

## ECOS PUBLICATIONS

**Natural Areas** — These guides provide detailed descriptions of interesting places to walk and hike in the Capital Region. Each one includes directions, trail maps, and information relevant to the area. Natural Area guides are available for Schenectady, Albany, Saratoga, and Rensselaer counties.

**Along the Bike Hike Trail** — Another series of ECOS guides provides descriptions of the flora and fauna, interesting places, and local history along the bikeways. Each one offers a list of organizations and contacts to make your trip more enjoyable, whether you are hiking or cycling. These guides cover Schenectady, Albany, and Montgomery counties.

**ECOS Ski & Snowshoe Tips** — ECOS has created a book with maps featuring cross-country ski and snowshoe areas for seven counties.

**Wildflowers Along the Way** — This beautifully illustrated guide offers pen-and-ink drawings and detailed descriptions of selected local wildflowers.

**A Field Guide to the Karner Blue Butterfly** — This guide presents pen-and-ink illustrations and photos of plants and animals associated with the life and habitat of the Karner blue butterfly.

**Trees and Shrubs of the Capital Region** and **Ferns of the Capital Region, A Guide to Species Identification** — Both of these publications were created by naturalist Ed Miller. They contain a collection of essays on local trees, shrubs, and ferns.

*Publications may be purchased through PayPal, available on the website [ecosny.org](http://ecosny.org), or by contacting the ECOS office at 518 370-4125. Publications are also available at local bookstores.*

## WHO SUPPORTS ECOS?

The services, activities, and programs provided by ECOS are supported primarily by member contributions, and are carried out by the Board of Directors, staff, and the many members who volunteer their time and skills.

Please consider becoming a member of ECOS and volunteering to participate in its activities.

Benefits of membership are:

- Newsletter
- Annual dinner
- Access to unique and relevant publications in the ECOS library
- 10% discount on publications
- Volunteer opportunities

Contribution levels:

\$40 Individual  
\$50 Family  
\$75 Donor/Organization  
\$100 Supporter  
\$150 Sustainer  
\$250 Benefactor  
\$500 Patron

Please indicate if your contribution is eligible for GE Foundation matching funds, or employer matching funds, and mail contact information and payment to the address below.

### VISIT or CONTACT US

ECOS is located in the Niskayuna Community Center at 2682 Aqueduct Road, Niskayuna. Office hours by appointment.

ECOS: The Environmental Clearinghouse  
P. O. Box 9118, Niskayuna, NY 12309  
518-370-4125

e-mail [info@ecosny.org](mailto:info@ecosny.org)

[www.ecosny.org](http://www.ecosny.org)

# ECOS:

## The Environmental Clearinghouse



Phil Falconer

## Educating People and Preserving Our Natural Environment





# WHO ARE WE?

ECOS: The Environmental Clearinghouse, founded in 1972, is a non-profit, non-political association of people dedicated to understanding and preserving our environment. We do this through education, participation in outdoor activities, and publications.

## EDUCATION

ECOS arranges nature courses, seasonal workshops, lectures, and special events to inform the public on current environmental issues and the importance of citizen participation in decision-making.

Programs offered for schoolchildren include in-class activities, field trips, and other undertakings that encourage them to experience and understand nature and the importance of the environment.

Lessons are varied and could include the life cycle of the monarch butterfly,



or learning to kayak in Schenectady's Central Park.



## EXPLORING OUR WORLD

**Spring Walks—** Enjoy the warm spring scents and emerging new life as we welcome the season.



**Fall Foliage Walks—** What can compare with a walk in the brisk fall air, surrounded by magnificent color?

**View From the Water—** Guided tours along our streams and rivers bring us closer to the birds and fish that inhabit our waterways.



**Cross-Country Ski and Snowshoe Tours—** Both novice and advanced participants will enjoy these treks through a winter wonderland.



## Seven Preserve Challenge

It's a chance to explore seven beautiful preserves in the Capital Region at an unstructured pace. Upon completion, the participant receives a patch from ECOS to commemorate the accomplishment. Contact ECOS for more information.

## Rachel Carson Celebration

Every year, a dinner is held in honor of Rachel Carson's work creating awareness of the environment. At this event, an award is presented to a local person who has significantly contributed to the preservation of our natural resources.

## DOING OUR PART



**Activities** organized by ECOS include trail cleanups and other environmental outings, hiking trips, and hands-on workshops for families.

A **Research Library** is available in the ECOS offices at the Niskayuna Community Center. It contains an extensive collection of materials on environmental topics and issues.

*Photo credits: Phil Falconer, Art Clayman, Will Seyse*