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Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor Receives National Park Foundation Grant to Expand Environmental Education Programs

WATERFORD, NY— Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor has received a grant from the National Park Foundation to expand environmental education programs throughout the National Heritage Corridor. The grant will support both field trips and online learning so that students from a wide geography can participate.

“This funding has a significant impact on students, classrooms, and historic sites. Since 2012, more than 60,000 students from 250 schools have participated in education programs within the Erie Canalway supported by the National Park Foundation,” said **Bob Radliff, Executive Director of the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor**.

Thanks to grant funding, Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor will:

- Work with **Corn Hill Navigation** in Rochester to engage 1,500 fifth grade students from the **Rochester City School District** in the *Environmental Education on the Genesee* program aboard Cornhill’s tour boat *Riverie* during the 2024-25 school year.
- Collaborate with the **Montezuma Audubon Center** in Savannah to develop a set of online environmental education lessons on wetlands and wildlife for elementary students.
- Provide field trips for 3,500 students to visit 17 canal-related historic and cultural sites throughout the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor (see list below).

The National Park Foundation is committed to ensuring that all youth have access to national parks and meaningful opportunities to develop a lifelong affinity for parks. The [Open OutDoors for Kids program](#) aims to foster the innate sense of wonder and curiosity that children have for the world around them and immerses students in national parks through field trips, classroom engagements, and educational activities.

Teachers can find educational resources and field trip registration at the [Erie Canal Learning Hub](#), a joint initiative of Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor and New York State Canal Corporation.

Field Trip Locations

Albany Institute of History & Art, Albany
Arkell Museum at Canajoharie, Canajoharie
Camillus Erie Canal Park, Camillus
Chittenango Landing Canal Boat Museum, Chittenango
Cornhill Navigation/Riverie & Sam Patch Boat Tours, Rochester/Pittsford
Erie Canal Discovery Center, Lockport
Erie Canal Museum, Syracuse
Feeder Canal & Towpath Trail, Hudson Falls
Fort Stanwix National Monument, Rome
Historic Palmyra, Palmyra
MiSci, Schenectady
Rochester Museum & Science Center, Rochester
Saratoga National Historical Park, Stillwater
Schoharie Crossing State Historic Site, Fort Hunter
Seneca Museum of Waterways and Industry, Seneca Falls
Stephen and Harriet Myers Residence, Albany
Women's Rights National Historical Park, Seneca Falls

ABOUT THE ERIE CANALWAY NATIONAL HERITAGE CORRIDOR

Nearly 200 years after its construction, the Erie Canal remains an iconic symbol of American ingenuity and determination. The Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor works to preserve the Nation's extraordinary canal heritage, promote the Corridor as a world-class tourism destination, and foster vibrant communities connected by more than 500 miles of waterway. It achieves its mission in partnership with the National Park Service, New York State agencies, non-profit organizations, local residents, and more than 200 communities across the full expanse of upstate New York.

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