

Bigger, Better Bottle Bill (BBBB) – now in place:

After many years of discussion and wrangling by the NY State Legislature, **the Bigger, Better Bottle Bill is now in place!** It is hoped that the bill taking effect on Nov. 8th will help with the recycling of a large portion of the 2.5 billions water bottles sold every year in New York State by putting a 5 cents deposit on all water and non-carbonated bottles. In addition, eighty (80) percent of unclaimed deposits will go NY State coffers, hopefully in support of valuable conservation projects.

Thank you for the support that you have provided to this worthy cause over the years.

Drilling for natural gas in the Marcellus Shale of Southwestern New York - update

ADK has submitted its comments to NY State Assembly Environmental Conservation Committee, expressing its serious concerns about potential *major environmental impact from drilling for natural gas*— significant forest clear cutting for access roads and pipelines, use of enormous amount of water, high risk of watershed contamination by drilling chemicals and by-products, etc. – from drilling for gas in the Marcellus shale in Southwestern New York, Southwestern Catskill Mountains included. Especially at risk are some of the most pristine New York State forests and parks such as Allegheny State Park. To get a better idea of the major detrimental impact of gas drilling on forests, just check out by googling a map of the Allegheny National Forest in Pennsylvania, just south of the state boundary from the Allegheny State Park (yes, the spelling is different). The map will clearly show you the extensive network of drilling pads and access roads, all badly scaring the land.

Please contact Jean-Claude Fouéré (jcfouere@optonline.net), Conservation Chair, if you wish to participate actively in ADK conservation activities and projects.

CHECK OU THESE SPECIAL SERIES
of
HIKES and OTHER WINTER OUTINGS!

If you are reviewing the following schedule, like to hike, backpack, or paddle, but see little that interests you, please contact Russ Faller or Sue Mackson (contact info in the schedule) to offer your suggestions or to lead an outing to a point of your interest.

Weitzel Cabin Outing: March 26-29, 2010 Register Soon!
The Weitzel Trails Cabin has been reserved for our chapter for March 26 to March 29, 2010. Reservations will be accepted accompanied by payment only. Contact: Pete McGinnis PMCGIN1@aol.com if you are interested.

Quick Response X-C Ski New This Year!
Leader: Russ Faller 845-297-5126 (before 9:30 PM) russoutdoors@yahoo.com The snow melts fast around here. You've got to catch it on the first day after the storm's over. We'll try to do just that, even if it's a weekday. To get your name on the list, e-mail the leader. No need to write a message. Just put "Quick Response X-C Ski" and your name in the subject line. You'll receive x-c ski alerts via e-mail until the snow is gone and the daffodils come up.

Every 4th Tuesday of the Month: Walks and hikes in both familiar and unfamiliar territory that are shorter and more leisurely in pace than those the Thursday group is currently walking. This series of hikes will be fully described through a separate e-mail the Friday before the week of the hike. Contact Sue Mackson at 845-471-9892 or susiem6@juno.com to sign up for that email. Oct 27, Nov 24, Dec 22

Semimonthly Midweek Hikes: C/B. On the first and third Thursday of the month the leaders offer 3-6 hour hikes to different areas of the Mid Hudson Valley. Hikes are followed by a stop for refreshment. There is a separate google group just for these hikes. Contact either leader by the Tuesday before the hike to find out the hike plan which will depend on weather and other conditions. Leaders: Ginni Fauci, 845-399-2170, vfauci1@hvc.rr.com or Lalita Malik, 845-592-0204 or LalitaMalik@aol.com Jan 7 & 21, Feb 4 & 18, Mar 4 & 18

OUTINGS: WHAT YOU WANT TO KNOW BEFORE YOU GO!

Class A —Difficult: More than 1500' climb or more than 8 mile miles

Class B—Moderate: Less than 1500' climb, 6-8 miles

Class C—Easy: Well-graded trails, less than 6 miles

Walk—Suitable for Children, less than 4 miles

Participants should observe the following:

- *Notify leader of your intent to join an outing.
- *Be at designated meeting place on time.
- *Be properly dressed: sturdy footwear, for season & type of outing.
- *Be properly equipped with water, lunch and extra snacks, rain jacket and the Ten Essentials*.
- *To bring a dog, call leader to get permission, bring a leash, be able to control dog and be responsible for its needs (water and food).

Car Pooling (encouraged)

CP expenses will include \$.20/mile + tolls and parking fees to be equally divided among all non-driving participants.

*www.midhudsonadk.org>Outings Schedule>Ten Essentials

Guidelines for Winter Gear

Synthetic or wool socks and synthetic or wool layers: underwear, sweaters, vests, and waterproof jackets or shells. Even more so than in summer, cotton is the least desirable fabric for clothing.

Head lamp, pocket knife, waterproof matches, trekking or ski poles.

Waterproof, and preferably, insulated boots and some form of foot gear to keep from slipping on ice: Yaktrax, Stabilicers, Get a Grips, and, for the most protection, crampons.

Sunglasses or goggles for snow, and insulating gloves, shell mittens, and liner gloves.

Year round have some sort of first aid kit, at least 2 liters of water, and a compass.

WINTER OUTINGS SCHEDULE (continued)

Fri Jan 1 Second Annual New Year's Day Hike

&Cookie Potluck B Moderate

Leaders: Georgette Weir, geweir@optonline.net, and Jean-Claude Fouere. Walk the Wappingers Creek Greenway Trail in Wappingers Falls and gather afterwards for hot cider and a cookie pot-luck (bring a treat to share) at the leaders' home. This a real hike, 4 miles round trip, with ups, downs, and under and over some big blowdowns; a rare treat close to civilization. Meet time will be 11am; contact leaders for meeting place

Sun Jan 3 Vanderbilt Estate Walk C

Leader: Beth Willis 845-373-8202 Enjoy crisp winter air and great river views on a loop hike of Vanderbilt Estate Loop following the lower and then upper carriageways. Meet 1pm. Call leader for meeting place. Inclement weather cancels.

Sat Jan 9 Bashakill Hike B

Leader: Brian Sullivan, 845.594.9545 before 9 PM Hike or snowshoe from one end to the other. Bad driving condition will cancel. Meet Route 17, Exit 113 and Route 209, 9:30am

Sun Jan 10 Overlook Mountain / Echo Lake 4.7 or 8.7, 1300" Elevation gain

Leader: Mary Trish Cina Trishmary37@aol.com or (845) 339-7170 email preferred

We will hike or snowshoe to the summit of Overlook Mountain in Woodstock, NY. This trip will take us past the significant ruins of a hotel. Depending on group desire and conditions, we may take a side trip to Echo Lake, which would add 4 miles to the original 4.7 mile hike. Snowshoes and/or crampons may be required. Inclement weather or extreme cold will cancel. E-mail (preferred) or call leader for meeting time / place.

Sat Jan 16 Vassar Campus and, possibly, Vassar Farm C

Leader: Sue Mackson 845 471 9892, susiem6@juno.com Get out on paved paths (mostly) and tour the beautiful campus in the midst of Poughkeepsie. We'll plan stops at the jewel of a museum on campus and the chapel. If it's warm, will may cross Hooker Avenue and walk a portion of the meadows at the farm. Meet at 1:30 pm at the Collegeview Avenue gate. Registration not required. Heavy rain or snow cancels. Snow on the ground?—we'll see.

Sat Jan 16-18 Adirondacks Winter Training Weekend for Backpackers, Hikers, and Backcountry Skiers

Leader: Barry Skura 914-779-0936 or Bskura@optonline.net Saranack Lake, NY. Motel "base camp" in Saranack Lake in the Northern l Adirondacks. Learn to enjoy the mountains in the winter. Each day, have a choice of instructional hikes and backcountry ski trips. Possible loan of some equipment. Register via E-mail to leader, indicating your prior hiking / skiing experience and that you are an ADK member.

Sat Jan 23 Winterfest Snowshoe at Carnwath Farms 1 mile / Leisurely / C

Leader: Ollie Simpson and others 845-298-8379 (no answering machine) olliesimpson2005@yahoo.com or call in evening. This is Winterfest II for the Town of Wappingers. We'll snowshoe the trail that provides views of the Hudson and 2 bridges (and more if people are interested). Then you can participate in the other activities provided - tour the Sports Mu-

seum, listen to music in the Chapel, eat Chili or a Hot Dog, warm by the bonfire, or bring your sled to go sledding. We'll hike if there is no snow. No registration required. Directions: Route 9D south from Wappingers; right at light in Hughsonville onto New Hamburg Road (DC28); left at fork onto Wheeler Hill Road (sign "Welcome to Wheeler Hill Historic District, Carnwath Farms); left at stop; right into Carnwath. Meet 10am at at trailhead by upper parking lot

Tue Jan 26 4th Tues Leisurely Hike See p.4 Leader and destination TBD. See p4 Contact Sue Mackson if you are interested in less demanding walks in our area. 845-471-9892, susiem6@juno.com

Sat Jan 30 Fahnestock Cross Country Ski , Snowshoe, or Hike, depending on conditions

Leader: Pete McGinnis pmcgin1@aol.com Meet at Holiday Inn Fishkill 8:30am

Sun Jan 31 Go to the Snow! Cross Country Ski See p.4 Hike if no snow

Leader: Russ Faller 845-2975126 (before 9:30 PM) russ-soutdoors@yahoo.com We'll go wherever there's snow, within a reasonable drive. **If we can't ski, we'll hike.** Winter gear & clothing required. Bring lunch, hot beverage & 2 qts. water. Contact leader for trip details, meeting place & time.

Sun Feb 7 Schunemunk 7 mi.; B+/A- West Hudson map # 114 (2006)

Leader: Alvin DeMaria 845-255-1704 Up Sweet Clover, over to Long Path, then Western Ridge trail to Jessup. Highest point (1664'); Megaliths. Down Dark Hollow to complete the loop. Call for meeting place and time.

Sat-Sun Feb 7-8 Delaware Water Gap Winter Training Backpack Leader: Barry Skura 914-779-0936 or Bskura@optonline.net

Great views from AT ridge in general area between Mt Tammany and Cooper Mine/ Camp Mohican. 12-15 miles. Open to 3 season backpackers with necessary equipment. Register via E-mail to leader, indicating your prior backpack experience and that you are an ADK member

Sat Feb 13 Lenape Ridge/Minisink Trail Loop B

Leader. Brian Sullivan, 845.594.9545 before 9 PM Hike or snowshoe in the [Huckleberry Ridge State Forest](#) with possible car shuttle 5 to 8 miles. Call for meeting location.

Sat Feb 20 Mohonk Cross Country ski, snowshoe or hike depending on conditions

Leader: Pete McGinnis pmcgin1@aol.com Day use fee Meet Park & Ride Rte 299 & 9W at 8:39

Sun Feb 21 Mystery Hike/Ski/Snowshoe #1

Leaders: Georgette Weir, geweir@optonline.net, and Jean-Claude Fouere Watch the [Email Updates](#) for details or contact leaders. (To receive EU's, send message to susiem6@juno.com)

WINTER OUTINGS SCHEDULE *(continued)*

Fri.-Sun Feb 19-21 Winter Recreation Weekend at Graymoor (Garrison, NY) X-C Skiing and Ice Skating

Leader: Skip Doyle skipnewyork@yahoo.com

Situated on the AT near Bear Mountain, the Graymoor ecumenical center is a place close to nature. Weekend activities include cross-country skiing at nearby Fahnestock Park for both beginner and experienced skiers, and ice skating. Ski clinic for beginners. Moderate level hiking if no snow. Orientation Friday night at 7:30, dinner at 6:00 for early arrivals, and a conservation presentation afterwards. Weekend activities including 6 meals and 2 nights are \$175 for a single room, and \$125 if sharing a double room. To obtain a schedule of events for the weekend and to register for activities contact Skip Doyle at skipnewyork@yahoo.com. After registering for the activities, rooms should be booked through Graymoor at (845)424-2111.

Tue Feb 23 4th Tuesday Leisurely Hike See p.4

Leader: Noel Tepper noeltepper@yahoo.com, 845-452-5010

Sat Feb 27 Catskills-North/South Lake 8.5mi; B+

Catskill map: North Lake, #40 (2005) Leader: Alvin DeMaria 845 - 255 - 1704 Starting at Schutt Road, we will follow Escarpment trail past Sunset Rock and Catskill Mountain House site, to Newman's Ledge. Return on Rock Shelter and Mary's Glen trails to the park entrance road and back to Schutt road. Mostly flat all the way. Call for meeting place and time.

Sat Mar 6 Go to the Snow! X-C Skiing See p.4

Leader: Russ Faller 845-2975126 (before 9:30 PM) russoutdoors@yahoo.com We'll go wherever there's snow, within a reasonable drive. If we can't ski, we'll hike. Winter gear & clothing required. Bring lunch, hot beverage & 2 qts. water. Contact leader for trip details, meeting place & time.

Sun Mar 7 Rockefeller State Park Preserve 6 miles B

Leader: Sue Mackson 845 471 9892, susiem6@juno.com Come enjoy the famed property in the Pocantico Hills assembled by the Rockefeller family. I've not been there and hope there are others who've not visited the property. The hike will be entirely on carriage roads with no more than a few hills, 300 ft, to ascend. We'll see lots of water, and have some hillside views of the Hudson Valley. Snow or rain will cancel. The hike can be easily shortened if it's very cold. Expect to leave at 9:30 am from a car pool point (parking fee applies at the Preserve) to be determined.

Sat Mar 13 Hike Peach Hill or Leader's Choice C

Leader: Salley Decker evenings 845-454-4206 Short hike to the highest point in the Town of Poughkeepsie. Good views from summit. Location of hike may be changed depending on weather conditions, etc. Bring snack, water, and clothing suitable for weather. Call after March 6th for meeting time, location and other details. Rain cancels.

Sun Mar 14 Black Dome / Thomas Cole 7.2 miles

1800'+elevation gain Leader: Mary Trish Cina at Trish-mary37@aol.com or 845-339-7170 (email preferred)

This is one of this leader's favorite hikes. We will summit two Catskill 500 peaks via snowshoes or hiking boots, depending on conditions. This hike offers many fantastic views and diverse landscape. Car shuttle will be required. Snowshoes and/or crampons may also be required. Inclement weather or extreme cold

will cancel. Contact leader for meeting place and time.

Sat Mar 20 Mystery Hike/Ski/Snowshoe #2 Leaders: Georgette Weir, gweir@optonline.net, and Jean-Claude Fouere. Watch the [Email Updates](#) for details or contact leaders. (To receive EU's, send message to susiem6@juno.com)

Sun Mar 21 Doodletown in Harriman State Park B- (about 6miles)

NYNJ TC map 4, Harriman/Bear Mt. Leader: Brenda Harding (845) 565-8566 before 9pm or oreomort@aol.com The abandoned hamlet of Doodletown lies in a beautiful valley surrounded by Bear Mt on the north, Bald Mt, Dunderberg Mt on the south and southeast, & West Mt on the west. Join me as we hike through this vanished hamlet and learn about the families that lived there. The last family left Doodletown in 1965 and it had been occupied since the mid 1700s (this is also the 1777 Bicentennial trail). Though few ruins remain there are signs posted where some of the homes, schools and churches once stood. There is the occasional foundation, stairs or retaining wall to remind us this was once a thriving little village. We'll visit the Doodletown brook with a waterfall and a reservoir. There are also 2 old cemeteries one of which is still being used. Because there is so much to see on this hike the pace might be more leisurely. I also have a plant list for this area if anyone is interested. Meeting Time/Place: 9:30 AM/The hikers parking area 1.4 miles south of the Bear Mt. traffic circle on 9W just before the road into Iona Island. Bring lunch.

Tue Mar 23 4th Tuesday Leisurely Hike See p.4

Roosevelt Road Farm Lane Trail and Eleanor Roosevelt's Valkill Leader: Carol Gray 845-471-1168 outdoorcarol@verizon.net We'll follow the lovely path from Route 9 to 9G and into Valkill, Eleanor Roosevelt's retreat. Flat woods road and loop at Valkill. Meet at the trailhead on Route 9 just past Hyde Park Brewery at 10:30 am.

Fri-Sun Mar 27-29 Chapter Winter Weekend in the Adirondacks: Weitzel Cabin Leader: Pete McGinnis

PMCGIN1@aol.com See also p.4

Our chapter has again rented the Weitzel Cabin, a comfortable ADK facility in the high peaks area of the Adirondacks. Pete McGinnis is arranging the weekend and there are opportunities for varied winter activities just out the door or within a short ride. The cabin contains separate sleeping and kitchen facilities as well as an area for "hanging out". Contact Pete for additional details or visit the ADK website for more information about the cabin.

Sun March 28 Schunemunk's Twin Ridges B+ 10 miles

Leader: Barry Skura (845-358-5773, Bskura@optonline.net) 10 miles with exhilarating climbs and views from both ridges, including the snowman under the Megaliths. Double helping of fantastic view: both ridges. Meet 9:50 at Black Rock Fish and Game Club sign at Route 32 / Angola Road

Attention, Chapter Members!

To receive Email Updates on all Chapter Activities, send a message to susiem6@juno.com

DON'T MISS OUT: PLAN AHEAD!

June 25-July 5 (Dates Approximate) 5-7 Day kayak trip on the Erie Canal. (Open to all experience levels). Leader: Don Urmston: Durmston@hvc.rr.com or 845-457-4552. I am trying to gauge interest for this trip. Trip would be 5-7 days of kayaking the Erie Canal between Palmyra and Baldwinsville, NY. We would stay in a hotel each night and paddle approximately 10 miles each day. The trip would include exploration of several towns and a day of hiking and wine touring in the Finger Lakes with dinner in Ithaca. If interested, please contact me for more details.

June 25-26 Trail Fest, the Chapter Weekend in the Catskills, will offer hikes for all levels, boating, fishing, overnight in shelters on the Finger Lakes Trail, or at a State campground with hot showers and potluck dinner. Complete information will be forthcoming. Contact Person: Lalita Malik at LalitaMalik@aol.com or 845-592-0204

Aug 15-20, 2010 Sun-Fri New Hampshire White Mountains Hut and Lodge Trip B -B+ We will be day hiking in the White Mountains, approximately 6-9 miles a day, including hiking to some of the 4000-footers with options to by-pass them. We will be staying in Pinkham Joe Dodge Lodge, Madison Hut, Highland Center (2 nights), and Lonesome Lake Hut. Dinner & breakfast is included with each night's accommodation which will be in bunkrooms. There are showers available in Pinkham & Highland Center, but none in the huts. Cost will be \$324.25 per person. The cut-off with payment will be June 15. There is a limit of 10 people, but I will keep a waiting list if more are interested. E-mail Ginny Fauci at vfaucci@hvc.rr.com for additional information.

Jul 9 Long Path Section Ginny Fauci & Lalita Malik
We had ten hikers heading out from Jenny Lane on the Long Path through the section of Minnewaska that had burned last year. There was much new growth, especially the blueberry bushes which were loaded with fat, juicy, delicious wild blueberries. We continued on to Rainbow Falls and over to Lower Awosting carriageway before taking the trail back to the Long Path. Lunch was on the high rocks overlooking the falls with a great view. On the way back, we filled our empty lunch bags & bottles with wild blueberries. Another great hike! As usual, we stopped for homemade ice cream before heading home, this time in New Paltz. **Participants:** Marian Leeds, Roberta Forest, David Burt, Al Poelzl, Salley Decker, Ellie Shortle, Mary Nicolis, Beth Willis and the leaders. (10)

Aug. 6 AT Section Ginny Fauci & Lalita Malik
After setting up a shuttle car at Elk Pen, ten hikers & Trevor started out from Lakes Road in Greenwood Lake. We took the bypass to the top of Fitzgerald Falls and continued on the trail to Mombasha High Point where the views were somewhat hazy that day, but still good. Continuing on we did some rock scrambling to the top of Buchanan Mountain, crossed a few streams and hiked around the edge of Little Dam Lake before climbing up to the summit of Arden Mountain giving us views of the Catskills. We finally reached Agony Grind, a very short 500' descent to Route 17 which we crossed very carefully and made our way up Arden Road to Elk Pen. It was a long 8.7 mile day, but another great hike. Afterwards we stopped at the Bellvale Farms Creamery on 17A and had homemade ice cream (yummy). **Participants:** Barbara Horne, Beth Willis, Marian Leeds, Barbara Surowitz, Ramesh Naik, Mary Nicolis, Dave Dvorsky, Shari Aber & Trevor, and the leaders. (10)

Aug. 30 Giant Ledge Sue Mackson
The drizzle started at 8 am when Lalita Malik and I left to pick up Sayi Nulu. I thought "We can do this. I hiked Giant Ledge when it rained all day long, we can do it in drizzle." As we met Tom Spence and Beth Willis and headed up to Kingston to pick up Nancy Mroz and Frank Lancellotti, the sky lightened, the sun had come out. The single feature of the day was perfect hiking weather: low humidity, clear skies, comfortable but warm enough for short sleeves, even under forest cover. The path up to Giant Ledge features wonderful stone steps and giant water bars and lots and lots of rock. Our group spread out to accommodate the different speeds of our hikers but we all met at the top of the ledges to enjoy the clear views. A passing hiker identified many of the peaks we could clearly see and went on his way. We met him on his return as we neared the top of Panther Mountain and he encouraged us with word that the peak was only five minutes away, that there were two good viewing points, and that, indeed, the top was marked. We arrived a quarter hour later and noted we had reached 3720 feet above sea level. Sayi took a picture of the little ring nose snake which wriggled out of a rain puddle--so we could show it to Al. Some of us hurried down the mountains, others took our time and conversed with some of the groups just starting to ascend so late in the day. **Hikers:** See text.

A Thank You from Jane!
(See ADK Award on Cover Page)

Dear Friends in ADK,
What a pleasant surprise at the President's dinner on Oct 14th. I'll be showing off my jacket for a long time.
All my activities for wise use of resources on the trail and in the community have been a life-long trek.
And all the people in ADK have been and still are an inspiration to me.
Thank you for the recognition.
Sincerely,
Jane Geisler
Mid-Hudson ADK



Ellen Zelig, CRS, GRI
Licensed Associate Broker
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EVERY FRIDAY—MHADK BREAKFAST GROUP

Join the small ADK group which gets together every Friday in Highland. It's a pleasant way to end the week and to start the weekend. The breakfast is held at the Highland Cafe where the food is extra good. The starting time is 7am, but latecomers are welcome. Contact Ralph Pollard at ralphpollard@verizon.net or 845-462-3389 if you would like further information.