during the 1880s.

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



Sampson WWII Naval Museum

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 Veterans' Museum and Memorial. The museum has been operated by a volunteer group of veterans and is in the process of transferring all remaining assets to the NHT. The NHT has entered into a cooperative operation and maintenance agreement to keep the museum running and accepts donations on the museum's behalf.

Clermont State Historic Site

The main house at Clermont has been home to seven generations of the politically and socially prominent Livingston Family. In many ways, the Livingstons helped define several key moments in American history. They settled portions of the American wilderness and took part in the



Clermont State Historic Site

colonists' revolt. Perhaps most notably, Chancellor Robert R. Livingston helped draft the Declaration of Independence, administered the oath of office to George Washington, assisted in the negotiation of the Louisiana Purchase and developed steamboat technology with Robert Fulton. Funds raised through the NHT are used to support interpretive opportunities and public programming at Clermont. This year, NHT funds were used to purchase reproduction costumes that were used for historic "ghost" tours. The NHT also supported the costs of professional performers at the Sheep and Wool Showcase, Sunset Concert/Sock Hop and the Old-Fashioned Independence Day events.

Hyde Hall Historic Site

The NHT has continued its partnership 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., 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 acts as a fiscal agent and receives donations on its behalf.



Hyde Hall Historic Site

Battle Flag Preservation

In FY 2011-12, the NHT continued its relationship with the Division of Military and Naval Affairs (DMNA) in support of the New York State Battle Flag Preservation Project. DMNA owns the collection of approximately 2,000 flags, dating from the War of 1812 to the present; the collection includes the nation's largest group of Civil War battle flags. Preserving and interpreting this collection is particularly meaningful with these years marking the 150th anniversary of that war. The flags are conserved by NHT staff working at OPRHP's Peebles Island Resource Center. The NHT administers the funds raised and awarded for care of the flags.

This year, the Battle Flag Preservation Project mounted a well-received exhibit, 1861: Banners for Glory, in the New York State Capitol. The exhibit was supported by a grant from the Coby Foundation and featured the "Marshall House flag", an important symbol for New York State troops in the Civil War. Display of this flag captured the attention of the PBS History Detectives program, which will feature this flag and its unique story in the upcoming season.

With a second grant from the Coby Foundation for the 1862: Red, White and Battered exhibit, the Battle Flag Preservation Project will be able to



feature a flag conserved with the support of the 61st New York Volunteer Infantry. The NHT thanks both of these groups and the many individuals that continue to support the Battle Flag Preservation Project.



Niagara River Greenway

Other Partnerships and Collaborations

Historic Saratoga-Washington on the Hudson Partnership

In recent years, municipalities and non-profit organizations along the Upper Hudson River have independently initiated local projects that foster the area's



Washington County Landscape

rich natural and cultural heritage. The Historic Saratoga-Washington on the Hudson Partnership was established

through an act of legislation in 2006 to comprehensively support the local efforts through an innovative and voluntary framework of public and private groups, including local and state government. The Partnership has received support from both local government and non-profit groups within the Upper Hudson Corridor and meets monthly to discuss projects, create resolutions in support of like-minded issues, and generally foster its mission to preserve, enhance and develop the historic, agricultural, scenic, natural and recreational resources of the Partnership region. During FY 2011-12 the NHT continued to work collaboratively with the Partnership to manage a \$75,000 grant from the National Park Service's (NPS) American Battlefield Protection Program to produce a Cultural Landscape Treatment and Site Development Plan (Plan) for the Sword

Surrender site. As of year end, the draft Plan has been prepared and submitted to the NPS for review and comment.

Montauk Downs State Park Golf Course Renovation

The NHT partners with the Friends of Montauk Downs Incorporated to raise funds in support of Montauk Downs State Park. In 2003, OPRHP began a major renovation of this Robert Trent Jones designed championship length 18-hole golf course relying, in large part, on the Friends' support. This course has been rated by Golf Digest as one of the top 50 public courses in the nation. The renovation commenced with the help and advice of golf course architect Rees Jones, "The Open Doctor", who provided his services without charge. Jones designed the master plan for the renovation. The entire course has been improved and major renovations of seven of the eighteen holes are completed. The NHT has administered funding for this major renovation for several years. The Friends' major fundraising events include an annual gala and seasonal golf tournaments. A significant number of corporate and individual donors continue to support the Friends' fundraising efforts. To date, over six hundred thousand dollars has been raised in support of Montauk Downs State Park.

Rockefeller State Park Preserve Conservancy

The Rockefeller State Park Preserve Conservancy is a private foundation

devoted solely for the benefit of the preserve. Initially funded at a level of \$1 million by Lucy Waletzky and David Rockefeller Jr., the Conservancy grants annually to the NHT a sum based on a combination of its minimum required payout and demonstrated need. Since 2009, the Conservancy has contributed \$80,000 to the NHT which has been put to work primarily to support maintenance of the carriage roads in the Preserve. Specifically, these funds support concerns that are beyond traditional maintenance, such as the repair of trails separated and undermined by storm damage. During FY 2011-12, work supported by the Conservancy's grants included trail regrading on the Brook Trail and various trails in the Rockwood Hall Area. These trails had sustained significant washout damage from storms in June 2011 and thanks to the Conservancy's support the trails remain open for the enjoyment of the public.

South Shore Estuary Reserve

The South Shore Estuary Reserve (SSER) was created by the New York State Legislature in 1993 to protect and restore the resources of the bays and adjacent watersheds along the south shore of Long Island for the benefit of municipalities and the public bordering the bays. These resources are linked to the economic vitality of the region. Over the last several years the Department of State (DOS) has worked in partnership with the NHT to identify current and potential SSER ecosystem threats and

recommend changes to New York State Coastal Management Program policies. The need for improvement has been identified in three main areas: Water Quality, Habitat Restoration, and Climate Change Adaptation. In the past year, NHT staff reviewed scientific literature, data and research, and coordinated outreach efforts with the South Shore Estuary Reserve Council (Council) and other partners. Preliminary findings on sea level rise impacts affecting the bays were provided to the Council. NHT staff also continues track progress and implementation status of the recommendations outlined in the SSER Comprehensive Management Plan.

Niagara River Greenway

The NHT acts as fiscal agent for and provides administrative support to the Niagara River Greenway Commission. The Commission was established 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. To date, the Commission has reviewed and found consistent with the Plan, 116 projects totaling approximately \$736 million. Funding for projects is received from various sources with some projects complete and a number in the planning, design and construction phase. In FY

2011-12 the Commission created a new trails brochure, updated its website and produced its first edition of an electronic newsletter. The Commission hosted its sixth annual "Paddles Up Niagara" on July 30, 2011. The event traveled 4.6 miles along the south river. Operational costs of the Commission were supported by NHT through a grant of \$225,000 from the State's Environmental Protection Fund.

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 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 visitors welcome center, shaded picnic benches, a large reflecting pool, a miniature golf course, environmental education and costumed interpreters. In 2011, an estimated 275,000 fairgoers visited the State Park at the Fair, including Governor Andrew M. Cuomo.

Golden Hill State Park

A variety of interpretive programs and public amenities at Golden Hill State Park are made possible through donations to the NHT in partnership with the Friends of the Thirty Mile Lighthouse. The lighthouse at the park on Lake Ontario serves as a public museum through the efforts of the Friends which also run the gift shop. The lighthouse was built in the 1870's, and served to warn mariners of a sandbar hidden at this location. The light operated until 1984, when it was transferred from the U.S. Coast Guard to OPRHP. The lower floors are set up to suggest the home of the lighthouse keeper Glenn Seeley and his family. On the second floor, a two bedroom apartment is available for weekly rental in the summer. This year funds raised by the Friends have been used to purchase new furniture and carpets for the historic lighthouse.

Bayard Cutting Arboretum

The Bayard Cutting Arboretum (BCA) was donated to the Long Island



State Park Region by Mrs. William (Olivia Murray) Bayard Cutting and her daughter, Mrs. Olivia Bayard James. It was founded as a family-trust endowed memorial to William Bayard Cutting in 1936 and donated to the state and people of New York. The BCA Trust oversees the endowment which has provided on going support to the site. During FY 2011-12, the Bayard Trust began making distributions to the NHT from the endowment in support of operations, projects and programs at BCA. All told, the NHT received \$465,000 during the year, including \$215,000 to fund a capital reserve account for future projects.

When the Cutting Family lived at "Westbrook", the property was renowned for its collection of prized Guernsey cows as well as a working farm. In an effort to restore the farm, BCA has started a Community Sponsored Agriculture program on the 15-acre parcel. To implement this program Bayard needed

a farm manager to run the CSA program and develop the farm. Using funds from the BCA Trust, NHT employs a staff person to manage the farm and associated program income. Bayard has sold thirty-three full shares and has over fifty families participating in the program. Program participants look forward to receiving fresh vegetables grown in an organic and pesticide-free environment. The farm is on target for weekly distribution of thirty different types of vegetables over the 24-week growing season.

A second major initiative at Bayard commenced during FY 2011-12, and includes the renovation of the gardens lining the walkway to the Carriage House. With funding support from the NHT, Bayard staff worked with professional landscape designers to design borders that boast over 100 boxwood plants forming hedging intertwined with a variety of colors and textures of plants. The new garden will boast four-season interest by using new and interesting perennials and woody plants not commonly found in nurseries. The unique nature of the plantings will be of great interest to the visiting public. The project is schedule to be largely completed in June and will be an exciting new addition to Bayard.

Financial Highlights

Condensed Statement of Activities

(For year ended March 31, 2012)

REVENUES, GAINS AND OTHER SUPPORT

Grants and Contracts	\$4,149,000
Gifts and Private Grants	\$2,330,000
Investment and Administrative Income	\$1,909,000
Activity Program Income	\$1,226,000
Mitigation and Environmental Benefit Fund	\$508,000
Sponsorship Support	\$239,000
Other	\$44,000

Total Revenues, Gains and Other Support	\$10,405,000
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EXPENSES

Program Support	\$4,447,000
Construction/ Capital Projects	\$2,789,000
Activity and Event Support	\$1,321,000
Gift Reassignment	\$960,000
Administrative	\$714,000
Promotional Materials/Merchandise Resale	\$649,000
Professional Services	\$408,000
Grant Awards	\$94,000
Other	\$8,000

Total Expenses	\$11,390,000
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Results from Operations	\$(985,000)
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Net Assets at Beginning of Year	\$22,508,000
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PLUS: Fund Balance Used in Current Year	\$362,000
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Net Assets at End of Year	\$21,885,000
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PLUS: Liabilities	\$1,324,000
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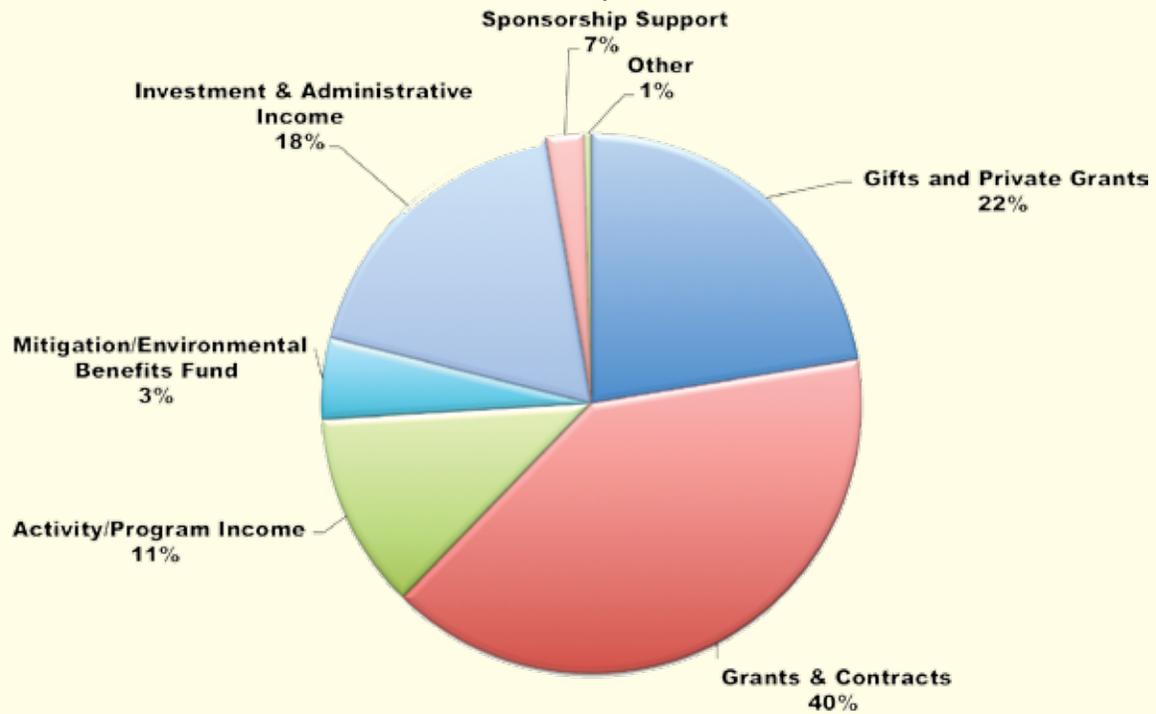
PLUS: Remaining Fund Balance	\$1,838,000
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Total Assets Held In Trust	\$25,047,000
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Financial Highlights

Revenue and Expenses (For year ended March 31, 2012)

Revenue by Source



Expenses by Source



Financial Highlights

Investment Accounts (For year ended March 31, 2012)

CAPITAL PROJECTS

Jamesport Park	\$3,801,000.00
Main Reserve	\$756,000.00
BCA Trust	\$215,000.00
Davis Park	\$200,000.00
Total Capital Projects	\$4,972,000.00

ENDOWMENT

Four Freedoms	\$2,416,000.00
Mount Loretto	\$2,180,000.00
Main LTI	\$1,250,000.00
Emma Treadwell Thacher	\$508,000.00
Huttleston	\$93,000.00
Total Endowment	\$6,447,000.00

OPERATING

Main Management	\$13,628,000.00
Total Operating	\$13,628,000.00

INVESTMENT TARGETS

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



Walkway Over the Hudson State Historic Park

Our Supporters

We thank our many donors, partners, foundations and sponsors who, despite this still recovering 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: Natural Heritage Trust, 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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The NHT is deeply grateful to donors whose gifts of \$1 to \$249 make the programs and projects supported by the NHT possible. Likewise, the NHT appreciates all those individuals who have participated in fundraisers and other events sponsored by the NHT.

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.

The NHT is fortunate to have such a broad group of dedicated partners. Together we have advanced numerous parks, conservation and preservation projects throughout New York State. We look forward to working together again in the future.

Foundation Support:

Alphawood Foundation	John Thiessen's Children's Foundation, Inc	Robert G. Wehle Charitable Trust
Bayard Cutting Arboretum Trust	MetLife Foundation	Rockefeller State Park Preserve
The Coby Foundation	The Neel Foundation	Conservancy
The David & Nancy Russell Foundation	Planting Fields Foundation	Tower Brook Foundation
Firefighters Charitable Foundation Inc.	The Pratt-Northam Foundation	Walter H. Weil Family Foundation
John J. Fuchs Charitable Trust	Price Chopper's Golub Foundation	

Non-profits, Friends and Government Partners:

661st New York Volunteer Infantry	Friends of Minna Anthony Common Nature Center	NYS Council of Parks
Adirondack Wild: Friends of the Forest Preserve	Friends of Montauk Downs State Park	NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
Albany Pine Bush Preserve Commission	Friends of Sampson State Park	NYS Department of State
The Alliance for New York State Parks	Friends of Thirty Mile Point Lighthouse	NYS Military Museum
Artpark & Company	Historic Saratoga Washington on the Hudson Partnership	NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation
The Caumsett Foundation	Homeless Housing and Assistance Corporation	The Olana Partnership
Cornell Cooperative Extension	Housing Trust Fund Corporation	Ontario Heritage Trust
Division of Housing and Community Renewal	Hyde Hall, Inc	Orient Fire Department
Egbert Benson Historical Society	Jones Beach Lifeguard Corp	The Palisades Interstate Park Commission
Fayetteville Manlius Antiques	The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society	Parks & Trails New York
Foundation for Long Island State Parks, Inc	Long Island North Shore Heritage Area	Shumaker Mountain Climbers
Friends of Clermont	Metropolitan Transportation Authority	Sonnenberg, Inc
Friends of Five Rivers	National Park Service	South Shore Estuary Reserve
Friends of Glimmerglass State Park	The Nature Conservancy	State Island Historical Society
Friends of Herkimer Home Site	Niagara River Greenway Commission	The Trust for Governor's Island
Friends of John Jay Homestead	North Worchester County Civil War Round Table	The Trust for Public Lands
Friends of Lorenzo		Volkssport Club of West Point
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