

## NEWS RELEASE

---

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**July 5, 2012**

**Contact: Robin Dropkin**  
**(518) 434-1583/ptny@ptny.org**  
<http://www.ptny.org>

**“I Love My Park Because” Photo Contest Launches**  
*Parks & Trails New York gives New Yorkers new way to support parks and win prizes*

ALBANY, N.Y. – New Yorkers love their parks, and Parks & Trails New York (PTNY) is giving New Yorkers more ways to show it with the launching of the “I Love My Park Because” photo contest that will run through September 4, 2012.

On I Love My Park Day this past May, volunteers from around the state gave back to the parks and historic sites they love by rolling up their sleeves and pitching in with needed projects. This summer, New Yorkers can get creative and express their love for parks through a photo.



“We know New Yorkers love their parks,” said PTNY Executive Director Robin Dropkin. “Parks protect natural resources, boost local economies, and give people a place to hike, swim, learn, relax and recharge. The ‘I Love My Park Because’ photo contest is an exciting new way to tap into that love and enthusiasm and generate greater awareness about all the benefits we receive from these treasured places.”

Park lovers are invited to take a photo of themselves in any public park in New York State holding a sign describing or showing why they love their park. Photo entries should be sent by August 31, 2012 to [ilovemypark@ptny.org](mailto:ilovemypark@ptny.org) along with contact information and the name of the park.

There are three chances to win prizes: PTNY will pick its overall favorite photo and the most original photo, along with one random winner from all eligible entries. Prizes include camping gear from REI. Winners will be announced in September. Complete information on contest rules and prizes along with examples of photos are available at <http://www.ptny.org/showparkslove>.

Parks & Trails New York is the leading statewide organization working to preserve and enhance a network of parks, greenways and trails for all New Yorkers for generations to come. Since 1985, its influential reports and advocacy efforts have been critical to keeping parks and historic sites open and protecting New York’s natural, recreational, cultural and historical resources. For more information, visit [www.ptny.org](http://www.ptny.org).

#####