

# ADK-ON Conservation Committee Report April 2010

Chair: **Mary Kunzler-Larmann**

Associate Chair: **Kathy Disque**

- Met three times in Schenectady area with Club Conservation Committee. This includes Canoe Routes Sub-Committee and Wild Lands Stewardship Program.
- In 2009-2010 the Club Conservation Committee has continued to:
  - Track State budgeting process & monitor legislative outlook affecting our public land
  - Guide ADK strategic planning as it relates to Conservation
  - Continue protective and environmental lobby efforts, for example:
    - Advocate for Bigger Better Bottle Bill
    - Preserve clean air legislation
  - Work with DEC on policy regarding use of Adirondack lands and waters, for example:
    - Low's Lake: addition to Five Ponds Wilderness Area & floatplane restriction recommendations
    - Work for ATV legislation--- responsible use of public lands
    - Advocate for roadless and motorless use of public lands—statewide
    - Advise DEC on reclassification of easement lands
    - Assist in state land management planning (UMP) process
    - Advocate for new land acquisitions
  - Follow DEC Lands & Forests Proposed Rule-Making announcements & provide comment
  - Provide comment to APA on Snowmobile Trails Construction & Maintenance Guidelines proposal
  - Inform on Marcellus Shale Formation natural gas drilling – and hydro-fracturing technology
  - Wild, Scenic and Recreational Rivers Program updates and expansion
- **The Wild Lands Stewardship Program** – adopters explore and monitor a unit or section of Forest Preserve or other public lands. The sub-committee administers and promotes the program.
- **Canoes Routes Sub Committee** – monitor and work to assure preservation of existing canoe routes, river and lake access, promote the opening of new routes.
- I also attended DEC Region 6 & 7 Open Space Planning Advisory Committee meetings in Cortland, Watertown and Lowville.

## A Current Key Issue:

### Marcellus Shale

For more than a year, ADK's Public Affairs Office has been deeply involved in issues surrounding potential gas drilling in the Marcellus Shale, an underground formation that stretches from the Catskills to Lake Erie. We are particularly concerned about potential drilling in Allegany State Park and in other natural areas used by ADK members. Here are some documents related to our advocacy efforts. Go to <http://www.adk.org/issues/index.aspx> for:

- [ADK comments on draft Supplemental Generic Environmental Impact Statement on Marcellus Shale drilling](#)
- [ADK Working to Protect Allegany State Park from Gas Drilling](#)
- [ADK Comments on NYS Energy Plan](#)
- [Allegany State Park needs legal protection](#)
- [ADK Allegany Plan Testimony](#)
- [ADK Testimony on Proposed Gas Drilling of Marcellus Shale](#)

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