The Shawangunks
Savin’ the Trunks in the Gunks
Background: http://www.savethegunks.com/contact.htm1
The Shawangunk Mountain Ridge is a dynamic region of the Hudson River Valley. The historical and cultural evolution of the region can be paralleled to the historical progression of the United States. The Shawangunks serve as the home to an aesthetically pleasing and unique ecological system. The landscape of the region provides countless opportunities for outdoor recreation, along with a tranquil atmosphere, which acts as a relieving retreat from the hustle and bustle of modern society. These factors should motivate individuals to preserve this region, and to find a median between the growth and development of modern society and the maintenance of nature in the area.
Important Features

• Rare Natural Resources
  – Dwarf Pine Forests
  – Rare plants
  – Ice Caves and Wetlands

• Endangered Species
  – 200 species of nesting birds
  – Black bears, bobcats, rattlesnakes and more
  – 27 rare plant and animal species

• Supreme Outdoor Recreation
  – Weather and time led to steep and rugged rock formations for hiking and climbing
  – Variety of locations for enthusiasts

• Critical Watershed Recharge Area
  – Provides drinking water to region
Important Features

—Threats
  • Proposed developments
  • Recreational use
  • Fire suppression

—Efforts to Save and Preserve the Ridge
  • Green Assets
  • Biological Inventory
  • Conservation Center at Sam’s Point Preserve
  • Fire management plan
  • Over 11 (eleven) partner associations and preservations, not including private landowners/citizens, dedicated to the cause

Welcome to the Shawangunks!

“One of the Last Greatest Places on Earth!”

Mohonk Mountain House

Team: Biff Kellers
Lindsay Barry, Dave Blocki
Amalia Acosta, Ashley Knuth, and Heather Lisboa

Brochure

The Shawangunk Region is significant to the Hudson River Valley and surrounding regions because of its extensive history, unique and diverse ecological systems, and opportunities to appreciate the natural environment.

**Brief History**

- Over 450 million years old
- During this time, the region has seen growth of the natural landscapes, the settlement of the Native Americans, the exploration of its resources by the Europeans, the development of agriculture and industry, the mass migration of settlers out of the region for better land prospects in the West, and city life, the return of the natural environment with preservation movements, aesthetic appreciation, and construction of wilderness hotels, and finally the boom of suburbia.

**Places to See**
- Minnewaska State Preserve
- Sen’s Point, Dwarf Pine Barren Preserve
- Shawangunk Ridge Trail
- Mohonk Preserve
- Mohonk Mountain House

**Things to Do**
- Hiking and walking along our scenic nature trails
- Rock climbing
- Mountain biking
- Sailing
- Swimming
- Scuba diving
- Many places have guides or programs for these activities to help you better enjoy your stay!
Brochure

Natural Resources

- Supports 35 natural communities and 27 rare plant and animal species
- Home to diverse wooded forery including dwarf pine barrens and chestnut oak
- Watershed recharge area that supplies water for aquifers that provide drinking water
- Wetlands include peat swamps, small lakes, bogs, and marshes

Preserving the “Gunks”

- Some threats include proposed developments, harmful effects of recreational use, and fire suppression

Strategies

- The Nature Conservancy, other local preserves, and the Open Space Institute, are working to protect the area
- Recent and on-going programs include Green Assets, Biological inventory, Conservation center at Batch Peach Preserve, and Fire management plan

Location

For more information and Directions call:
1-800-123-4567

Come Visit Us!

Enjoy Your Visit!

As a valuable region of the Hudson River Valley, it is important that we preserve the natural landscape while still allowing visitors to fully enjoy everything that the area has to offer.
The Shawangunks

The Shawangunks stretch 50 miles from the New Jersey border at Port Jervis northeast to Rosendale, New York. This rich segment of the Appalachian Mountain chain is an integral part of the Hudson Highlands and the diverse home of 35 natural communities.

The development of the Shawangunk Region has been shaped by traumatic events. Extreme weather, fires, and the growth of human society with the exploitation of the region's natural resources, are just some of the forces that have worked in conjunction to form the current state of the Shawangunk region. Although we are human beings and do not have absolute control over the course of nature, we can influence its path significantly.

It is imperative that we work diligently to preserve the Shawangunk-Mountain Ridge, "one of the last great places on earth," in order to allow future generations to experience its history, ecology, and opportunities to experience a piece of nature which has not been completely tainted by modern society.

Of the two dwarf pine forests left in the world, one can be found on the Shawangunk ridge. Other rare and endangered species such as black bears, rattlesnakes, fishers, and over 200 species of nesting birds make this region their home.

You can help by making a difference towards supporting the continued protection of this ecological diversity by donating to save the ridge at JustGive.org.

Help from sponsors like you keep the Gunks green!
Conclusion

The development of the Shawangunk Region has been shaped by traumatic events. Extreme weather, fires, and the growth of human society with the exploitation of the region's natural resources, are just some of the factors that have worked in conjunction to form the current state of the Shawangunk region. Although we as human beings do not have absolute control over the course of nature, we can influence its path significantly. It is imperative that we work diligently to preserve the Shawangunk Mountain Ridge, "one of the last great places on earth," in order to allow future generations to enjoy its history, ecology, and opportunities to experience a piece of nature which has not been completely tainted by modern society.

http://www.nature.org/wherewework/northamerica/states/newyork/preserves/art12373.html