



The Hemlock Herald

Central New York Land Trust

Kiosk Fever | Volunteer Spotlight | Photo Contest | AHTF @ Three Falls Woods



President and CEO Albert Joerger (left) and Land Steward Paul Porter (right) prep boards for the Kiosk assembly.

Kiosk Fever

Construction begins on 4 new Kiosks for our preserves

When Edwin Woods of Precious Wood Stairs, LLC generously offered to donate his expertise to construct kiosks for our preserves, we jumped on the opportunity, installing the first of four at Three Falls Woods this past winter (Look out for the new signage coming soon!). Now the race is on to complete and install the remaining four this summer! Currently, work is being done in Edwin's workshop to prep materials and create kiosk kits which will be brought out to the sites for final assembly. We need volunteers with carpentry, woodworking, or building experience for kiosk workdays taking place on Tuesday evenings (see pg. 5 for details).

From our site inspections, we have a number of trails that will require new boardwalks, bridges, benches, and stairs. We are looking to build a solid crew of handy volunteers interested in helping. Experience is welcome but not necessary!



Invasive Species Spotlight: Pale Swallow-wort

Scientific Name: Vincetoxicum rossicum

Origin: Native to Ukraine and Southeastern European Russia. Most likely introduced as an ornamental plant.

Habitat: Found in upland habitats or woodlands. Known to colonize rocky, recently-disturbed environments and shaded areas.

Identification: Pale Swallow-wort has long, oval, opposite leaves (3-4 inches long). Pale Swallow-wort leaves tend to be a slightly lighter shade of green than Black Swallow-wort. Flowers are small and star-like (pink to maroon in color) with petals that have a narrow base and no hairs.

Threat: Once established, it spreads quickly and can out compete native species. Its dense stands can also impede movement through undergrowth.

Management: Removal is difficult due to its fibrous root system. The crown root and root mass must be removed to prevent re-sprouting. Seed pods can also be collected before the seed is dispersed by wind.

See more: http://nyis.info/invasive_species/swallow-wort/



Volunteer Spot Light: Joy Pople

In addition to volunteering with the us here at the CNYLT, Joy also runs her own Instagram page for her nature photography

Wanting to get more hands on outdoor experience after completing Cornell's Master Naturalist training, Joy began volunteering with us here at the CNYLT. Recently, Joy has attended two volunteer days at our High Hickory Preserve to help create trails, mark boundaries and remove invasive species.

When COVID shut downs threatened to keep us inside and apart from our friends and family last year, Joy took the opportunity to immerse herself further in nature. Inspired by the beauty around her, she created her own Instagram page to share her photography and inspire others. Focusing on the small things, she prefers macro photography, often times carefully pulling down tree branches to admire the subtle intricacy of mother nature that is often missed. While Joy will argue that she is not a professional photographer, she could have fooled us! Check out her photographs on Instagram @tree.geek



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Three Falls Woods.

Summer Photo Contest

Sponsored by Johnson Studio & Camera

We want to show case the beauty of our preserves and encourage the public to get outside and explore CNY and what better way to do that then to showcase your photos on our social media! We are looking for recent photographs of wildlife, landscapes, drone footage, and people enjoying our preserves. Photos must be taken between June 2021 and the contest submission deadline of September 1, 2021. Submissions can be sent to stewardship@cnylandtrust.org and must include a signed Contest Entry Form and Photo Release Waiver which can be found on our website or by going directly to linktr.ee/cnylandtrust

The contest is open to the general public, so tell your friends and get the word out. Enter for your chance to win! Johnson Studio & Camera has generously offered their services for our photo contest prize winners, see the details below:

Prizes: Adult Contest (ages 17+)

- 1st Prize: Framed custom 20" x 30" print of the winning photograph, CNYLT Family Membership
- 2nd Prize: Custom photo greeting cards of the 2nd place photo, CNYLT Family Membership
- 3rd Prize: Individual CNYLT Membership, CNYLT Water Bottle

Prizes: Youth Contest (ages 1-16)

- 1st Prize: Framed custom 12" x 18" print of the winning photograph, a 1 hour photography lesson for you and a friend, CNYLT Family Membership
- 2nd Prize: Custom photo greeting cards of the 2nd place photo, CNYLT Family Membership
- 3rd Prize: CNYLT Family Membership, CNYLT Water Bottle

Entry Deadline: 5:00 P.M., Sept. 1, 2021 — Winners Announced by 5:00 P.M., Sept. 22, 2021

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American hart's-tongue fern, source: NYS OPRHP

Reintroducing American hart's-tongue fern (AHTF)

New York State Parks partners with the CNYLT to reintroduce a threatened species to Three Falls Woods Preserve

The American hart's-tongue fern (AHTF), *Asplenium scolopendrium* var. *americanum*, is a state and federally protected species (Threatened status) that flourishes in calcium-rich substrates within cool-climate ravines. The first official documentation of AHTF was in 1807 at what is now the Split Rock Unique Area in Camillus, NY. Currently, localized populations are known in 5 US



NYS OPRHP

states and Ontario, Canada. Some of these populations can be found in Onondaga and Madison Counties in New York. Despite this plant being found over a wide geographical range, the populations tend to be

small and isolated due to its unique habitat requirements. AHTF is especially vulnerable to anthropogenic disturbances such as quarrying, land development, and recreation. Invasive species encroaching into the fern's habitat and climate



AHTF courtesy of NYS OPRHP

change have been identified as threats to the species in more recent times. Conservation efforts, including propagation and transplantation of the fern in areas with suitable habitat conditions, have helped to recover the species in New York. In partnership with the CNY Land Trust, NYS Parks plans to transplant several hundred AHTF on the slopes at Three Falls Woods- which contains near ideal habitat for this rare species. The ferns to be transplanted in this project are propagated by NYS Parks at Sonnenberg Gardens and Mansion State Historic Park in Canandaigua, NY. It is our hope that, with the support of the CNY Land Trust, we will be able to further recover this enigmatic species that has enchanted botanists and nature enthusiasts alike for centuries!

Stephanie Minarik
Conservation Project Technician
NYS Parks



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Volunteer Schedule

Due to COVID-19, we have to limit the number of volunteers on site, so please contact us ahead of time to confirm your participation!

Friday, June 11th, 10 AM - 2 PM - High Hickory Trail Clearing and Marking

Saturday, June 12th, 10 AM - 2 PM - Three Falls Woods Trash Removal

Monday, June 14th, 10 AM - 2 PM - Three Falls Woods Trail Marking and final trash removal

Tuesday, June 15th, 10 AM - 2 PM - Pleasant Valley Trail Work

Tuesday, June 15th, 6-9 PM - Kiosk Construction

Friday, June 18th, 10 AM - 2 PM - Indian Hill Grape Vine Cutting/ Invasives

Tuesday, June 22nd, 6-9 PM - Kiosk Construction

Wednesday, June 23rd, 10 AM - 2 PM - Camillus Valley Work Day

Friday, June 25th, 10 AM - 2 PM - Elbridge Swamp Invasives Management

Saturday, June 26th, 7-9 AM - Focusing on the Small Things: Guided Photography Tour @ Tracy Lake with Joy Pople

Thursday, July 1st, 9 AM - 12 PM - Woodchuck Hill Workday, Stone Wall Restoration, Trail Mulching

Friday, July 2nd, 10 AM - 2 PM - Old Fly Marsh Invasives Management

Wednesday, July 7th, 10 AM - 2 PM - Tracy Lake Work Day, Invasives Management

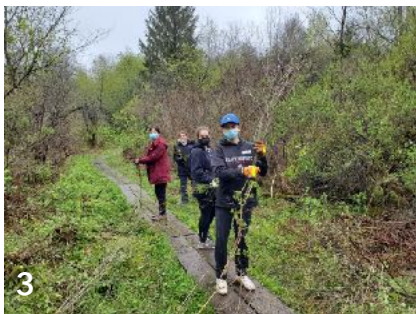
*There are standing work days at Woodchuck Hill every Monday and Thursday 9 AM - 12 PM (pending decent weather).

** There will be more opportunities that pop-up on short notice in which case we will notify you via email.

**If you are part of a school, church, outdoor, business, or other community group and think your group might be interested in volunteering, please contact us!

For more information about volunteer days and projects please email Rex at rramsgard@cnylandtrust.org

Thank you to our volunteers who came out to help this May!



1. John & Joby mark the boundaries at High Hickory
2. Preserve Steward Jim on a site inspection at Brickyard Falls View
3. Students from the Tully Interact Club clearing trail at South Meadows
4. Susan restoring the old stone wall at Woodchuck Hill
5. Jonathan (BSA Troop 62) with Rex, clearing trail at Three Falls Woods
6. Preserve Steward Sandy taking Paul out for an inspection of Silver Lake
7. ESF student John and Paul after pulling invasives at High Hickory
8. NYS Parks helping with Swallow-wort removal at Three Falls Woods

June Volunteer Appreciation Day!

Focusing on the Small Things:

A Guided Photography Tour with Joy Pople

Come out and join Joy, who will be leading a photography group through our Tracy Lake Preserve. Joy has a unique appreciation for close-up photography and is looking forward to sharing that with you along with helpful tips to get the perfect photo.

Check out her Instagram @tree.geek

Tracy Lake Preserve
Saturday, June 26th
7-9 AM

Join us afterward for coffee and pastries at Tully's Bloomin' Cup

Due to COVID-19, we have a limited group size, so please

contact us ahead of time to confirm your participation!

rmsgard@cnylandtrust.org

What's Going On?

Is there something going on at your preserve? Have you had a rare bird sighting, encountered some unknown plant disease, or know of a visit by a school group? We would like to post your experiences on our social media and newsletters. Your work as CNYLT ambassadors gives you a unique insight which is invaluable for creating more interest in our organization. Email your thoughts, photos, and experiences!

