

Friends of the CARANTOUAN GREENWAY

Yes! Count me in! I believe in protecting farm and forestland, wildlife habitat and watersheds in the Penn-York Valley. I want to become a member of Carantouan Greenway!

- | | | | |
|--|----------------|---|---------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mighty Oak | \$500 per year | <input type="checkbox"/> Trailblazer | \$25 per year |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Golden Eagle | \$75 per year | <input type="checkbox"/> Other | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Stargazer | \$50 per year | | |

Name _____

Address _____

Town, State, Zip _____

E-Mail Address _____

Telephone _____

Gifts to Carantouan Greenway are fully tax deductible! (Tax Id Number: 23-2750872)

Please send all contributions to Carantouan Greenway, PO Box 441, Sayre, PA 18840-0441 or PO Box 827, Waverly, NY 14892-0827

A SPONSOR MEMBER OF THE

LAND TRUST ALLIANCE

A Member Agency
of the
Bradford County United Way



CARANTOUAN GREENWAY

PO Box 441
Sayre, PA 18840-0441

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



RIVER TALK

Winter 2010

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

1. Membership Renewal
1. Hike Tioga County
1. Check us Out
1. Thanks!
2. Battle for Deposit Laws
2. Seeking Board Members
3. Citizen's Rights
3. Wolverines & Glaciers
4. Friends of the Greenway

Annual Membership Renewal

Thanks to the generous support of our members and friends, and the hard work of a few dedicated Board members and volunteers, Carantouan led or sponsored a wide variety of exciting environmental outreach programs in 2010 - more than at any time I can remember. Maintenance of Wildwood Nature Reserve and the Forbidden Path for community enjoyment is an ever-challenging, major project. Because of the increasing danger with deer ticks, our goal was to widen the paths so that contact with surrounding foliage could be kept to a minimum. We also placed a bench along the lower Molly Glaser Caplan trail, facing the pond. A brass memorial plaque for the bench will be added soon.

We have plans to cut two more trails at Wildwood, expand our outstanding website, thanks to webmaster Jerry Gordon, and offer more outings led by Carantouan naturalist Marty Borko.

Faced with the challenges of gas drilling, land development, and climate change, now more than ever we need your financial and physical support to continue our work to ensure that places like Wildwood, the Forbidden Path, and other vital natural resources are there for generations to come.

Sincerely,

John Palmer, President

Hike Tioga County!

January 16, 2011 map location #5 - Oakley Corners State Forest (check our website for directions)

February 20, 2011 map location #10 - Danby State Forest

March 20, 2011 map location #5 - Jenksville State Forest

On the 3rd Sunday of the first three months of 2011, the Carantouan Greenway will lead hikes at three different trail systems in Tioga County. All participants will receive a "Trails of Tioga" map. More information to follow soon....!

Check us out at www.carantouangreenway.com

Our website continues to get better, with the addition of two new pages by our talented Webmaster Jerry Gordon:

-) Upcoming events: stay in touch with what's happening and get events on your calendar
-) EBird Report: see what birds are being spotted at Greenway sites and get out there to enjoy them

Thanks to the Town of Barton!

The Town of Barton continues to be a great partner - this fall they regraded the driveway and parking lot at Wildwood Nature Reserve and have agreed to install our new Wildwood New York State Parks and Recreation Grant Sign.

A Case for Bottle-Deposit Laws¹

In 2006, thirsty Americans consumed 215 billion sodas, juice drinks, and other beverages packaged in plastic, glass bottles, or aluminum cans. Sadly, almost two-thirds of these bottles and cans were never recycled. The majority were trashed - landfilled, burned, or littered along roads, trails, parks, and other scenic places.

That is a lot of wasted resources - a quarter million tons of aluminum metal, over a million and a half tons of plastic bottles, and nearly 8 million tons of glass bottles - and just for one year in the U.S.! And the quantity of wasted containers is mounting steadily as sales of throwaway beverages outstrip recycling efforts. To make things worse, the recycling rate has declined from an all-time high of 54% in 1992 to 35% in 2006.

Most of us agree that litter is unsightly and expensive to clean up. But how many of us think about how much energy and material is used - and how many pollutants are generated - to manufacture the billions of new cans and bottles to replace the ones we don't recycle? For example, making 1 million tons of aluminum cans from virgin material requires 5 million tons of bauxite ore and the energy equivalent of 32 million barrels of crude oil. Recycling the cans, in comparison, saves all of the bauxite and more than 75% of the energy, and avoids about 75% of the pollutants.

An answer to this ever-growing problem is more bottle-deposit laws, which currently exist in only 11 states thanks to opposition from corporations and trade associations. States with the economic incentive of deposits average 61% recycling rate, compared with a puny 24% in states without, as shown in the attached table from the Container Recycling Institute. Michigan, the only state with a 10-cent container deposit, achieves a 95% recycling rate!

Average % Recycling Rates by Material and Class, 2006

	Aluminum cans	PET plastic bottles	Glass bottles	Total
11 Deposit states	76	44	64	61
39 Non-deposit states	35	14	12	24
U.S. Total	45	24	28	35

¹From the Container Recycling Institute, www.container-recycling.org

Carantouan Greenway Seeks Board Members

Carantouan Greenway is looking for people who share our passion for protecting vital land and water in the Penn-York Valley and are willing to join the Greenway Board of Directors. Anyone with a keen interest in conservation or environmental education will find satisfaction in helping Carantouan Greenway achieve its goals.

We are in our 16th year of working to educate and connect our communities to their natural resources. A small organization with no paid staff or office facilities, the Greenway provides a variety of educational and outreach programs for all ages, with an enthusiastic core group of Board Members and volunteers.

Our programs include field trips with a trained naturalist so participants can learn about local birds, trees, wildflowers, geology, and vernal pools among other natural resources; maintaining for public enjoyment a 50 acre nature reserve and other walking trails for hikers, birders, anglers, and outdoor enthusiasts; public forums given by local and regional experts on several aspects of Marcellus Shale gas drilling; a traveling heron photo exhibit, presentations to local clubs, churches and other organizations on topics from "the 40th anniversary of Earth Day" to "all about bones"; and community river and highway cleanups.

Opportunities for those with specific skills include:

Photographers to capture images of Greenway events and properties/trails

Graphic designers to help create trail maps or develop/publish our newsletter

Educators to help develop environmental outreach programs

Outdoor event leaders

Grant writers to help with funding requests

Conservation leaders to help negotiate easements

Anyone with interest please contact John at 570-888-0841 or Marty at 607-565-2636, Check us out on the web at www.carantouangreenway.org, or attend a Board meeting on the 2nd Mon. of every month at 7:00pm in the Sayre Borough Hall basement conference room.

Establishing Citizens' Rights to Home Rule and so Restoring Democracy. OR Legal Defense for Local Communities

The Community Environmental Legal Defense Fund (www.celdf.org) is a non-profit organization working with communities in the US and abroad to create local bills of rights within municipal ordinances that would prohibit corporate impositions on communities and the environment.

The following excerpts from their September 2010 newsletter quote wording used in three community resolutions to address certain issues:

1. "It shall be unlawful for a corporation to engage in the extraction of natural gas within the City of Pittsburgh." Also "asserts legal protections for the right to water, the rights of natural communities, the right to local self-government and the right of people to enforce and protect these rights through their municipal government." (Pittsburgh City Council)

2. This ordinance "enables the municipality to enact and enforce environmental protection standards exceeding those set by the state legislature;" also "asserts the violation of their rights to govern their own community by the passage of laws overriding local zoning and land use planningsuch as laws preempting local control over water withdrawals or regulating or controlling genetically modified seeds and crops...or agricultural operations, and the land application of sewage sludge." (Packer Township, Carbon County, PA)

The Packer resolution further "declares that the building of a sustainable township requires not only the outright nullification of the doctrine of preemption when it prohibits the people from adopting higher standards than those set forth in state law; but also requires the people to refuse to recognize the authority of the Attorney General or the courts, when those entities attempt to enforce the legislature's illegitimate acts."

3. "It is time to protect our communities through an aggressive rights-based initiative that establishes the right to local decision-making on issues with direct local impact andto question the use of "regulation" (adjusting and documenting the rate of destruction) and "mitigation" (putting Band-Aids on amputations) which negotiate away the absolute rights of people, communities, and nature." (Northwestern PA Community Rights Network)

Wolverines and Glaciers by Marty Borko

Doug H. Chadwick, a wildlife biologist, just completed a book, the WOLVERINE WAY. Doug documents the recent study on Wolverines in Glacier National Park and the immediate surroundings of National Forest and Alberta's Waterton Lakes National Park. Jeff Copland, of the US Forest Service Rocky Mountain Research Station in Missoula, Montana began the study in 2002 on the largest remaining wolverine population (40-50) in the lower 48.

Glacier National Park was established in 1910 and had about 150 glaciers. Due to our climate's warming that number has been reduced to 25 and the research group projects the last one to vanish around 2020. In February females prepare snow dens for birthing. These are dug at high altitudes and are found deep (8-10feet) down in the snow pack and often below a downed whitebark pine. The changing climate also threatens the whitebark which provides red squirrel seed caches raided by the wolverines. The deep lingering snow pack and moderate summer temperatures are necessary for the survival of the Wolverines and whitebark pines.

The wolverine is our largest mustelid, a family of mammals, with very flexible spinal columns, semi-solitary nocturnal behavior, with a lengthened skull and heavily muscled jaws. The heavily muscled jaws allow them to crush bone left by other scavengers. To survive females move through territories of 200 square miles, males 400 square miles. Wolverines require this "freedom to roam" in a life supporting landscape determined by the prevailing weather.

These ice-aged mustelids are capable of scaling rocky summits, scavenging in snowslides, sheltering in boulder fields and hunting on the steepest cliffs. Their existence is a gift. The study via telemetry, GPS, satellite and volunteers clearly depict a species on the edge. It also documents a close relationship between family members and debunks a lot about the ferocity of the animal as it relates to man. Will they survive without the glaciers? How will we do with continued global warming?