

SPRINGWATER TRAILS MEMBERSHIP

As a member of the Springwater Trails Association, you are contributing to a recreational future in Springwater. You will also receive these benefits:

1. Weekly email notices of the upcoming hikes sponsored by Springwater Trails.
2. Email notices of upcoming trail building opportunities on the Springwater Trail.
3. The right to vote at general membership meetings and on-line elections.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Individual Membership _____ \$20

Family Membership[‡] _____ \$30

[‡] A family membership is entitled to two emails and two votes. Please enter the second name and email.

2nd Name _____

2nd Email _____

Contributing Member* _____ \$100

* Contributing Members are listed on our website. Please write the name to appear if different from the name above.

Other donation _____

TOTAL _____

Please make checks payable to *Springwater Trails, Inc.*

Send to:

Springwater Trails, Inc
PO Box 162
Springwater, NY 14560

Detach here and send with your check to Springwater Trails, PO Box 162, Springwater, NY 14560



Come explore Springwater with us



Photo Credits

Photos above used with permission of Char Buck who owns the copyright on her photos.

Above Top—Ontario Pathways east of Canandaigua
Above Bottom—Trailbuilding in East Springwater
Inside—Hiking the Letchworth Branch of the FLT
The Erie Rail bed in Springwater.

Other images from the internet include:

Front cover—Birds Eye view of Letchworth from Bing.com

Mount Morris Dam—Warrior481.blogspot.com from 2007
US Federal Government via Wikipedia.org

Rails to Trails — TrailLink.com and erierailroad.org

Springwater Trails, Inc

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PO Box 162
Springwater, NY 14560

Phone: 585-259-4505
E-mail: info@springwatertrails.org
Web: <http://springwatertrails.org>

SPRING 2014

SPRINGWATER TRAILS, INC

Our mission:

To create, identify, protect and promote hiking trails in the Springwater area.

To increase awareness and enjoyment of Springwater's unique geographical features, natural resources and open spaces by residents and visitors to the area.



[HTTP://WWW.SPRINGWATERTRAILS.ORG](http://www.springwatertrails.org)

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SPRING 2014 SCHEDULE

Hikes in April and May and on June 1 start at 2:00PM Sunday and end around 4:00PM*. Other June hikes start at 4:00PM. Hikes are subject to change due to weather.

April 6	Indian Fort Nature Preserve
April 13	Durand Eastman Park (interpretive led tour)
April 20	Easter – No Hike
April 27	Dansville – East Ridge Hike
May 4	Sonyea State Forest
May 11	Reeds Corner Road Hike
May 18	High Tor
May 25	Trail Building
June 1	Mount Morris Dam Tour Letchworth Hike
June 8	Whiteman Gull & Railroad Trail
June 15	Old Erie Railroad
June 22	Trail Building
June 29	Wolf Gull

*Details and updates available at
<http://www.springwatertrails.org>

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THE MOUNT MORRIS DAM

On June 1st, Springwater Trails will tour the Mount Morris Dam. This flood control dam, built from 1948 to 1952, was designed to hold back flood waters from all but the very infrequent floods that occur in the Genesee valley.



In order to maximize the ability of the dam to manage floods, the basin behind the dam is usually empty, allowing the river to flow at its natural rate. Whenever the river flow exceeds the capacity of the downstream river, the dam is used to store the excess water. When the flow of the river subsides, the stored water is gradually released, sometimes requiring 30 days to empty the reservoir.

During the Tropical Storm Agnes, the flood waters exceeded the storage capacity of the reservoir, requiring the release of more water to be released than the river could handle without flooding downstream. In spite of the damage that occurred during that flood, it is estimated that \$210 million in damages were prevented.



When the reservoir is full, the water has a maximum depth of 230 feet, and the water surface is 760ft above sea level. This is about 20 feet below the base of the Lower Falls on the river inside Letchworth, so all three major water falls are their full height even during high water.

On Sunday June 1, Springwater Trails will meet at 12:15 at the Visitor Center on the east side of the Mt Morris Dam for a tour of the inside and outside of the dam. Expect a half mile hike as part of the tour. The dam tour will precede our regular Sunday hike at 2:00 when we will enjoy the Finger Lakes Trail branch south of the dam and overlooking the reservoir area. More information at SpringwaterTrails.org.



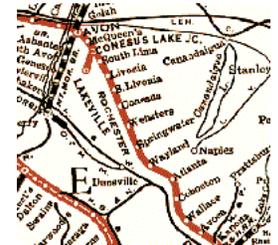
RAILS TO TRAILS

Springwater Trails has hiked on several old railroad beds, including a March hike on Ontario Parkways in Canandaigua and a 2012 hike on the Erie Railroad bed in Springwater. This season we have a planned June hike on the old Erie Railroad bed between Wayland and Atlanta, and one along the Erie-Lakawanna Railroad bed in Dansville.



The Rails to Trails movement has been preserving abandoned railroad beds since the 1980's. Today there are more than 20,000 miles of rail-trail throughout the US. The map to the left from TrailLink.com shows the many trails in western New York. It also shows we need strong advocates to bring trails to Springwater.

The map to the right from the ErieRailroad.org Historical Collection, shows the railroads near Springwater in 1941. Residents of Springwater can still remember the train whistles from the 50's as the train came through Springwater on the way to Avon and Rochester.



Rail trails take advantage of the shallow grades and straight paths needed by railroads to provide easy hikes through country side that is often separate from our regular views from roads.

On March 10th, 2014, the Supreme Court dealt a setback to the effort to transform abandoned railroad lines into public paths, ruling that buyers of such lands are not required to



continue granting a federal right of way. This ruling does not apply to our area because the old railroads were not on rights of way granted by the federal government.