

# TWI-LIGHTS

VOLUME 3 | FALL 2020

## Summer on the Trails

BOARD MEMBER NANCY SNYDER AND 3 YEAR-OLD GRANDSON BENNETT HAVE ENJOYED THE TRAILS!

## Best Covid Trails

COME SEE OUR BEST TRAILS FOR SOCIAL DISTANCING, EDUCATION, AND MORE.

## Questions from You

CHECK OUT SOME OF THE QUESTIONS WE'VE RECEIVED





## Summer on the Trails

Thank goodness for the 30 Trail Works Trails! We've had our 3 year old grandson, Bennett, this past week while our daughter's family went house hunting out of state. The trails helped us keep Ben active and outside enjoying nature while tiring him out at the same time! We visited Alasa Farms, Trail of Hope, and Huckleberry Swamp. We are hoping to fit in another trail or two before his family comes to retrieve him!

NANCY SNYDER





# THE TRAILS AND COVID-19

## VISITING THE OUTDOORS DURING THE COVID-19 OUTBREAK

The Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (State Parks) and the State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) encourage New Yorkers to recreate locally, practice social distancing, and use common sense to protect themselves and others.

**While enjoying outdoor spaces, please continue to follow the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)/State Department of Health (DOH) guidelines for preventing the spread of colds, flu, and COVID-19:**

- Stay home if you are sick, or showing or feeling any COVID-19 symptoms, such as fever, coughing, and/or troubled breathing;
- Practice social distancing by keeping at least six (6) feet of distance between yourself and others, even when outdoors;
- Avoid close contact, such as shaking hands, hugging, or high-fives;
- Wash hands often or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol when soap and water are not available; and
- Avoid unnecessary contact with surfaces that are often touched, such as doorknobs and handrails.

**DEC and State Parks also encourage visitors to State Parks, State Lands, and other parks to:**

- Stay local and keep visits short;
- Visit in small groups limited to immediate household members;
- Maintain distance from others while in places where people tend to congregate, such as parking lots, trailheads, and scenic overlooks;
- Avoid games and activities that require close contact, such as basketball, football, or soccer;
- Avoid playground equipment like slides and swings and other frequently touched surfaces;
- Do not share equipment, such as bicycles, helmets, balls, or Frisbees;
- If you arrive at a park and crowds are forming, choose a different park, a different trail, or return another time/day to visit; and

- If parking lots are full, please do not park along roadsides or other undesignated areas. To protect your safety and that of others, please choose a different area to visit, or return another time or day when parking is available.

**If you are sick or have had contact with someone who is sick in the last 14 days:**

- Stay home; and
- Spend time in the backyard or other personal outdoor space. Do not visit public outdoor spaces.

**If you are over 70 or have a compromised immune system:**

- Avoid visiting outdoor public spaces;
- Remain indoors or spend time in the backyard or other personal outdoor space;
- Pre-screen visitors by taking their temperature from a safe social distance; and
- Require visitors to wear masks, if available.

**Restrooms:** Due to COVID-19 we have closed most indoor spaces – visitor centers, nature centers, and historic houses. Some but not all public restrooms will continue to be available. Please note that many restrooms may still be closed until water systems are restored from seasonal closures. Visitors should plan accordingly and call the park office for more information.

**Boat Launches and Marinas:** Marinas and boat launch sites are open where conditions allow. Call the park or regional office directly for current status.

**Entrance Fees:** All entrance fees have been waived. As the situation continues to develop, we will take any necessary actions to protect visitor and staff health. We appreciate your support and patience as we navigate this public health crisis together.

*Please remember that both Camp Beechwood and Chimney Bluffs are state parks and subject to the state park rules outlined above. To see some ideas for less-congested trails, and trails where social distancing is easier, please visit our website at [trailworks.org](http://trailworks.org).*

# Best Trails in a Covid-19 World



## BEST FOR SOCIAL DISTANCING

- ALASA FARMS
- CORNWALL PRESERVE
- ENLARGED ERIE CANAL LOCK 56
- GANARGUA CREEK MEADOW PRESERVE
- PALMYRA WETLAND NATURE TRAIL



## BEST FOR HISTORY/EDUCATION

- ALASA FARMS
- HISTORIC LYONS
- LOCKVILLE
- MONTEZUMA AUDUBON
- RICHMOND AQUEDUCT



## BEST TO BE ALONE

- DOLOMITE TRAIL
- SANCTUARY AT CROWFIELD
- SODUS-WALLINGTON RAIL TRAIL
- THIRD CREEK
- TURTLE POND



## BEST FOR A CHALLENGE

- CASEY PARK
- CHIMNEY BLUFFS
- SANCTUARY AT CROWFIELD
- THIRD CREEK
- WHISTLEWOOD



## BEST FOR KIDS

- ALASA FARMS
- BUTTERFLY NATURE TRAIL
- HUCKLEBERRY SWAMP
- TRAIL OF HOPE
- WOLCOTT FALLS

# Must-See Trail

## Updates on the Butterfly Nature Trail



I would like to thank Trail Works, Inc for updating the welcome sign at the Butterfly Nature Trail. The old sign was all faded. We have received many compliments on the new sign.

The volunteers are in the process of creating a sign of the butterflies seen on the Trail. It will provide as an educational tool for those that visit the trail.

The Storybook trail has been updated with a beautiful Tasha Tudor story. This provides literacy for Adults, young adults and children. Many thank you's go out to the Macedon Public Library for their support and Richard & Carol Elaine Deys for updating the storybooks two times a year.

Last week, a hummingbird moth was spotted on the butterfly bush. It was very fast and only 2 inches long. Here are some facts: a. They enter your life as a messenger for change. b. They are insects. c. the hummingbird moth's buzzing and humming sound is created by its rapid wing movement. d. Has a rapid wing beat up to 70 beats per second (depending on the species), enabling it to fly up to 12 mph. e. Instead of a beak like a hummingbird, it has a long tongue-like proboscis that rolls out of its coiled tube to reach the nectar deep inside flowers. Its tongue is about double the length of the moth's body. f. It has large, menacing eyes that appear to warn predators to keep their distance. Also protecting it from potential predators is its close resemblance to a bird, instead of a bug. g. They range in length from 2—2.5 inches long and are covered in gray hair that resembles feathers, with white, rust or brown markings or variations. Their wingspan ranges from 2 to 6 inches depending on the species. The Snow-berry Clear wing moth has clear wings. h. The hummingbird moth can be found not only in North America, but in Europe, Africa, and Asia.

SUBMITTED BY MARIE CRAMER

## Trail Mail—Your Thoughts

### *the questions being asked by you*

**Sodus-Wallington Rail Trail**—We received an email regarding a “no ATVs sign” on the Sodus-Wallington trail, which has been traditionally used by ATVs in the past. Trail Works is in communication with Wayne County to see if an agreement can be reached that allows ATVs and snowmobiles south of Margaretta all the way down to the Geneva/Ridge intersection at the trail head.

**Passport markers in Savannah are missing.** The passport markers are missing at the Turtle Pond trail, and the West Short trail. We're working on it!

**What trails are dogs allowed on?** Dogs are allowed on all trails except Huckleberry Swamp. There are others that would be more difficult for a dog (at least for my big lug of a Golden Retriever), such as Chimney Bluffs, but they are allowed. You might want to check them out ahead of time to see if they're okay for your four-legged friend. Usual trail rules apply, and please clean up after your pooch.





## Trail Works Inc. Partnering with Big Beams Timber Framing

Exciting news! Trail Works and the Town of Sodus will be partnering with Rob Hughes of Big Beams Timber Framing to build a pavilion at Beechwood State Park in 2021! Rob has done extensive work of this nature along the Finger Lakes Trail and at the Finger Lakes Museum in Branchport, NY.

Rob participated in our September Zoom Board of Directors meeting, and gave us an overview and presented options for us to consider, including a 5-day workshop to build the structure ourselves! Trail Works will be working with Town of Sodus Supervisor Scott Johnson, Beechwood State Park Manager Sal Vittozzi, and the Sodus Beechwood Committee to bring this project together.

A very positive meeting was held in early October. At this point, the team is waiting for material list and architecture designs from Rob Hughes. The hope is to have a workshop to build in summer of 2021.

We will be looking at grants and donations to cover the costs. Other opportunities exist to work with Big Beams to build lean-tos at other Trail Works locations, including the Butterfly Nature Trail in Macedon for camping at Lock 30, and other camping areas along the Erie Canal. Rob will be making a site visit to Beechwood in the near future to kick off this exciting new Trail Works joint venture with Big Beams Timber! Stay tuned!

## RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP TODAY!

If you have not yet renewed your Trail Works membership for 2019, or would like to renew for 2020, please take a moment to return your membership dues (Individual-\$15.00, Family-\$25.00, and Corporate- \$50.00).

Trail Works is a nonprofit organization dedicated to being a unified voice for Wayne County trail users and to coordinate the development and maintenance of high-quality, year-round, multi-use trails. Your dues help us to embody public education about trails and increase public awareness of trail issues. We strive to preserve Wayne County heritage and green spaces for the enjoyment and recreation of our future generations. Please renew your membership today.

**MEMBERSHIP TEAM**

# ATTENTION!

## photography enthusiasts

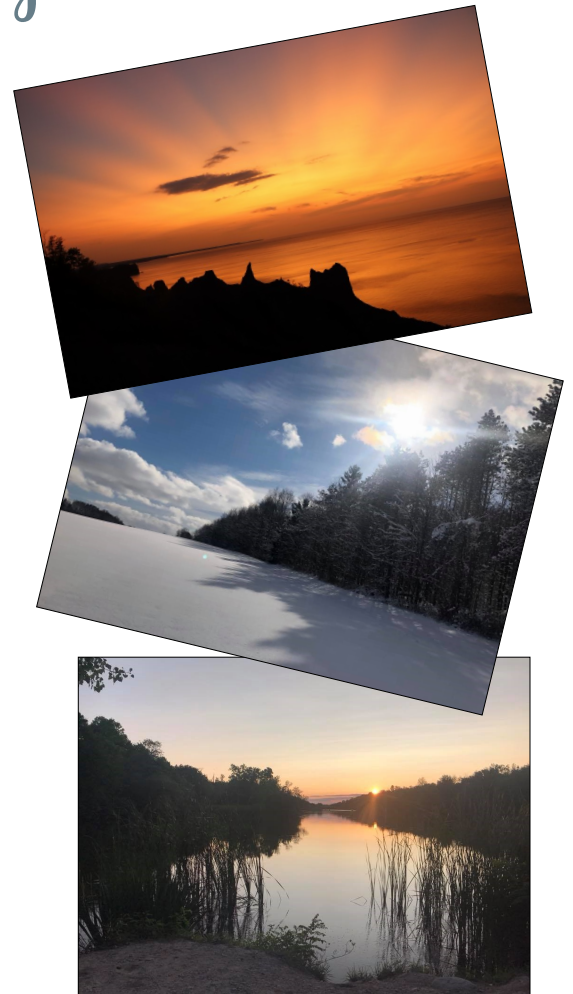
Trail Works is delighted to announce its first Nature Photo Contest! Fall is fast approaching and as foliage colors emerge in beautiful Wayne County, grab your camera, take a hike on one of our 30 Passport trails, and start snapping! Members and hikers are encouraged to submit trail photos (any nature photo taken on any of our trails) to Trail Works for prizes! Prizes will include:

- 1<sup>st</sup> prize: \$25 Wegman's gift card and a Trail Works, Inc. face mask
- 2<sup>nd</sup> prize: Trail Works single membership and a Trail Works, Inc face mask
- 3<sup>rd</sup> prize: Trail Works, Inc face mask.

Submit your photos by email to [trailworks@trailworks.org](mailto:trailworks@trailworks.org), including your name, email address, and the date and trail location of the photo. **Submit up to three (3) photos per individual. The deadline to submit photos is November 10, 2020.** Check out our website, [www.trailworks.org](http://www.trailworks.org), for information and location of our 30 Passport trails. Winners will be announced and the winning photos published in a future Trail Works, Inc newsletter.

Good luck!

MARK DeCRACKER, TRAIL WORKS, INC- PRESIDENT



## Trail Works, Inc. 2020 Membership Form

Please check the type of membership:

- ☐ single (\$15)
- ☐ corporate (\$50)
- ☐ family (# of family members: \_\_\_\_\_ ) (\$25)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make all checks payable to:

Trail Works, Inc.  
ATTN: Membership  
PO Box 43  
Williamson, NY 14589

**TRAIL WORKS, INC.**  
PO BOX 43  
WILLIAMSON, NY 14589

## Give Back to the Trails

Working on trails is something we all can do, even in this time of physical distancing. Bring along a pair of clippers and help to keep trails open. Pack a trash bag and some gloves, and pick up debris that may be left behind. Educate other hikers - many newbies are not aware of trail etiquette. See a hiker with a dog on leash and a poop bag, thank them for being responsible. Positive reinforcement can go a long way.

For those who want to go a step further, refer to the Genesee Land Trust website and check out "Volunteer" where short videos on invasive species removal can be helpful.

Happy Trail Blazing!  
**CAROL MAY**