News from HHLT: August 2019

Thank You to YMCA Camp Combe's Service Corps

Last week, summer campers from YMCA Camp Combe’s Service Corps visited nearby Granite Mountain Preserve. Led by our Natural Resources Manager Nicole Wooten and representatives from New York-New Jersey Trail Conference’s Invasive Strike Force, campers spent two full days assisting with invasive species removal and trail restoration at the Preserve. We are so grateful for their efforts and look forward to providing many more outdoor nature experiences for students at the Preserve.

Thank You to Our Visiting Volunteers
Last month, a group of 25 high school and college students from the St. Catherine of Siena parish in Norwood, MA traveled to Garrison for their annual summer service trip. Along with Land Management interns Stephanie Rivera and Lucas Gordon, and guided by professionals from Tahawus Trails and HHLT’s land team, the group built 600 feet of new trail at Granite Mountain Preserve over the course of one day—a task that would have otherwise taken us weeks to accomplish. This new trail completes the northern trail system in the Preserve and will serve the Putnam Valley community for years to come. Many thanks to this church group and to all our volunteers for sharing your time and talents with us.

**Thank You to NYNJTC's Invasives Strike Force for Protecting Native Habitat in Granite Mountain Preserve**

July 7 - 13th marked New York's 6th annual Invasive Species Awareness Week. To celebrate, HHLT partnered with the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference's Invasive Strike Force on two successful invasive removal workdays in Granite Mountain Preserve.
In total, the crew removed 59 pounds of Yellow Arch-angel pulled along a sensitive waterway, Peekskill Hollow Brook, and treated 553 stems of Japanese Angelica plants. Thanks to crew leader Ryan Goolic (pictured above), the rest of the Strike Force and the community volunteers for helping to protect the native plants and wildlife in the Preserve.

Join Us on October 2nd to Support Wildlife Conservation

Mark your calendars for HHLT’s annual Autumn Cocktail Benefit—Wildlife in Your Own Backyard—taking place on Wednesday, October 2nd at the home of one of our supporters in New York City. The event will include a discussion on conserving wildlife with special guests Andy Young and Susan Todd, filmmakers of the IMAX documentary "Backyard Wilderness." All benefit proceeds will directly support the protection of wildlife in the Hudson Highlands through land conservation, municipal planning and community outreach efforts.

Invitations with additional details will be mailed at the end of the month. Let us know if you would like to receive an invitation.

Read About Your Impact on Conservation in the Highlands in HHLT's Annual Report
HHLT's 2018-2019 Annual Report, chronicling recent conservation successes in the Hudson Highlands, is now available. Your support and collaboration has made the protection of natural resources you’ll read about in this Annual Report possible.

Read more on this [webpage](#). If you are inspired, please consider making a [tax-deductible donation](#) to support future conservation, advocacy and outreach efforts. Thank you for your commitment to protecting and preserving the Hudson Highlands alongside us.

August 17th Bird Walk in Granite Mountain Preserve Full–But Join the Waitlist

The Putnam Highlands Audubon Society's (PHAS's) [August Bird Walk](#) in [Granite Mountain Preserve](#) on [Saturday, August 17th](#), is already full, but please add your name to the [waitlist](#) in the event that PHAS increases the capacity of the hike given the strong interest or has cancellations. Participants may get to observe birds like the Yellow-throated Vireo, Great-crested Flycatcher and Indigo Bunting that make their homes in the Preserve. Hope to see you there!
Please consider supporting our work. HHLT is the only organization that focuses exclusively on protecting the Hudson Highlands. Your contribution protects this iconic region for our future generations. Thank you!

DONATE NOW

The Hudson Highlands Land Trust protects and preserves the natural resources, rural character and scenic beauty of the Hudson Highlands.

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