



NEWS IN AND ABOUT THE SIX-MILLION-ACRE ADIRONDACK PARK

INSIDE

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Council Honors Senator Thompson and Assemblyman Sweeney

Committee Chairs protect environmental programs

The Adirondack Council presented its *Legislator of the Year* award to the Environmental Conservation Committee Chairmen in both houses — Senator Antoine Thompson of Buffalo and Assemblyman Robert Sweeney of Lindenhurst. Both men were honored at the spring meeting of the Council's Board of Directors in Albany and received a signed Gary Randorf landscape photograph and engraved plaque.



*L to R: Council Board Chair Brian Ruder, Senator Antoine Thompson and Adirondack Council Executive Director Brian Houseal
Photo courtesy of N.Y. State Senate*

The Legislators stood united and rejected several proposals that would have weakened the Environmental Protection Fund (EPF). As a result of their hard

work, we have an EPF that has a secure funding source, is significantly higher than what the Governor proposed and provides adequate funding for capital projects including \$60 million for land acquisition.



*Assemblyman Robert Sweeney and Brian Houseal
Photo courtesy of N.Y. State Assembly*

Case Opens Possibility of Expanded Motorized Use

DEC should act to officially close old roads

In May, the conclusion of a six-year-long legal case resulted in a ruling by the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) determining that a former town road through the Sentinel Range Wilderness (pictured below) between Lake Placid and Keene was never officially “abandoned” and therefore remains a town road. The trail currently has the character of a foot path. Decisions about how the “road” may be used are now up to the towns and could include allowing motorized travel. According to the *Adirondack Park State Land Master Plan*, areas designated as Wilderness are not open to motorized uses. The Council is urging the DEC to use existing highway law to officially close old roads that may never have been properly abandoned, which cross what is now Forest Preserve.



Motorized use would destroy this popular ski and biking trail, disturb sensitive wildlife, and violate the concept of wilderness. The trail is open now only due to many years of volunteer work by members of the Adirondack Ski Touring Council, which maintains the route as the Jackrabbit Trail between Lake Placid and Keene.

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L to R: Ernesto Enkerlin (Director of Mexico's National Commission of Natural Protected Areas) Brian Houseal (Adirondack Council Executive Director) and Hans Herrmann (Director of Conservation Programs for the Commission for Environmental Cooperation) participated in a tri-national North American conference of the Biodiversity Conservation Working Group. Held in Miami this May, Brian facilitated the conference aimed at updating the continental conservation strategy.

Local Climate Change

As the summer begins in the Adirondacks, we are met with another reminder of the need for immediate action to curb the ecological damage associated with global climate change. A rainy start to June prompted lush plant growth throughout the Adirondack Park. In a stable climate, high-elevation, lake-bejeweled regions like the Adirondacks can expect summer rain showers on a regular basis.

Can you imagine an Adirondack summer with no rain at all?

According to a June report by the US Global Change Research Program, "short term droughts (one to three months) are projected to occur as frequently as once each summer in the Adirondack and Catskill Mountains and across the New England states by late this century," if the United States and other nations fail to take decisive action against global greenhouse gas pollution.

Here in the Adirondacks, there are two actions we can all participate in to raise awareness about the need to reverse global warming and prevent the Park from turning brown, dry and fire-hungry from July to September each year.

The Council is looking for 350 (or more) of its members and friends to join in local events on the **International Day of Climate Action** on October 24. The events are sponsored by **350.org**, which wants to raise international awareness of the need to reduce carbon in the atmosphere to 350 parts per million or less. The effort is being led by Adirondack author and conservationist Bill McKibben. See the back cover of this newsletter for details.

In addition, you can help reduce the total amount of carbon emitted by power plants in the 10-state Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) from Maine to Maryland by participating in the Adirondack Council's **Cool Park/Healthy Planet** program. Donors to the program receive a **Carbon Reduction Certificate**, showing how many tons of carbon dioxide the donation prevented. The Council uses the proceeds to purchase carbon allowances from the RGGI auction and withholds them from the market. Carbon allowances retired in this manner can never be used to create smokestack pollution.

Since only a limited number of allowances are available each year, each ton retired reduces the annual regional pollution cap for all power plants. So far, we have retired more than 4,000 tons of carbon this way. Help us retire the remainder of our current supply this summer, so we can go to the September auction and stock up again.

Brian L. Houseal, Executive Director

Go to our website – www.AdirondackCouncil.org – for more information and updates on issues facing the Adirondack Park.

MEMBERS IN ACTION

ACTION UPDATE

Thank You for Your Letters

Citizen action results in improved budget

Thank you to everyone who wrote to New York legislative leaders communicating with them about the importance of the Adirondack Park, and urging policymakers to fund the Environmental Protection Fund (EPF) and reject Governor Paterson's proposal to cap the state's payment of property taxes on public lands. Your personal letters made a difference! The EPF will continue to provide critical funding for water and land protection (see page 6). And, the state will continue to pay its fair share of property taxes on public lands as it has for over 100 years (see page 4). Our thanks also go to all of our members for your generous financial support that helped achieve this important outcome for the Adirondacks. We hope you take great personal pride in this advocacy success.

Personal letters delivered by mail have the strongest impact when communicating with policymakers. Thank you to everyone who took the time to write and for sharing copies with the Council.

Here are a few excerpts from your letters:

"I am a full time resident of the Adirondacks and have been for many decades. As a New Yorker and an Adirondacker, I am concerned over some of Governor Paterson's proposed budget.....I would like the Environmental Protection Fund to be fully funded. It is extremely important to me that the Adirondacks be protected from over development as much as possible. The feel of wilderness brings many of my friends here to visit. They spend freely while they are here. The thought of wilderness brings peace of mind to others who cannot visit as often as they wish."

"I was dismayed to hear of Governor Paterson's recent proposals re the Adirondack Park. The Adirondack Park is a tremendous resource for New York State and one that has been safe-guarded and strengthened for many years. In today's world where protection of natural resources, clean air and water as well as wildlife are more important than ever, any decrease in protection is appalling.....The Adirondack Park is an important part of my life and I want to ensure that it will continue to be protected for my grandchildren and their grandchildren."

"As long-time Adirondack family landowners, taxpayers and supporters of the Adirondack Park and its extraordinary contribution to our natural environment and the well-being of its state's citizens, we urge you in these difficult times to stop and consider the significant long-term importance of continuing full financial protection for this vitally important resource and the communities within it."



Don't Flush That Prescription

Pharmaceuticals enter water supply

Don't flush unused and out-of-date pharmaceuticals down your toilet or pour them down your drain. Take them to an official collection site. Recent studies show alarming levels of pharmaceuticals entering the state's lakes, rivers and underground water supplies via sewage treatment plants and septic systems. The health impacts for people and wildlife have not yet been carefully studied, but early results show a cause for concern and caution.



Get it Here

Imported firewood brings pests

You can help stop the spread of invasive insects by gathering or purchasing your firewood for camp after you arrive in the Adirondack Park. Don't bring it with you.

Pest infestations in Massachusetts and Western New York have caused New York state officials to ban the transport of firewood more than 50 miles from the forest where it grew (unless it is kiln-dried to kill insects and pathogens). The Adirondack Council strongly advises that no one bring firewood into the Park from outside its borders. Firewood is readily available in all areas of the Adirondack Park and buying local helps the Adirondack economy.

IN AND ABOUT THE PARK



Cool Park/Healthy Planet

Credits rally public radio support

Some ideas are just too good to keep to yourself. In May and June, the Adirondack Council embarked on a fundraising and educational partnership with the Adirondack Park's two outstanding public radio stations: North Country Public Radio, WSLU in Canton, and Northeast Public Radio, WAMC in Albany.

During their spring fund drives, the Council donated Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) carbon allowances to the radio stations, which turned to their listeners to retire them. The stations received a generous donation from the pledge-callers and did a splendid job of explaining how the RGGI system reduces carbon emissions from power plants in ten states.

The stations also explained how the Adirondack Council is further reducing the regional greenhouse gas cap by purchasing and retiring thousands of tons' worth of allowances, so power companies can't buy them and use them. They noted that every ton removed from the system is a ton that will never leave a power plant smokestack. (More information at www.AdirondackCouncil.org and on the back page.)

"All of us at WAMC are extraordinarily grateful to our friends at the Adirondack Council for their help in the last fund drive ... One after another we heard from listeners, some already members, some not, who made comments like 'This is the best premium ever,' or 'What a wonderful idea!' The nineteen volunteers answering the phones could hardly keep up and the internet pledges were through the roof."

Alan Chartock, President/CEO
WAMC, Northeast Public Radio

With these most recent efforts, the Adirondack Council has now retired more than 4,000 tons of carbon dioxide through our Cool Park/Healthy Planet program.

Victory for Common Ground Alliance

Coalition helps defeat ill-conceived budget proposal

Teamwork between a group of environmentalists and local Adirondack leaders, known as the Common Ground Alliance, won a significant victory in the New York state budget negotiations in April.

The Common Ground Alliance is a growing organization of more than 100 local officials and leaders. The core group is made up of representatives from local government and various organizations dedicated to environmental protection, sustainable development, landowners' rights, and community enhancement.

In December 2008, Governor David Paterson's proposed budget sought to freeze state tax payments to local communities that contain Forest Preserve lands. At stake in 2009 alone was \$4 million in increased payments that were due to be made in the Adirondacks.

State tax payments to local governments that host state forests cost New York about \$200 million per year. More than \$70 million of those payments go to Adirondack communities and school districts. The tax bills rise as more Forest Preserve is added and as property values increase. The state has been making these payments without interruption since 1886, when the Forest Preserve was created by the Legislature. The Legislature must agree before towns or school districts can charge the state for local property taxes.

The tax-freeze plan was wildly unpopular in the state's rural communities, especially those that host large amounts of state land, such as the Adirondack and Catskill Parks, the Southern Tier and the east end of Long Island. The freeze would have saved the state less than \$9 million in a \$130 billion spending plan.

In February, Governor Paterson met with leaders from the Adirondack Common Ground Alliance, including the Adirondack Council and Adirondack Association of Towns and Villages, to discuss their objections to the proposal.

Before and after the meeting, the organizations had worked side-by-side in an unprecedented show of unity between often-competing groups. For nearly three months, they sent messages and petitions to the governor and legislative leaders, explaining that the plan was bad public policy.

The Adirondack Council is a founding member and a member of the Alliance's core group.

Pictured above: Elizabethtown, the county seat for Essex County and home to the Adirondack Council's main office.



IN AND ABOUT THE PARK



Council Threatens Federal Clean Water Lawsuit

Road salt storage at issue

The Adirondack Council in June filed a notice of intent to sue the Village of Saranac Lake if the village doesn't remove or cover its road salt pile that is leaching into Lake Colby.

The notice, warning of an impending citizens' lawsuit under the federal Clean Water Act, was sent to the US Environmental Protection Agency and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), who jointly enforce the Clean Water Act in New York.

The Citizen Suit Notice seeks to compel the village and DEC to clean up the village salt pile within 60 days. If the salt and sand are not removed by then, the Council will seek a federal order compelling the clean-up.

Lake Colby is the headwaters of the Saranac Chain of Lakes and Saranac River, which flows northeast from the High Peaks region into Lake Champlain at Plattsburgh.

Village officials had been informed of this problem for years, but failed to fix it. Residents have been asking the DEC to take action since 2003.

The Council's notice accuses the village of failing to control storm water runoff from the sand and salt piles, resulting in violations of the turbidity and chloride standards in Colby Brook, which runs into Lake Colby. Chloride pollution is at levels high enough to harm plants and aquatic wildlife.

In February, the Adirondack Council published a 42-page special report *Low Sodium Diet: Curbing New York's Appetite for Road Salt*. Our 2008 publication *Adirondack Waters: Resource at Risk* also highlights the threat of road salt to Adirondack waters. Both are available at www.AdirondackCouncil.org.

Winds of Change

Council supports small wind turbines

The Adirondack Council is supporting a plan by the Adirondack Park Agency (APA) to create a simplified "general permit" for Park residents who want to install small-scale wind turbines at their homes, farms and businesses.

General permits allow the applicant to gain quick approval for plans that clearly meet the Park Agency's criteria for careful development. They are used for specific types of development that the APA expects will become routine.

The Council has supported the approval of two specific permits for wind turbines in the towns of Johnsburg, Warren County, and Saranac, Clinton County. Each project took less than a year to gain the APA's approval, but under a general permit, the APA could approve plans that meet the Agency's criteria in less than a month.

Both of the small-scale turbines approved by the APA were 800-kilowatt installations on farms that are expected to provide all, or nearly all, electricity consumed at the farms.

The Adirondack Council remains opposed to industrial-scale wind turbines in the Adirondack Park, especially those that might be proposed for the Park's rare mountaintop habitat. Results from surveys of nearby wind turbine facilities on flatter lands shows unacceptable levels of migratory birds and bats killed by the rotating blades. Concerns over birds and bats in flight are amplified by the loss of habitat on the ground.



Noel Merrihew, Elizabethtown Supervisor, (back row, second from right) joined Brian Houseal, Executive Director of the Adirondack Council (third from right) at the Council's Elizabethtown office to host government representatives and not-for-profit leaders from Peru, Bolivia and Ecuador for an afternoon of conversation about how Adirondack towns engage with the Forest Preserve. The group traveled the Adirondacks as part of a Quebec Labrador Foundation program to explore how civil society interacts with protected areas.



Environmental Funding Intact

Coalition effort a success

Adirondack Council members have much to celebrate in an otherwise lean state budget this year. The New York State Legislature protected the integrity of the Environmental Protection Fund (EPF), and rejected a budget-cutting proposal to freeze state property tax payments to local governments that host state land.

During budget negotiations, there were plans to cut the EPF significantly, remove any fund balance unspent in previous years, and replace its stable funding source with an untested revenue stream. Thanks to a large coalition of environmental, business, labor and local government groups, and your help, none of these plans were adopted by the Legislature.

Your letters to members of the Legislature were very important. While the Adirondack Council's government relations and media teams effectively advocated for these issues in Albany and across the state, there is nothing like having elected officials hear directly from their constituents.

For 2009-10, the EPF has a total of \$222 million, with \$60 million set aside for the purchase and preservation of new state lands and for conservation easements.



Adirondack Council Legislative Associate Alanah Keddell (center) greets Assemblymen Peter Lopez, R-Schoharie (L), and Joseph Saladino, R-Massaquoi (R), at the Council's legislative reception in Albany.

Look for Constitutional Amendment

On November 3rd ballot statewide

Lost among the political intrigues and power struggles within the New York State Legislature this spring was the final passage of a Constitutional Amendment (A.2802/S.8284) designed to allow a small Adirondack village to connect into a back-up power line to prevent frequent mid-winter blackouts created by storm damage to its single electrical supply.

When the power line was first proposed, the New York Power Authority sought to detour the power line away from the Forest Preserve on the roadside and into the adjoining woods. But the only clear path available to avoid the strip of public lands would have required a 3.5-mile detour through a pristine white pine old-growth forest, through the state's best habitat for the endangered Spruce Grouse (near Seveys Corners). The route would cross 95 separate streams and wetlands. This would be a new maintenance road in the woods, creating a permanent barrier to future wilderness preservation west of Route 56.

Instead, the Adirondack Council and others asked the Power Authority and National Grid to build the line on the roadside, through the Forest Preserve. We said we would lead an effort to approve a Constitutional Amendment allowing the Legislature to swap a few acres of roadside Forest Preserve for a wilder parcel away from the highway. This would add back to the Forest Preserve lands of equal or greater value to the public than the former Forest Preserve lands occupied by the power poles. This would also free National Grid to clear new trees from the right of way.

This amendment will be placed before the voters at the November 3rd general election. Since there are no statewide elections this fall that would bring a large turnout to the polls, the Adirondack Council will play a vital role in informing the voters of the amendment's merits via the news media this summer and fall. The Council will work to promote the amendment statewide, with special emphasis on New York City, where a mayoral election is likely to spur a larger-than-usual turnout.

If the Constitutional Amendment is approved by the voters, the Legislature would pass "enabling legislation" in 2010 carrying out the specific details of the land swap.

foreverwild@adirondackcouncil.org

Please send us your e-mail address so we can send you action alerts and updates on issues facing the Park. E-mail is the fastest, most cost-effective way of communicating with you. This is especially important when your letters or calls are needed on policy issues quickly. You can unsubscribe anytime.

Thank you.



A Breath of Clean Air

Acid rain and mercury bill proposed

In April, Congressman John M. McHugh, R-Pierrepont Manor, introduced the *Acid Rain and Mercury Control Act* to limit the emissions of sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxide, and mercury from coal-fired power plants. The Adirondack Council enthusiastically supports this bill.

The legislation would require a 75 percent cut in sulfur and nitrogen emissions from power plants by 2012 from 1997 levels and a 90 percent reduction in mercury emissions by 2013 from current levels. Building upon the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) sulfur trading program, the *Acid Rain and Mercury Control Act* would allow power plants to use allowance trading to comply with the sulfur and nitrogen emissions reductions. However, due to mercury's toxic nature, this legislation would prohibit mercury from being traded and require deep cuts at each plant.

Note: Representative John McHugh has been nominated by President Obama to serve as Secretary of the Army. He is expected to be confirmed this summer. A special election to fill his seat in Congress will follow soon after his confirmation.

Testing, Testing

Obama's first budget spares critical acid rain programs

Two important acid rain monitoring programs remained whole in President Barack Obama's budget, outlined in early May. These programs have been used for the last 20 years to determine if clean air laws and regulations are having their intended effect.

The Clean Air Status and Trends Network (CASTNET) will receive \$3.95 million to operate a series of air monitoring stations that measure pollution falling from the sky; and the Temporally Integrated Monitoring of Ecosystems and the Long Term Monitoring Program (TIME/LTM), is expected to be funded at \$720,000. This program measures lake and river chemistry (acidity, mercury content, etc.), all along the East Coast, including some Adirondack water bodies.

U.S. Reps. John McHugh, R-Pierrepont Manor, and Michael Arcuri, D-Utica, had requested that House leadership maintain the current funding levels for these programs. For the last two years, President Bush has sought to slash funding for these programs by nearly \$2 million annually. McHugh and Arcuri, along with Senator Chuck Schumer, were able to convince their colleagues to restore the funding during previous budget negotiations.

L to R: Council Legislative Director Scott Lorey, Northern Forest Canoe Trail founder Kay Henry, New Hampshire Senator Jeanne Shabean and Northern Forest Center Project Manager Joe Short discussed the need to fund the Northern Border Commission while in Washington, D.C.

Photo courtesy of U.S. Senate

New Commission Proposed

Focus on economic growth

As part of the 2008 federal Farm Bill, Congress created the Northern Border Regional Commission, which would work collaboratively to improve the economic conditions in northern New York, Vermont, New Hampshire and Maine. While it is yet to be funded, the Commission is eligible to receive up to \$30 million annually in federal funding to carry out its mission of promoting economic development while protecting the natural resources of the area which make it a special place to live and work.

The Council's advocacy for the Border Commission was in collaboration with the *Northern Forest Sustainable Economy Initiative (SEI)*. The SEI has developed three long-term goals, to protect and enhance the region's assets, expand enterprise, and coordinate and advocate as a region.

The Adirondack Council has strongly supported the creation of the Northern Border Commission and the efforts of SEI through our advocacy in Albany and Washington, D.C. We are working to secure funding for the Northern Border Regional Commission in the upcoming federal budget.



ADIRONDACK FORESTS



Biomass Study Needed

Carbon-neutral fuel is project goal

The Adirondack Council is urging the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority to provide a grant to the Adirondack Research Consortium to explore the best means of developing carbon-neutral and carbon-negative biomass-based renewable energy.

Most of the Park's paper mills have closed as their corporate owners were acquired or moved away over the past 30 years. As a result, the market for low-grade timber formerly used as paper pulp has diminished. This puts a financial strain on the owners of commercial forest lands, which can lead to the sale and subdivision of land and the fragmentation of habitat.

At the same time, the Park and the nation are seeking additional sources of domestic energy that don't increase carbon emissions. Wood chips and sawdust can be safely and economically converted into wood pellets for use in wood stoves and industrial boilers. Wood pulp can also be fermented to produce ethanol.

When harvested from sustainably managed forests, the carbon emissions released by harvesting trees and burning these fuels is outstripped by the carbon that is absorbed by the still-healthy forest. Thus, these fuel sources can be carbon-neutral or carbon-negative (absorb more carbon than is released). In contrast, clear-cutting or intensive harvesting actually increases carbon in the atmosphere, by using more fuel in harvesting and by removing the forest.

ADIRONDACK COUNCIL is a member of



CFC #22101

Thank you to Adirondack Council members who contribute through their Earth Share workplace giving campaigns. We appreciate your interest in protecting the Adirondack Park and your support for the Adirondack Council's conservation and advocacy efforts. Contact Earth Share today to talk about how to bring Earth Share to **your** workplace! info@earthshare.org

Working Forest Good for Conservation

Nature Conservancy sells some Finch, Pruyn & Company lands

In March, ATP Timberland Invest of Denmark purchased 92,000 acres of protected Adirondack forestland from the Adirondack Nature Conservancy (ANC).

These 92,000 acres are part of a tract of 161,000 acres purchased by ANC from papermaker Finch, Pruyn & Co. of Glens Falls in June 2007 for \$110 million. Finch had owned and managed the lands for more than a century. The Open Space Institute helped to finance the purchase.

This working forest land sustains a variety of plants, animals, and natural communities, some of them rare, threatened or endangered. The results from ecological inventories have been incorporated into the conservation easement protecting these lands and waters. Protected areas and wildlife include the Hudson River ice meadows, Bicknell's thrush, limestone woodlands, nearly 11,000 acres of shoreline, and wetland and high-elevation habitat that will be off-limits to timber harvests.

Special management plans will be developed and updated every 15 years. They will provide the means to measure ecological conservation objectives and make corrections, if warranted.

New York state will own the conservation easement on the property, which will extinguish the development rights and provide new public access. Much of the remainder of the 161,000-acre tract is slated for sale to the state as Forest Preserve. It includes the Hudson River Gorge, OK Slip Falls, the Essex Chain of Lakes and most of the area where the Council has proposed the creation of the Wild Rivers Wilderness incorporating the Hudson, Rock, Indian, Boreas and Cedar rivers.

For more information on conservation easements, please visit our website at www.AdirondackCouncil.org.

Pictured above: Beyond the shoulder of Snowy Mountain near Indian Lake (foreground), the "Little Great Range" is part of the former Finch lands recently purchased by ATP Timberland Invest. The summits are the highest mountains outside of the High Peaks. Photo © Carl Heilman II/Wild Visions Inc.

Breaking News on Tupper Lake Adirondack Club and Resort

As we go to print, applicant Michael Foxman withdrew from the mediation process and now faces a formal public hearing before the Adirondack Park Agency. His proposal for a luxury 600-unit-plus mega-resort on the 6,000-acre former Big Tupper Ski Center and the surrounding backcountry is the largest and most complex application ever considered by the APA.

Instead of a cooperative approach to resolve the ten issues of concern identified by the APA, the public adjudicatory hearing will be a potentially contentious courtroom proceeding.

For updates visit our website at www.AdirondackCouncil.org.

CONSERVATION CONCERN

Invasive Pests a Growing Threat

Spiny water flea invades Sacandaga Reservoir

Add to the growing list of invasive species in water bodies of the Adirondack Park, the spiny water flea (*Bythotrephes longimanus*), which was recently confirmed in the Great Sacandaga Reservoir in the southern Adirondacks. This exotic zooplankton species joins Eurasian watermilfoil, water-chestnut, zebra mussel, and several other dangerous invaders as a threat to lakes and ponds in and around the Park. So far, at least 50 Adirondack waterways are infected by at least one of these alien species. Aquatic nuisance species are commonly transported to other water bodies by boats and canals.

The spiny water flea likely reached the Great Lakes in ships' ballast water, then Sacandaga Reservoir on motorboats or fishing line. Lake Champlain and Lake George are at high risk as Lake Champlain is hydrologically linked to the Sacandaga Reservoir, and many boaters from the Sacandaga also visit Lake George. At this time boat-washing is recommended, but not legally required, when moving between water bodies.

As with other invasive species, the spiny water flea could badly disrupt aquatic ecosystems. It eats other zooplankton, competing with such native fish as rainbow smelt and spottail shiner, adversely affecting trout and salmon.

Stemming the invasion of alien species in Adirondack waters will require action by all of us. Individuals should thoroughly check, clean, and dry their boats and fishing gear before moving to another water body. Governments, at all levels, should impose tougher restrictions on the movement of boats between waters, the transportation of raw materials across regions, and the management of canals.

Learn about invasive species, and how to prevent their spread, from the Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program (www.adkinvasives.com), the Department of Environmental Conservation, (www.dec.state.ny.us), and New York Invasive Species Clearinghouse (<http://nyis.info/>).



The spiny water flea is small (1 to 1.5 cm long) with transparent exoskeleton, a large black eye spot on both sides of the head, and four pairs of legs. Most distinctive is the crustacean's long, barbed tail spine.

Photo courtesy of Great Lakes Sport Fishing Council
Illustration courtesy of the Environmental Protection Agency



Dutchman's Britches Photo by Peter Fish

Clarence Petty Interns

Students gain experience and understanding working with the Adirondack Council's conservation, government relations and membership programs. The Council has the great pleasure of benefiting from their energy, skill and knowledge.



Kevin Chlad graduated from SUNY Potsdam in 2008 with a B.A. in Environmental Studies of the Adirondacks. Originally from Hamilton, NY, Kevin is assisting our Conservation team with monitoring and research

projects. He is also helping spread the word about the Council at local farmers' markets. Kevin's career interests include local sustainable agriculture and thrifty green living while continuing to work and live in the Adirondacks.



Daniel Stevens grew up outside of Albany in Bethlehem, NY. In 2007 he graduated from SUNY Binghamton with a degree in Economics. He is now working on a master's degree in Urban Planning with a concentration

in Environmental Planning at Harvard University. Daniel spent a summer in Pottersville working at a summer camp on Schroon Lake, and continues to enjoy the many recreational offerings of the Park including kayaking, backpacking and sailing.



In our Albany office, **Racquel Eustache** works closely with our Government Relations staff. She graduated from the University at Albany with a Bachelor's in Public Administration. She is currently working on her Master's

in Public Administration with a concentration in Environmental Policy at The Rockefeller College of Public Affairs and Policy. Racquel is preparing for a career in government relations.



Emily Dennin grew up in Lake Placid and graduated from Hamilton College in 2009. Emily will provide support for the Council's membership program this summer, and looks forward to traveling this fall.

SUPPORT THE COUNCIL



Adirondacks Inspire

Gallery features Adirondack images

Artists have long been a vital part of the conservation movement. The Hudson River School of Painters in the mid-19th century helped inspire the nation to protect wilderness areas throughout the country. Artists inspired by the beauty of the Adirondack Park continue to create work that embodies the wilderness values of the Adirondacks and motivates our efforts to protect this wonderful place. Friends of the Adirondack Council gathered at the D. Wigmore Gallery (www.dwigmore.com) in New York City this spring to enjoy current works of artists Nathan Farb (www.nathanfarb.com), Paul Matthews (www.paulmatthews.net), Thomas Paquette (www.thomaspaquette.com) and Don Wynn.



National Sports Academy in Lake Placid retired twelve tons of carbon emissions through the Adirondack Council's carbon reduction certificate program. The school's aim was to reduce the carbon impact of their Earth Day activities, including travel to the Wild Center in Tupper Lake. Pictured left to right: David Wenn, Head of School; Amelea Gray, President of the Sustainability Council; Kelly Carter, Faculty Advisor, and, Jamie Goldsmith, Senior Class President.

Become a Sustaining Member

It's easy, convenient and cost-effective

A sustaining membership is a monthly contribution that is paid automatically through your credit card or checking account. It's a convenient and cost-effective way of keeping your membership active - no more renewal notices.

When you become a sustaining member you'll give the Adirondack Council the security of a steady, reliable stream of income month after month to support our efforts protecting the water, wilderness and wild character of the Park.

For a brochure with more information and the Sustaining Membership Authorization Form, contact Kathy Kelley, Membership Coordinator, at 877-873-2240 (toll-free) or kkelley@adirondackcouncil.org. You can also view the information and download a form via our website: www.AdirondackCouncil.org/sustainingmembership.html.

Thank you for your continued support!



L to R: Photographer Nathan Farb and Council Board member Curt Welling



L to R: Mike Richter, Debbie Heidcorn, and Board member Etienne Boillot



Standing L to R: Alyson Schultz, Diane Fish (staff), Caroline Cowan, and Board member Sarah Collum Hatfield. Seated L to R: Juliet Mound Svoronos and Julie Ball (staff)

SUPPORT THE COUNCIL



Council Contributions Strong

Thank you for your support

Contributions to the Adirondack Council during 2008-2009 (Fiscal year July 1 – June 30) were similar to last year. As you can imagine, the Board and staff are especially grateful for your generosity in these uncertain economic times. We are planning carefully for the 2009-2010 fiscal year, monitoring our financial situation consistently and reducing expenses where possible to maintain our financial strength and flexibility. Your support makes all the difference in what we can accomplish for the Park. Thank you. If you would like more detail about the Council's finances, you can view the Council's IRS Form 990

at Guidestar.com, review financial information at CharityNavigator.org or contact the Council for additional information: 877-873-2240 (toll-free).



Overnight stays at Keene Farm Benefit the Council

One hundred acres near the High Peaks

Special for Adirondack Council members and supporters - for every overnight spent camping or at the hut, 50% of your cost will be donated to the Adirondack Council. (Cost is \$12 camping/\$25 hut per person.)

The Keene Farm (pictured above and at right) is located on a 103-acre property. It provides both camping facilities and a large cabin. There are many established campsites with tables and fire pits in the meadows. Nearby there is a large open-sided shelter for cooking, eating, or escaping from inclement weather. The hut is a two-story log structure on a small pine knoll overlooking the Ausable Valley.



For more information e-mail Keene Farm at adkcouncil@gmail.com.

Adirondack Legacy Society

Estate gifts protect the Park for future generations

By becoming part of the Adirondack Legacy Society with a planned estate gift to the Adirondack Council, you can ensure the natural heritage of the Adirondacks will be protected for future generations. By naming the Adirondack Council in your will or as a beneficiary of life insurance or unused retirement assets, your generosity will create a lasting legacy for Adirondack Park protection. An estate gift of any amount is greatly appreciated. All estate gifts are pooled in our Forever Wild Fund and used only for special projects and extraordinary circumstances with approval from the Board of Directors. Your financial or legal advisor can guide you through the various options in order to make arrangements that consider your individual circumstances, your family needs and your charitable goals. For more information, contact Diane Fish, Director of Fund Development, 877-873-2240 Ext. 106 (toll-free).

As we head to press with this summer news, plans are in high gear for our annual Forever Wild Day. This year the Council honors the Adirondack Nature Conservancy (ANC) with the Conservationist of the Year award, recognizing the achievements of ANC that have resulted in over half a million acres of land protected in the Adirondack Park.

Thanks to everyone who attended the Forever Wild Day in Inlet, NY and for the many contributions received from those unable to attend.

The Adirondack Council gratefully acknowledges the following businesses and individuals who generously sponsored the Council's Annual Forever Wild Day on July 11th.

- Finch Paper LLC
- Lyme Timber Company
- Eastwood Litho, Inc.
- Integrated Marketing Services, Inc.
- Open Space Institute
- Pearsall Financial Group at UBS
- International Paper
- Access Computer Technologies
- Champlain National Bank
- Elk Lake Lodge
- Law Office of Marc S. Gerstman
- Martindale Keyser & Co.
- Split Rock Memories-Adirondack Dreams
- The North Face
- Bambu All Occasion Veneerware
- Cassadilly Cookies
- Lakeside Office Products
- Mountain Mugs
- Mountain Greenery
- Old Forge Hardware
- Dr. Robert H. Poe
- Lost Pond Press
- DiOrio's Supermarket
- Old Chatham Shepherding Co.
- CarrieCups.com

(list incomplete)



ADIRONDACK COUNCIL

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October 24th - International Day of Climate Action

Join our cool commute

The not-for-profit organization 350.org represents an international effort to raise awareness of the need to decrease carbon dioxide concentration in the atmosphere to 350 parts per million. The next 350.org International Day of Climate Action takes place on October 24, 2009. Citizens around the globe will participate in various actions to emphasize that 350 parts per million is the number that we need to get back to in order to bring climate change under control. **The Adirondack Council is looking for 350 (or more!) people who will commit to an alternative commute to work or school on Oct. 24th.** If you drive alone, find a friend to commute with you. Can you bike, walk or use public transportation? Already getting high marks for your travel methods? Accompany a family member or friend that might need encouragement to reduce the carbon impact of their daily travel to work or school. **Join our 350 Action by signing up on our website at www.AdirondackCouncil.org.**

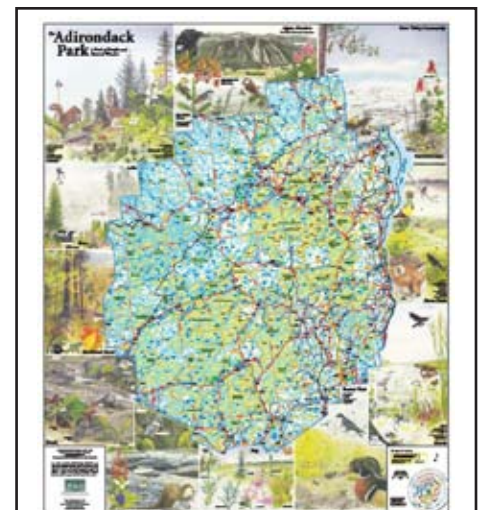
Carbon Reduction Certificate

Help reduce your carbon footprint!



For a \$25 contribution to the Council's *Cool Park/Healthy Planet* program, we will permanently retire three tons of carbon dioxide from the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI), the nation's first multi-state effort to reduce carbon emissions. Power plants in the participating states (Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island

and Vermont) must purchase carbon credits for the "right" to emit carbon dioxide (one credit equals one ton of emissions). Plants have the opportunity to sell their unused credits, an incentive mechanism to encourage power companies to reduce their emissions. Funds generated by the Council's *Cool Park/Healthy Planet* program are used for education, advocacy and additional credit purchases. Since December we have purchased 5,000 tons of carbon credits and retired 4,000 tons of carbon dioxide pollution through donations from individuals, schools, businesses, government officials and partnerships with NCPR and WAMC public radio stations.



ADIRONDACK PARK MAP

WITH WATERCOLOR ILLUSTRATIONS (35" X 43")
LAMINATED MAP: \$40
UNLAMINATED MAP: \$25

You can place an order by calling us at 877-873-2240 (toll-free) or order online at www.AdirondackCouncil.org

Proceeds from sales benefit Adirondack Park conservation.

Additional items are available on our website.