

State of the Park 1997



The Adirondack Council

The Adirondack Park

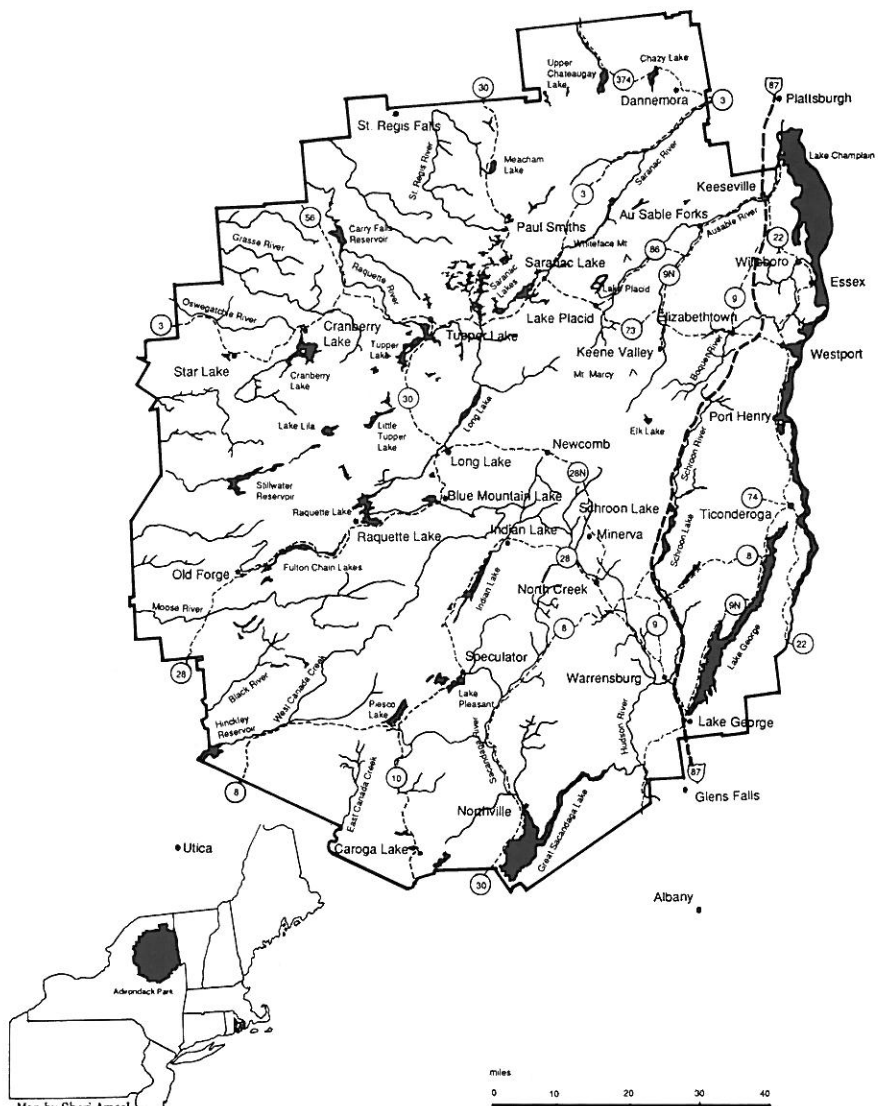
A six-million-acre expanse of public and private land containing the largest assemblage of Old Growth forests east of the Mississippi River as well as 105 villages and towns ...

The Adirondack Park is the largest park in the contiguous United States. It contains six million acres, covers one-fifth of New York State and is equal in size to neighboring Vermont. Few people realize that the Adirondack Park is nearly three times the size of Yellowstone National Park.

More than half of the Adirondack Park is private land, devoted principally to forestry, agriculture and open-space recreation. The Park is home for 130,000 permanent and 110,000 seasonal residents, and hosts an estimated nine million visitors each year.

The remaining 45 percent of the Park is publicly owned Forest Preserve, protected as "Forever Wild" by the NYS Constitution since 1895. One million acres of these public lands are designated as Wilderness, where a wide range of non-mechanized recreation may be enjoyed in an incomparable, natural setting. The majority of the public land (more than 1.3 million acres) is classified as Wild Forest, where motorized uses are permitted on designated waters, roads and trails.

Plants and wildlife abound in the Adirondack Park, many of them found nowhere else in New York State. Never-cut ancient forests cover more than 100,000 acres of public land. Ironically, much of the Park is wilder and more natural today than it was a century ago, when irresponsible logging practices and forest fires ravaged much of the yet-unprotected Adirondack region. Someday, all native wildlife species, including those lost in the last century (the wolf, moose, lynx and cougar) may live and breed here.



The western and southern Adirondacks are a gentle landscape of hills, lakes, wetlands, ponds and streams. In the northeast are the High Peaks. Forty-three of them rise above 4,000 feet and 11 have alpine summits that rise above timberline.

Nothing characterizes the Adirondack Park like its waters. The Adirondacks include the headwaters of five major drainage basins. Lake Champlain and the Hudson, Black, St. Lawrence and Mohawk rivers all draw water from the Adirondack Park. Within the Park are more than 2,800 lakes and ponds, and more than 1,500 miles of rivers, fed by an estimated 30,000 miles of brooks and streams.

Embodied in this and other Adirondack Council reports is a vision of the Adirondack Park that will serve as a

global model for integrated land use and conservation.

In the next century and beyond, the Adirondack Park must continue to offer vast areas of undisturbed open space as a sanctuary for native plant and animal species, and as a natural haven for human beings in need of spiritual and physical refreshment. It must also provide for sustainable, resource-based local economies and for the protection of community values in a Park setting.

This publication is but one step in the Park-protection process. Through continuing public education and advocacy for the protection of the Park's natural character, the Adirondack Council hopes to advise public and private policy-makers on ways to safeguard this last remaining great expanse of open space.

On the Cover: Little Tupper Lake, as seen from the shore, may soon become part of the Adirondack Forest Preserve, or the center of a 43-lot development proposal submitted to the Adirondack Park Agency in January. Photo by John F. Sheehan. See Pages 8 & 9 for details.



The Adirondack Council

Dear Members and Friends,

Over the past year, the Adirondack Council has dealt with a great many issues that affect the future of the Park, but the proposed break-up of the 51,000-acre Whitney Estate and the continued damage to Park resources by acid rain have overshadowed many other recent events and trends.

Subdivision and development of 15,000 acres of Whitney property in the heart of the Adirondack Council's proposed 408,000-acre Bob Marshall Great Wilderness would seriously undermine the century-old commitment New Yorkers have made to protecting Park resources. Governor Pataki is well aware of the need to protect this important stretch of wild land.

The Council's efforts to sound the alarm on acid rain have been joined by citizens, politicians and even a utility. The Council is deeply grateful to the Niagara Mohawk Power Corp. for making it possible for the Council to create a program to retire sulfur-dioxide pollution allowances. (You can learn more about this program on the inside back cover of this publication.) Citizens and political leaders from the local, state and federal level have added their voices to the effort to crack-down on the Midwestern pollution that causes acid rain in the Adirondacks.

The Council continues to lead the fight to counter threats to the Adirondack Park's environment, wherever those threats may arise. We act as the watchdog of the Adirondack Park Agency and other government entities, and we carefully review proposed development projects. We are working closely with local communities to counter environmental threats and promote sustainable economies in the Park.

Our members play a key role in convincing politicians that protecting the Adirondack Park is a "must do" item on their political agenda. Thank you for your crucial support and participation in the Council's efforts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tim Burke".

Timothy J. Burke
Executive Director



Pataki Administration

The Pataki Administration made some changes this year, including the excellent choice of John P. Cahill to head the DEC. But, he is losing a key member of his environmental team with the resignation of his chief counsel, Michael Finnegan. Gov. Pataki was a leader on many acid rain issues this year, but not all.

Capitol Investment

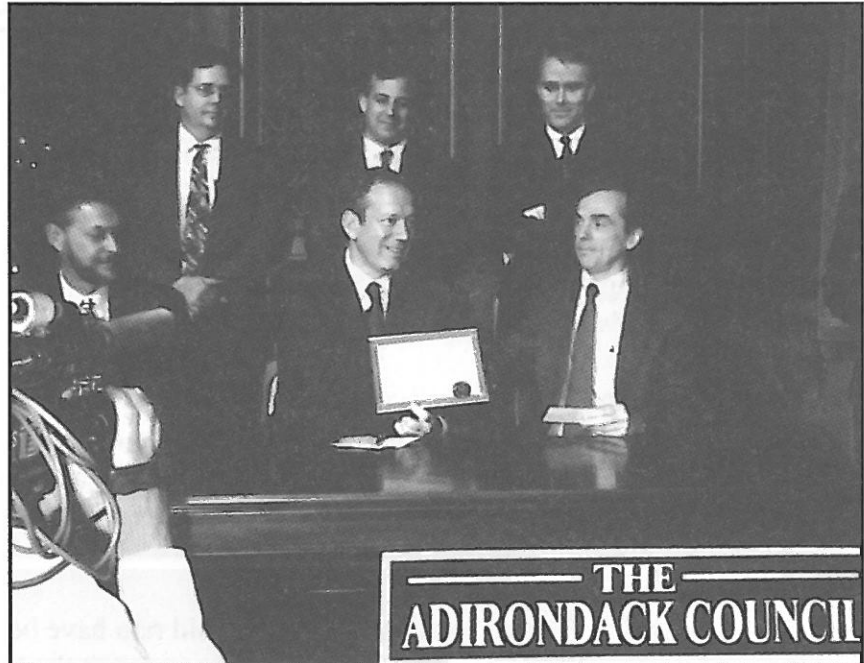


Gov. George E. Pataki celebrated the opening day of trout season on April 1 by holding a joint press conference with the Adirondack Council and Niagara Mohawk Power Corp. In the process, he told the entire state about the Council's Adirondack Pure Waters Campaign and encouraged everyone to purchase one of our Clean Air Certificates. After explaining to the media Niagara Mohawk's gift of 5,000 pollution allowances (a.k.a. credits, each worth one ton of sulfur-dioxide emissions) to the Council, Pataki noted that the Council would be offering people the opportunity to help us retire them and keep them out of the hands of Midwestern utility companies. Then, Pataki pulled out his personal checkbook and handed the Council \$50 for his own Clean Air Certificate.

Well Appointed



The appointment of Jean Read Knox, Buffalo, and reappointment of Richard LeFebvre, Caroga Lake, as commissioners of the Adirondack Park Agency was welcome news. Knox has a summer home in Franklin County and, from all accounts, a strong interest in protecting the natural character of the Park. LeFebvre has been a voice of reason and a consensus-builder at the APA.



John F. Sheehan

Gov. George E. Pataki, front center, passes a check to Adirondack Council's Timothy J. Burke, right front, during a press conference at the State Capitol April 1. The Governor was the first to purchase a Clean Air Certificate. Front left is NiMo Chairman William E. Davis. Back row, left to right, William C. Cooke, Citizens Campaign for the Environment, David J. Miller, National Audubon Society, and DEC Commissioner John P. Cahill.

Gets the Facts Pays the Tax



The governor surprised the state when he proposed that the state government begin making payments-in-lieu-of-taxes of \$10 per acre to local governments in every community with state-owned land. The idea was greeted with enthusiasm by most local governments. However, the Governor's plan did not take into consideration the fact that the state routinely pays much more than \$10 per acre on Forest Preserve lands in the Adirondack Park. When the Adirondack Council and others pointed out that capping payments at \$10 inside the Park could cause financial hardships for local towns, the Governor agreed to amend his proposal. Several local officials thanked the Council for its efforts.

Commencement Address



In May, the Governor joined U.S. Senator Alfonse M. D'Amato, R-NY, in an Earth Day press conference at the SUNY College of Environmental Science & Forestry in Syracuse, to call on Congress to enact legislation to curb acid rain. Pataki promoted D'Amato's bill to require Midwestern states to drastically reduce sulfur-dioxide and nitrogen-oxide pollution. He then introduced Adirondack Council Executive Director Timothy J. Burke, saying: "We have been blessed in this state ... with great advocates who are out there making the case time and again that we can do better. There is no stronger group looking at environmental issues today than the Adirondack Council ..."

NOx So Fast



In August, Governor Pataki joined forces with the governors of seven Northeast states to sue the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in an effort to force EPA to enact new pollution controls for nitrogen-oxides in the Midwest. The suit was a response to the fact that Northeastern states are having trouble meeting federal nitrogen-oxide standards because of pollution created in the Midwest that floats here on prevailing winds. Nitrogen-oxides contribute to both smog and acid rain.

Buying Into a Solution for Lilco



In his proposal to allow the Long Island Power Authority to take over a substantial portion of the financially troubled Long Island Lighting Company, Governor Pataki proposed that LIPA buy up the remainder of Lilco's federal sulfur-dioxide pollution allowances to keep them from being sold to out-of-state polluters who contribute to the Adirondack acid rain problem. LIPA would buy them at one-third of market value. LIPA's board of directors would then be expected to retire them rather than allowing them to get back on to the open market. The proposal still requires the approval of Long Island voters.

Fostering Stewardship



This summer, Governor Pataki sent a public letter to Senator D'Amato asking him to support the Northern Forest Stewardship Act. The bill is designed to bring federal attention and new programs to the northern portions of New York, Vermont, New Hampshire and Maine. The idea is to promote community development, stabilize ownership of large landholdings to protect the timber base and to protect

certain wild lands. There is no money in the bill and all of its programs are voluntary.

Show Us the Money



The governor also sent a letter to all of Congress touting the potential virtues of state grants in the federal Land & Water Conservation Fund. After 17 years of receiving no money from this \$900-million-a-year fund, New York is now in line for a portion of a \$100-million appropriation. The Adirondack Council will continue working in Washington, D.C. to help New York gain federal help with the Whitney Estate purchase and/or other important open space projects.

Reining in a Rogue



After Adirondack Park Agency Chairman Gregory Campbell unsuccessfully attempted for the third time since 1995 to ease the APA's regulations on clearcutting, he continued to claim to reporters that he had Governor Pataki's support. Following an Assembly hearing on Campbell's actions, Pataki spokesman Michael McKeon responded by saying only that the Governor had intervened several times in Campbell's decisions. McKeon then ominously refused to discuss Campbell's standing with the administration.

Little Credit Due



Rather than getting behind acid rain legislation that was already moving through both houses of the Legislature, Governor Pataki proposed his own bill to prevent New York utility companies from selling leftover pollution credits to Midwestern polluters and coal companies. Portions of the poorly conceived bill seem unworkable and portions appear to be illegal. And it was far more expensive than the bill proposed by Assemblyman Richard L. Brodsky, D-Scarsdale, and Senator Carl L. Marcellino, R-Oyster Bay. Since it was proposed so late, there was no time to include it in budget talks and it died without ever being introduced in either house.

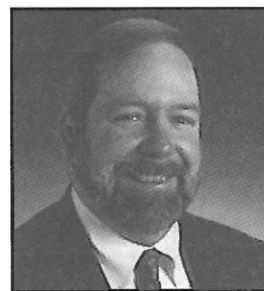
Dozing by the River



The NYS Dept. of Transportation made an absolute mess of Branch Brook in Elizabethtown last fall, dashing into an "emergency action" to protect a nearby section of State Route 9N. The plan to protect the roadway had been under negotiation for over a decade and several other alternatives had been offered. DOT hastily placed earth-moving equipment directly in the stream, changed the course of the stream channel and clearcut the bank. DOT did not seek the approval of the Adirondack Park Agency.

Finnegan In Again, Out Again

Michael C. Finnegan, the governor's chief counsel for the first three years of his Administration, announced in August that he was leaving on October 1 for a private sector job with an investment brokerage firm. As the governor's top strategist and legal advisor, Finnegan made a positive impact on the future of the Adirondack Park in many ways. He was the architect of the governor's successful campaign for the \$1.75-billion 1996 Clean Water/Clean Air Bond Act and took a leave of absence from his state job to help promote it; he was the state's chief negotiator for the purchase of the Whitney Estate; and, was a tireless advocate for environmental causes within the Pataki Administration.





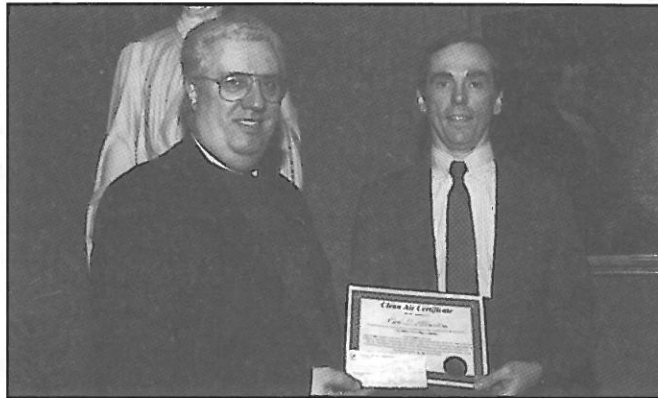
State Legislature

This year, the NYS Legislature broke its own 1996 record for the latest budget in history and never got around to passing several bills that were important to

the Adirondack Park. In many cases, the Legislature's best efforts came in stopping bills that could have been harmful, and in helping to spread the word about acid rain.

Both Houses

Senate EnCon Committee Chairman Marcellino, left, purchases an Adirondack Council Clean Air certificate in April. Right, Council Exec. Dir. Timothy J. Burke.



Wrestling Rustlers

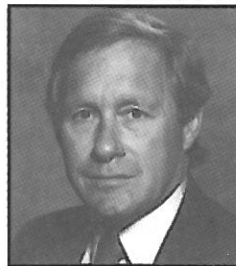


Senator J. Randy Kuhl, R-Hammondsport, and Assemblyman William L. Parment, D-Jamestown, listened to the Adirondack Council's concerns about a so-called "Right to Practice Forestry" bill and made amendments aimed at protecting the natural resources of the Adirondack Park. Timber industry lobbyists wanted a law that would have exempted them from oversight and regulation by the Adirondack Park Agency, DEC and other state agencies. Parment and Kuhl recognized this was a bad idea and changed the bill. It did not pass.

Eager to Help Stop Acid Rain



Both Senators and Assembly members went out of their way this spring to help the Adirondack Council educate the public about the damage acid rain is doing to the Adirondack Park and to help us raise money. When the Council received 5,000 sulfur-dioxide pollution allowances from the Niagara Mohawk Power Corp., the following legislators not only gave us \$50 to help retire one (each is worth one ton of sulfur-dioxide), but also took a photograph of the transaction so it could be used in a newsletter



Grannis



Meier

to explain the acid rain program to constituents back home: Assembly members Richard L. Brodsky, D-Scarsdale, Steven Englebright, D-Setauket, Alexander "Pete" Grannis, D-Manhattan, Elizabeth O. Little, R-Queensbury and Paul D. Tonko, D-Amsterdam; Senators Joseph L. Bruno, R-Troy; Carl L. Marcellino, R-Oyster Bay; Raymond A. Meier, R-Utica; Ronald B. Stafford, R-Plattsburgh.

Smoky Ire



The Senate and Assembly ignored one another and the needs of Adirondack communities when each house passed its own, incompatible version of a bill that would reimburse localities in the Adirondacks for the expense of fighting forest fires on state land. The 12 Adirondack counties currently pay half of those costs. Park residents could be benefitting from a new law by now, but instead have only two dead bills to show for the effort.



Assemblyman Englebright, right, purchases a Clean Air Certificate from Adirondack Council Executive Director Timothy J. Burke in April.

Protection Parked



Both houses failed to propose legislation that would better protect the waters and backcountry of the Park from continued subdivision, development and habitat loss. The Assembly was once a leader in Adirondack Park protection efforts, but seems to have abandoned that crucial role.

Assembly

Making Allowances



Assembly Environmental Conservation Committee Chairman Richard L.

Brodsky, D-Scarsdale, sponsored and secured the passage of legislation that would prohibit New York utility companies from selling leftover pollution allowances (a.k.a. credits) to Midwestern polluters and coal companies.

When the Senate balked at the idea, Brodsky agreed to amend his proposal to a financial-disincentive approach proposed by two Senators. Utilities that make irresponsible sales would pay a fine three times the value of the credits sold. Brodsky then secured passage of the new bill in the Assembly, but the Senate failed to act on the second bill as well.

Stop Thief!



Assemblyman Brodsky worked with Attorney General Dennis Vacco and Senator Michael J. Tully, R-Port Washington, and passed in the Assembly a bill designed to increase the penalty for cutting Constitutionally protected Forest Preserve trees. The bill would increase the minimum penalty from \$10 per tree to \$250 and make it easier for the state to prosecute thieves. The Assembly passed the bill. But timber industry lobbyists convinced Senators to kill it.

Clearcut Issue



This spring, Assemblyman Brodsky held hearings on proposed changes to

Adirondack Park Agency regulations that would have allowed a vast expansion of clearcutting. Brodsky's intervention helped kill the proposal. It also spurred a continuing investigation into APA Chairman Greg Campbell's actions by the NYS Inspector General.

Not So Easement



The Assembly shortsightedly again opposed Gov. George E. Pataki's plan to protect productive timberland from subdivision and development by listing "working forest" as a project eligible for funding within the \$100-million-a-year Environmental Protection Fund. Easements are needed to keep large parcels intact and useful for timber production.

Senate

Don't Trade on Me



When the Adirondack Council reported that the Long Island Lighting Company had sold more than 100,000-tons-worth of sulfur-dioxide pollution credits to Midwestern polluters, coal companies and brokers who supply them with credits, two senators stepped forward and offered a solution. Sens. Carl L. Marcellino, R-Oyster Bay, and Ronald B. Stafford, R-Plattsburgh, co-sponsored legislation to discourage such sales. The bill would allow state regulators to fine a utility that irresponsibly sells allowances three times the revenue made in the sale. Unfortunately, their efforts hit a brick wall when Majority Leader Joseph L. Bruno, R-Troy, refused to allow the bill out of committee.

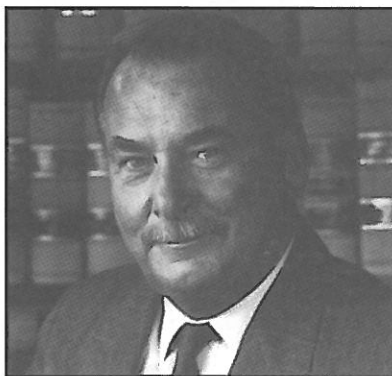
Thruway Exit Closed by Senate



Sen. John A. DeFrancisco, R-Syracuse, gave serious scrutiny to a bill proposed by the NYS Thruway Authority's Canal Corp. that would have legitimized dozens of illegally issued permits allowing private parties to use publicly owned canal land located in the Adirondack Park. The Authority had touted the bill as a simple reorganization of existing laws, but it contained changes that would have legalized the illegal permits. When the Adirondack Council brought this problem to the senator's attention, he agreed in writing to remove the changes. The bill never passed in the Assembly.

A Sad Farewell to Senator Mike Tully

Senator Michael J. Tully, R-Port Washington, passed away unexpectedly at the end of the Legislative Session. Tully was a leader in the Senate who served for a year as Chairman of the Environmental Conservation Committee. He had a strong interest in the Adirondacks and in water quality problems statewide. He was a friend to the Adirondack Council and the Park. He will be sorely missed.



Acid Indigestion



Senate Majority Leader Bruno sat on legislation that represented the state's best opportunity to discourage its own utility companies from selling leftover federal pollution credits to Midwest polluters. His decision made little sense in light of the fact that Bruno recognized the damage that Midwest smokestacks do to the Adirondacks and purchased a Clean Air Certificate from the Adirondack Council, retiring a one-ton pollution credit.



Local Governments

As is often the case in the Adirondack Park, a handful of communities made great strides in environmental protection and sustainable development, while many others still suffer from the ill-effects of short-sighted leadership.

Razing a Stink



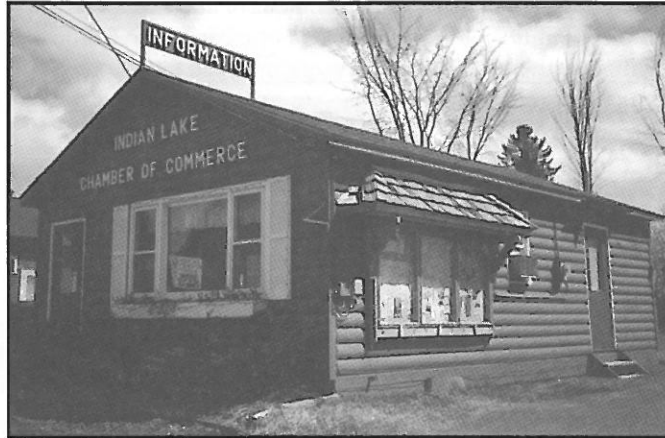
In January, Essex County District Attorney Ronald J. Briggs convinced a local jury to convict a couple from Thurman of 164 separate felonies and misdemeanors stemming from knowingly allowing raw sewage to flow into the yard and children's play area of the apartment building they owned near Minerva. The sewage problem had persisted for six years. Acting Supreme Court Justice David F. Jung sentenced them to six months each in jail and fines of \$136,000. Both county and state officials had cited them for health and environmental violations in failing to make repairs to the system and for allowing the sewage to reach a nearby stream. Before the trial, the owners had refused a state settlement offer of a \$5,000 fine and community service.

Setting an Example



This spring, Essex County Manager Clifford Donaldson and Chairman of the Board of Supervisors George Canon, R-Newcomb, each made a \$50 cash contribution to the Adirondack Council to help us retire one ton's-worth each of sulfur-dioxide pollution. Their purchase of Clean Air Certificates helped to spread the word about the need to control acid rain and to remind people that the Council and local officials can work together. Donaldson even called a press conference in Elizabethtown to announce the purchase.

Pulled Up By Its Own Bootstraps

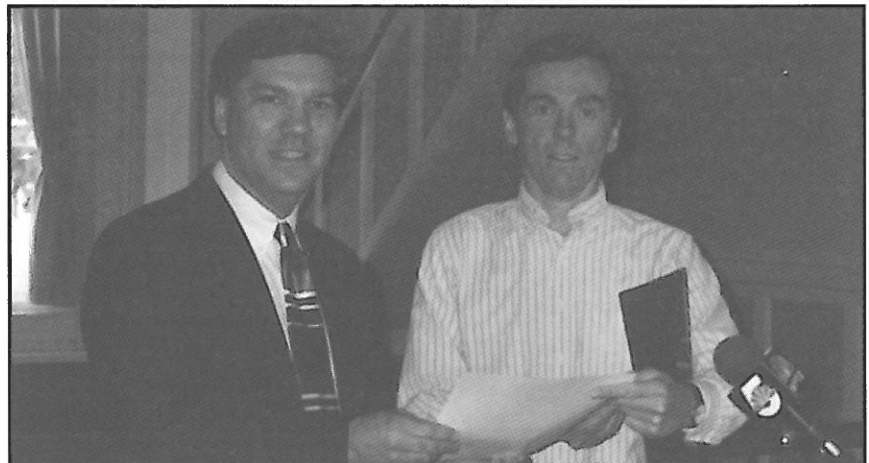


Indian Lake economic development officials are getting lots of help from the whole community these days, thanks to an innovative program for small towns. Photo by Gary Randorf.



Last year, the Town of Indian Lake gathered its citizens for a series of meetings held in conjunction with the Economic Renewal program of the Rocky Mountain Institute. They discussed what they valued most about their community and what they wanted for the future. As a result, *Community Choices for Economic Renewal in Indian Lake* was created. Ten project ideas were chosen to promote sustainable development and community improvement, ranging from youth programs to business promotion

and town beautification. This summer, groups of citizens organized to raise funds for the projects. They have raised more than \$5,000 over the past year from individuals and businesses and from the town's first Summer Festival. Because of strong local participation and leadership from town officials, Indian Lake is developing into one of the most successful revitalization projects the Rocky Mountain Institute has helped to foster. The Adirondack Council sponsored the initial meetings.



Essex County Manager Clifford Donaldson purchases a Clean Air Certificate at the Court House in Elizabethtown. See story at left. Photo by Joseph M. Moore.

Biting the Hand...



Adirondack Park Agency Local Government Review Board Director Joseph Rota has done his organization a disservice by becoming a co-plaintiff in a lawsuit filed by Whitney Industries and Finch, Prun & Co. The timber companies are attempting to strike down the APA's authority to require master plans from large landowners who seek development permits. Rota had been complaining for years that the 12 Adirondack counties were not providing enough funding to keep the LGRB viable. It was created "for the purpose of advising and assisting the (APA) in carrying out its functions, powers and duties." The board received funding from the Legislature in the 1970s and 80s, but it was eliminated after the LGRB mounted several ill-fated legal challenges to

weaken or eliminate the APA's ability to regulate development. Rota signed on to the lawsuit just after the Legislature agreed with the governor to give the LGRB another chance and provided \$50,000 for its operation.

Crying Wolf



In yet another short-sighted action, the Essex and Warren County boards of supervisors, and Franklin County Legislature (and several town boards), have passed resolutions opposing a feasibility study on the reintroduction of wolves in the Park. The Adirondack Council is



interested in the outcome of such a study, since habitat availability and social acceptance of the former native species are important considerations in any potential reintroduction effort. Wolves were killed off in the Adirondacks 100 years ago, due to habitat loss and government-sponsored bounty hunting.

Taxpayer Ripoff



Trucks from out-of-state continue to rumble through Essex County carrying trash to the county-owned landfill in Lewis. The county and the private operator who runs it have applied to the state for a fivefold increase in the landfill's daily tonnage limit. The county has already given up the revenue from the landfill to the private operator, leaving taxpayers to wonder how the bonds for its construction will be repaid.



NYS Attorney General

Standard Suit



In mid-July, Attorney General Dennis C. Vacco sued the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in an effort to force the EPA to determine the extent of the pollution cuts needed to prevent further acid rain damage in the Adirondack Park. EPA was instructed by Congress in 1990 to develop such a "deposition standard" for the Adirondacks, Catskills, Hudson Highlands and other areas of the East Coast.

The Adirondack Council and Natural Resources Defense Council sued EPA to force it to release the report to Congress. But EPA avoided answering the question in its report, instead offering a series of timetables predicting when most of the Park's lakes would be too acidic to support life.

EPA must respond to the suit by the end of September 1997.

Putting Acid Rain On Waivers



In March, Vacco sued EPA on behalf of Gov. George E. Pataki for allowing Midwestern polluters to avoid cleaning up their nitrogen-oxide emissions. The suit was meant to prevent EPA from continuing to issue waivers to Midwestern states whose own emissions don't cause a local smog problem.

Vacco argued that those same emissions drift into New York, where they cause both smog and acid rain. The suit also notes that some of the huge cuts in nitrogen pollution EPA has ordered in New York would be unneeded if the Midwestern states cut their pollution to the same extent New York already has. Pennsylvania and Vermont joined New York in the suit. Eight other parties have filed papers in support of the EPA waivers.

Stumping Rustlers



During the 1997 Legislative Session, the attorney general proposed a bill that would vastly increase the penalties for those who steal trees from the Forest Preserve. The current fine of \$10 per tree has been in effect since 1916. Vacco's bill would have increased the penalty to at least \$250 per tree and made it easier to prosecute thieves. The bill passed the Assembly but failed in the Senate due to opposition from timber companies.

Friend of Clean Air



On July 1, Vacco filed a "friend of the court" (amicus) brief in support of EPA's settlement proposal to increase the efficiency standards for electric-generating utility boilers in an effort to decrease nitrogen-oxide pollution, a main component of acid rain.

Whitney Subdivision Proposal Threatens Fu

In mid-August, Whitney Industries agreed to sell to the Nature Conservancy a 55-acre camp at the center of the 15,000 acres the company has offered to sell to the State of New York. The sale of the land and buildings known as Camp Bliss was contingent on the Conservancy agreeing to buy the remainder of the 15,000 acres from the Whitneys by November 30 of this year.

Meanwhile, Whitney Industries, Finch, Pruyn & Co. (a timber/paper company) and three local officials filed suit against the Adirondack Park Agency, challenging the APA's authority to require a master plan for the entire Whitney Estate before reviewing the current development plan.

At 51,000 acres, the Whitney Estate is the largest family estate in the Adirondack Park. The crown jewel of the estate is Little Tupper Lake — a sparkling, seven-mile-long gem that is thought to be the largest private lake owned by a single family in the entire Northeast.

Bob Marshall's Dream Still Alive

In the 1930s, a young Bob Marshall (who would later found The Wilderness Society) identified fewer than two dozen places in the entire United States that contained enough wild, roadless terrain to protect all of their natural systems. The western Adirondacks was one of those few places.

In 1988, the Adirondack Council unveiled a detailed plan to carry out Bob Marshall's dream of creating a huge wilderness in the west-central Adirondacks. Volume II of the Council's 2020 vision research series called for the combination of several existing state-owned Wilderness and Wild Forest areas with intervening private land to create a 408,000-acre wilderness area. The publication recommends acquisition when available from willing sellers.

In the early 1990s, the Whitneys sold several hundred acres of land at the southern end of the estate, on the south shore of Forked Lake, to the Nature Conservancy, which then sold them to the state. This purchase of "Canoe Carry East" and "Canoe Carry West" opened the entire south shore of Forked Lake to the public.

On a peninsula across the lake from the canoe carries, the Whitneys sold Camp Togus to a private party. The sales and additional discussions of development caused the Adirondack Park Agency (APA) to inform the Whitneys that any further subdivision of the property would require them to submit a master plan.

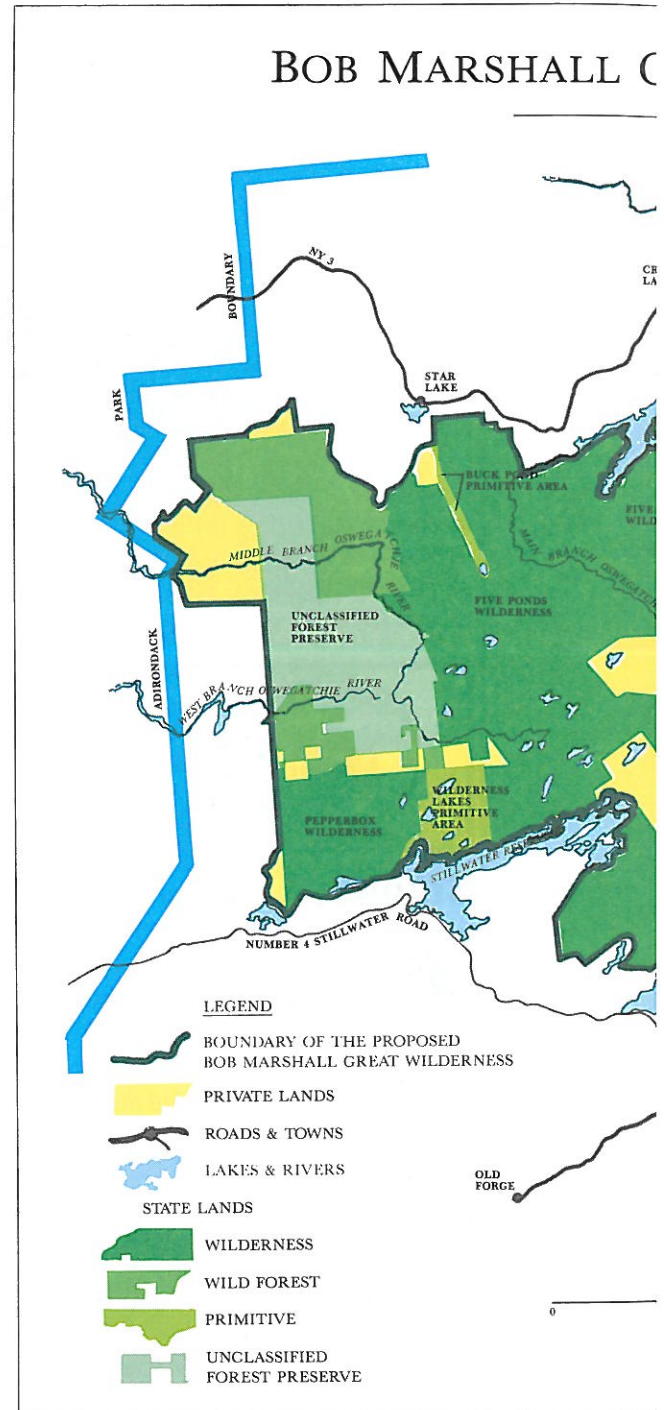
State Adopts Conservation Plan

At roughly the same time, the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) adopted the Adirondack Council's proposal in the NYS Open Space Conservation Plan. The state envisioned a 600,000-acre great forest. Henceforth, it has been the state's official policy to acquire and protect the entirety of the Whitney Estate when it becomes available.

In July 1996, the Whitneys came to the Park Agency again for permission to create another subdivision without submitting a master plan. Camps Bliss, On the Point and Francis would have to be sold, they said. Each occupied a substantial piece of Little Tupper Lake's shoreline.

The Council called for a master plan and pointed out that since there were no longer sufficient stands of trees on the estate to sustain the timber company (a statement taken from the Whitney Industries' 1996 subdivision application) that the most valuable wildlife habitat on the property was along the shorelines.

We argued that loons and ospreys still made their homes on the shores of Little Tupper Lake. Outdoor lighting, motorboats, even jet skis, might be

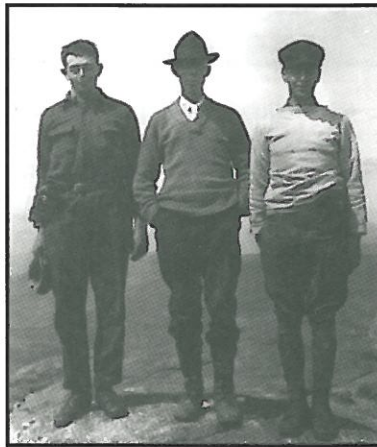
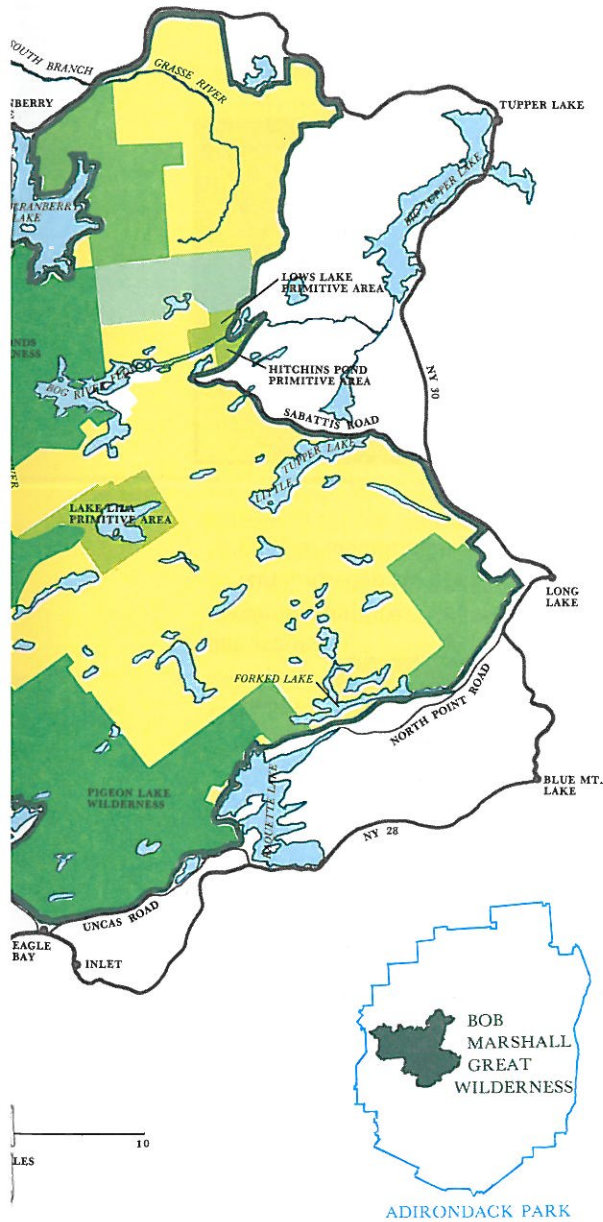


sharing the lake with them soon.

Six months later, with the ink barely dry on their new permit, the Whitneys submitted a brand-new application. This time, they wanted to subdivide the northern third of the estate into 40 more lots — not counting the three they had just created — all surrounding Little Tupper Lake and the ponds to the west. They also proposed a hotel and general store on Little Tupper's shores.

Future of Bob Marshall Wilderness Plan

GREAT WILDERNESS



Bob, left, & George Marshall with guide Herb Clark in the High Peaks.

ness. Miles of roadway would present dangers to local wildlife, especially the burgeoning moose population.

Council Demands Master Plan

The Council called for a thorough APA review of the project and beseeched APA to finally require a master plan for the entire 51,000 acres still remaining in Whitney hands. The APA staff agreed.

We then insisted that the APA revoke the old permit and combine the three-lot subdivision and the 40-lot plan into a single proposal, and review them together. We reminded the agency that it was illegal under the

APA Act and the State Environmental Quality Review Act for multiple subdivisions in the same area of a single property to be reviewed separately. In short, the APA must rule on the combined impact of both projects at once. APA Chairman Greg Campbell refused.

Within weeks, the Whitneys announced that they were tearing down Camp On The Point, on the eastern side of Little Tupper Lake, and would construct a 7,000-square-foot model home in its place. However, the Whitneys apparently disposed of the debris in a landfill permitted for a road project that had been completed years before. It was not supposed to be a landfill any longer.

Council Files Legal Challenge Against Segmentation

At the beginning of August, just as negotiations with the state seemed to be breaking down again, the Council filed a formal petition demanding that the agency revoke or suspend the permit for Camps Bliss, On the Point and Francis. The APA has decided not to make a decision on the petition until the Whitney's lawsuit against the master plan is settled.

At the same time, the Council demanded that the agency commence an enforcement action against the Whitneys for illegal dumping. We insisted on a fine. APA sent a settlement offer to the Whitneys but refused to disclose the details.

Deal with Nature Conservancy Announced

Days later, the Whitneys and the Nature Conservancy agreed to a deal that would allow the Conservancy to buy Camp Bliss for \$575,000 — but the Conservancy must now arrange to buy the rest of the 15,000 acres up for sale before November 30. If they do not, the Whitneys said they will complete the sale of Bliss to a Connecticut couple who, they said, had offered \$500,000.

The Council will continue to press for state ownership of as much of the Whitney Estate as the family is willing to sell. We don't want to be in the position of having to mitigate the environmental problems that the subdivision would bring through adjudication at the Adirondack Park Agency. That would mean the slow, yet inevitable destruction of the land's biological diversity and ecological integrity.

The Adirondack Council would much rather see the land purchased for the Forest Preserve and set aside without any further development.

The Adirondack Council immediately called on Governor Pataki to acquire all 15,000 acres and any more that the Whitneys were willing to sell.

The Council noted that runoff and erosion from the construction on the new project alone could spell disaster for Little Tupper Lake. Little Tupper is only 25 feet deep. Forty-three new homeowners would deal a generations-long setback to the plan to create the Bob Marshall Great Wilder-



Adirondack Park Agency

Over the past 12 months, the APA staff has served the Park with poise and distinction, while some of the appointed commissioners – especially the chairman – seemed more interested in creating obstacles for the agency to overcome.

Masterful Move by APA Staff



Executive Director Daniel Fitts and the staff of the APA made the right move this spring when they called a halt to the piecemeal review of various subdivision plans proposed for the Whitney Estate (see centerspread). Fitts required Whitney Industries to file a master plan for the entire 51,000-acre estate. The APA should have required a master plan when Whitney Industries proposed a four-lot subdivision around Little Tupper Lake in July of 1996. It was the third subdivision proposal for the property in less than a decade. But Chairman Gregory Campbell refused last year, saying the plan to subdivide and sell land along one of the largest and most sensitive private lakes in the Northeast meant nothing to the environment. When the Whitneys proposed another 40 lots in the same area in January, Fitts insisted on seeing a master plan before agreeing to review the 40-lot proposal. Whitney Industries has sued the APA in an effort to strike down the master plan requirement. That will delay review of the subdivision while the courts sort out the complaint.

Precedent Setters



This year, the APA staff required a master plan from the owners of the Lake Placid Resort to determine the extent of development planned on all areas

of the club in the future. The owners agreed to prepare the master plan and allow the APA to judge the limited, current development proposal in the context of future plans.

Unmaking a Point



In July, the APA staff launched an investigation into alleged illegal dumping on the Whitney Estate. Following the approval in 1996 of a four-lot subdivision on Little Tupper Lake, Whitney Industries tore down Camp On the Point at the eastern edge of the lake. The company then allegedly dumped the debris in a landfill for which it had no valid permit. Staff said it would halt the review of the Whitneys' new 40-lot subdivision plan until the matter was settled.

Bucking Up the Park Agency



The APA staff announced in July that it had won a \$251,500 grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to continue its work of mapping and protecting the wetlands of the St. Lawrence River Basin in cooperation with local landowners.

Just Fine



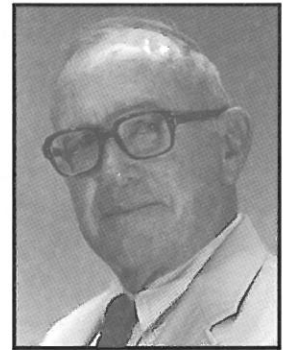
In November 1996, the APA recommended the largest fine in its history (a total of \$60,000 from two parties) for repeated, unauthorized expansions of two Lake Champlain marinas in the Town of Peru. The marinas are nearly adjacent to one another. The APA and Attorney General's office are still awaiting action from the Supreme Court in Clinton County on the recommended fines.

Fond Farewell



In November of 1996, APA Commissioner John K. Ryder Sr., of Diamond

Point, stepped down from the APA board because he was moving out of the state. Ryder served on the board for three years



Ryder

following his appointment in 1993. Staff noted upon his departure that Ryder was a hard-working commis-



Savage

sioner and level-headed advisor. His seat remains vacant. Commissioner Arthur Savage, of Pelham, left his seat when his term expired earlier in 1996. He served for more than a decade and was an excellent legal advisor to the APA, chairing its Legal Affairs committee. He was replaced by Jean Knox of Buffalo, who was nominated in February of 1996, but not confirmed until August 1997.

Clearcut Disgrace



On May 14 in Albany, Chairman Campbell disgraced himself at an Assembly Oversight hearing by

pretending he knew nothing about a proposal to weaken the agency's clearcutting standards. He had already advocated the plan and called for an April vote on it in front of the rest of the agency at the March meeting.

Campbell testified that he had not read any of the agency's memos or proposed regulation changes regarding the expansion of clearcutting in the Park. He told the Assembly that he only became familiar with the issue a few days before the May 14 hearing.

By then, the proposals had been discussed at the staff and committee level for two months and had been the subject of numerous news articles.

Assemblyman Richard L. Brodsky, D-Scarsdale, pointed out that he and Campbell had discussed at least one of the clearcutting proposals by telephone more than a week before the hearing. When Brodsky asked Campbell for his opinion on whether clearcutting should be expanded in the Park, Campbell said he hadn't made up his mind and didn't feel the hearing was the appropriate place to discuss it. Brodsky called his response "appalling."

Broken Record



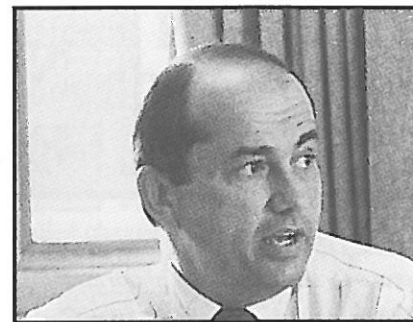
The NYS Inspector General's office is investigating Campbell's actions following Campbell's ill-fated attempt to quietly alter the official minutes of the March meeting. In late March, following several negative news articles, Campbell sent memos to staff seeking to have his comments on the clearcutting proposals altered. He purged the record of any instruction from him to hold a vote on the policy changes in April. Several witnesses said Campbell had called for such a vote in open session and that the original minutes were correct.

When Campbell returned from a Florida vacation a day late for the start of the April meeting, the clearcutting proposals had already been taken up in committee, as Campbell had instructed in March.

Just Mail Me the Checks, Please



What Campbell never explained is why he did not return from Florida in time for the APA's entire two-day meeting in April. The APA meets for less than 30 days each year. For this, Campbell receives a salary of \$30,000 per year, plus benefits and a generous expense reimbursement. In short, he is compensated well in excess of \$1,000 per day for his official duties.



Campbell

'He's saying that he didn't say what the minutes said he said,' she said.

—APA Deputy Director Karen Richards, responding to a New York Times reporter who asked her why APA Chairman Greg Campbell had changed the minutes of the March 1997 meeting to remove any reference to Campbell calling for a vote on expanded clearcutting. Campbell did not return the reporter's phone calls. (NY Times, 5/2/97)

Plan Not So Sweet



In June, the APA Economic Affairs Committee chaired by APA Commissioner Barbara Sweet of Newcomb proposed a resolution that would have required a detailed economic analysis for every project that comes before the agency, regardless of size.

To her credit, Commissioner Eleanor Brown of Schenectady said no such analysis would be complete without accounting for the cost of losing open space. Other board members noted that small-project applicants would bear



Sweet

an enormous cost and inconvenience in preparing the calculations. The resolution was rejected.

Water Quality Slips Down the Drain



The APA took a step backward in watershed protection this year when it approved a local land-use plan for the Town of Edinburgh that allows the use of imported soils around septic systems within 200 feet of a lake, river or stream. It was the first time the APA had allowed such systems adjacent to water in 15 years.

The APA is now considering loosening wastewater regulations Parkwide. In places where native soils are too poor to slow the percolation of wastewater into surface water, new construction should be banned. Engineered systems using mounds or fill are especially prone to failure.

The effort to weaken the APA's regulations came only months after a highly praised agreement to protect the Catskill watershed was adopted, enacting controls similar to the ban APA has enforced in the past. The Council will oppose the effort.



NYS Department of Environmental Conservation

The DEC made some tough and controversial stands on important issues this year, leading to greater access to the Forest Preserve by people with disabilities, the clean-up of potentially carcinogenic chemicals in Lake Champlain, the elimination of an illegal state-run landfill and more public land for all of us.

ATV Victory for Law In New Access Plan



After more than a year of vigorous public debate, the department issued an excellent policy this spring to allow access to certain roads in the Adirondack Forest Preserve and trails on other state lands for all-terrain vehicle use by people with physical disabilities. ATVs are otherwise banned on state lands in the Park.

DEC had a monumental challenge on its hands, attempting to balance the need to comply with both the Americans with Disabilities Act and the State Land Master Plan. The ADA requires the state to make public facilities as accessible as possible without overturning laws and policies aimed at protecting natural resources.

DEC complied by opening 104 miles of roadways in the Park, but leaving in place the ban on all motorized travel on trails and in Wilderness, Primitive and Canoe areas. The plan received praise from well-established advocacy groups working for the rights of the disabled.

Bond Dividend



Commissioner John P. Cahill traveled to Silver Bay in May of this year to announce that his department would purchase the Bird property on Lake George, using money from the Clean Water/Clean Air Bond Act. The land

includes more than a mile of undeveloped, scenic shoreline on the eastern side of the lake in Washington County. It is directly adjacent to the Morgan property, purchased by the state in 1994. The state worked with the Adirondack Nature Conservancy to protect both parcels. Efforts to add the nearby White property to the Forest Preserve continue.

Better Chemistry For the Big Lake



Commissioner Cahill made yet another tough decision this year when he agreed to dredge more than 20 acres of Lake Champlain's bottom near Plattsburgh, rather than allow PCBs dumped by nearby industry to languish there. The PCBs have already begun climbing the food chain, contaminating yellow perch to the point where they are unfit to eat.

The local chamber of commerce wanted to leave the pollution where it was and build a park next to it, with fishing piers around the contaminated area. DEC recognized this as unacceptable. A local paper company will pay part of the clean-up costs. It is unclear when the PCBs entered the lake, or who dumped them.

Questions First, Answers Later



DEC has kept an open mind about the possible reintroduction of wolves into remote areas of the Adirondack Park. Unlike some local governments, DEC wants to study the feasibility of a reintroduction before coming to any conclusions. The Council is interested in studying the social and biological possibilities of returning wolves to the Park.

Enforcing the Law



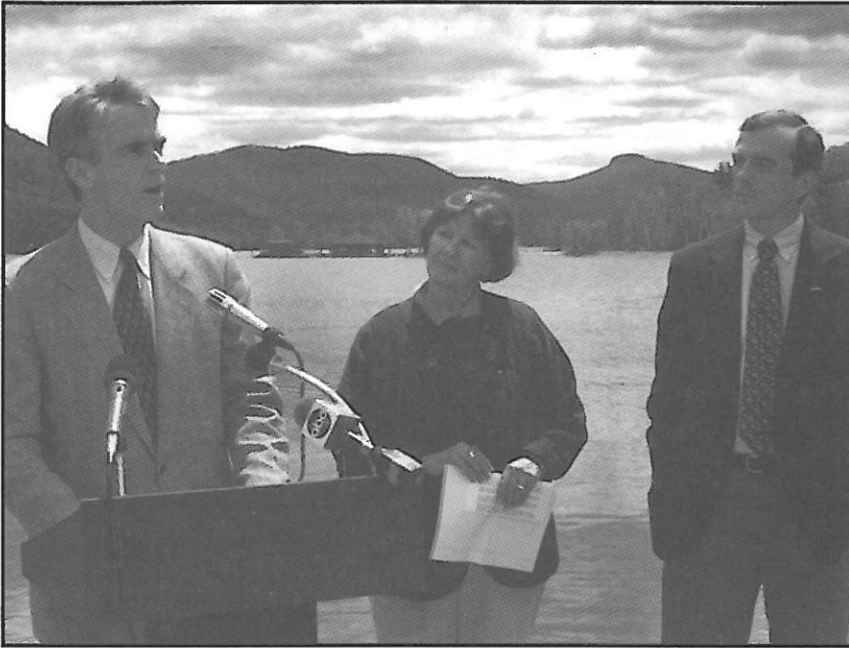
Twice this summer, DEC officials did a good job handling protests of the new policy for access to state lands by handicapped people. In the 1980s, Warrensburg Town Supervisor Maynard Baker and his associates lost a court case in which they attempted to strike down the ban on motorized access to Wilderness areas in the Adirondack Forest Preserve.

In 1990, Baker physically attacked an Earth First! activist who wanted the Cuomo Administration to enforce state law and close Crane Pond Road in the Pharaoh Lake Wilderness. Baker's violence and the threat of further protest led the Cuomo Administration to leave the road open to vehicles.

In June, Baker tested the will of the Pataki Administration when he led a mob on all-terrain vehicles toward the Forest Preserve near Camp Santanoni, in Newcomb. He warned of possible violence if DEC confronted the protesters.

DEC officials met Baker's mob before the protest and calmly offered them free use of a nearby state camp ground for their "protest picnic." When they declined the offer, they found DEC had erected half-ton concrete barricades across the bridge into Santanoni. When the "disabled" protestors moved the barricades, DEC Conservation Officers met them at the edge of the Forest Preserve and warned that tickets would be issued if they advanced. The mob retreated, sandwiches intact. Ironically, there are two businesses in Newcomb offering legal horse-and-carriage rides into Santanoni for anyone who can't, or doesn't want to, walk.

During the second protest, DEC chose to ignore the mob along the Hudson River near Lake Luzerne.



DEC Commissioner John P. Cahill, left, announces that his department has secured an agreement to purchase the Bird property on Lake George, in the background. To his right are Carol Ash of the Nature Conservancy and Adirondack Council Executive Director Timothy J. Burke. Photo by NYSDEC.

After hours of trying to get themselves arrested so they could go back to court to test the DEC's new access policy, some called the police on themselves from cell phones. Officers instead charged the ATV-riders with breaking the State Vehicle and Traffic Law.

Putting DOT Back On the Right Path



Region 5 Director Stuart Buchanan investigated and ordered the Dept. of Transportation to clean up an illegal dump it created in Warrensburg, on the median of the Adirondack Northway (I-87) near Exit 23. The dump was discovered last year by a DOT employee who video taped the site and reported it to the media. Aside from road debris, it contained engine parts, oil cans, transmission fluid containers, anti-freeze containers and other potentially hazardous materials. The site has now been remediated. DEC reported that there was no contamination of a nearby stream.

Taking the Stand



This summer, Commissioner Cahill traveled to Washington, D.C., to testify at a Congressional hearing on behalf of the Northern Forest Stewardship Act. The Act is designed to coordinate the efforts of federal agencies with programs that could help promote strong communities, private land stewardship and protection of wildland areas in the Northern Forest regions of New York, Vermont, New Hampshire and Maine.

Mired in Success



In April, DEC announced a deal with the Nature Conservancy and a Monroe County scout troop to protect the Massawepie Scout Camp property through a conservation easement. The land contains nearly a dozen lakes and a vast wetlands complex. The state purchased the development rights and public access on the 3,600 acres of St. Lawrence County land for \$1.76 million.

Illegal Permits, Legal Troubles



The reason that DEC is being criticized by some Park residents about a so-called change in the handicapped-access policy for the Adirondack Forest Preserve stems from illegal actions taken from a regional office last fall.

Against its own policy and in contravention of the State Land Master Plan (which carries the force of law), DEC Region 5 officials issued permits to certain individuals for the use of all-terrain vehicles on roads and trails where motorized access by anyone is banned.

DEC's central office later corrected the mistake by withdrawing those permits and continuing the revision of its policy in an attempt to open more roads legally. But because of last fall's mistakes, DEC is getting a public relations black eye from those who want to return to the same off-limits places and a federal official who also misunderstood the situation.

Not Quite Fine



The department should have imposed a fine on the DOT for its illegal dump on the Northway median (see story above). If a private citizen had been responsible for the dump, DEC would have imposed a substantial penalty.

Not a Peep So Far On High Peaks



Despite spending most of 1995 and part of 1996 hashing out the details of the long-overdue management plan for the High Peaks Wilderness, DEC has yet to issue the plan. Overcrowding on mountain peaks and in popular camping areas has caused extensive damage to water quality and trails and is intruding on wildlife habitat. DEC should finalize the policy and begin limiting the stampede.



Washington, D.C.

Acid rain was again at the top of the agenda for New York Congressional representatives this year, with the New York delegation proposing new legislation, stopping a federal agency from shutting down research facilities and promoting the Council's Clean Air Certificates. As you will see below, land conservation was also a hot topic in both houses.

Cooperation vs. Air Pollution



U.S. Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan, D-NY, joined with U.S. Sen. Alfonse M. D'Amato, R-NY, and U.S. Rep. Gerald B. Solomon, R-Glens Falls, in introducing legislation that would require vast new cuts in the sulfur-dioxide and nitrogen-oxide smoke-stack pollution that causes acid rain in the Adirondacks. Federal studies show that the Adirondacks are not expected to recover from acid rain damage under the provisions of the current federal program.

With that in mind, the lawmakers are seeking nationwide cuts in sulfur-dioxide pollution of an additional 50 percent and a nationwide cut of 75 percent in nitrogen-oxides. The Adirondack Council will work with the NY Congressional delegation and other members of Congress to gain approval for the bill.

Keeping Our Eyes Open



The U.S. Geological Survey attempted to cut the funding for 70 acid rain monitoring stations it operates under the National Atmospheric Deposition Program, including five of seven in New York and both existing stations in Vermont. Senators Moynihan and D'Amato and



Gov. George E. Pataki, left, and U.S. Sen. Alfonse M. D'Amato, middle, look on as Adirondack Council Executive Director Timothy J. Burke addresses an Earth Day crowd at the SUNY College of Environmental Science & Forestry in Syracuse on the need to protect the Adirondack Park from acid rain. Photo by David G. Nelson.

Reps. John M. McHugh, R-Watertown, and Sherwood L. Boehlert, R-Utica, joined forces to beat back the proposal and won a guarantee of continued funding from USGS officials.

Unexpected Hero Defends EPA



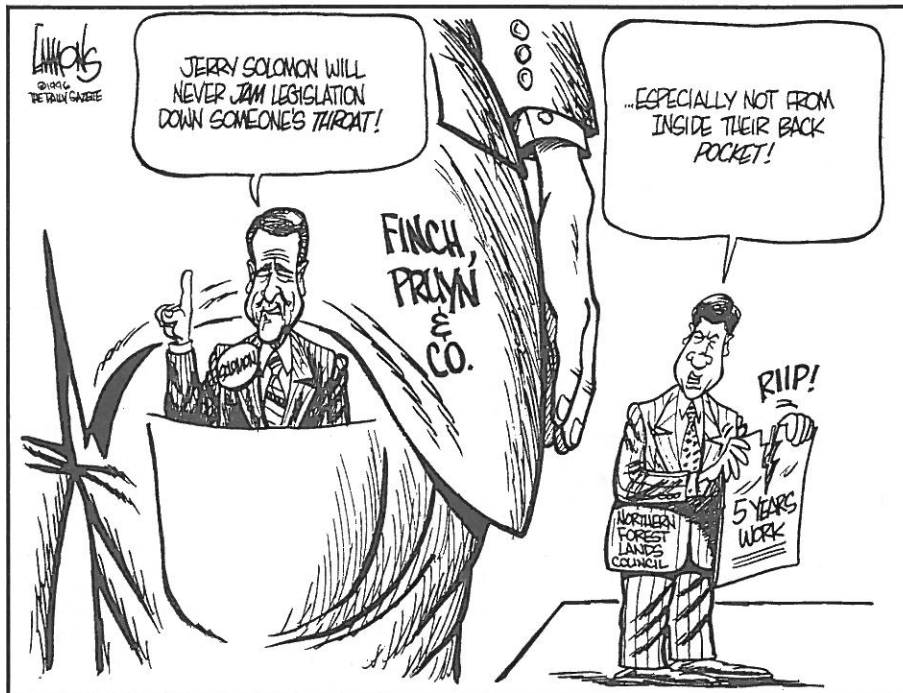
In a move that surprised nearly everyone, D'Amato came to the defense of the EPA this summer when President Bill Clinton was deciding whether to enact broad new cuts in fine-particulate emissions from smokestacks. D'Amato's support of the EPA relieved the mounting pressure from other GOP Congressmen to halt or water-down the new regulations. The American Lung Assoc. predicts that

the new standards will prevent tens of thousands of deaths each year from respiratory illnesses. The regulations will also help cut acid rain since most of the fine particles in question are sulfur-based.

Supporters of Stewardship



U.S. Sens. D'Amato and Moynihan, and Reps. Maurice Hinchey, D-Saugerties, and Boehlert are sponsors of the Northern Forest Stewardship Act. The Act is designed to coordinate the efforts of federal agencies with programs that could help promote strong communities, private land stewardship and protection of wildland areas in New York, Vermont, New Hampshire and Maine.



The Bob Emmons editorial cartoon at left appeared in the Daily Gazette of Schenectady on October 3, 1996. The newspaper criticized U.S. Rep. Gerald Solomon, R-Glens Falls, for killing legislation supported by representatives and constituents from around New York, Vermont, New Hampshire and Maine, but opposed by a small segment of the timber industry.

Passing a Valuable Bill vs. Acid Rain



U.S. Reps. McHugh and Boehlert each helped the Adirondack Council retire a ton of sulfur-dioxide pollution by purchasing a \$50 Clean Air Certificate this summer. The Council retired one pollution allowance each in their names, wiping out two tons of potential pollution.

Finch Makes Solomon Flinch



Congressman Solomon succumbed to untruthful rhetoric and went out of his way to kill the Northern Forest Stewardship Act in 1996. Those pressing him included officials from Finch, Pruyne & Co., a local paper mill, and the Empire State Forest Products Assoc., which is currently

chaired by a Finch employee. The Act is designed to coordinate the efforts of federal agencies with programs that could help promote strong communities, private land stewardship and protection of wildland areas. The bill contains no money for land purchases and all of the programs it espouses are voluntary. Despite widespread support for the bill in the four affected states (NY, VT, NH and ME), Solomon continued to oppose it this year.



The Courts

Noisy Crusher Takes a Pounding



On June 27, the Appellate Division of the NYS Supreme Court shut down the rock-crushing operation owned by Hunt Brothers Contractors Inc. in a mixed residential/small business neighborhood in the Town of Wells, Hamilton County. The APA became involved in the case years ago after receiving numerous complaints from neighbors about noise and dust from

the facility between 1989 and 1991. By 1993, the Adirondack Park Agency had ordered the company to perform a noise study and mitigate the effect of the crusher's racket on local residents. The crusher was expanded by more than 25 percent without an APA permit, which is illegal. The conditions, including a fine, were placed on the after-the-fact permit Hunt Brothers was required to obtain. In 1995, the attorney general sued the company on behalf of the APA and won a temporary injunction shutting down the facility until the Appellate

Division ruled. This May, Hamilton County Supreme Court Justice Stephen Ferradino threw out the injunction and reopened the crusher, saying the company needed the money from the operation to renovate or relocate. The Appellate Division's order to shut down the crusher was made despite the fact that the APA is still awaiting an answer to its appeal of Ferradino's ruling. Local officials told reporters that the company's owners intend to move the operation into the hamlet of Wells, where the APA's jurisdiction is severely limited.



1996 Award Winners

Adirondack Council Awards Presented At July Dinner

The Adirondack Council presented its Conservationist of the Year Award to NYS Attorney General Dennis C. Vacco at its annual awards dinner on the shore of Upper St. Regis Lake on July 18.

The event was held at the summer home of Adirondack Council member and friend Dean Rhoads. It was attended by nearly 200 guests and dignitaries from around the state.

At the same ceremony, the Adirondack Council honored the work of:

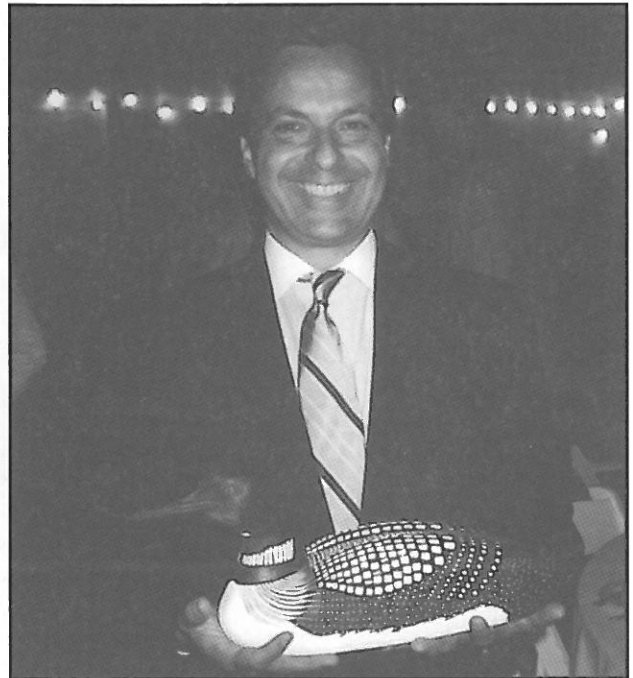
Assemblyman Richard L. Brodsky, Scarsdale, Legislative Leadership Award; **WAMC Public Radio**, Albany, Park Communicator; **Dr. David & Gloria Fant**, Suffern/Speculator, Park Stewardship Award; **Upper Saranac Lake Association**, Environmental Action Award; **Adirondack Storyteller Bill Smith**, Colton, Park Heritage Award

For a rundown of the attorney general's accomplishments, turn to the NYS Attorney General section of this report. For a description of Assemblyman Brodsky's actions, see the Legislature section.

WAMC Public Radio was honored for its outstanding news coverage of Adirondack issues from its Albany studio, the State Capitol and Plattsburgh bureau. **Dr. David and Gloria Fant** received the Park Stewardship Award for their activism and philanthropy for the benefit of the Speculator community and several Adirondack Institutions.

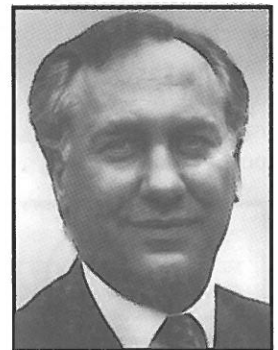
The **Upper Saranac Lake Association** received the Environmental Action Award for a century of work protecting the water quality and habitat of one of the largest and most beautiful lakes in the Adirondack Park. **Adirondack Storyteller Bill Smith** received the Park Heritage Award for carrying on the traditions of oral historian and backwoods entertainer with his engaging and humorous tales of life in New York's north country.

In addition, a special award was presented to Adirondack Council Board member and former Dept. of Environmental Conservation employee **Clarence A. Petty**, of Canton, for a lifetime of outstanding public service and dedication to protecting the Adirondack Park. Petty's sense of history and depth of knowledge on Adirondack issues has been an invaluable asset to the Adirondack Council over the years. He was also the driving force behind the creation of the Council's million-dollar endowment fund, which he sought as a tool to protect the organization from economic instability and as a source of emergency funding for unanticipated work.

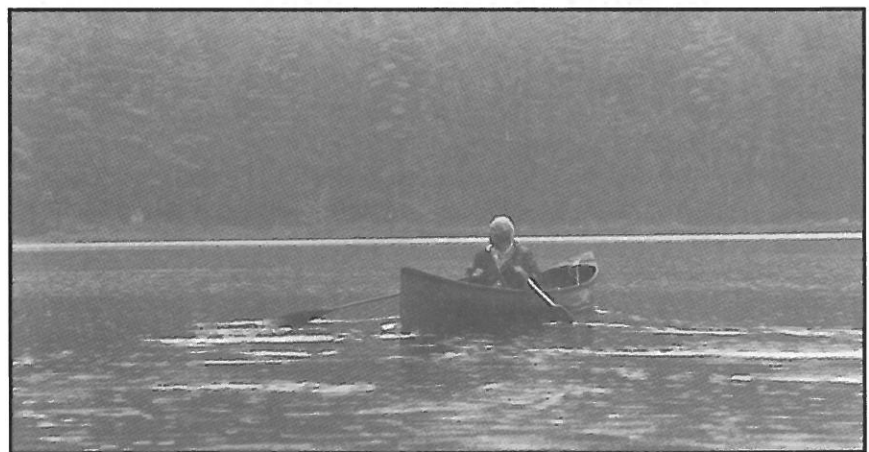


Gary Randorf

A.G. Vacco displays his award.



Assemblyman Brodsky



Gary Randorf

Clarence Petty in his guideboat.

Clean Air Certificate Program Working

As you may recall from the Spring 1997 Adirondack Council Newsletter, the Niagara Mohawk Power Corp. has donated 5,000 sulfur-dioxide pollution "allowances" (a.k.a. credits) to the Council. Each allowance represents the right to emit one ton of sulfur-dioxide smokestack pollution.

Utility companies receive one allowance from the federal government each year for every ton of sulfur-dioxide they are allowed to emit.

Those who clean up their emissions faster than required can sell or trade their leftover allowances to other companies, brokers or anyone. In this case, Niagara Mohawk donated them to the Adirondack Council's Pure Waters Campaign.

Each allowance had a market value of \$98 at the time of the donation (they are selling for about \$110 now). As a means of involving the public in the fight against acid rain, the Adirondack Council will retire one allowance for every \$50 donation it receives for a Clean Air Certifi-

cate. Those interested in preventing one ton (2,000 pounds) of acid rain chemicals from ever falling on the Adirondack Park can send a \$50 donation to the Adirondack Council.

In exchange, the Council will retire one allowance in the name of the contributor and send the contributor a Clean Air Certificate, suitable for framing. In addition to this tangible contribution to the reduction of air pollution, donors will be assisting the Adirondack Council in our continuing efforts to eliminate acid rain and other threats to the lakes and rivers of the Adirondacks.

Thanks to a \$25,000 anonymous donation from a Central New York foundation and the generous contributions of the Adirondack Council's members, the Council has already retired more than 2,000 tons-worth of sulfur-dioxide allowances, ensuring that they will never be used to pollute the Adirondack Park. The Council would like to thank those members and political leaders who have already purchased a Clean Air Certificate and encourage others to do the same.



It's Time to Retire Acid Rain ... Forever

Yes, I would like to help the Adirondack Council fight acid rain. Here's \$50 for each ton of pollution I would like the Adirondack Council to retire in my name, or in the name of a friend or loved one.

Name: _____

Name to appear on certificate (if different): _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____

I am already a member of the Adirondack Council, or

I wish to become a member (at no extra cost).

Number of tons I wish to retire: _____

TOTAL: \$ _____

VISA/MC #: _____

Expiration Date: _____



(Please make checks payable to The Adirondack Council)

— Your contribution is tax deductible to the full extent of the law —

• clip & send • clip & send • clip & send • clip & send • clip & send •

The Adirondack Council

Founded in 1975, the Adirondack Council is a private, not-for-profit organization dedicated to enhancing the natural and human communities of the Park through research, education, advocacy and legal action.

The Council receives moral and financial support from its more than 18,000 members and from private foundations. The Council's national and regional member organizations include the Association for the Protection of the Adirondacks, Citizens Campaign for the Environment, National Audubon Society, National Parks and Conservation Association, Natural Resources Defense Council and The Wilderness Society, with a combined membership of more than 1.4 million people.

Adirondack Council memberships begin at \$25. Membership benefits include regular newsletters, special reports such as this one, action alerts and the opportunity to play an active role in protecting the Park's future.

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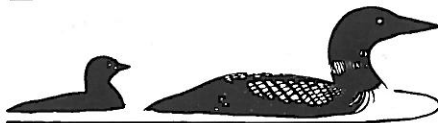
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State of the Park 1997

Written and designed by John F. Sheehan
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