

Friends of the Outlet, Inc.

Fall 2018

Special Interest Articles

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FOTO Board of Directors:

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Assemblyman Presents Proclamation



The New York State Assembly and Senate honored FOTO and the Keuka Outlet Trail with a proclamation that was presented on National Trails Day, June 2.

Assemblyman Philip Palmesano visited with FOTO Board members at a gathering held at the Cascade Mill site during the National Trails Day celebration and Walk for Water.

The proclamation, which will eventually be displayed at the Cascade site, says in part:

"This Legislative Body is justly proud to recognize the profound historic significance of the Keuka Outlet Trail, and pay tribute to the members of the Friends of the Outlet, Inc. for their tireless dedication to the preservation of this natural wonder...The Keuka Outlet is the only natural waterway between two Finger Lakes, and since 1989, volunteers have worked to preserve the history and natural beauty along this corridor, where some of the first post-Revolutionary war settlers made their homes in the late 1700s. Whereas, it is incumbent upon all citizens to recognize and applaud the efforts of organizations such as the Friends of the Outlet, Inc. which work tirelessly on behalf of protecting our natural surroundings for the benefit of present and future generations of New Yorkers; now, therefore,

be it resolved that this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to recognize the profound historic significance of the Keuka Outlet Trail, and paying tribute to the members of Friends of the Outlet Inc. for their tireless dedication to the preservation of this natural wonder..." FOTO Vice-President Philip Rahr presented Palmesano with a hand-carved walking stick branded with the FOTO logo as a thank you for his support. FOTO President Gwen Chamberlain commented, "We are grateful for the interest and support our work is receiving from our local, state and federal elected officials, but it was especially rewarding to have time to share the beauty of the Keuka Outlet Trail with Assemblyman Palmesano. We look forward to welcoming him and other elected officials back to visit anytime."

FOTO Board Drafts Long-Range Plan

The Friends of the Outlet held a retreat recently to determine what the organization wants to look like over the next three to five years. During the three-hour session, **Board members evaluated the progress that's been made on the objectives outlined in the Strategic Plan adopted in 2016, and identified multi-year priorities and timelines for achieving them.**

The priorities include:

(1) Addressing Trail safety issues: buildings, erosion, trail surface, ditches, railings for some areas, water quality, increasing security and communications along the Trail, street crossing warning on Cherry Street.
(2) Increase traffic on our website by adding links to community sponsors and increasing the number of other preservation, trail, historic, and recreational-related websites.

(3) Improving the Trail's user-friendliness with additional interpretive and way-finding signs, toilet facilities at Cascade Mill site, a bike fix-it station, library kiosks, picnic pavilion at Cascade, improved and/or expanded parking,

(4) Promote the Keuka Outlet and Area through relationships with New York State Parks & Recreation, Dept. of Environmental Conservation, and other state and federal agencies, expanding contacts with local and regional organizations, establishing internship and field period opportunities, and establishing a plan for grant-writing.

(5) Increase the Trail's economic development impact by expanding memberships and sponsorship support, making the Trail a tourist attraction destination,

and promoting the Trail's role in the community's overall unique appeal for potential visitors and residents.

"These priorities will keep our board and volunteers busy for a couple of years, while we continue to look to the Trail property's future," says President Gwen Chamberlain, adding, "Our board's committee structure is working well to plan for, finance, and implement our work to meet these goals, but we could still use help from other volunteers."

Do you have an interest in any of these areas? If you'd like to help the Friends of the Outlet address these priorities, please visit www.keukaoutlettrail.org and follow the links at the "Get Involved" tab.



Upcoming Events. . .

September 26, 2018

Board of Directors Meeting
7:00 PM
Lyons National Bank

The meeting is open to anyone interested in the Keuka Outlet Trail and the Friends of the Outlet.

September 29, 2018

Oak Hill BBQ Fundraiser
9:00 AM – 4:00 PM
Oak Hill Bulk Foods

October 7, 2018

Plein Air Painting
10:00 AM – 1:00 PM
Seneca Mills Falls

October 24, 2018

Board of Directors Meeting
7:00 PM
Lyons National Bank

The meeting is open to anyone interested in the Keuka Outlet Trail and the Friends of the Outlet.

Autumn Plein Air - Extraordinaire

The Autumn Plein Air FOTO Event is an open invitation to all artists, amateur and professional, to paint the natural beauty of the Trail.

Join Artist Doug Sciorra on Monday, October 7, from 10 AM to 1 PM at Seneca Mills Falls to share in the spirit and vibrancy of outdoor painting. The setting pays homage to the historical heritage of the Trail.

The event is designed to explore in paint the overall energy and atmosphere of

this historic millsite – replete with artifacts from an earlier time.

This follow-up to the summer session will demonstrate how the ever-changing beauty of the Trail around us can be captured through plein air painting. Artists will learn the nuances of the Flemish technique using acrylic paints to build color, values, accuracy, and realism in their painting. **All supplies are provided and participants will take home**

their very own work of art at the end of the day.

To participate, please RSVP to:
community@keukaoutlettrail.org



Hiking During Hunting Season

As ruminants like deer enter the rut, hunters too are on the prowl in pursuit of their sport. Hunters and can easily coexist on the same lands but you have to be mindful of hunting practices. It really isn't the best idea to bushwhack through thick brush while wearing that tan Carhartt jacket with a white bandanna sticking out of your pocket during deer season. Be aware also, that even if the hiker and hunter can't see each other, a .270 rifle bullet can travel more than three miles.

Avoid hiking in popular hunting areas, especially

during the first few days of the season. You should obtain a schedule of when seasons begin and end from the state or wildlife management agency.

When hiking anywhere in hunting season, even in places where hunting isn't allowed, it is important to wear high visibility blaze orange clothing. Now you don't have to run out to the sporting goods store and buy blaze orange bibs, jacket, overshoes and a pack but wearing an orange hat and a lightweight packable vest keeps you visible. Keeping visible also means wearing

a headlamp in the twilight hours as a turkey or a deer haven't mastered a flashlight yet.

Tips:

1. Know when hunting season is.
2. Wear brightly colored clothing.
3. Stay on the Trail.
4. Make noise.
5. Avoid hiking at dawn and dusk.
6. Put a brightly colored sweater or vest on your pet.



Support FOTO at the Oak Hill BBQ

Support the Friends of the Outlet (FOTO) and enjoy a tasty barbecue dinner! FOTO members will be manning the barbecue concession at **Oak Hill Bulk Foods on Saturday, September 29th from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM.**

Each Saturday during the busy summer and fall season, Oak Hill Bulk Foods offers charitable

organizations an opportunity to benefit from the large number of customers that visit the local store. The concession offers barbecued chicken or pork dinners, hot dogs, ice cream, and beverages from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM. FOTO will receive a portion of the proceeds for the day as well as the opportunity

to promote the Trail and recruit members. At least four volunteers will be needed. **To volunteer, call Gwen Chamberlain at 607-745-4790.**



Be Cool, It's a Multi-Use Trail

To stay safe on a multi-use trail, and make the experience more enjoyable for everyone, here are a few guidelines for blissfully sharing a bike trail with fellow cyclists, joggers, dog walkers, and everyone else.

1. Get out of time-trial mode. It's fun to go fast, but a multi-use trail isn't the place. Yes, you can crank things up a bit if you have clear sight lines and few other users but, as a general rule, keep it under control.

2. Ride right, pass left. Act like a car in these situations. Right for travel, left for passing. And, of course, obey all traffic signals.

3. Slow down—and be prepared to stop—when there are others around. People are unpredictable. Kids and pets especially,

but the truth is, anyone can be so involved in a conversation or wrapped up in their own thoughts that they'll make a bad choice even if they hear you coming. Slow to a walking pace and keep your hands on your brakes.

4. Make some noise well before passing. A bell is more charming (and less startling) than an "on your left!" but either is preferable to a stealth pass. Make noise—be sure you're heard—well before you reach the person you're passing.

5. Look around (and signal!) before passing or stopping. Just because you're doing it right doesn't mean everyone else is. Before you swing left to pass or hit the brakes to stop,

throw out a hand signal and take a look behind you for oncoming traffic.

6. Don't stand in the path. Sometimes it's nice to stop and look around and take a drink. Pull off the path when you do so, otherwise you'll block the way for everyone else.

7. Be nice. It's the most important thing. You're representing cyclists as a group. Don't be a stone-faced automaton bent on maintaining your quick pace. Treat people the way you want to be treated. Be friendly. Wave. Say hello. It will make all of our time on the Trail a little more fun. — excerpt from bicycling.com

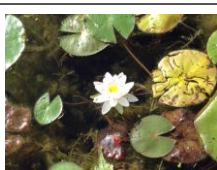


Congratulations, to our FOTO Contest Winner – Karen Doser!



Exploring the Outlet Trail with my granddaughters has been a summer tradition. Since they were small we would hike to Seneca Falls and then Cascade Falls. There is so much history here and seeing the Old Mill gave us time to explore our past. The last two summers has given me an opportunity to teach them about my passion for photography. Both girls were working on their Girl Scout "Digital Photographer" badge. These activities gave them the opportunity to be inquisitive and actually look at their surroundings. They had fun photographing bugs and tiny insects resting on flowers as well as landscape pictures of the falls and mills along the creek. This picture was taken in June when the wildflowers were in full bloom near Seneca Falls. Butterflies were absorbing the sun and the scent of the flowers. These two became friends on this flower.

Scenes from the Trail . . .



Interpretive Trail Sign Installed

FOTO is pleased to announce the first installment of five interpretive Trail signs designed to instill a sense of appreciation for the story the Keuka Outlet Trail has to tell.

Through the use of interpretive signage, the Friends of the Outlet present themes that enable visitors to understand more clearly the messages of history, the environment, and a nearly forgotten culture.

The signage installed at the Dresden Trailhead includes a

detailed Trail map, historical narrative and photos, Trail site facts, and Trail rules.

The remaining four interpretive signs will be installed in the coming year at Hopeton, Cascade Mills Falls, Seneca Mills Falls, and the Village of Penn Yan. Each sign will detail information specific to the site location.

Generous funding from the Dan Spence Memorial Fund, Verizon, the Community Foundation, and the Bruce Hansen Memorial Fund has made the signage a reality.

FOTO hopes the new signage will draw in visitors to capture a curiosity, develop an interest, and leave visitors with an undeniable sense of place and a little bit more knowledge than he or she had before.



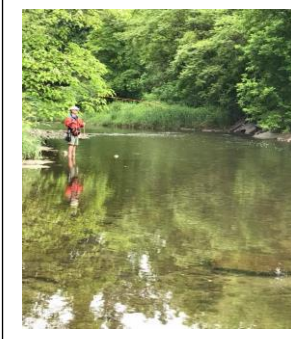
The new signage installed at the Dresden Trailhead.



The FOTO Board of Directors with the Mayor of Dresden, Bill Hall and Trustees at the newly installed sign. Photo by FOTO President, Gwen Chamberlain.



Trail Guides and Membership Forms are available at the Kiosks.



A fly fishing lesson.



The FOTO booth at the Keuka Lake Arts Festival.



Artists at work at the FOTO Plein Air Event.



Variations on a theme – Seneca Mills Falls



Chris Stockton, winner of the FOTO raffle.



Summer Sizzled on the Trail



Multi-generational outings are always fun on the Trail!



Painting rocks and coloring turtles at the FOTO Arts Festival Booth.



St. Michael's students clean up the Trail.



The Botanical Hiker points out the Purple-Flowering Raspberry (*Rubus odoratus*) which is edible and attractive to native bees and appealing to songbirds. Thirty-five people attended the FOTO Foraging Event.



The Walk for Water Event held on National Trails Day.



Frog Facts and Crafts at Story Hour on the Trail!

The FOTO Vision and Mission Statements

VISION: FOTO intends for the Outlet Preservation Area to (1) become one of the signature destinations in Yates County and in Central/Western New York with increased public appreciation for the Outlet as a geological and historical asset, (2) be a collaborative effort

supported by members, local governments and other public/private organizations, and (3) realize its potential to promote tourism, economic development, recreational and educational activities, local history, and various special events.

MISSION: To manage the Outlet Preservation Area to promote members' and the public's use, enjoyment, recreation, education, and safety of the Outlet. FOTO strives to continuously improve the public's experience when using the Outlet Preservation Area by

obtaining adequate funding to improve those experiences. FOTO expects that members' and users of the Outlet Preservation Area will want to regularly return to the Area and use it for a range of activities and purposes as outlined and support the Area with their time and resources.

Hiking: The Perfect Mind-Body Workout

At first, walking and hiking may sound like two words for the same form of exercise. The footwear and scenery may vary, but the lower-body mechanics seem the same.

Surprisingly, though, they're radically different. Research shows that your joints, heart and muscles perform in distinct ways during a hike compared to what they do during a jaunt around the block.

"When you walk on a level surface, your body does a really good job of what's known as passive dynamics," says Daniel Ferris, a professor of engineering and biomechanics at the University of Florida. Your walking stride, he says, is like the swing of a pendulum. "Thanks to gravitational and kinetic energy, if I start that pendulum swinging, it's going to keep moving back and forth for a long time without any additional energy input," he says.

Like a pendulum, walking on flat terrain allows you to keep moving with little effort. "But when you walk on uneven terrain"—the type you'd encounter on nature trails, deep-sand beaches or other natural surfaces—"that knocks out a lot of that energy transfer," Ferris says. "Your heart rate and metabolic rate go up, and you burn more calories."

In fact, hiking on uneven terrain increases the amount of energy your body uses by 28% compared to walking on

flat ground, Ferris found in a study he conducted at the University of Michigan. The varying ground slopes you encounter while hiking also make it different from flat-ground walking. Paths that go up, down and sideways require subtle shifts in the way your leg muscles lengthen or shorten while performing work, and those shifts increase the amount of energy you're expending during your trek.

But the benefits of hiking extend well beyond the extra calorie burn.

Navigating uneven ground—whether you're hiking or trail-running—recruits different muscles than you would use on flat, man-made surfaces. "You're turning on and strengthening a lot of muscles in your hips and knees and ankles that you don't normally use," Ferris says.

Pumping up those oft-neglected muscles may improve your balance and stability, which helps protect you from falls. Using those muscles may also knock down your risk for the kinds of overuse injuries—like knee or hip pains, or band issues—that can result from the repetitive nature of level-ground walking or running.

While variable terrain works your body into shape, the sights, sounds and smells of nature may be performing a similar kind of alchemy in your brain. A 2015 study from Stanford University found that time spent in natural

environments (as opposed to busy city settings) calmed activity in a part of the brain that research has linked to mental illness. Hanging out with Mother Nature also seems to reduce your mind's propensity to "ruminate"—a word psychologists use for negative, self-focused patterns of thought that are linked with anxiety and depression. "I'd say there's mounting evidence that, for urbanites and suburbanites, nature experience increases positive mood and decreases negative mood," says Greg Bratman, a coauthor of that study. More research is needed to back up these benefits. But, Bratman adds, "the idea that nature helps our mental state goes back hundreds if not thousands of years." For both your mind and body, a walk in the woods may be tough to beat. — excerpt from Time Health

Advice from a Trail

- Walk into beauty.
- Stay on your path.
- Find inspiration around every turn.
- Tread lightly.
- Pack life with good memories.
- Every day has its ups and downs.
- Watch your step!



"Hiking is a bit like life: The journey only requires you to put one foot in front of the other...again and again and again.

And if you allow yourself the opportunity to be present throughout the entirety of the trek,

you will witness beauty every step of the way,

not just at the summit"

**“Delicious
autumn! My
very soul is
wedded to
it, and if I
were a bird
I would fly
about the
earth
seeking the
successive
autumns.”**

-George Eliot

Fun Facts About Autumn



Squirrels Get Smarter

During the gray squirrel's fall caching season, when the critters bury nuts and seeds in hundreds of scattered caches to serve as emergency winter larders, a typical squirrel shows a 15 percent increase in the size of its hippocampus—the memory and emotion center of the brain—compared to the rest of the year.

Autumn is Good for the Economy

At least, in foliage-blessed states. “Leaf peeping,” the slang term for fall leaf tourism, is reportedly a \$3 billion-dollar business in New England, where millions of out-of-state visitors flock to take in the changing colors.

Fall Leaf Colors are Actually Present Year-Round

The gorgeous red, orange, and yellow pigments in fall foliage are actually there all year, just under the surface. Sunlight helps fuel plant cells containing a chemical called chlorophyll, which gives leaves its vivid green color while working to turn light into energy. When sunlight diminishes in fall, chlorophyll breaks down, letting the plant's hidden red, yellow, and orange hues shine.

Love Spikes in the Fall

Love is in the air on Facebook, too. An analysis of Facebook data found that more people change their relationship statuses from “single” to “in a relationship” or “engaged” in autumn than the yearly average, while more break-ups occurred in summer. It's Facebook Official: Fall is for lovers.

Autumn Used to be Called Harvest

Until about 1500, autumn was just called “harvest.” The full moon closest to the autumn equinox is known as a harvest moon. Before cities electrified, the bright night of the harvest moon was essential for farmers harvesting their late-year crops.

The Autumnal Equinox is An Equal Night

The Autumn Equinox (which occurs on September 22, 2018) is one of two days a year when the sun is exactly in line with Earth's celestial equator (think, the equator projected onto the sky). As a result, Earth receives exactly 12 hours of light and 12 hours of darkness. The trick to remembering this is in the name: The word “**equinox**” comes from the Latin meaning “**equal night**.”

Daylight Savings Time in the Fall is Good for Us

Our bodies love to “fall back.” On November 4th, daylight savings time ends, giving us an extra hour of sleep. According to a *New England Journal of Medicine* report, Americans' rate of heart attacks has been known to fall on the Monday following the end of daylight savings time in November, while the rate of both heart attacks and car accidents tends to rise on the Monday following the start of DST in Spring.

More Pumpkins, Please!

Pumpkins, perhaps the most iconic image of autumn, are grown on six of the seven continents (sorry, Antarctica). Their name comes from the Greek word *pepon*, meaning “large melon.” The word traded hands from French (*pompon*) to British (*pumpion*) before colonial Americans dubbed it *pumpkin*. The

colonials went one step further: the phrase “pumpkin-head,” referring to a dim-witted or unintelligent person, is recorded in America as early as 1781.

The Oldest Autumn Festival

One of the oldest autumn festivals is Mexico's *Día de Muertos* (November 1st and 2nd), a celebration of departed loved ones and the cycle of life that Mesoamerican cultures may have observed thousands of years before Christmas.

Lower Levels of Vitamin D Can Mess with Your Weight

Researchers think that lower levels of vitamin D (due to shorter days and less contact with sunshine) is in part responsible for autumn and winter weight gain. A lack of vitamin D is thought to reduce fat breakdown and trigger fat storage, leading to an average weight gain of two to four pounds each year in autumn and winter.

Fall Babies are More Likely to Live Longer

Children born between September and November are more likely to live to be 100 than those born at other times of year, according to a University of Chicago study of 1,500 centenarians. One theory suggests that exposure to seasonal infections (especially in summer) early in life can have a long-lasting effect on health.

The Aurora Borealis Shines Bright

Turn your eyes North to the Aurora Borealis. Also known as the Northern Lights, these geomagnetic storms occur when charged solar particles squeeze through our atmosphere's defenses and collide with gaseous particles in Earth's sky. Thanks to longer, clearer nights, this free light show occurs twice as often during fall and winter months.

Kids Fall for Autumn!



Talk About Autumn and Leaves

Fall into the season. Tell your child that autumn has another name – fall. Ask if he or she can guess where the name came from. Explain that it refers to the time of year when the leaves on some trees turn color and “fall” off.

Why do leaves change color? Explain to your child that leaves are green because they contain chlorophyll, a substance that helps plants make food. In fall, leaves stop making chlorophyll, and their green color fades. That’s when other colors that were underneath—the beautiful yellows, reds and oranges of fall—can show through. Ask your child to guess the most common leaf color (Answer: yellow.)

Fall recycling. Help your child discover ways that nature reuses old leaves. Overturn a bunch of leaves that have been on the ground for a while. You’re likely to find insects and other creatures. That’s because leaves provide these animals with food and shelter. Look for leaves from last year and show your child how the old leaves have begun to decay. Explain that these old, rotten leaves enrich the soil, supplying food so other plants can grow.

Paint Leaf Prints

Make beautiful leaf prints on paper or fabric so you can remember autumn after it has passed.

What You Need

- Apron (to protect clothing)
- Leaves
- Newspaper (if working on a surface that needs to be protected)
- Paint (washable if working with small children)
- Paint brush or sponge brush
- Paper
- Paper towel (optional)
- Small plastic cups, to hold and mix paint – such as recycled muffin package
- Rolling pin (optional)
- Fabric (optional, if you want to make fabric prints)

What You Do

1. Gather leaves. Any kind will work, but larger leaves are easier to work with. Maple leaves have a nice weight and flexibility to them.
2. Paint one side of the leaf. In some species, one side has more texture than the other. Paint the side with the most texture.
3. Press the painted side down on paper or fabric.
4. If pressing on fabric, consider a rolling pin. Protect your rolling pin by covering the leaves with paper towel or newspaper.
5. After a short time, peel off the leaves.
6. You can also paint around the leaves. This makes something like a fuzzy outline, and it looks cool too.
7. You can make a pretty runner for your fireplace mantle or table. Just print the leaves in line on a thin piece of fabric.
8. You can use the painted leaves for crafts when they dry.

Read a Good Book About Autumn

Glorious! Bold, beautiful paper sculpture brings out all the colors and wonders of the fall season. What a marvelous way to explore the wonders of autumn, including the animal life, the plant life, the weather, as well as the general feelings and sensibilities of the season! Nature activities for fall are included.

Author Linda Glaser has fond childhood memories of snuggling next to her mother and being read to. She’s grateful that because of this, she grew up with a strong love of books even though she had a terrible time learning to read. When she finally mastered it in third grade, she immediately grabbed a pen and pad and started to write. And she hasn’t stopped since. She loves how time evaporates when she writes. She also loves the feeling of being captured by a good book and hopes her readers will have that experience when they open one of her hers. Please visit her website www.LindaGlaserAuthor.com.



Autumn Bucket List

- Go to a football game
- Carve a pumpkin
- Visit a pumpkin patch
- Create a thankful tree
- Take pictures in a leaf pile
- Go on a hayride
- Have a picnic on the Trail
- Eat a caramel apple
- Roast s'mores
- Do a craft with fall leaves
- Go for a hike on the Trail
- Read a book about autumn
- Walk through a corn maze
- Drink some hot chocolate or apple cider
- Donate to a food bank
- Go on a leaf hunt
- Fly a kite
- Go apple picking
- Make a silly costume
- Star gaze under a quilt
- Take a nature walk on the Trail with a camera



We're on the Web!
See us at:

www.keukaoutlettrail.org

Mailing Address:

Friends of the Outlet
PO Box 65
Dresden, NY 14441

Email:

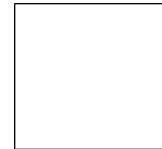
keukaoutletfriends@gmail.com

Trail Coordinates:

42.661N, -77.044W
42.680N, -76.958W



FRIENDS OF THE OUTLET, INC.
PO BOX 65
DRESDEN, NY 14441



CUSTOMER NAME

STREET ADDRESS

Address 2

CITY, ST ZIP Code

Poison Ivy in Autumn in New York

Summer may be over, but poison ivy isn't going anywhere. If there is ever a time to admire poison ivy, it is in the fall, when one of the world's most hated plants turns brilliant shades of red, orange and yellow. Anyone who has ever suffered through the rash that often follows encounters with the plant will find it difficult to set aside prejudices, but poison ivy is a native species and a hardy survivor in our increasingly urbanized environment. It may be poisonous, but it is not without merit.

Even the plant's scientific name, *Toxicodendron radicans*, inspires caution. The poison is an oily substance called urushiol, and though the mnemonic that begins "leaflets three" is helpful for field identification, it is not the last word. "Shiny leaves of three, let them be" is more accurate, and even then, during a dry fall, poison ivy may drop a leaflet or two. Urushiol creates a slick sheen on poison ivy's leaves that often concentrates as the leaves color in the fall. This polished appearance, the leaf count and at this time of year drooping clusters of greenish white berries cinch the identification.

Oddly, urushiol is thought to have evolved in poison ivy and its relatives (including valuable food plants like mangoes and cashews) to assist in water retention or as an antimicrobial agent, not as a defensive mechanism.

Urushiol's unpleasant effects are hardly universal — deer, rabbits and bears browse on poison ivy happily, birds are fond of eating its berries and some, including goldfinches and northern cardinals, use its strong, threadlike aerial roots to fortify their nests. Even your dogs or cats can wander through fields of poison ivy with no reaction — that is, until you pet them, and even then, it isn't your pets who may suffer. About 15 percent of humans are truly immune to poison ivy, but reactions vary widely, and repeated contact usually makes matters worse. For those who proudly claim immunity, the odds are good for a rude awakening. Urushiol can remain potent for several years on castoff leaves, or even fabric, shoes and pet hair. Unfortunately, it is also a myth that you cannot get poison ivy in winter. Even without the leaves, the stems and berries

can cause a blistering rash. If you plan to spend time in the field, it pays to know how to identify the plant in all seasons.

Adding to the identification difficulties, poison ivy can grow trailing along the ground, as a shrub or as a climbing vine in a variety of soils. It can be found in woodlands, fields and parks, and is probably more common now than when Europeans first colonized North America. Poison ivy appreciates the disturbed habitats humans create. In fact, recent research indicates that the plant will continue to thrive in our warming world, as it seems to benefit from higher levels of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere; its toxins become more virulent, its growth more extravagant.

