



## WATERWAYS & TRAILWAYS

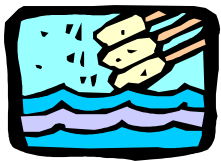
Water has shaped the New York-New Jersey region in every sense for over 20,000 years. Today, hundreds of organizations are rediscovering this essential but often forgotten liquid asset. From Coney Island Creek in Brooklyn to Indian Lake in the Bronx, people are paying increased attention to waterways and other natural areas. In order to capitalize on this resurgence, Waterways & Trailways (W&T), a unique alliance of *Partnerships for Parks*, the National Park Service, and the Appalachian Mountain Club, was created in 1999 as a resource for communities wishing to enhance, create, and protect public access to parks, natural areas, waterways, and trails in the New York/New Jersey Metropolitan area. W&T offers a diverse mix of conservation, community organizing, and project development assistance for communities and organizations defining solutions



to land and water issues. It also promotes collaboration among communities, organizations, and governmental agencies so they are collectively more effective.

W&T's technical assistance program can help groups coordinate their restoration work. If you would like an information packet about what other groups are doing to restore, access, and enjoy their natural areas and waterfront and key organizations to contact for help, call W&T at 718-430-4648.

How can you make a difference in the waterways and natural areas of your neighborhood?



**Enjoy them!** - canoe a river or hike a trail; **Restore them** - host a clean-up or remove debris; **Organize events** - host a



concert or a film series; **Create access** - construct a trail or build a canoe put-in.

If you are interested in organizing these types of activities, in receiving information about what other groups are doing, or would like a brochure about Waterways & Trailways, call 718-430-4648.

### ADOPT-THE-RIVER PROGRAM

One of the little-known marvels of the New York City landscape, the **Bronx River** winds for eight miles through the heart of the borough to define a peaceful corridor of green for fishing, strolling, biking, boating, and nature study amid the noise and bustle of urban life. It is the only freshwater river within the city limits lined with over 925 acres of parkland.

The **Adopt-the-River Program** is a new Parks & Recreation initiative designed to support the unique management needs of the Bronx River. Modeled on the Adopt-a-Highway program, interested businesses adopt sections of the River by providing support for River restoration, management and maintenance.

**Consolidated Edison**, a long time supporter of the Bronx River initiatives, has already joined the effort by becoming the first of the corporate sponsors.

For more information on the Adopt-the-River program, please call 718-430-1846.

## IT'S NEVER TOO EARLY - RAISE FUNDS FOR YOUR SPRING EVENTS NOW!

### NEAP AWARDS

The Citizens Committee and Mary Flagler Cary Charitable Trust invite low-income area neighborhood groups to apply for Neighborhood Environmental Action Program (NEAP) grants. Grants up to \$5,000 can be used for initiatives that build neighborhood constituencies and leadership around solutions to environmental issues. Projects should be able to continue after the term of the grant is complete. Student involvement is strongly encouraged. Projects may address one or more of such topics as: air, water, land, toxins, indoor hazards, noise, waste, energy. 212-989-0909. Applications due **March 15, 2000**.

### CHASE VOLUNTEER GREENING AWARDS

Plan ahead for spring activities and apply for a Chase Volunteer Greening Award. These awards acknowledge volunteers and groups who have a proven track record by funding the tools, equipment, plants, and materials necessary for greening projects in City parks. 212-360-8186. Applications due **March 1, 2000**.



### OTHER GRANT APPLICATION DEADLINES

**March 3, 2000: EPA - Environmental Justice Small Grants.** For projects addressing environmental issues in low-income communities. 212-637-3639 or 1-800-962-6215.

**March 15, 2000: Hudson River Foundation Fund.** For projects that enhance the public use and enjoyment of the Hudson River and its shores. 212-924-8290.

**April 1, 2000: City Parks Foundation Quarterly Grants Program.** Supports projects developed by community groups for parks and playgrounds with grants of up to \$5,000. 212-360-8121.

**Mark it Now - 5/20/00**

"It's My Park!" Day is  
Saturday, May 20, 2000.  
More information is coming  
in the March *Leaflet*.

# PARTNERS OF THE MONTH

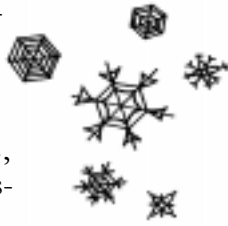
Every month *Partnerships for Parks* holds a luncheon with Commissioner Stern at which he presents certificates of appreciation to the "Partners of the Month" for their outstanding efforts. He also meets with representatives from other park groups at this informal luncheon setting. November's Partner from Queens, **Barbara "Bumblebee" Morris**, has brought together a number of community groups for clean-up events at the **Twin Ponds** section of **Brookville Park**. Under her leadership, the Borough President Claire "Queen Bee" Shulman, the Garden Club of Laurelton, the Rosedale Civic Association, the Cornucopia Society, and Parks & Recreation have all participated in clean-ups along this waterway.

December's Partner from the Bronx, **Josie "Muskrat" Burke**, has been a dedicated **Bronx River** volunteer for eight years. Concerned with abandoned waste in the River, Josie wrote letters to local politicians to raise awareness of the space. In 1996, she became a Riverkeeper for Bronx River Restoration and now helps monitor the water quality in a section of the river. She has also brought neighborhood residents and Fordham students out for clean-up days, removing invasive weeds and replacing them with native shrubs and ground cover.

Thanks to everyone who makes a difference in New York City parks, and a special thanks to all of the outstanding November and December "Partners of the Month," listed below!

## NOVEMBER PARTNERS OF THE MONTH:

Bronx: **Rosemary "Red Rose" Ordonez**, Friends of Crotona Park • Brooklyn: **Kathleen Walker**, Friends and Neighbors of Owl's Head Park • Manhattan: **Pete "Hercules" Zimmer**, Christopher Park • Queens: **Barbara "Bumblebee" Morris**, Cornucopia Society, Twin Ponds Park • Staten Island: **Clerie "Bambam" Barnes**, Stapleton Tenants and Homeowner's Association, Tappen Park



## HELPFUL NUMBERS

*Partnerships for Parks* 212-360-1310  
 To volunteer or to join your local parks group: 212-360-1357  
 For recorded information about special events: 888-NY-PARKS  
 To report graffiti, vandalism, or crime: 800-201-PARK

[www.nycparks.org](http://www.nycparks.org)

[www.partnershipsforparks.org](http://www.partnershipsforparks.org)

*Partnerships for Parks* believes that parks are essential to the life of New York City, and that community involvement is essential to the life of a park. We work to start, strengthen, and support neighborhood park groups; to link them together so that they can learn from each other and be stronger collectively; and to promote parks in general so that people will be more likely to join in efforts to restore and preserve them.

*Tim (Sailfish) Tompkins, Director*

*This issue of the Leaflet was written by Dana (Violet) Litvack.*



CITY PARKS FOUNDATION



City of New York  
Parks & Recreation

Rudolph W. Giuliani, Mayor  
Henry J. Stern, Commissioner

## DECEMBER PARTNERS OF THE MONTH:

Bronx: **Josie "Muskrat" Burke**, Bronx River Restoration, Bronx River • Brooklyn: **Bill Aghassi**, Brooklyn Technical High School, Fort Greene Park • Manhattan: **Louise "Mom de Fleur" Carmel**, PS 40, Augustus St. Gaudens Playground • Queens: **Eddy "Akela" Petersen**, Cub Scout Pack 2, MacNeil Park • Staten Island: **Arnold Lim**, Friends of White Playground • GreenThumb: **Mary "Silver Birches" Sciales & Harry "Smoketree" Peterson**, PS 4 Paradise Garden



[The Mole] thought his happiness was complete when, as he meandered aimlessly along, suddenly stood by the edge of a full-fed river. Never in his life had he seen a river before -- this sleek, sinuous, full-bodied animal, chasing and chuckling, gripping things with a gurgle and leaving them with a laugh, to fling itself on fresh playmates that shook themselves free, and were caught and held again. All was a-shake and a-shiver -- glints and gleams, and sparkles, rustle and swirl, chatter, and bubble. The Mole was bewitched, entranced, fascinated. By the side of the river he trotted as one trots, when very small, by the side of a man who holds one spell-bound by exciting stories; and when tired at last, he sat on the bank, while the river still chattered on to him, a babbling procession of the best stories in the world, sent from the heart of the earth to be told at last to the insatiable sea.

— *Kenneth Grahame, The Wind in the Willows, 1908*

ATTENTION: FOR ADDRESS CORRECTIONS CALL 212-360-1357.

*Address Service Requested*

New York, NY 10021  
830 Fifth Avenue

CITY PARKS FOUNDATION



Partnerships for Parks

