



New York State Office of Parks Recreation and Historic Preservation

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**Press Release
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Hike the Long Path through Mine Kill State Park National Recreation Trail Designation Ceremony and Guided Hike through the Park [View Image](#)

North Blenheim, NY

Mine Kill State Park, the New York Power Authority Blenheim-Gilboa Visitors Center and the Long Path North Hiking Club will be celebrating the National Recreation Trail (NRT) designation of the Long Path through Mine Kill on Saturday, October 18, 2014, beginning at 9 AM. Hikers, local residents and supporters of the trail are invited to join in posting official NRT signs along the 5-mile stretch of trail that runs from the park's southern boundary along the Schoharie Creek, beyond the famous Mine Kill Falls, to Lansing Manor and the Blenheim-Gilboa Visitors Center.



Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell, and Director of the National Park Service, Jonathan B. Jarvis, designated the Long Path through Mine Kill State Park a National Recreation Trail back in June. The Long Path is a 347-mile scenic trail that runs from the George Washington Bridge, passing through the Hudson River Valley, Harriman State Park, the Shawangunk Ridge, the Catskill Mountains, and Mine Kill State Park, ending at Thacher State Park in Albany County. Just the section that goes through Mine Kill and the NYPA property received National Recreation Trail designation this year. This section of the Long Path was one of only 19 trails recognized across the country as a new NRT in 2014.

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Event participants can meet at the NYPA Blenheim-Gilboa Visitors Center at 9AM on the 18th to organize groups to cover both the northern and southern portions of the trail. Hikers should be prepared for all weather and trail conditions, and are advised to bring synthetic, layered clothing in addition to comfortable footwear. Volunteers should also bring a lunch, water, snacks and a basic first aid kit. Both the parks and the Long Path North club will provide trail maintenance equipment necessary to install the NRT signs and to conduct basic trail maintenance activities. Both the northern and the southern hikes will be approximately 2-3 miles long and will run into the afternoon, finishing at Mine Kill State Park in North Blenheim, NY.

The Long Path through Mine Kill State Park is consistently rated very highly among hikers who have experienced its natural beauty. From open bluffs with inspiring views of the Schoharie Creek, to dense groves of hemlock, pine and oak, to the tranquil Mine Kill Falls, the LP meanders its way through some of the most pristine wilderness along the entire trail. Mine Kill State Park, NYPA and the Long Path North Hiking Club continue to support trail maintenance activities, build interpretive kiosks and monitor registers along the 5-mile LP segment within the park. This particular section of the Long Path contains a wealth of history, geology, diverse ecology and wildlife in addition to being a fun, accessible and challenging hike for everyone.



Mine Kill State Park and the NYPA Blenheim-Gilboa Visitors Center have many additional programs scheduled for the remainder of 2014. Run for your life on Saturday, October 25, 2014 starting at 9AM at the NYPA Visitors Center during the inaugural Zombie Run! Participants may choose to run the 5K course or opt to dress up as a zombie during the event. Then at 12 PM on 10/25, bring friends and family to the annual Halloween Haunted House and Scare Fair located at the Visitors Center. The haunted house will be suitable for all ages and admission is free. There is a fee to register for the Zombie Run – please go to Facebook – Mine Kill State Park to download a registration form and for more information. Proceeds will benefit the Middleburgh Library Association.

For more information about the programs or if you are interested in becoming a member of the Friends of Mine Kill and Max V. Shaul State Parks, call the park office at (518)-827-8690, check us out on Facebook or go to <http://nysparks.com/parks/165/details.aspx>

Mine Kill State Park is located in the scenic Schoharie Valley overlooking the Power Authority's Blenheim- Gilboa Pumped Storage Power Project. The eight miles of trails, including trails from the park to the New York Power Authority Visitor Center, are great for hiking, biking, and birding. The trails are open year round and are perfect for snowshoeing and cross country skiing when the landscape is covered in snow. In cold weather, the park also has an outdoor skating rink for visitors to enjoy. Cascading 80 feet through a narrow gorge is the picturesque Mine Kill Falls for which the park is named. The park also has an Olympic size swimming pool with separate wading and diving pools to cool off during the summer.

The New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, manages 180 state parks and 35 historic sites which are visited by 60 million people annually. A recent study commissioned by Parks & Trails New York found that New York State Parks generates \$1.9 billion in economic activity annually and supports 20,000 jobs. For more information, call 518-474-0456 or visit www.nysparks.com, connect on Facebook, or follow on Twitter.