

Albert-McLaughlin, Kim

From: O'Connor, Kathleen
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2023 3:07 PM
To: Bland, William
Subject: FW: Request for assistance with beaver management in Clarence Fahnestock Memorial State Park

4.6.2

Kathleen O'Connor, Commissioner
Westchester County Parks Recreation and Conservation/

914-231-4504 (Office)
914-813-4678 (Fax)

Performance **R**espect **C**ommitment



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From: O'Connor, Kathleen
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2023 3:06 PM
To: Bland, William <web1@westchestergov.com>
Subject: FW: Request for assistance with beaver management in Clarence Fahnestock Memorial State Park

Fyi....we said YES to the request for Dan's help ...

Kathleen O'Connor, Commissioner
Westchester County Parks Recreation and Conservation/

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Performance **R**espect **C**ommitment



Westchester County wants to be able to contact you in an emergency. Sign up at www.westchestergov.com.

From: Bogan, Lynn (PARKS) <Lynn.Bogan@parks.ny.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 9, 2023 2:11 PM
To: O'Connor, Kathleen <koc2@westchestergov.com>; Tartaglia, Peter <pjt2@westchestergov.com>; Klein, Jason <jak8@westchestergov.com>
Cc: Rausch, Ron (PARKS) <Ron.Rausch@parks.ny.gov>; CebadaMora, Gabriella (PARKS) <Gabriella.CebadaMora@parks.ny.gov>; Jaycox, Jesse (PARKS) <Jesse.Jaycox@parks.ny.gov>
Subject: Request for assistance with beaver management in Clarence Fahnestock Memorial State Park

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Commissioner O'Connor,

On behalf of the NYS Parks Taconic Region Environmental Stewardship staff, I'm writing to request the assistance of Dan Aitchison, Senior Curator of Wildlife at Westchester County Parks, with beaver management in Clarence Fahnestock Memorial State Park in Putnam County, NY.

Mr. Aitchison has been in contact with our Regional Environmental Stewardship and Central Office Wildlife staff and could provide valuable assistance to Regional Stewardship staff that have minimal experience in managing nuisance beaver. Given Mr. Aitchison's experience with beaver management, he could train our staff with conducting formal site assessments and provide input on design, construction and installation of water leveling devices in an area where beaver are currently impacting park infrastructure (bridges and trails). It is our intention that through this training and field assistance, Regional Stewardship staff will be able to independently assess, design, construct and install additional devices on their own at NY State Parks in the future when the need arises.

Westchester County Parks has had a longstanding relationship with NYS Parks, most recently through discussions on deer management programs on our respective properties through a meeting organized by the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), and we'd like to continue to collaborate with Westchester County Parks on wildlife issues where we could learn and benefit from one another. NYS Parks will secure required permits (e.g., nuisance beaver permit) from NYSDEC prior to any disturbance to beaver created structures (e.g., dams, lodges) and before the installation of any water leveling device.

We anticipate the work requested from Mr. Aitchison will only require 2-3 days of his time, at most. This includes a few hours for the formal site assessment to train staff on taking appropriate measurements and determining quantities and appropriate materials to purchase, followed by the construction and installation at a later date, with assistance from NYS Parks staff. We don't anticipate that obtaining the necessary permit from NYSDEC and our internal environmental review (SEQR) will take too long and are hopeful that this work could happen this spring, although we can't provide exact dates until the permit is in hand and SEQR is complete.

We appreciate your consideration of this request. Please reach out if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Lynn Bogan
Conservation Section Head

New York State Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation

Division of Environmental Stewardship and Planning
625 Broadway, Albany, NY 12238
Phone: (518) 473-1406 | Cell: (518) 813-2360