



Catskill Mountainkeeper 2020 Program Highlights



Catskill Mountainkeeper's mission is to protect our region's wild lands and natural resources, support smart development to sustainably grow our economy, nurture healthy communities, and accelerate the transition to a 100% clean energy future in New York and beyond.

New York's Fracking Ban Signed into Law

In a major April victory, the NY State Legislature permanently banned fracking by enshrining our state ban in law. As one of the leading organizations in the fracking fight, Mountainkeeper has long advocated for codifying our regulatory ban to ensure long-term protection for our state's people and the environment, and this victory is the culmination of years of hard work and determination.



Fighting a Liquid Natural Gas Terminal on the Delaware River

We scored a big victory by stalling a massive new fracked liquefied natural gas (LNG) terminal in Gibbstown, NJ—located on the Delaware River—that poses huge environmental, health, and safety risks in the Delaware River Basin and beyond.

Fracking Health Impacts

Mountainkeeper is excited about the release of the 7th edition of the *Compendium of Scientific, Medical, and Media Findings Demonstrating Risks and Harms of Fracking*, compiled and edited by our Senior Research Director Kathy Nolan, MD and colleagues at the Concerned Health Professionals of New York. Injecting hard scientific evidence into this debate has never been more important, and the Compendium is a powerful tool in these efforts.



A Thriving Farmers Market

We had a bustling summer season at Mountainkeeper's Farmers Market in the Town of Liberty, which allows people to shop using vouchers from assistance programs that lower the cost of fresh produce for eligible low-income seniors, women, infants, and children. People have become increasingly interested in access to local foods during the pandemic, and this helped drive a 30% increase in attendees during this market season.

Keep in touch!



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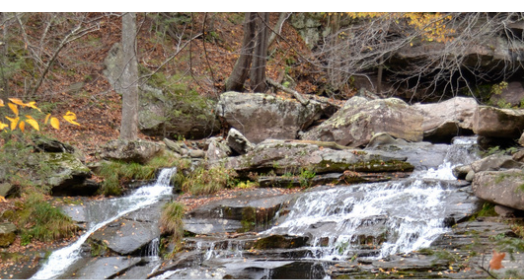
High Use & Overuse in the Catskills

This year, Mountainkeeper launched an effort to address the increasing problems seen throughout the Catskill Park as a result of a big surge in visitors. We created a short film to document some of the area's "hot spots," which have been littered with trash, overrun with crowds on the trails and too many cars on local roads. We're working with experts to create high-level strategies to respond to the problem: our Executive Director, Ramsay Adams, has been appointed by the Governor to the state's Catskills High Use task force.



Tackling the Pollinator Crisis

Mountainkeeper released an award-winning short film, *Save the Pollinators*, to raise awareness about the crash in pollinator populations due to the widespread use of a class of pesticides called neonicotinoids ("neonics"). This outreach part is of our efforts to build support for the Birds and Bees Protection Act, a bill before the NY State Legislature.



Funding the Catskill Park & Region

Mountainkeeper and our allies successfully campaigned for state investment to protect and enhance the Park and region. The upcoming NY State budget season will be a tough one, with the state facing a \$15 billion deficit, so this year we are playing a strong defense to stave off attempts to cut previous investment in these wild lands, while also advocating for new resources.

Transforming Our Energy Future

Mountainkeeper is working to spur New York's transition to a 100% renewable energy future grounded in equity and justice by making sure that New York's nation-leading climate law—the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA)—has the funding needed to implement the law. A centerpiece of this work is the Climate and Community Investment Act (CCIA), which will fund a just transition to renewable energy paid for by polluter penalties. This will be at the center of our work in 2021 and we'll need your help to pass this important bill. Stay tuned!

Constitution Pipeline Canceled

After almost 8 years of intensive opposition by Mountainkeeper and our allies, in early 2020 the company behind the Constitution Pipeline canceled the project. Working with Stop the Pipeline and landowners in the pipeline's path, Mountainkeeper and our allies successfully lobbied the Governor and NYS Department of Environmental Conservation to deny the required water quality permits for this dangerous pipeline. The state's decision launched a slew of court battles, and in the end the investors finally read the writing on the wall and pulled their support for the project.



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