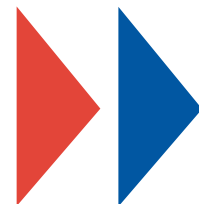


your valley

CONTINUING our **PROGRESS**, STRENGTHENING our **IMPACTS**



Scenic Hudson remains dedicated to our core strengths—land, parks and advocacy—the foundations of our 54-year history and our mission to make the Hudson Valley a great place to live, work and play. We will continue preserving the region's natural resources and other prime assets—its world-class beauty, working farms, engaged citizen-activists, and vibrant city and town centers.

At the same time, we recognize the increased urgency to defend the region from unprecedented threats—the transformation of the Hudson River into a fossil-fuel superhighway; PCBs that taint our river, drinking water and fish; and the potential weakening of federal laws and agencies that help protect the valley's natural treasures and revitalize our communities.

Addressing these threats requires concerted action—which is why we're committed to redoubling our leadership efforts in promoting regional identity and pride, building community and strengthening resiliency in the face of climate change. In addition, we will fight actions that undermine national environmental policies and endanger our region.

Our objective is to bring together the people and organizations of the valley into a region-wide community with a shared resolve to become a model of sustainable prosperity. Progress will require broadening our circle of partners and learning from constituents (new and old) through listening, searching for shared values and developing strategies to achieve mutual goals.

We're excited about the path ahead and confident that with your help Scenic Hudson will continue adding to our five decades of achievement in conserving land, connecting people to the river, fostering collaboration, advancing conservation science—and bringing both economic and environmental benefits to the Hudson Valley.

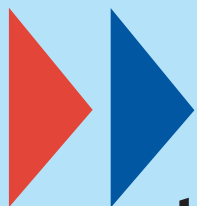


Ned Sullivan, President

Get Into Nature—Feel Better

Summer is an ideal time to enjoy the health benefits of connecting with nature in a Scenic Hudson park. Whether getting an aerobic workout on your feet or mountain bike or reducing stress by admiring an awe-inspiring sunset, you can count on feeling better when you head home.

Visit www.scenichudson.org/parks for parks and preserves near you and look inside for details about our ongoing projects to create new trails and amenities.



Accidents Highlight Need to Halt Crude Oil Superhighway

Two recent accidents highlight the urgency of shutting down the crude oil superhighway. In March a 77-car train carrying sulfuric acid derailed along the Hudson River in Newburgh. A month later, a barge with 65,000 barrels of gasoline ran aground in the Hudson off Catskill.

No hazardous materials leaked in either incident—but we may not be so lucky next time. That’s why we’re urging state legislators to support bills that would halt projects posing increased threats to communities’ water supplies and critical habitat, and jeopardizing investments made to revitalize waterfronts.

Nine of the 10 proposed **anchorage**s in the Hudson River—“parking lots” for 43 massive barges carrying crude oil and other hazardous chemicals—lie within state-designated Significant Coastal Fish and Wildlife Habitats considered irreplaceable. A pending bill would enable the state Department of Environmental Conservation to establish Tanker Avoidance Zones based on the proximity of these fragile and sensitive habitats, environmental justice areas, contaminated areas and other concerns of waterfront communities.

Every **train bearing crude oil** presents the potential for a disastrous spill and/or explosion. Another bill under consideration would require railroads transporting highly volatile Bakken crude to demonstrate sufficient insurance to cover a worst-case-scenario accident—so taxpayers don’t have to foot the cleanup bill.

Twenty-nine valley cities and villages have passed resolutions blocking the **Pilgrim Pipelines**—proposed to transport crude oil and refined petroleum products between Albany and Linden, N.J.—from being constructed within their borders. A third bill would grant towns the same authority to reject the pipelines, which would cross several major drinking-water sources, including the Hudson.

ALSO NEEDED: More PCB Cleanup

At the same time, to restore the Hudson’s full potential as a natural resource and economic engine—and to improve the health of the Hudson River’s fish and ensure that families living in riverfront communities breathe clean air and drink toxic-free water—we continue advocating for a comprehensive **PCB cleanup**. Watch our website for actions you can take to achieve a Hudson River all can enjoy!

Robert Rodriguez, Jr.



Jason Taylor

Building Resiliency—Helping the Valley Prepare for Climate Change

The impacts of climate change—flooding, damage to private property and infrastructure, pollution from raw sewage overflows—pose the greatest challenge facing Hudson Riverfront communities. To help them prepare for the increased potential for extreme weather and rising sea levels, we co-hosted a conference in April. With partners we convened more than 150 municipal and business leaders and other stakeholders to learn from experts about climate-smart policies and practices that can help ensure environmentally and economically vibrant riverfront communities.

Innovations were shared from municipalities already grappling with flooding, and information was provided about resources available to protect vital infrastructure, private properties and public parks. The attendees explored partnerships to pursue waterfront resiliency goals.

Recognizing the important roles renewable energy and climate-friendly agriculture play in mitigating climate change, Scenic Hudson is taking action to boost both. A \$40,000 grant jointly administered by the state Department of Environmental Conservation and the Land Trust Alliance will allow us to assess the feasibility of siting renewable energy infrastructure on lands we own or hold conservation easements on. We’ll also use the funding to explore an incentives-based method for encouraging farmers to adopt practices that mitigate climate change impacts.



Projects Help Create Major Regional Trail Networks

Studies show that people who live near parks and trails enjoy better physical and mental health. Further, properties near them tend to be worth more. Long-distance trails also serve as destinations, helping to sustain local tourism. Progress made on two regional trail projects brings them closer to delivering these community benefits.

In Ulster County, the town boards of Esopus and Lloyd have passed resolutions formally supporting creation of the **John Burroughs Black Creek Trail** (left), an 11-mile hiking and paddling route from our Black Creek Preserve to Illinois Mountain (with a connection to the Hudson Valley Rail Trail and Walkway Over the Hudson). We and our project partners, including the John Burroughs Association, are working with the towns to secure grants to begin construction of the trail. In addition to offering new recreational opportunities, the trail corridor will safeguard astonishing biological diversity and provide a critical buffer from flooding and storm surges to neighboring properties.

Filling in a critical “missing link” in the **Westchester RiverWalk**—the planned 51-mile continuous trail along the county’s riverfront—got a major boost in April. We were awarded funding to study the safest route for walkers and cyclists beneath the New NY Bridge. The project will include a connection to a bike and pedestrian path on the bridge. Recreational opportunities will greatly expand and there will be new access to popular historic sites along the RiverWalk for those arriving in Tarrytown via train. Our partners include the state Thruway Authority, Westchester County Planning, the Village of Tarrytown and Metro-North Railroad.

Construction also has begun on projects to enhance enjoyment of **Scenic Hudson’s Long Dock Park** in Beacon and **West Point Foundry Preserve** in Cold Spring. At Long Dock Park, visitors will gain access to a formerly industrial four-acre riverfront parcel never before open to the public. New features will include facilities for food trucks, shaded picnic pavilions, a boardwalk and river overlook deck. At West Point Foundry Preserve, a new overlook will afford magnificent views of the river and Constitution Island. Both parks will remain open throughout construction, which should wrap up by year’s end.

Courtesy of CLC



WELL-KNOWN RONNYBROOK FARM CONSERVED

The milk, butter, ice cream and other dairy goods produced by Ronnybrook Farm are sold in markets throughout the Hudson Valley, New York City and its surrounding Metropolitan Area. Who in the region hasn’t seen the familiar glass milk bottles with the farm’s logo?

Recently we partnered with the Osofsky family, which started Ronnybrook in 1947, and the Columbia Land Conservancy to acquire a conservation easement on 210 acres in Ancram that help sustain the farm’s operations—and its reputation as one of upstate New York’s leading dairies. This completes the family’s commitment to protecting their working and scenic lands. Last year they collaborated with us and Dutchess Land Conservancy to protect an additional 186 acres in Pine Plains. The state’s Agricultural and Farmland Protection Program and Scenic Hudson provided funding for both easements.

Federal Student Conservation Association at Risk

This year marks the 20th anniversary of Scenic Hudson’s partnership with the Student Conservation Association-AmeriCorps (SCA). The 42 interns we’ve hosted since 1997 have provided invaluable assistance on projects that benefit all Hudson Valley residents and visitors—building trails, teaching schoolchildren about the natural world, enhancing wildlife habitats. In return, the interns received important learning opportunities. In fact, many of them have gone on to careers that built upon their service at Scenic Hudson—as environmental educators, landscape designers and ecologists. Seven have become permanent members of our staff.

President Trump’s proposed budget would de-fund AmeriCorps, putting a halt to the great work SCA interns accomplish in the valley and across the nation. Urge your Congress members to ensure this vital program continues.



Anthony Coneski

SPRING BREAK PROGRAMS CONNECT KIDS WITH NATURE

Children who learn to love nature early on are more likely to become its defenders. Also, they tend to be healthier because they spend more time outdoors. In April 150 youngsters took part in four days of fun and educational activities—all geared to help them enhance their explorations of nature—that we hosted at Scenic Hudson's Long Dock Park. If the abundant smiles on participants' faces are any indication, the programs, which focused on hands-on learning, were a great success.

Scenic Hudson, Inc.

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SAVING THE LAND THAT MATTERS MOST

SUMMER ACTIVITIES

Connect with the region's natural beauty and history by joining us for these free events. More info and to register:
www.scenichudson.org/events.

Guided History Tours

*West Point Foundry Preserve, Cold Spring
(Putnam County)*

Saturday, July 1 & Sept. 2 • 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Explore the remains of the ironworks that sparked America's Industrial Revolution and helped win the Civil War.

Volunteer Workday

*Scenic Hudson's Long Dock Park,
Beacon (Dutchess County)*

Saturday, July 8 • 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

By whatever common name you call it—showy evening primrose, pink ladies, pink buttercups—the invasive *Oenothera speciosa* grows quickly and crowds out native plants. Help us remove it and replace it with species more inviting to local wildlife.

Full Moon Lantern Tour

*West Point Foundry Preserve, Cold Spring
(Putnam County)*

Monday, Aug. 7 • 8:30-9:30 p.m.

On this full moon night, see the preserve in an entirely new light. Building remains will be illuminated with lanterns, offering a dramatic glimpse of the foundry's 24-hour operations. Tour limited to 30, so register early.

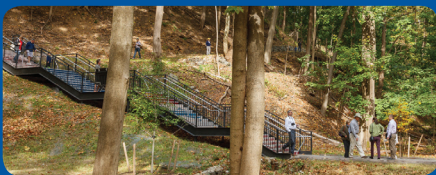
Farmland Cycling Tour

Poets' Walk Park, Red Hook (Dutchess County)

Saturday, Sept. 16 • 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Pedal through rolling countryside on a 10-, 25- or 45-mile ride, passing lands that farm families have partnered with Scenic Hudson to protect. Register early: Limited to 300 riders, this event fills up quickly.

Robert Rodriguez, Jr.



NEW LEAF PAPER® EcoAudit™

Scenic Hudson, Inc. saved the following resources by using 800 pounds of New Leaf Ingenuity, made of 100% post-consumer recycled fiber, designated Ancient Forest Friendly™ and manufactured with electricity that is offset with Green-e® certified renewable energy certificates. Calculation based on research by Environmental Defense Fund and other members of the Paper Task Force.

	10 TREES
	4,487 GAL WATER
	4 MILLION ENERGY BTUS
	300 LBS SOLID WASTE
	827 LBS GREENHOUSE GAS

