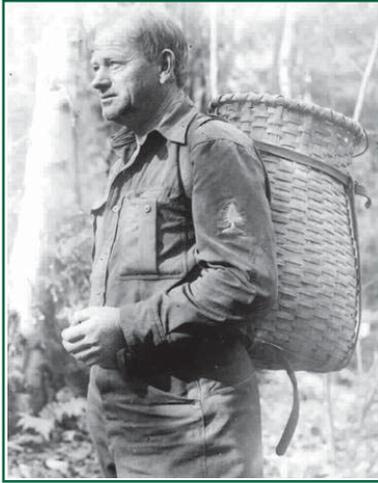


HISTORY

Forest Rangers are uniformed professionals that have protected the public lands, natural resources, and people of New York State for over 100 years. In 1885, the New York State legislature established the Forest Preserve of New York State, setting aside land in the Adirondacks and Catskills to be protected as “forever wild.” The year 1885 also marks the beginning of the forest ranger services in New York. Rangers were originally known as Fire Wardens. In 1911, the Conservation Department was formed and shortly thereafter came the title Forest Ranger. Today, Forest Rangers provide care, custody and control on approximately 4.5 million acres of DEC administered public lands and easements.



HIRING REQUIREMENTS

New York State Forest Rangers are sworn police officers authorized to enforce the laws that preserve and protect the state’s forest resources, and the safety of those who use them. Rangers receive training in state laws, search and rescue techniques, state land stewardship, wildfire management, firearms, emergency vehicle operation, wilderness first aid, and land navigation. Once trained, they are assigned to geographical regions throughout the state.

To be considered for appointment as a Forest Ranger, a person must pass a written New York State Civil Service exam and be on the list of eligible candidates. To qualify to take the Forest Ranger exam, a candidate must meet the following requirements:

- A bachelor’s or higher level degree, including or supplemented by 30 semester credits hours in environmental/life science, or
- An associate’s or higher level degree in forestry, forest technology, forest management, natural resources management, forest recreation, or forest/environmental engineering, or
- An associate’s or higher level degree, including or supplemented by 18 semester credit hours in environmental/life science, and one of the following:
 - Two years of qualifying technical/professional work experience in the natural resources management field, or
 - Two years of active U.S. military service with an honorable discharge.



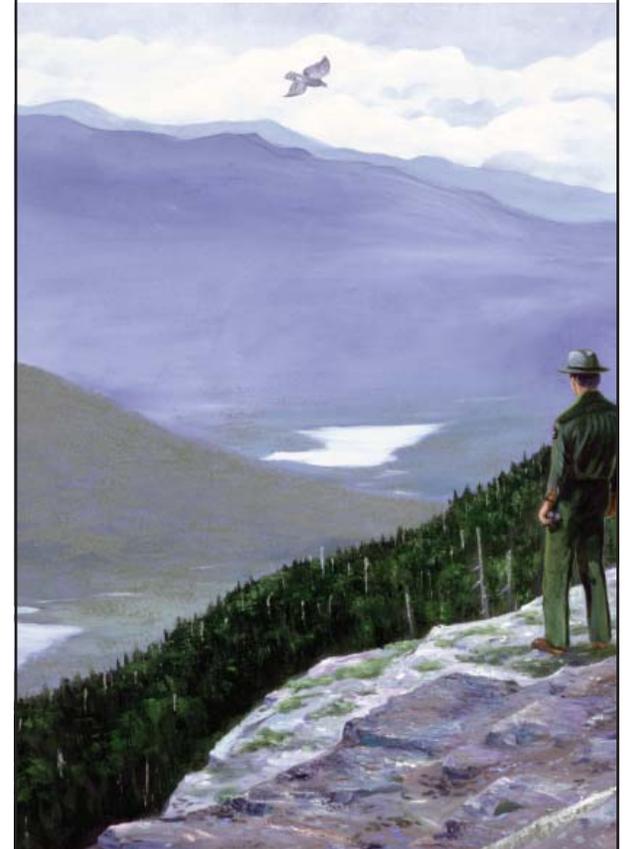
For more information contact:
NYSDEC Forest Rangers
625 Broadway, 8th Floor
Albany, New York 12233-2560
518-402-8839

Or visit DEC’s website at: www.dec.ny.gov



New York State
**DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL
CONSERVATION**

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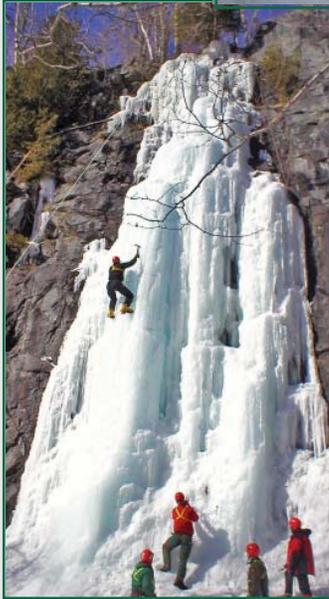


**NEW YORK STATE
FOREST
RANGERS**

“Serving Since 1885”

SEARCH AND RESCUE

Forest Rangers organize and conduct wildland search and rescue operations within New York State.



These missions consist of searching for lost persons, downed civilian aircraft, and rescue operations for persons in wild and remote areas.

Search and rescue operations often lead Rangers into remote wilderness areas, from the rugged

mountainous peaks of the Adirondacks to low lying river valleys. Their knowledge of advanced first aid, land navigation, and rope rescue techniques are often critical to the success of a mission.



ENFORCEMENT

Forest Rangers are sworn Police Officers authorized to enforce all state laws, with special emphasis on Environmental Conservation Law and the



protection of state lands and the public using state lands. Every Forest Ranger must successfully complete a rigorous 26-week Basic

Training School before being assigned to a geographic area.

Each day and regardless of weather, a Ranger may patrol their assigned areas by vehicle, boat, ATV, snowmobile, aircraft, bicycle, foot, skis, or snowshoes.



FIRE MANAGEMENT

Wildland fire management, including prevention and suppression, has been a traditional role of the Forest Rangers. Today's Ranger is responsible for planning forest fire suppression activities and supervising wildland firefighting forces.



Rangers provide training to volunteers and local fire departments in wildland

firefighting techniques. Each Ranger is trained and equipped for immediate response to outbreaks of wildfires.



EDUCATION/OUTREACH

Forest Rangers promote an understanding of New York's wild lands and the proper use of its natural resources. They teach both adults and children how to avoid life threatening situations, while promoting natural resource protection.

