



## PARKS ON THE NET



The internet provides a great opportunity for parks groups to connect with others working on the same issues from around the world. Groups can share their success stories, strategies and challenges in garnering support for their local parks. There are many New York City Park organizations on line. For

example, Parks & Recreation's site at [www.nycparks.org](http://www.nycparks.org) features detailed history of the parks and landmarks, interesting answers to frequently asked questions about parks, events listings, programs for children, and more. This site also provides a link to the *Partnerships for Parks* web site at [www.partnershipsforparks.org](http://www.partnershipsforparks.org). *Partnerships'* site offers volunteer opportunities, events listings, the *Leaflet*, technical assistance materials, contact information for outreach coordinators, and much more.

Some other organizations and groups with sites focused on New York City park issues are: City Parks Foundation at [www.cityparksfoundation.org](http://www.cityparksfoundation.org) which offers information about how to support New York City Parks and Playgrounds; The Trust for Public Land at [www.tpl.org](http://www.tpl.org) which offers a "toolbox" section containing technical information about conserving open space and protecting historical and cultural landmarks; The Council on the Environment at [www.cenyc.org](http://www.cenyc.org) features events and environmental education materials; Green Guerillas at [www.greenguerillas.org](http://www.greenguerillas.org) which details the services Green Guerillas can provide community gardens and has excellent links to many other informative sites for gardening and open space issues; Prospect Park Alliance at [www.prospectpark.org](http://www.prospectpark.org) which offers an excellent listing of things to see and do in this park; and Central Park Conservancy at [www.centralparknyc.org](http://www.centralparknyc.org) which has an exciting virtual park tour with detailed maps of Central Park.

One particularly informative site for parks groups countrywide is The Lila Wallace Readers Digest's Urban Parks Institute at <http://www.pps.org/urbanparks/core.html>. They offer an interactive site with an "Ask the Expert" page where you can ask representatives questions about various issues relating to parks, such as securing business sponsorships. The site also features an open mike page where you can ask general questions to which park supporters from around the country respond. It is a valuable way to get perspective on your projects.

In addition to sites that provide useful information for groups, there are also sites which help community groups establish visibility on the web. *Partnerships* would like to have links to as many local community group sites as possible. *Partnerships* is also investigating the process of developing interactive bulletin boards for friends of park groups. This section of the web site would be a "virtual meeting place" where community group members could post announcements, plan park improvement projects, and share information. To let us know about your web site so we can create a link from the *Partnerships* web page, or to find out about the possibility of having a bulletin board established for your group, contact Jan Larsen at 212-360-8156 or e-mail [dlitvack@parklan.ci.nyc.ny.us](mailto:dlitvack@parklan.ci.nyc.ny.us).

Other organizations, such as The Treebranch Network at [www.treebranch.com](http://www.treebranch.com) and New York Today at [www.nytoday.com](http://www.nytoday.com) offer web site development and design for community groups. You can fill out a simple form at New York Today and if your organization is approved, the site will be listed among New York Today's Community Group list. Treebranch offers a similar service - you can see a sample community site such as Neighborhood Open Space Coalition at [www.treebranch.com/nosc/](http://www.treebranch.com/nosc/). Treebranch also has an electronic mailing list entitled Cyperpark, which is a free electronic mailing list you can join to discuss with other residents issues relating to open space and greening in New York.

Other parks related sites include:  
Citizens Committee for NYC at [www.citizensnyc.org](http://www.citizensnyc.org)  
Environmental Advocates at [www.envadvocates.org](http://www.envadvocates.org)  
Environmental Protection Agency at [www.epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov)  
Green Mountain Institute for Environmental Democracy at [www.gmied.org](http://www.gmied.org)  
Natural Resources Defense Council at [www.nrdc.org](http://www.nrdc.org)  
New York Environmental Network at [www.nyen.com](http://www.nyen.com)  
Parks Council at [www.parkscouncil.org](http://www.parkscouncil.org)  
Project for Public Spaces at [www.pps.org](http://www.pps.org)  
Sierra Club at [www.sierra.com](http://www.sierra.com)

As you can see, there are many useful tools and services available to groups on the web. *Partnerships* would like to help make sure that Friends of Parks groups in New York City are in touch with each other and as well as groups outside New York City about the activities they are developing. We hope you join the exciting world of parks on the net!

### "IT'S MY PARK!" DAY RAFFLE PRIZES

Thanks to everyone who came out for "It's My Park!" Day. All participants were eligible for a drawing, and we are pleased to announce the grand prize winners: Barbara "Perennial" Feldt of the Friends of DeWitt Clinton Park and Tina Theodorow of the Friends of Dag Hammarskjold Plaza will enjoy tickets to Broadway's Sound of Music. Scores more won movie passes, "It's My Park!" t-shirts and mugs, or copies of *Romantic New York*. Special thanks to TMG Marketing; Marilyn "Delicious" Appleberg, author of *Romantic New York*; and to AT&T Wireless Services for telephone service that day and Wollman Rink for underwriting the costs of the "It's My Park!" Day party.

### EDITOR'S NOTE

We would like to clarify our recommendation about posting flyers that was featured in the "Making Your Events Shine" article in June's Leaflet. Please note that it is illegal to post flyers on any public property - including bus stops - around the city. If you would like any further information about posting flyers please contact your borough Outreach Coordinators. Their contact names and numbers can be found on the *Partnerships* web site at [www.partnershipsforparks.org](http://www.partnershipsforparks.org).



## GRANT APPLICATION DEADLINES

**October 1, 1999: City Parks Foundation Quarterly Grants Program.** Supports projects developed by community groups for parks and playgrounds with grants of up to \$5,000. Call 212-360-8121 for an application.

**October 1, 1999: Hudson River Foundation's New York City Environmental Fund.** Supports projects that foster restoration, care, and public enjoyment of and education about the natural resources of New York City and the Consolidated Edison Service area in Westchester County. For more information call 212-924-8290.

## COASTAL CLEANUP

The Northeast Chapter of the American Littoral Society (ALS) is sponsoring a New York coastal clean up on September 18, 1999 at which thousands of volunteers will clean up New York State's beaches. The program in New York, sponsored in part by the City Parks Foundation, is coordinated by ALS as part of the 1999 International Coastal Cleanup of the Center for Marine Conservation. ALS is also encouraging volunteers to clean up any body of water around them -- pond, lake, stream, river, bay, or ocean -- on this day. The goal is to remove debris; to devise strategies to combat pollution; to increase public participation in solving the problems of pollution; and to increase public awareness and appreciation of the environment. If you would like to participate or organize a cleanup in your area, contact ALS at 718-634-6467 or 718-471-2166 or [www.alsnyc.org](http://www.alsnyc.org).

## HELPFUL NUMBERS

**Partnerships for Parks** 212-360-1310  
To volunteer or to join your local parks group: 212-360-1357  
For recorded information about special events: 888-NY-PARKS  
To report graffiti, vandalism, or crime: 800-201-PARK

[www.nycparks.org](http://www.nycparks.org)  
[www.partnershipsforparks.org](http://www.partnershipsforparks.org)

**Partnerships for Parks** believes that parks are essential to the life of New York City, and that community involvement is essential to the life of a park. We work to start, strengthen, and support neighborhood park groups; to link them together so that they can learn from each other and be stronger collectively; and to promote parks in general so that people will be more likely to join in efforts to restore and preserve them.

*Tim (Sailfish) Tompkins, Director*

*This issue of the Leaflet was written by Dana (Violet) Litvack.*



CITY PARKS FOUNDATION



City of New York  
Parks & Recreation

Rudolph W. Giuliani, Mayor  
Henry J. Stern, Commissioner

## PARTNERS OF THE MONTH

This month's partners of the month represent a collection of street tree supporters, youth activities organizers, business partnerships sponsors, conservationists, and more. Every month *Partnerships for Parks* holds a luncheon with Commissioner Stern at which he presents certificates of appreciation to the "Partners of the Month" for their outstanding efforts. He also meets with representatives from other park groups at this informal luncheon setting. May's Partner from the Bronx, **Mike "R/O/C/K/"**

**Simmons of Reaching Out to Community Kids, Inc.** (the R.O.C.K.), has organized successful basketball tournaments for children and teens during the summer in **St. James Park**. Athletes from the St. James community come out and showcase their talent during the tournaments. Mike, the President of the R.O.C.K. basketball league, has organized various clean-ups in and around the basketball courts with the support of the basketball players, and has helped the Friends of St. James (of which he is a member) with their clean-ups. Recently, Mike's organization received a grant from the Hispanic Foundation to help fund his leagues and an endorsement from a local church sponsoring 30 neighborhood children to participate this year in the tournaments. Mike has been instrumental in coordinating volunteers and Parks staff to make sure that St. James Park is locked at night to prevent vandalism. He personally closes many of the gates at closing time. Currently, Mike is working hard to prepare the basketball league and the basketball courts for the summer tournaments. The St. James community is fortunate to have someone like Mike who is so committed to improving his neighborhood and local park. Thanks to everyone who makes a difference in New York City parks, and a special thanks to all of the outstanding May "Partners of the Month," listed below!

## MAY PARTNERS OF THE MONTH:

Bronx: **Mike "R/O/C/K/" Simmons**, Reaching Out to Community Kids, Inc., St. James Park  
Brooklyn: **John Highland**, Veterans of Foreign War Post 254, Father Kehoe Square  
Manhattan: **Maxine Davis**, West 88th Street Tree Project  
Queens: **Joyce Lawrence**, 149th Avenue Block Association, Sunrise Playground  
Staten Island: **John Mansfield**, North Central Kiwanis Club of S.I., Clove Lakes Park & Lt. Lia Park

Nature is ever at work building and pulling down, creating and destroying, keeping everything whirling and flowing, allowing no rest but in rhythmical motion, chasing everything in endless song out of one beautiful form into another.  
— *John Muir, Our National Parks, 1901*

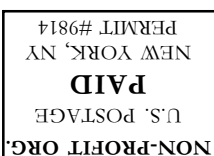
*Address Service Requested*

New York, NY 10021  
830 Fifth Avenue

CITY PARKS FOUNDATION



Partnerships for Parks



ATTENTION: FOR ADDRESS CORRECTIONS CALL 212-360-1357.