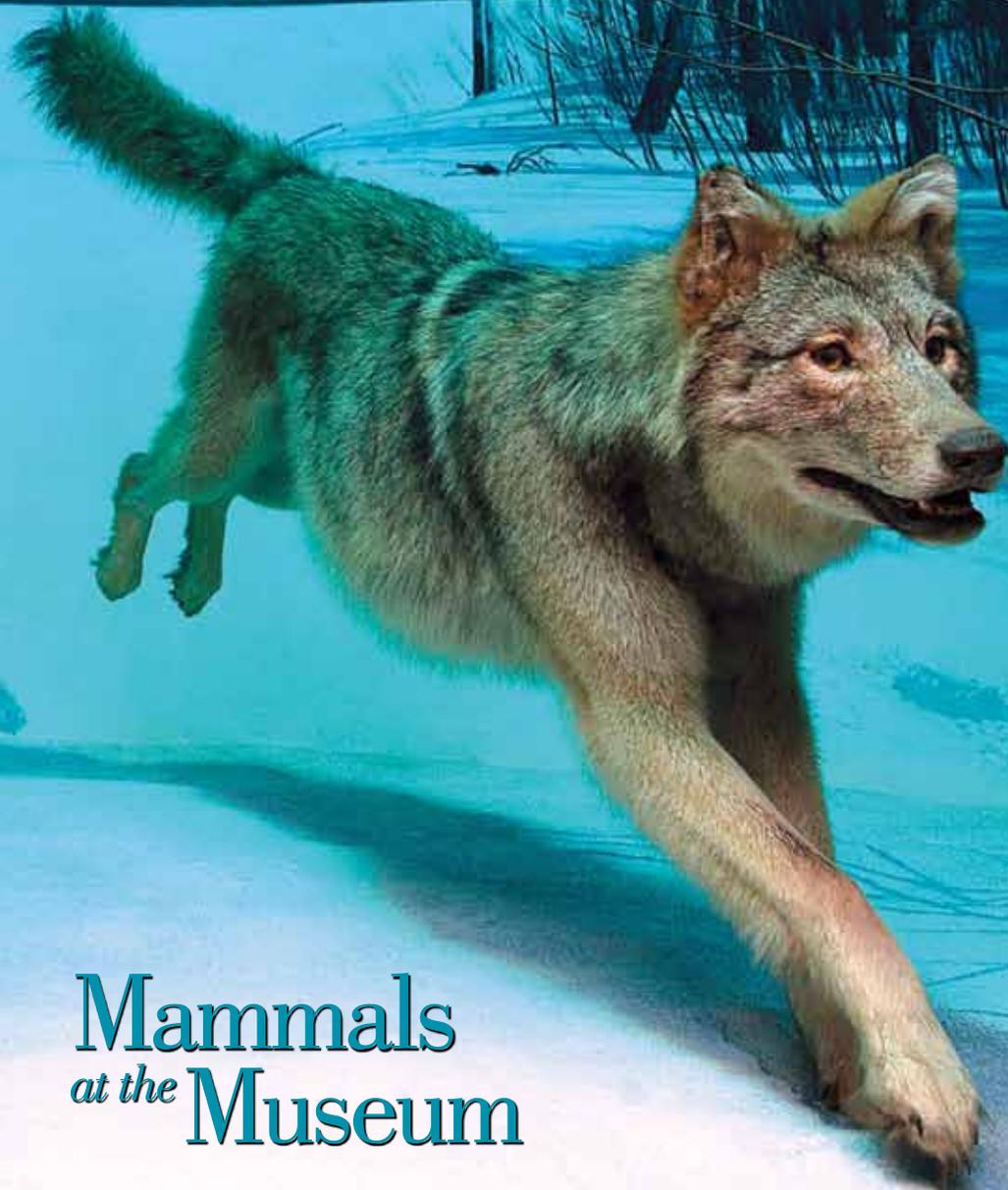


Basic Training | Museum of Natural History | Adirondack Photographer

NEW YORK STATE

# Conservationist

DECEMBER 2012



Mammals  
*at the* Museum



Dear Reader,

During the last 15 months, New York State has been struck by three destructive storms that devastated communities from Long Island to the Adirondacks. Hurricane Sandy, the most recent epic storm to hit the northeast, flooded subways and tunnels, knocked out power, destroyed homes, rearranged New York's coastline and, tragically, took numerous lives.

In the aftermath of Sandy, Governor Cuomo acknowledged that regardless of the cause of these more frequent and severe storms, climate change is here and we need to deal with it. The Governor quickly appointed three commissions: one dealing with emergency preparedness, one addressing emergency response, and one examining the future of the state's infrastructure. The Governor appointed world-class experts to the commissions and asked them to report to him by January 3 so he can consider their recommendations for the 2013 Executive Budget and legislative session.

Once again, DEC played a major role in responding to Sandy. Our forest rangers and environmental conservation officers were among the earliest responders to residents trapped by flood waters. DEC sent scores of trained staff into the hardest hit areas to help remove trees that clogged streets and severed power lines, and to respond to thousands of oil spills, large and small, that threatened to contaminate waterways and make homes uninhabitable. DEC staff also worked closely with the operators of affected wastewater treatment plants to work to get them back up and running as quickly as possible. Finally, DEC worked closely with our federal and local governmental partners to deal with the mountain of waste generated in Sandy's wake to ensure that temporary storage areas did not pose a threat to nearby residents and ensure that the waste was disposed of in as an environmentally sound manner as possible.

Although DEC and other state agencies will be dealing with the damage and dislocation caused by Sandy for months to come, the Governor has stressed the need to start planning for the next catastrophic event now. DEC will work closely with the Governor's commissions to help identify vulnerabilities in the State's environmental infrastructure and to explore how the State's natural resources, such as wetlands and barrier beaches, can help attenuate flooding and protect New York's built environment.

One of the most difficult questions facing New York in Sandy's aftermath and as sea levels continue to rise is where and how we will rebuild. Although the instinct after a crisis is to quickly rebuild and restore damaged areas to pre-storm conditions, it's time to take a fresh look at whether this is the wisest course of action. At a minimum, we need to evaluate our coastal erosion hazard areas and tidal and freshwater wetland program to consider changing weather patterns and rising sea levels.

The Governor is determined that New York will be the best prepared, most responsive and most resilient when the next storm hits. DEC is eager to help him achieve that goal.

Regards,  
Commissioner Joe Martens

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Encampment, American Canoe Association, c. 1882

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*“We are not building this country of ours for a day; it is to last through the ages.”*  
—Theodore Roosevelt, 1912

## TEDDY ROOSEVELT

*—American Museum of Natural History Celebrates Conservation President*



1904 presidential  
campaign button

Born in New York City, Theodore Roosevelt may have seemed an unlikely candidate to become one of the nation’s greatest defenders of wildlife and wild lands. While in office, he set aside hundreds of millions of acres of public lands, including five national parks, four game preserves, 51 bird refuges, 18 national monuments, and 150 national forests which he created or expanded. No other president has matched Roosevelt’s record in preserving wilderness and wildlife or in managing this country’s

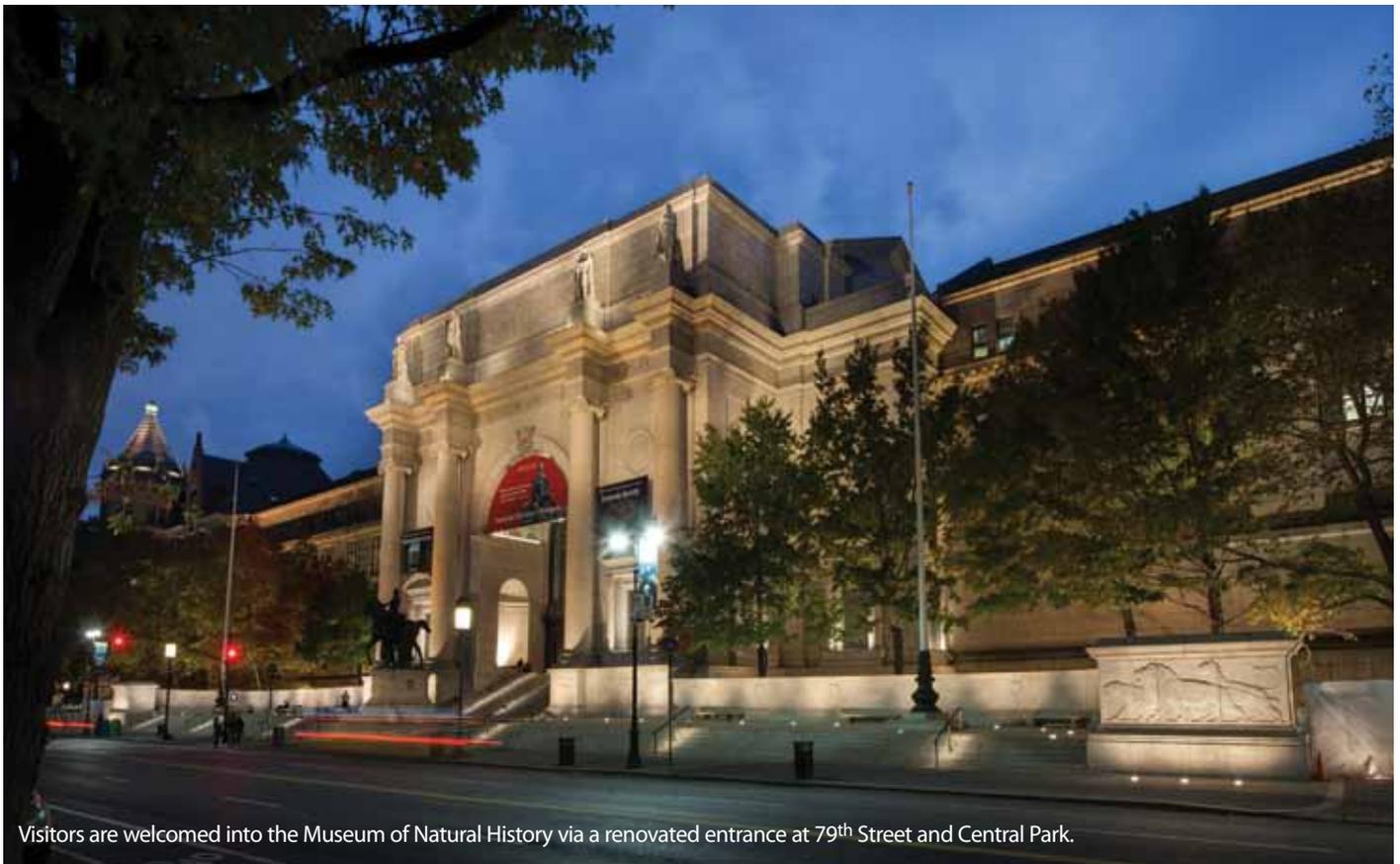
natural resources—forests, lands and water—through legislation, executive action, and public persuasion.

Roosevelt developed a sharp ear for birds and a love for the outdoors as a child, nurtured by summers on Long Island and family trips to the Hudson Valley and the Adirondacks. Before turning to politics—and returning to New York State to become a legislator—he studied the natural sciences at Harvard. By the time he became president in 1901 (a time of tension between growing

public interest in nature exploration and the encroachment on wild spaces by industrial interests), Roosevelt was uniquely prepared to channel his appreciation of nature into public policy. He also had allies: a group of influential advisors that included naturalists John Muir and John Burroughs, forester Gifford Pinchot, and museum ornithologist Frank Chapman, who helped guide his farsighted public policies.

The enduring legacy of a nearsighted, asthmatic New York boy who would

By Joan Kelly Bernard and Whitney Barlow  
Photos provided by American Museum of Natural History



Visitors are welcomed into the Museum of Natural History via a renovated entrance at 79<sup>th</sup> Street and Central Park.

become Conservation President is celebrated in a two-story memorial at the American Museum of Natural History (AMNH), which reopened this fall after an extensive, \$40 million renovation supported in large part by state and local funds. Originally designed by John Russell Pope and dedicated in 1936, the Theodore Roosevelt Memorial—which includes the Museum’s Central Park West entrance, the Theodore Roosevelt Rotunda, and the Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Hall—serves as New York’s official memorial to its 33<sup>rd</sup> Governor and the nation’s 26<sup>th</sup> President.

In the Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Hall on the Museum’s first floor, visitors learn about Roosevelt’s life via new exhibits that include interactive elements featuring historical photos and films, cultural artifacts, and objects from the Museum’s collections—some on display for the first time. Roosevelt’s life is portrayed in four stages: as the *Young Naturalist* whose curiosity about the natural



The Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Hall on the first floor of the museum opened on October 27, Roosevelt’s 154<sup>th</sup> birthday, as part of the official Theodore Roosevelt Memorial.

world and science was awakened during childhood and adolescence; as the *Firsthand Observer* who dealt with the near-extinction of bison during his ranching days in the American West; as the *Conservation President*, who was the first to make environmental conservation a priority in his administration; and as the *Lifelong Explorer* whose passion

for natural history and adventure continued long after he left office. There are also four meticulously restored dioramas that tell the story of Roosevelt’s life: the old New York of his ancestors; the Adirondacks he visited as a boy; his cattle ranch in the western Badlands; and the bird sanctuary near his beloved home in Oyster Bay, New York.

At the center of the hall is a new bronze sculpture of Roosevelt as he looked during a 1903 camping trip to Yosemite with John Muir—a trip that eventually led to inclusion of Yosemite Valley and the Mariposa Grove of giant sequoias into Yosemite National Park. A new bronze floor medallion features bison grazing in Roosevelt National Park in North Dakota encircled with another poignant declaration Roosevelt made in 1912: “There can be no greater issue than that of conservation in this country.”

The extensive project restoring the Theodore Roosevelt Memorial at the AMNH included a complete restoration of the Museum’s famous Central Park West façade, now illuminated for the first time in decades. The Theodore Roosevelt Rotunda—known to many Museum visitors as the entrance with the iconic *Barosaurus* and *Allosaurus* exhibit at its center and itself a New York City interior landmark—was also fully



**Left:** For more than a year, a team of professionals worked to restore the specimens in the Museum’s Hall of Mammals. Here, Museum artist Stephen Quinn uses a special dye to put the finishing touches on an Alaskan bear.

**Above:** Roosevelt’s “fringed buckskin tunic or hunting shirt” appears to have hardly been worn, and is now on display in the Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Hall.



The bison diorama in the Hall of Mammals reminds us of Roosevelt's dedication to bring this iconic American animal back from the brink of extinction.

renovated. Painter William Andrew Mackay's historic murals, which depict milestones in Roosevelt's public life—the building of the Panama Canal; the 1905 Treaty of Portsmouth between Russia and Japan, for which he became the first American to win the Nobel Peace Prize in 1906; and his 1909-1910 expedition to Africa—were carefully conserved and returned to view this fall.

Visitors to the museum will also be delighted by recent renovations to the Jill and Lewis Bernard Family Hall of North American Mammals, which in its own and especially vivid way celebrates Roosevelt's conservation legacy. Each diorama in this iconic hall, which first opened in 1942, offers a snapshot of North America's rich environmental heritage, and includes landscapes and species that have been preserved in large part due to policies Roosevelt initiated.



Guarding the entrance to the Theodore Roosevelt Rotunda is a favorite exhibit among visitors: the *Barosaurus* protecting its young from the attacking *Allosaurus*.



Museum artists and conservators worked tirelessly to restore background paintings. This one (originally done by William Andrew MacKay in 1935) depicts the building of the Panama Canal and is located in the Rotunda.

For more than a year, a team of artists, conservators, taxidermists, and designers worked to restore this historic hall through a myriad of specialized tasks, from re-coloring faded fur of the storied specimens to repairing background paintings originally done by celebrated diorama artists such as James Perry Wilson and Belmore Browne. The Museum’s Exhibition Department developed new text and graphics that offer visitors the latest scientific information about North American species and ecosystems that range from the Alaskan brown bear in the tundra to the jackrabbit in the Arizona desert.

Several of the dioramas re-create scenes from national parks Roosevelt signed into being or national monuments he declared, including Crater Lake National Park, part of Grand Canyon National Park (which Roosevelt set aside as Grand Canyon National Monument), and Devils Tower National

Monument. The large diorama about bison vividly depicts the enormous herds that once roamed our country. While living as a rancher in the Badlands of what is now North Dakota, Roosevelt witnessed firsthand the wholesale destruction of these enormous animals. Bison once numbered in the tens of millions in North America, but slaughtered for their meat and hides, the population fell to only about 1,000 animals by the 1880s. As President, Roosevelt created two big game preserves to save the buffalo from extinction: Montana’s National Bison Range and Oklahoma’s Wichita Game Preserve, where, in 1907, 15 bison bred at New York’s Bronx Zoo were released with the intent to repopulate the prairie. This and subsequent efforts brought the bison back from the brink of extinction.

The newly renovated Theodore Roosevelt Memorial commemorates one of the greatest conservation leaders in our

nation’s past, and is reason alone to visit the American Museum of Natural History. Whether you’re a first-time visitor, or a repeat customer, there are plenty of other exhibits to see and programs to experience at this New York City museum, including the new Hall of Mammals. So the next time you’re in the City, or if you’re looking for a place to escape, be sure to check out the American Museum of Natural History—you won’t be disappointed.

**Joan Kelly Bernard** and **Whitney Barlow** are in the Communications Department at the American Museum of Natural History.

The American Museum of Natural History is located in New York City on Central Park West at 79<sup>th</sup> Street. It is open daily from 10 a.m. - 5:45 p.m., except for Thanksgiving and Christmas when it is closed.





A team of conservators vacuumed the wolves' fur and whitened their teeth with a mix of water and ethanol for display in the Hall of Mammals.

# THE THEODORE ROOSEVELT EXHIBIT

With the reopening of the Theodore Roosevelt Memorial on October 27, AMNH launched a year-long series of special programs examining the lasting legacy of Theodore Roosevelt's conservation work. The approximately \$40 million restoration project was completed with significant private and public support, including \$23 million from the Empire State Development Corporation and \$11.5 million from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs and the Council of the City of New York. The lead architect for the refurbishment and enhancement of the Theodore Roosevelt Memorial was Kevin Roche John Dinkeloo and Associates, while museum artist Stephen C. Quinn and mammalogist Ross D. E. MacPhee (a curator in the Museum's Division of Vertebrate Zoology) oversaw the updates done in the Hall of Mammals.

David Hurst Thomas, a curator in the Museum's Division of Anthropology, serves as supervising curator for the Roosevelt exhibition which draws on the expertise of Roosevelt biographers Douglas G. Brinkley and Patricia O'Toole, who served as consultants.

For more information about exhibits or events at the Museum, visit [www.amnh.org](http://www.amnh.org).



A bronze statue of the former president sits on a bench, welcoming the public.

# BASIC TRAINING

—Becoming an environmental conservation officer or forest ranger

By Ellen Bidell

Photos courtesy of DEC Basic Academy, unless otherwise noted

*“I want, as game protectors, men of courage, resolution and hardihood who can handle the rifle, axe and paddle; who can camp out in summer or winter; who can go on snowshoes, if necessary; who can go through the woods by day or by night without regard to trails.”*

*—NY Governor Teddy Roosevelt, 1899*

Every day across New York there are men and women who work long hours, in sometimes dangerous and hazardous conditions; their jobs range from battling raging forest fires to rescuing flood victims to removing illegal crocodiles from city apartment buildings. The work is demanding, but these men and women wouldn't have it any other way. They are DEC forest rangers and environmental conservation officers.

## ARDUOUS BEGINNINGS

DEC forest rangers (FRs) and environmental conservation officers (ECOs) protect the natural resources of the state and the people who use them. To become an ECO or FR, applicants must first take a civil service exam. Once hired, ECO and FR trainees begin their employment by attending a 26-week residential program at the DEC Basic Academy, currently held in Pulaski, NY. Recruits must pass all elements of the Academy before they are assigned to a work location. Upon completing the Academy, recruits are assigned to geographic areas of the state for two-year probation periods. They become sworn police officers who work long and irregular hours on outdoor patrols.



Former DEC Assistant Commissioner of Public Protection Hank Hamilton greets new recruits.



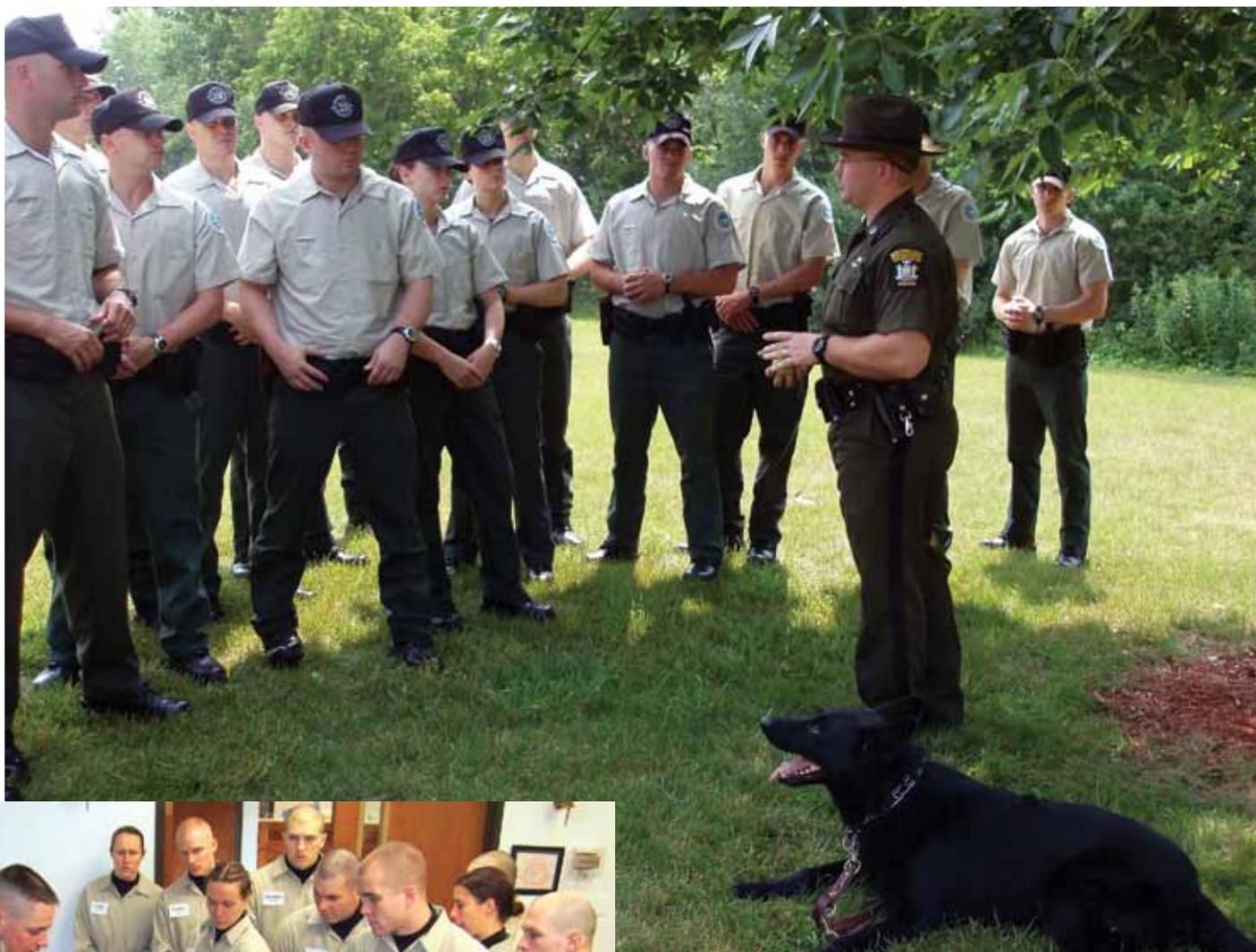
## DEDICATED INDIVIDUALS

Matthew Nichols, class of 2008, became an ECO to test himself, to make a difference, and to truly change the world. His experience at the Academy taught him to challenge himself and test his limits. “You are only as strong as your weakest link. You have to find your own personal weak link, then break it, make it stronger and move on to the next weakest link. By doing this, you’re always becoming better and better,” said ECO Nichols.

From defensive tactics and firearms training to vehicle operations and land and boat navigation, the Academy includes a lot of training in a relatively short period of time. “All the training adds up to a life-changing experience. You walk away a different person and when you look back, you can’t help but smile,” ECO Nichols recalled. “A typical day includes early to bed and early to rise...sometimes two or three times a day,” he joked. “You wake up, train, take classes, eat lunch, train some more, take a few more classes and sleep (or try to). Then you wake up and do it all over again for six months.”

Recruits are taught to handle and operate a variety of equipment (such as snowmobiles, vehicles, boats), as well as various weapons.





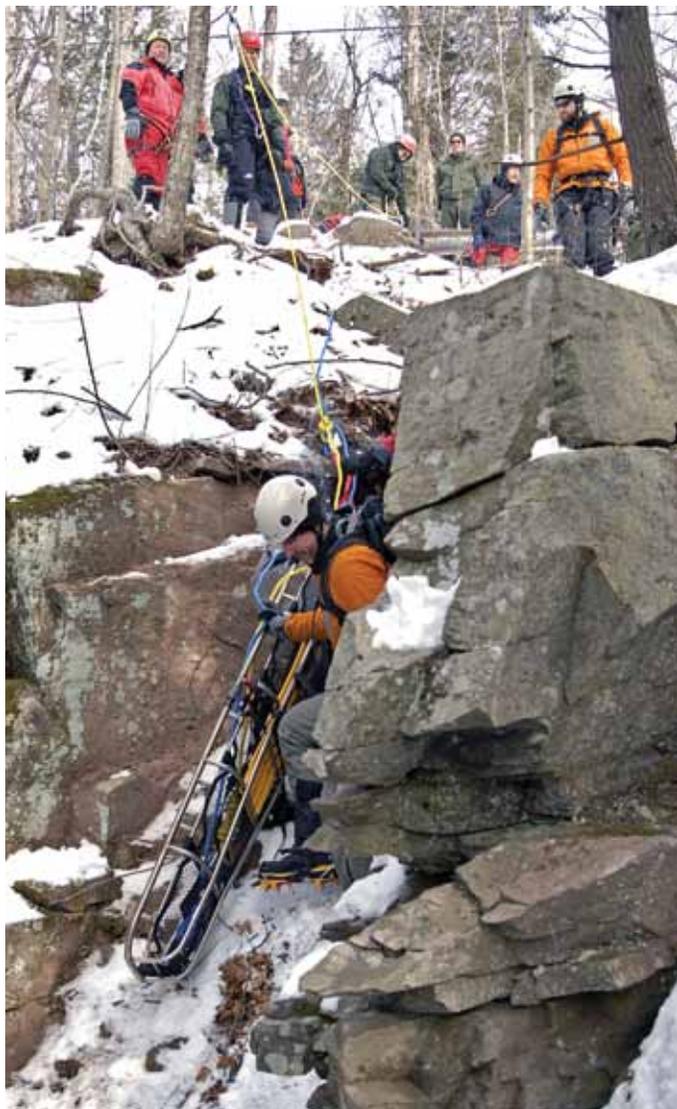
As part of their training at the Academy, the recruits learn a variety of skills, including (clockwise from left) identifying species of fish and other wildlife, working with dogs in the K-9 unit, combat training, and search-and-rescue operations.

Columbia County (looking for everything from marijuana farms to illegal camps), DiCintio allowed me to tag along with him while he patrolled the Hudson River one beautiful June morning. Despite the weather, there were only a few people out, but Ranger DiCintio explained how things change quickly out here when the kids get out of school and the river fills with weekend boaters. “We have a lot of drinking parties with underage kids on the beaches along this 30-mile section of the river,” said DiCintio. “Breaking up those parties is one of his biggest problems when the weather—and the action—heats up. I will start working later hours at this point, well into the evening.”

One of the things Ranger DiCintio is most proud of during his years on patrol is keeping ATVs off the shoreline. “Years ago, several of these beaches were destroyed by ATV tracks. I kept showing up to write tickets and word eventually got out not to ride your ATV on the beach,” he said. Now, the shoreline is filled with lush vegetation and is home to deer, eagles and osprey.

ECO Nichols is currently assigned to Kings County. Typically, new ECOs are assigned to New York City during their first few years on the job. “I once had to take an albino kangaroo out of a house of a motorcycle gang member who was dealing drugs. It sounds like the start of a really bad joke, but it’s true,” he said. “This career can take you anywhere. It can be what you make it...the only limit to how much of a difference you make in the world is you.”

For Forest Ranger Chris DiCintio, class of 2000, the grueling days at the Basic Academy seem like a lifetime ago. Now responsible for patrolling nearly 7,000 acres of public land in



James Clayton

There are no lost campers or injured hikers in need of rescue the day I tag along, but that isn't always the case. In the Albany area alone, forest rangers conduct more than 40 search-and-rescue operations each year. Rangers battle bad weather, darkness and endless hours of searching—the most physically and emotionally demanding aspects of the job. Fighting wildfires also takes its toll—Ranger DiCintio not only responds to fires in the Albany area, but has fought six large fires in the western United States as part of a cooperative state-to-state program.

Ranger DiCintio learned how to deal with these situations during his six months at the Academy. He wasn't prepared, however, for the lack of sleep at the Academy from constantly getting roused out of bed by the instructors. "It was tough not only physically, but emotionally as well. The instructors are constantly yelling at you—they tear you down to build you back up," he recalled. "The Academy is what you make of it. For me, I met some of my best friends there and most of us are still rangers.

"Everywhere I go, people tell me they always wanted to be a forest ranger. Whenever someone tells me that, I tell them to go for it; they won't be disappointed. And I am so glad that I took that chance and went through the Academy. It is one of the best jobs in the world. I protect the lands and waters of New York—in a boat or canoe, hiking, skiing or snowshoeing," he said.

Tom Caifa began his career as an ECO on Long Island, like many new recruits. A lieutenant now, Caifa supervises six ECOs in eastern New York. "Every day is different and I think the type of person who becomes an ECO likes that constant change. One day you may be checking hunters; the next you may be at an oil spill. But everyone's favorite is usually the fish and wildlife work," he explained.



## Take the Test

Before you can attend the Academy to become a DEC Environmental Conservation Officer or Forest Ranger, you have to take a civil service test. Click on "Job Seekers" on the Civil Service website at [www.cs.ny.gov](http://www.cs.ny.gov) to view upcoming exams, learn more about tests, sign up to receive email notifications of new exam announcements, and much more.



After only a year on the job, Lt. Caifa was asked to bring a new recruit into the field. He didn't know what to do to get the new officer excited about his job, so he brought him to Port Jefferson. "It was one of those perfect days that gets everyone outside. We were overwhelmed checking on anglers and boaters. One would come in with illegal fish and just as quickly, someone else would show up. It went on like that all day, but after that, he was hooked on the job," Lt. Caifa said, referring to the new recruit.

But things can get difficult in the field. "One time, I was sent out to check on a complaint of hazardous materials at a warehouse in a bad part of town. No one was around and the place looked abandoned. I knocked on the door and someone inside asked who it was. When I told him it was the police, he shouted, 'You better be, because I have a gun pointed right at you.' For the first time in my career, I had to draw my weapon, and let the individual know that I had a gun pointed right back. He peeked out the door, saw that I was a cop and quickly apologized."

Situations like that are why instructors at the Academy are tough on recruits. "They constantly yell at you," said Caifa, "even if you are doing something

right. They wake you up several times during the night, even though you don't get much sleep to begin with. They want to see how you handle stress.

"After about three weeks, they lighten up so you can focus on school work. As ECOs, you have to know both the Environmental Conservation Law and the Penal Law, and they are adamant that you get good grades."

## FUTURE RECRUITS

What advice does Lt. Caifa have for someone considering a career as an environmental conservation officer?

"Be patient, be honest and be physically prepared for the fitness test—spend the month prior to attending the Academy getting in shape. And stick with it, because when you are done, this is the best job you will ever have."

Tech Sergeant Keith Isles has been an ECO for more than 30 years. He is currently in charge of the K-9 unit, working with his dog, Shamey. "I love the flexibility of the job; it never gets tiring. You get to decide in the morning what part of your sector you are going to patrol," he said.

"Stick out the hard times at the Academy," offered Tech Sergeant Isles. "Any time that people are pushed

together in a stressful experience, they come out with solid friendships. I have the best job in DEC, and the first step to getting it is taking the test and going through the Academy."

Lt. Deming Lindsley has been teaching at the Basic Academy since 1977, which he compares to a military boot camp. "It is tough," explains Lindsley, "but when the recruits are finished, they have great jobs and they build bonds with fellow academy members that they will have for life."

As Lt. Lindsley put it: "After 39+ years, I still enjoy going to work because we make a difference. Our victims are mother earth and the fish and wildlife that live here. They can't call 911, so we have to be proactive in our efforts." And that is the message he instills in the recruits. "The Environmental Conservation Law is one of the most important laws in the state, and we help make New York a healthier place to live."

**Ellen Bidell** is a citizen participation specialist in DEC's Albany office.



# About the Job



ECOs enforce the laws protecting the state's natural resources and environment. They investigate complaints about pollution, check hunting and fishing licenses and ensure that boats and ATVs are operated safely. ECOs also protect wetlands and enforce our recycling laws, such as the Bottle Bill. Some ECOs work with K-9 detector dogs to detect illegally killed wildlife. ECOs meet with school groups, service groups and hunter and angler clubs to promote compliance with the law.



Forest Rangers are responsible for state land protection, conduct search-and-rescue missions for people lost or hurt in the wilderness, fight wildfires and educate the public about outdoor fire prevention, conservation of wildlife, safe hiking and wilderness survival. They patrol wilderness areas throughout the state, always watching for fire dangers, and they may be the first to respond to a fire emergency.

For more information about the job requirements and duties for ECOs and FRs, visit the DEC website at [www.dec.ny.gov/about/571.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/about/571.html).



## —Women learn outdoor skills at Becoming an Outdoors-Woman events

By Merycarol Roods

Photos provided by Becoming an Outdoors-Woman program

### *I've always considered myself an outdoors girl.*

I remember my grandmother telling me never to stay indoors when you can be outside, and I've followed that advice as often as I could. While my professional life generally kept me indoors, I spent as much of my "off-time" as possible pursuing hiking, skiing, biking, camping or even doing lawn work. Housework would get done on a day when I had nothing else I really wanted to do.

As I got older, I thought I knew a lot about most outdoor activities. That is, until I attended a Becoming an Outdoors-Woman (BOW) workshop where, over the course of three days, I was introduced to a myriad of new activities relating to the outdoors, some of which I always wanted to try but never had the opportunity to, and some I had never even imagined. (Who knew you could make a camping stove out of a couple of soda cans?)

Sponsored by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, BOW workshops focus on learning outdoor skills—skills often associated with hunting and fishing, but also useful for many other outdoor pursuits. The workshop I attended included women from 20 to 90 years old and from all walks of life. Some, like myself, had a lot of outdoor experience, and others had very little, but we all had something in common: there were outdoor activities we had not experienced and wanted to give a try.

Oftentimes, women don't get involved in some outdoor activities because they don't have the necessary equipment, don't know what they might need, or don't want to spend the money on equipment they may never use again. And, even in today's progressive times, the reality is that some women won't

get involved in a number of traditionally male-dominated activities because unless they know a man who's involved with an activity—and who is also willing to share the experience with them—it can be very difficult to get started. That's where BOW comes in.

New York's BOW program is a way for women to learn new outdoor skills (useful in both summer and winter) and undertake new adventures in a non-threatening

### While I still considered myself a fairly skilled outdoors girl, my weekend made me realize how much more there is to learn.

and fun atmosphere with others who are also anxious to learn. More than 40 different classes are generally offered—from canoeing, camping, and survival skills, to archery, knot-tying, and fish and game cooking. There are beginning firearms and basic fishing skills classes, and almost all equipment is provided. There is even an opportunity to earn a NYS Hunter Education Certificate or Trapper Education Certificate as part of the workshop.

The three-day session allows for four, half-day classes. The instructors are volunteers who are anxious to share their knowledge with attendees. Their

enthusiasm for their subject is contagious, and you can't help but enjoy yourself while you're learning a new skill.

My first BOW weekend was held in the summer at a facility on Lake George. My experience started with a class called Essential Wild Edibles which taught us the five essential wild edibles you need to know should you become lost in the woods. We had the opportunity to search outside for bark, roots, stems, berries and leaves.



Learning to identify edible plants is one of the skills taught at BOW workshops.

It's amazing what's out there when you know what you're looking for, but it's just as important to learn what to avoid.

At dinner, everyone discussed what they learned that afternoon and shared humorous stories about incidents that occurred while trying activities such as kayaking, fly casting and muzzleloading for the first time. Following dinner there was the opportunity to browse through the many prizes that we had a chance to win, including camping and hiking gear, life jackets and fishing gear. Several vendors were also present, selling a variety of outdoor-related items.

Workshop participants could also partake in any number of mini sessions held in the evening. A hands-on firearms class was offered, which provided an introduction to guns and safe gun handling—a great overview for those taking a shooting course over the next two days. Other options included a seminar on how to dress for comfort and safety in the outdoors, and an entomology slide show presented by a fly tying and fly fishing instructor.

I spent pretty much all of the next day on the lake with a Beginning Canoeing class in the morning and a Solo Canoeing class



Students learn to properly identify a variety of wild plants.



Participants can learn a number of outdoor survival skills, including starting a fire.

in the afternoon. Our Beginning Canoeing instructors went over the basics of safety and equipment: what to do and even more importantly, what not to do (such as standing in your canoe or shifting your weight too quickly). Then we took our gear, picked a partner and a canoe, and embarked on our journey across the lake. As the instructors showed us the proper techniques for paddling, it seemed pretty easy and straightforward, but putting that instruction into actual use and trying to synchronize strokes with your partner was a little challenging at first. Like with anything, however, a little practice makes perfect (well almost). Getting back to shore brought another challenge: exiting the canoe without ending up in the water. But, with expert guidance from the instructors, we succeeded. All in all, it was a great experience.

Solo Canoeing was also fun, though a bit more challenging. Solo canoeists use double-bladed paddles (like kayakers). The double blades allow you to rhythmically paddle on both sides of the canoe, avoiding bringing the paddle back and forth over the canoe to constantly correct

The kayaking class is popular with many participants.



your course. Session participants had the opportunity to try out the newer, extremely light solo canoes, which are wonderful for paddling a series of lakes where you have to portage (carry) your canoe and gear over land between ponds.

At dinner that night we had the opportunity to taste the wonderful dishes prepared by the students of the Fish and

Game Cooking class before being treated to a slideshow of the workshop sessions. It was great looking at the images of all these women (amazingly they seemed to capture everyone) as they: shot a rifle for the first time; learned how to trailer a boat or camper; or caught their first fish.

Mini sessions included a hands-on, firearms-cleaning class and a demon-



Participants in the Fish and Game Cooking class prepare a meal for everyone to try.



Women can learn to shoot a rifle at a BOW workshop.



One participant proudly displays her paper target from the Beginning Rifle course.

## Join Us!

New York generally offers one BOW workshop each summer, as well as an occasional one in the winter. Workshops are held in a variety of settings; this year's summer workshop was held at a facility in Silver Bay on Lake George in the Adirondacks. There are also a number of BOW-sponsored events that provide women the opportunity to experience a variety of outdoor activities, including camping, hiking, hunting, canoeing and kayaking.

For more information on BOW (including attending a workshop or event), visit DEC's website at [www.dec.ny.gov/education/68.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/education/68.html). Also, read "Wild Women" in the December 2009 *Conservationist*.

stration of various trail cameras, which use heat or motion sensors to take pictures of wildlife in action. It was a full evening which, on top of a long and active day, had most participants tired and ready for bed.

After breakfast on Sunday, I headed off to my final and most exciting class: Beginning Rifle. Although some of the

students were starting to show signs of fatigue from the past two, action-packed days, our instructor, Jackie, was full of vim and vigor. First, she covered basic information on types of rifles and their capabilities, before spending considerable time on proper safety practices. Then it was off to the shooting range, where we donned ear protection and took turns shooting. When it was over, we proudly took our paper targets as mementos of our accomplishments.

Lunch on that final day was spent chatting about the weekend's events. While I still considered myself a fairly skilled outdoors girl, my weekend made me realize how much more there is to learn. And as I listened to the many conversations around me—how much fun people had, how much they learned, and making plans to meet up in the future with newfound friends—I was struck by how many of the conversations turned to one topic: when the next BOW weekend would be held.

**Merycarol Roods** lives in upstate New York and enjoys spending time paddling, hiking and cross-country skiing in the Adirondacks.



Two participants give a thumbs-up after successfully setting up a tent.

# CAPTURING THE ADIRONDACKS

*State Museum Exhibits Seneca Ray Stoddard's Photography*

Text and photos provided by the New York State Museum



Prospect House Piazza, Blue Mountain Lake

**Seneca Ray Stoddard (1844-1917)** was one of the first artists to capture the majesty of the Adirondack landscape through photography. Early on, he sought to preserve the beauty of the landscape with his talent for painting. This artistic background and an Adirondack vision attracted him to photography's unique ability to capture the environment. Stoddard mastered the then recently introduced wet-plate process of photography. Though extremely cumbersome by today's standards, the technique was the first practical way to record distant scenes.



Carry at Buttermilk Falls



An Adirondack Home



Prospect House, Blue Mountain Lake

Through his photography, Stoddard captured the changing Adirondack landscape. As railroads were introduced, the area became an increasingly important destination for tourists from the burgeoning middle-class as well as the newly wealthy in the “Gilded Age.”



Bog River Falls, Adirondacks



Willsborough Tunnel, N.Y. & C.R.R.

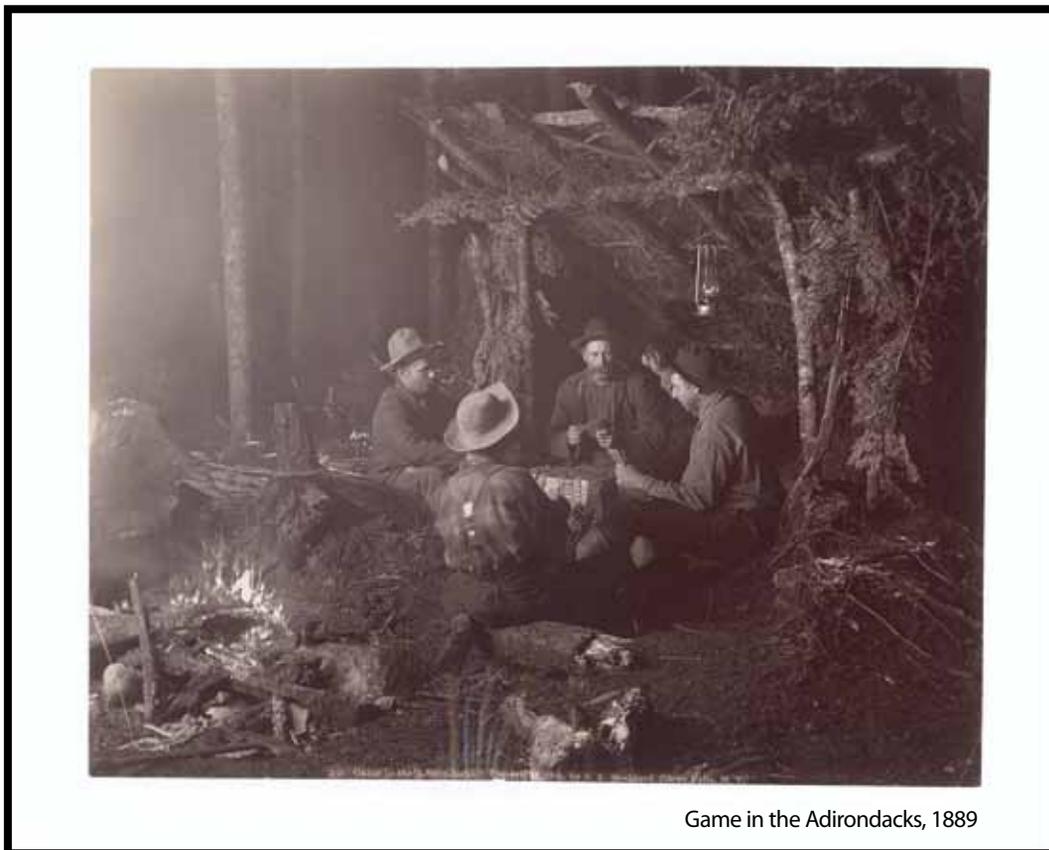


Loggers in the Adirondacks

Fort William Henry Hotel, Lake George, NY



In 1972, New York State Museum curators learned of Maitland DeSormo of Saranac Lake, NY, and his dedication to the work of the then relatively unknown Seneca Ray Stoddard. DeSormo had rescued much of Stoddard's material legacy—his photographs, paintings and writings. The State Museum acquired more than five hundred historic Stoddard prints from DeSormo.



Game in the Adirondacks, 1889



Lake George - At Black Mountain Point, showing the Steambot Minne-Ha-Ha prior to its conversion to a hotel.

*Seneca Ray Stoddard: Capturing the Adirondacks* is on display now through February 24, 2013 in Crossroads Gallery in the New York State Museum. Visitors are treated to viewing more than 100 of Stoddard's photographs, an Adirondack guide boat, freight boat, camera, copies of Stoddard's books, and several of his paintings. There are also several Stoddard photos of the Statue of Liberty and Liberty Island. Guided tours of the exhibition will be held on December 8 and February 29 from 1-2 p.m., and a film will be shown about Stoddard on December 29.

An online version of the exhibition is available at [www.nysm.nysed.gov/virtual/exhibits/SRS/](http://www.nysm.nysed.gov/virtual/exhibits/SRS/) on the State Museum website.

For further reading, see the August 2005 *Conservationist*.



Gateway to Adirondack Mountain Reserve, 1891



Located on Madison Avenue in Albany, the Museum is open Tuesday through Sunday from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. except on Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day, when it is closed. Call (518) 474-5877 or visit the Museum website at [www.nysm.nysed.gov](http://www.nysm.nysed.gov) for more information.





# NO ORDINARY LANDFILL

## — *Madison County's Alternative Energy Programs*

By Mary Roy and Eileen Stegemann

Photos by James Clayton, unless otherwise noted

Clean, green solar energy. The last place you might associate this with is a landfill, but that's exactly what you'll find in Madison County, New York.

A visit to this rural site can be an eye-opener. Located on a portion of a nearly 700-acre solid-waste management site, surrounded by rolling hills and farmland, this picturesque setting contains a state-of-the-art facility that uses a solar cap to capture and produce energy. This is cutting-edge technology and Madison County Landfill is the *first* and currently *only* municipal landfill in the country to produce energy this way. Only two other landfills in the U.S. have solar caps—a private landfill in Texas and another private one in Georgia.

After receiving a \$228,000 stimulus grant from the New York State Energy Research Development Agency, Madison County installed flexible photovoltaic film panels over an acre of a closed portion of its active landfill during the summer of 2011. The solar cover is capable of producing approximately 40 megawatt hours per year—enough to offset half of the electricity needed to run the recycling center located on the site—and is designed to

produce power even in lower light, a seasonal factor in upstate N.Y.

“By offsetting electrical needs at this facility, the solar green energy provides a significant benefit to the county,” explained Madison County Department of Solid Waste (DSW) Director James A. Zecca. “The stimulus grant funded about three-quarters of the project. In-house labor for the project totaled about \$60,000—a solid



Madison County staffers explain how the solar cap works.

investment by local government during tight economic times.”

But sunshine isn't the only thing being collected at Madison County Landfill; they also collect methane gas, which is turned into low-cost electricity and heat. Methane is a natural by-product of decomposition of organic solid waste in landfills, and Madison County's methane gas-to-energy project uses that gas to power an onsite internal combustion engine owned by a major waste management company. The engine produces one megawatt of electricity—enough to power 1,000 homes.

Not stopping there, the county also captures and uses the excess heat from this engine. The excess heat is piped to the recycling center and two other buildings at the DSW site to reduce heating costs. Capturing the methane produces energy 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, which benefits the county and prevents the release of methane (a greenhouse gas 20 times more potent than carbon dioxide) into the atmosphere.

The county encourages other local businesses to make use of the consistent excess heat as well. In fact, a lumber company located in Cazenovia, NY plans to break ground next spring for construction of two new facilities that will use the landfill's heat: kilns to dry lumber destined for furniture and flooring; and a

hydroponic greenhouse operation. NYS Empire State Development awarded the company a \$150,000 grant for construction of these facilities.

park would be situated on almost 150 acres of landfill property, and would offer the opportunity to diversify the business base in the county.

## ...a holistic, sustainable approach to economic development...

By building such partnerships with local businesses and municipalities, Madison County is planning to “grow” an Agricultural and Renewable Energy-based Business Park (ARE Park). The

The foundation for some enterprises in the ARE Park could be the available low-cost, green-energy base. Future business prospects include a construction and demolition waste recycling operation, and



**Top:** To construct the Madison County Landfill gas-to-energy facility, the county received a \$998,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Energy; the remainder of the \$3 million total cost was paid by the private waste management company which owns the internal combustion engine. Madison County DSW crews provided some of the labor to install pipes.

**Bottom:** Most electricity generated by the engine in the gas-to-energy facility is sold to the grid. The county receives revenue from the sale of methane which fuels the engine.



Landfill gas (methane) is collected through a system of pipes and then used to produce green electricity. Tire chips are stockpiled (in background) for future landfill liner drainage.

an innovative technology that converts waste plastics into their base petroleum ingredients. The conversion of waste plastics would reduce disposal of bulky material at the landfill—thereby prolonging the life of the landfill—and also create valuable fuels.

“These green initiatives demonstrate Madison County’s drive to have a holistic, sustainable approach to economic development and the betterment of our community,” said Kipp Hicks, executive director of the Madison County Industrial Development Agency.

Everyone involved in these green projects in this rural county (population:73,000 people) agree that partnerships are key to success. Collaboration has meant pooling resources and virtually reaching out to shake the hands of the business and academic communities as well as other government entities. Building strong public/private and government-to-government partnerships has resulted in energy production from a landfill, energy savings for county government, and grant awards to further business innovation that are beneficial to Central New York.

At a time when alternative energy sources are being sought, and green space is highly desired, Madison County’s innovative energy projects may make people rethink what a landfill can be.

Sharon Driscoll



**Mary Roy** works in DEC’s Division of Materials Management. **Eileen Stegemann** is assistant editor of *Conservationist*.

*Acknowledgment:* The authors wish to thank the Madison County Department of Solid Waste and the Industrial Development Agency for their assistance in providing information for the article.

# Dunkirk Harbor

*Located on the southern shore of Lake Erie in Western New York  
A Watchable Wildlife Site*



Thomas Janik

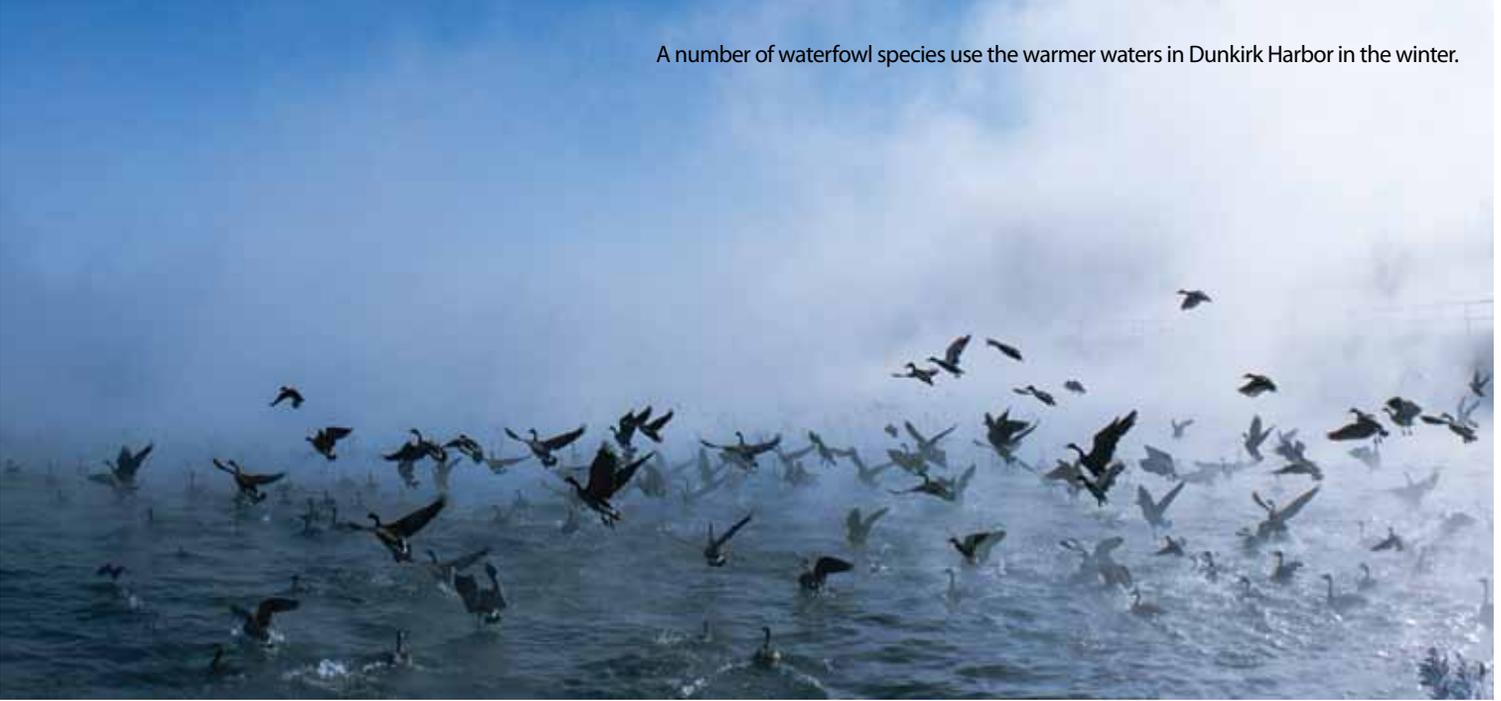


Surrounded by businesses, residences, urban parks and a power plant, Dunkirk Harbor may not appear to be a winter birdwatcher's paradise, but don't let the setting fool you—people drive hundreds of miles to see the incredible array of waterfowl found here in the winter months. A breakwall shelters the harbor from prevailing winds and waves, and heated discharge water from the nearby power plant keeps it ice-free, attracting large rafts of diving ducks. The heated water also attracts fish, and anglers come to the harbor to take advantage of concentrations of steelhead and brown trout found here in the winter. Many visitors use the long, paved pier to access the harbor.



red-breasted merganser

A number of waterfowl species use the warmer waters in Dunkirk Harbor in the winter.



Thomas Janik

## Wildlife to Watch

Dunkirk Harbor is a designated Important Bird Area and wintertime visitors can observe migratory birds, including waterfowl, loons, grebes and gulls as they rest and feed here. When Lake Erie freezes to its maximum extent, impressive flocks of common goldeneyes, common mergansers, buffleheads and diving ducks such as canvasback and greater and lesser scaup can be found here in the open water.

In spring, huge numbers of migrating red-breasted mergansers occur in the harbor, along with common and Caspian terns. Late summer brings Forster's terns, and a few shorebirds like willets and Baird's sandpipers have been seen. During fall migration, a few red-throated loons and red-necked grebes and good flights of common loons may be observed. A brief flight of brant (a small goose) occurs in late October or early November.



lesser scaup

Jeff Nadler



## Site Features

**Site Notes:** The main pier, reached by turning toward the lake off NY 5 at Central Avenue in Dunkirk, is the primary vantage point for bird-watching. Other vantage points include Memorial Park (west of the pier), the Northern Chautauqua Conservation Club (at the foot of Mullet St., west of Memorial Park), the foot of Deer and Main Sts. (east of the pier), and a 12-block stretch along Lakeside Blvd. (from Main St. east to Wright Park).

**Accessibility:** Free parking spaces run the entire length of the main pier. Restrooms are nearby. Other harbor access points to the east and west include convenient parking as well.

**Directions:** Take I-90 to exit 59 (Dunkirk/Fredonia). Turn right onto NY 60 (Bennett Rd), go approximately 2.0 miles and turn left onto NY 5. At Central Ave, turn right onto the pier.

**Contact:** City of Dunkirk,  
716-366-9879, [www.dunkirktoday.com](http://www.dunkirktoday.com)



James Clayton



### Five Rivers' New Building

The new Wendy Repass Suozzo Guided School Program (GSP) Building at the Five Rivers Environmental Education Center in Delmar was dedicated in September. The LEED-eligible building features a classroom and will be used by the Friends of Five Rivers (FOFR) for teaching school groups, as well as by DEC for teacher trainings and workshops. The building is a cooperative venture between DEC and FOFR, and was made possible in part by a donation from Wendy's parents in memory of their daughter. Wendy was an environmental educator who, in partnership with FOFR, started the popular GSP in 1978 and later ran it for many years. GSP

provides hands-on, outdoor lessons to visiting school groups. For more information about GSP, see [www.friendsoffiverivers.org/node/39](http://www.friendsoffiverivers.org/node/39); and also visit [www.dec.ny.gov/education/1835.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/education/1835.html) to learn more about Five Rivers Education Center.

### Rabies in Deer

In less than one month, from August to September 2012, the DEC Wildlife Health Unit diagnosed rabies in three white-tailed deer, one each from Monroe, Tompkins and Genesee counties. Residents had reported seeing the deer wobbling, walking in circles and having difficulty raising their heads. All three deer were euthanized and taken to Cornell's Animal Health Diagnostic Center where rabies was confirmed at the Wadsworth Laboratory. Visit [www.dec.ny.gov/animals/261.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/261.html) for details on what to do if you suspect rabies in an animal, or if you come across sick or injured wildlife.

### Free Lifeguard Tests

Beginning January 2013 and running through June, DEC will be offering free lifeguard tests to potential campground

personnel (16 years of age and older) for the Adirondack and Catskill regions. The tests include an in-water demonstration of lifesaving techniques, as well as performance of CPR. Only candidates who pass the exam will be eligible for employment. For information, including how to register for the exam, visit DEC's website at [www.dec.ny.gov/about/726.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/about/726.html), or email [lfgdinfo@gw.dec.state.ny.us](mailto:lfgdinfo@gw.dec.state.ny.us), or call 518-457-2500 (ext. 1).

### Lake Ontario Fisheries

In February and March 2013, DEC will hold three public meetings in Niagara, Monroe and Oswego counties to discuss Lake Ontario fisheries. These annual "State of Lake Ontario" meetings provide individuals the opportunity to interact with scientists who study the fisheries. Biologists from DEC, the U.S. Geological Survey, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources will make presentations on a variety of topics, including the status of trout and salmon fisheries, forage fish, stocking programs, and fisheries management plans. Visit [www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/27068.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/27068.html) for more information, including specific times and locations.



## BRIEFLY

### Outdoor Discovery Newsletter

Check out DEC's new, monthly, email newsletter, *Outdoor Discovery*, which highlights recreational opportunities around the state. Features include Watchable Wildlife sites, outdoor adventures, a hike of the month, upcoming events, and photos of New York's most stunning scenery. Check out the latest issue at [www.dec.ny.gov/public/84455.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/public/84455.html), and subscribe to this free newsletter today.

### Rabbit Hunters Wanted

Rabbit hunters in Rensselaer, Columbia, Dutchess, Putnam and Westchester counties are needed to help DEC gather information about the distribution of New England cottontails. The New England cottontail is the only native cottontail east of the Hudson River in New York, but its range has been greatly reduced due to habitat loss and competition with the more abundant eastern cottontail. New England cottontails look almost identical to eastern cottontails and are only reliably



identified by genetic tests of tissue and fecal samples, or by examining the skull. Hunters can help DEC gather information by providing skulls of the rabbits they harvest. Visit [www.dec.ny.gov/animals/67017.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/67017.html) for more details.

## BOOK REVIEW by Sarah Shepard

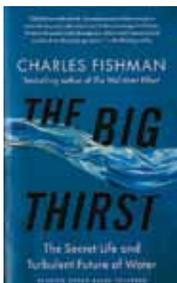
*The Big Thirst: The Secret Life and Turbulent Future of Water*

by Charles Fishman

Softcover: \$16; 416 pgs.

Free Press (a division of Simon and Schuster, Inc.)

[www.simonandschuster.com](http://www.simonandschuster.com)



You might think *The Big Thirst* is a dire warning about an upcoming global water crisis. It's not. That's because according to Charles Fishman, we're already in a water crisis and the days of cheap, safe and abundant water are over. But Fishman says there is also good news: most of our water problems are solvable. Some can even be solved quickly with existing technology.

Unlike climate change, which is a global crisis, Fishman explains how all water problems are regional and local, and so require regional or local solutions. Cutting down on your shower time in New England does not help the woman in India who walks miles every day to fetch water from a communal spigot.

*The Big Thirst* is filled with inspiring examples of water managers who have confronted drought and water shortages and prevailed. It is an engaging exploration of everything about water: its chemistry, uses (and abuses), politics and economics, and our relationship with it. The book's well-researched stories take us from Vermont and the ultra-pure water used to wash

computer chips, to the black and bubbling Yamuna River in India fouled with Delhi's untreated sewage and industrial waste.

According to Fishman, our toughest problem will be changing our attitude about water—to stop taking water for granted. Most of us cannot imagine turning on the tap and nothing coming out, yet forty percent of the world doesn't have ready access to water, or has to walk to get it.

Part of why we take water for granted, says Fishman, is because it's cheap. "If you had to pick one thing to fix about water, one thing that would help you fix everything else... that one thing is price. The right price changes how we see everything else about water."

In addition to pricing water correctly, Fishman advocates matching the purity of water to its purpose. In the U.S. we use 5.7 billion gallons of water pure enough to drink just to flush our toilets every day. Still, water managers struggle to overcome the "yuck factor," meaning the public's aversion to using "recycled water" for any purpose.

One of the best things about *The Big Thirst* is that unlike many books on environmental crises, it does not leave you feeling hopeless or that it's too late to do anything. There can be enough water for everyone; we just have to start paying attention to it, stop wasting it, and use it more wisely.

**Sarah Shepard** works in the Bureau of Publications and Internet in DEC's Albany office.



### Inquisitive Mink

I photographed this mink on the shores of the St. Lawrence River, in Clayton.

Heather R. Stokes  
Accord, Ulster County

*Wow! What a great close-up of a mink! Generally solitary animals, mink are active, curious mammals. They are primarily nocturnal, searching for such food items as small mammals, fish, birds and amphibians. Their inquisitive nature and energetic behavior sometimes leads them close to people before they realize the situation and scurry off. In winter, their tracks can be seen along streams and creeks the day after a light snow. The small patch of white fur on the mink's chin distinguishes it from other members of the weasel family.*

—Conservationist staff



### Feeder Fox

I photographed this fox in our backyard. It was eating suet that had fallen from the feeder above. I opened the door to a tool room and took the photo before the fox heard the shutter and ran off.

Dave McCarthy  
Batavia, Genesee County

*Perfect timing! In winter, a red fox's diet generally consists of mice, rabbits and occasional birds. However, like many animals, red fox are opportunistic and will gladly eat an easy meal when available.*

—Conservationist staff

## Hungry Hawk

I took these photos one November morning at my home near Hammond Hill. The hawk killed one of our (not very alert) roosters. I sent the pictures to the Cornell Lab of Ornithology listserv, where there was much debate over the hawk’s identity. What do you think it is?

Megan Ludgate  
Ithaca, Tompkins County



*I consulted with several experts here at DEC, and we do not agree either! We debated whether it was a northern goshawk or the more common Cooper’s hawk. Characteristics for saying it’s a goshawk include the size of the bird compared to its prey, the proportionately large size of the bill and tail, and the presence of the white line above the eye (supercilium). Characteristics for saying it’s a Cooper’s hawk include the lack of boldness of the*

*supercilium, the lack of dark feathers under the tail, the shape of the head and bill, and barred markings (rather than spots) on the breast. We wish we could give you a definitive answer, but sometimes even “experts” do not agree!*

—Scott Stoner, DEC Research Scientist

## Friendly Hen

I want to share an experience that my hunting partner John Stansfield (a DEC ECO) and I had while hunting. We were sitting quietly when we saw this hen turkey walking toward us. We were surprised when she then lay down near us. When we started to walk away, the hen got up and followed; when we stopped, she stopped. Then we started walking again and the hen stood up, stretched her wings and walked back the way she came. Had I not seen it for myself, this is one of those “hunting stories” I would have never believed!

John R. Sandle  
Canandaigua, Ontario County

*Certainly an interesting and incredible experience! It sounds, though, like this bird may have been raised by a person and then*



*released into the wild. This would explain its tameness. It’s important for people to remember that wildlife is best left in the wild—be sure to enjoy them, but from a distance.*  
—Conservationist staff

## Ask the Biologist

**Q:** What is the difference between a pond and a lake?

**A:** While many people will tell you that lakes are generally large and deep, and ponds are small and shallow, the truth is there is no clear-cut difference between the two. In fact, if you look at the names given to the more than 16,000 New York water bodies bearing the labels lake or pond, it can be confusing. For instance, there are some very large ponds (such as 2,400-acre North Sandy Pond in Oswego County), and some very tiny lakes (such as 3-acre Central Park Lake in New York City).

That said, scientists do use certain criteria to distinguish between the two. A pond is usually a permanent, shallow, body of water or a water-filled depression. It is generally smaller than a lake and may be created naturally, or by beaver dams, or by people looking for a steady supply of water for fire protection, livestock, attracting wildlife, or backyard enjoyment.

In contrast, a lake is usually larger than ten acres in area, at least ten feet deep, and is part of a larger river system where water flows in and out. Lakes are used for drinking water and recreation, and support a great diversity of fish and wildlife.

But whether it’s a pond or lake, all these waters are enjoyed by people for a wide variety of uses. For additional information, check out the publication *Diet for a Small Lake* available at [www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/82123.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/82123.html).

—Scott Kishbaugh & Karen Stainbrook, DEC’s Division of Water



### Write to us

Conservationist Letters  
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Albany, NY 12233-4502  
or e-mail us at: [magazine@gw.dec.state.ny.us](mailto:magazine@gw.dec.state.ny.us)



# Back Trails

Perspectives on People and Nature

John Bulmer

## Snow Journey by Jenna Kerwin

There are nights in winter when the air is so still and the snow falls just right that you're fooled into thinking maybe time has altogether stopped. It usually happens at the witching hour. I used to think it was then that the world fell asleep just so my older sister Laura and I could explore it without anybody bothering us.

When the clock struck ten on wintry Saturday nights, Laura and I would ask our mother if we could go for a late-night walk. Our cozy, "Leave it to Beaver" town in Oneida County had little to be afraid of, and so after giving us an hour's curfew, Mom would smile and nod her head "Yes."

Then, like it was Christmas morning and we were sneaking around our presents, we would quietly don our parents' coats—Laura in my mother's and I in my father's—as if wearing their gear instead of our own somehow made the nighttime walk a grander adventure. We would hold our fingers to our lips and hush each other with smiles as we silently exited the "real world" and slipped into our own, almost magical winter wonderland.

Snow falling against the glow of the street lamps always reminded me of something Norman Rockwell might have painted. As our feet carried us through the powder, we whispered and quietly laughed about things most teenage sisters do. The houses along our journey were mostly dark; the streets were deserted—the world was ours to explore.

Our conversations were only occasionally interrupted by a rare, late-night car making its way home. Once in a while our footprints were met with the small ones of a rabbit or, if we ended up on the



golf course and knew where to look, the feather imprints of a bird of prey and vanishing tracks of a small animal.

I remember once, as Laura and I were talking, our cold hands in pockets too large for us, she suddenly gasped and hushed

...we silently exited  
the "real world" and  
slipped into our own,  
almost magical winter  
wonderland.

me. There, a few yards in front of us, was a cottontail sitting motionless in the snow. Its ears appeared to twitch and move with the fall of every snowflake. Before the rabbit hopped into someone's backyard, the three of us stood in each other's company, sharing the quiet, winter scene.

If it had been daytime with other people around, it wouldn't have felt quite the same. Walking in the snow with Laura late at night was always different; it was as if everyone else fell into a deep slumber just so we could be alone. There was something magic about those nights. Our town always felt as though it had been suspended in time: the air smelled cleaner, sweeter; the silence was a quiet, winter symphony.

Though Laura and I haven't been on a nighttime winter walk in several years, I often think back to the times we ruled our "winter wonderland." We might have been out for only an hour at a time, but our snow journeys are forever frozen in my memories.

Jenna Kerwin is the staff writer for *Conservationist*.

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Sunrise at Dunkirk Harbor  
See pg. 26

