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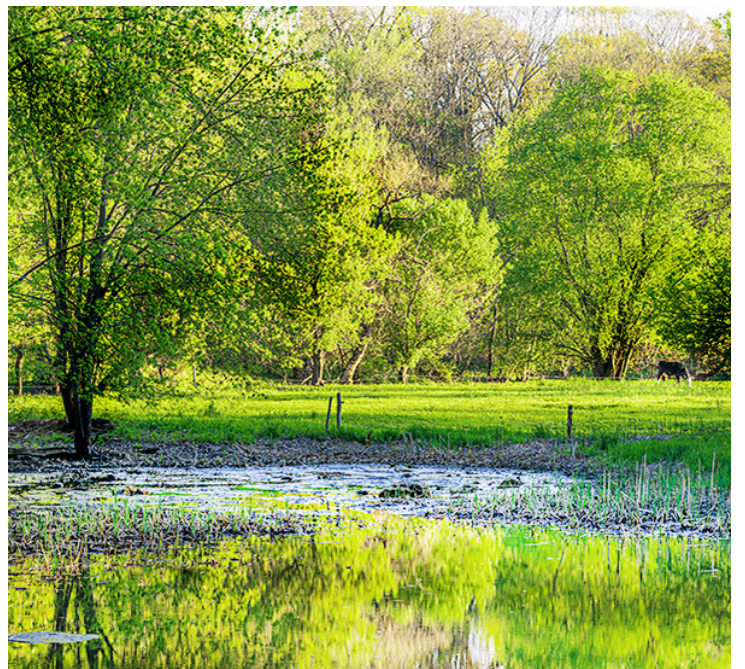
Protecting land for people, for wildlife, forever.



ANCESTRAL LANDS IN NEW YORK STATE RETURNED TO MOHICAN NATION

Nearly 400 years after their ancestors were removed from the land, the Open Space Institute has returned Papscaanee Island to the Stockbridge-Munsee Community. The land was protected from development by OSI in the 1990s and has since been a quiet preserve on the shores of the Hudson River, just 10 minutes from downtown Albany. "Our land is intrinsic to who we are, it's our identity," said Bonney Hartley, the Community's historic preservation manager. "The greatest gift is to have our land back."

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STORY MAP DETAILS HISTORY OF PAPSCANEE ISLAND PEOPLE

Explore the history of Papscaanee Island and the Stockbridge-Munsee Community's centuries-long journey from New York to Wisconsin, and now back again, in OSI's latest Story Map, *The Long Journey Home*. Watch video interviews with Community members and explore interactive maps of the land to learn more about the project, the land, and the Mohican people.

[VIEW STORY MAP](#)

OSI ACHIEVES HUDSON HIGHLANDS CONNECTIVITY SUCCESS

OSI and Orange County announced progress in the creation of the new Schunneunk Rail Trail. The initiative marks the first significant project called for in OSI's Highlands West Connectivity Plan – which seeks to connect 93,000 acres of protected land and six state parks – an hour north of NYC.

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MORE PLACES TO PLAY IN THE ADIRONDACKS

Five years after OSI protected more than 1,200 acres of Huckleberry Mountain, the land is set to be added to the Wilcox State Forest. The property features an open peak ridge rising more than 2,400 feet, and spectacular cliffs on the ridge's south and southwest face.

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SECURING MORE OF THE "FIERY GIZZARD" TRAIL

OSI and local partners have announced a critical acquisition along the popular Fiery Gizzard Trail in South Cumberland State Park, near Chattanooga. Conservation of the land protects bluff views and rich forests, while safeguarding habitat for sensitive plants and animals.

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PRESERVING OCMULGEE HISTORY, LAND, AND CULTURE

Once home to the ancient Mississippian civilization and their descendants — the Muscogee Creek people — the Ocmulgee River spans 17,000 years of Indigenous culture. Today, OSI and partners are working to harness Land and Water Conservation Funds to further protect the threatened landscape and the history it holds.

[WATCH VIDEO](#)

CADETS BUILD FIFTH TRAIL BRIDGE AT FAHNESTOCK STATE PARK

Continuing their commitment to parks and engineering, Cadets from the United States Military Academy at West Point have once again partnered with OSI and New York State Parks to design and build a new trail bridge to improve accessibility at Fahnestock State Park.

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