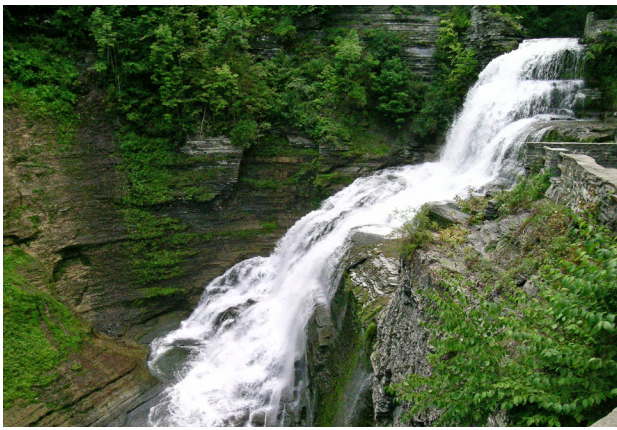


Robert H. Treman State Park: It's History



(Photo courtesy of Tony Ingraham)

Since the 19th century, locals have recognized the unique beauty of the gorge in present day Robert H. Treman State Park. In the Upper Park, there once was the bustling hamlet of Enfield Falls. By the mid-19th century, with improvements in transportation, scenic tourism became increasingly popular. In 1853, the entrepreneurship of Henrietta Wickham led to the construction of the first hotel and trails marketed specifically at promoting tourism of the nearby gorges. Mrs. Wickham was working at a time when business was still dominated by men and the women's rights movement was only beginning to gain momentum following the Seneca Falls Convention of 1848. The hotel remained in continuous operation until 1906. In 1916 Robert H. Treman bought the gorge along with the majority of Enfield Falls and in 1920 donated it all to New York State so that this gem would be preserved for future generations to enjoy.

Volunteers help preserve this gem and its legacy so that present and future generations can continue to enjoy this local treasure.

For more information contact:

Friends of Robert H. Treman State Park
105 Enfield Falls Road
Ithaca, New York 14850
tremanparkfriends.org

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We Need Your Help!
Volunteering at
Robert H. Treman State Park



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2015



Why Volunteer?



(Photo courtesy of Sherene Baugher)

The short answer is that volunteers help keep the park trails and facilities beautiful and available to the public.

The longer answer? While the park does have full-time staff that carries on daily maintenance, volunteers supplement the park staff. By volunteering, you help projects such as trail repair be completed sooner, and your efforts free the staff to work on additional projects that make Robert H. Treman the gem that it is.

Each state park receives a fixed budget from New York State to use to operate and maintain the park. Volunteers help this budget go further by helping park staff with some maintenance projects and by providing additional services that would not be possible with staff alone.

Who are Friends of Robert H. Treman State Park?

The Friends of Robert H. Treman State Park is incorporated as a 501(c) (3) educational, not-for-profit organization. Its purpose is to conduct educational and history-related programs, services, and activities in keeping with the nature of the park; to assist in fund-raising activities, the purchase of objects, equipment, and supplies for the benefit of the park; and to support this park for the benefit of the local community, the residents of the State of New York, and the general public.

The Friends organization holds a winter lecture series, gives tours of the Mill at the Upper Park; and publishes newsletters, an archaeology walking tour brochure, a bird list for park visitors, and a "family work sheet" for parents and children visiting the mill. We also host an annual fall Heritage Day at the park with tours of the mill, the gorge, and the archeological sites.

For just \$10 you can join the Friends of Robert H. Treman State Park. Your membership supports our free educational programs throughout the year, and helps protect the park's resources, including the historic mill.

To join or renew, you can visit our website tremanparkfriends.org or mail a request for a membership form to:

Friends of Robert H. Treman State Park
105 Enfield Falls Road
Ithaca, N.Y. 14850



Volunteers of all ages come to help get the park ready for the summer tourists!
(Photo courtesy of Sherene Baugher)



Volunteers helping to fill sandbags that the park staff used to repair stone masonry along the trail damaged by the 2013 flood.
(Photo courtesy of Tony Ingraham)

Types of

Volunteer

Work

I Love My Park Day

What is it?

Help us prepare the park for the summer tourist season by building picnic benches, clearing the paths of leaves, and repairing trails. Let's make the park sparkle like the local gem it is!



Volunteers bring fieldstones to repair trail masonry (Photo courtesy of Tony Ingraham)

When:

May (work day listed on tremanparkfriends.org)

Who Can Be Involved?

- Families
- Individuals
- Community Groups
- College Groups



Volunteers help to repair the trails (Photo courtesy of James Dunn)

Archaeological Walking Trail Maintenance

What is it?

Have you been on our self-guided walking tour of the archaeology sites at Treman? Would you like to help keep this tour accessible to future visitors? Then sign up to help us by weeding and cleaning the granite footprints in the spring and summer.



Volunteers resetting the pavers at the Budd House archaeology site after weeding (Photo courtesy of Sherene Baugher)

When:

Specific work days are listed on tremanparkfriends.org

Who Can Be Involved?

- Families
- Individuals



Volunteers smile after weeding the granite footprint of the Enfield Falls Hotel (Photo courtesy of Sherene Baugher)



What is it?

FORCES is a program aimed at boosting and growing student volunteerism within New York State Parks by providing the opportunity to participate in stewardship, conservation, and historic preservation projects. Student involvement can range from a one-day event, internships or long-term projects. Connecting students with the parks creates mutually beneficial partnerships that helps maintain and enhance the quality of visitors' experience while simultaneously strengthening the academics of students by providing them with hands-on experience.



FORCES volunteers installing an interpretive sign (Photo courtesy of Josh Teeter)

What do they do?

FORCES volunteers have a wide variety of options for getting involved. Depending on the interests and experience of the individual, they can help organize volunteer groups to repair park trails or remove invasive plants, lead educational tours or hikes through the parks, design promotional materials, survey and map invasive species, or help the park with specific requests.

Cleaning the Mill Museum and Grounds

What is it?

Help us welcome visitors to our museum by cleaning the Mill, the exhibits, and the landscape in front of the mill!



Spring grooming of the landscape outside the mill (Photo courtesy of Neil Poppensiek)

When:

Specific work days are listed on tremanparkfriends.org

Who Can Be Involved?

- Individuals
- Families

Trail Maintenance

What is it?

There are several opportunities during the year where volunteers are invited to help with trail maintenance and other park projects.

When:

Specific work days are listed on tremanparkfriends.org

Who Can Be Involved?

- Individuals
- Community Groups

Special Notes:

The park staff decides what work will be done based on how many volunteers sign up for a specific day.

FORCES Continued

When:

Year-round

Who can be involved?

- College groups
- Individual students
- Professors



Volunteers preparing to break the ice on the Gorge Trail (Photo courtesy of Josh Teeter)

Special Notes:

Contact Josh Teeter (Josh.Teeter@parks.ny.gov) or through a contact listed on tremanparkfriends.org for more information about the specific projects available through the FORCES program. Include a description of your interests and availability.



FORCES volunteers raking leaves on the Rim Trail (Photo courtesy of Josh Teeter)

Archival Research

What is it?

Help us with park historical research, including hunting down historic photographs and conducting research on the numerous archaeological artifacts we've found.

When:

Year-round

Who Can Be Involved?

- Individuals

Special Notes:

Research volunteers keep the Friends apprised of the progress of their research on a bi-monthly basis; and upon completion of their project, present the Friends with a copy of their findings.

Are There Other Opportunities?

YES! You can also check out the Friends of Robert H. Treman State Park website tremanparkfriends.org for other volunteer opportunities and upcoming events. If you or your group have an idea for work that does not fall under one of the listed categories, you are welcome to share your ideas with us.

If you have a background in geology, animal science, birds, natural resources, plants, mills, astronomy, or local history, would you like to give a talk to our campers in the summer? You can check our website (listed below) for contact information.

Contact Information

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Ithaca, N.Y. 14850
tremanparkfriends.org