



NEWS RELEASE

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Parks & Trails New York awards capacity building grant to the Harlem Valley Rail Trail Association

The **Harlem Valley Rail Trail Association** is one of eight not-for-profit park and trail groups selected to receive a Capacity Building Grant from the statewide advocacy organization, Parks & Trails New York. The awards are designed to help groups increase organizational visibility, generate community support, grow membership, and attract additional volunteers.

“These eight grants, made possible by a generous private donor, are a small investment in strengthening our state’s not-for-profit park and trail organizations, enabling these groups to leverage more private funding and marshal more volunteer power to better fill the gaps in government spending,” said Robin Dropkin, Executive Director of Parks & Trails New York.

The Harlem Valley Rail Trail received \$2,000 for design, printing, and mailing of membership and volunteer opportunity information to be sent to Columbia County residents.

Awards were also granted to:

- **Friends of Fahnestock and Hudson Highlands State Parks**, Westchester, Putnam, Dutchess Counties
- **Friends of Edgewood-Oak Brush Plains Preserve**, Suffolk County
- **John Burroughs Association**, Ulster County
- **Tanglewood Nature Center and Museum**, Chemung County

- **Concerned Long Island Mountain Bicyclists (CLIMB)** – Queens, Nassau, Suffolk Counties
- **Wallkill Valley Rail Trail Association**, Ulster County
- **Friends of Taconic State Park**, Columbia County

Parks & Trails New York received 39 applications from organizations located in 26 counties throughout the state. This is the third year that Parks & Trails New York has offered this funding assistance.

Parks & Trails New York is the leading statewide advocate for parks and trails, dedicated since 1985 to improving the health and quality of life of all New Yorkers by working with community organizations and municipalities to envision, create, promote, and protect a growing network of parks, greenways and trails throughout the state for all to use and enjoy.

Include information on your organization.

More information on the grant program and Parks & Trails New York can be found on the website, www.ptny.org or by calling 518-434-1583.

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