



NEWS RELEASE



*New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation
Palisades Interstate Park Commission*

Minnewaska State Park Preserve

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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5th Annual Minnewaska Mountain Bike Festival 2011

(April 8, 2011, Gardiner, NY.....) Bring your family to Minnewaska State Park Preserve for the fifth annual Minnewaska Mountain Bike Festival on Saturday, May 21st from 10:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. This year's event is sponsored by local mountain bike clubs, Gunks Mountain Bike Association (GUMBA) and Fats in the Cats, whose members will lead group rides for all levels of difficulty on the Park Preserve Carriage Roads, all day long. These carriage roads consist of over 30 miles of trails, offering various scenic vistas of the Hudson Valley and the Catskills.

Various clinics will be offered throughout the day, including trailside bike maintenance and repair, custom bike and helmet fitting, proper riding technique and more. A customized skills course will be available and supervised at all times during the festival for anyone interested in participating. Several local bike vendors will bring bicycles for people to test ride and select bicycle merchandise will be on display. Local eateries will be providing various tasty snacks for sampling.

Early arrival is suggested for the best parking, since the Park Preserve may fill to capacity early in the day. Please bring your own safety helmet and wear appropriate clothing and footwear. A parent or guardian over the age of 18 years old must accompany children wishing to participate in the program. **Sunday, May 22nd is the scheduled Rain Date for this event.** For more information about the Festival, please call the Park Preserve Office at 845-255-0752, or visit www.GUMBA.org.

For more information and to register for programs, please call the Park Office at 845-255-0752. The current fee for parking at Minnewaska is \$8 per car. All fees are subject to change. The Park opens daily at 9:00 a.m.; closing times vary throughout the year. Minnewaska State Park Preserve consists of over 21,000 acres of wild and scenic land located on Route 44/55, five miles west of the intersection with Route 299 in Gardiner, New York.

The Palisades Interstate Park Commission administers 30 parks, parkways and historic sites for the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation in New York as well as the Palisades Interstate Park and parkway in New Jersey. For more information about New York State Parks, please visit www.nysparks.com