## **About BROEP**

Located in Boonville, NY and the surrounding region, BROEP establishes awareness, appreciation, and understanding of the environment by providing students with educational lessons on geology, ecology, biology, and history while engaging them in various outdoor aerobic activities. These activities include kayaking, biking, hiking, snowshoeing, and cross-country skiing.

Through these educational and aerobic activities, students are taught the benefits and importance of outdoor recreation, which gives them a chance to better their physical endurance and overall health. Moreover, research indicates that the symptoms of childhood obesity, ADHD, and diabetes can be alleviated when a child is physically active and that outdoor aerobic activity is superior to indoor activity. This interaction with the outdoors will also cultivate a generation of environmental stewards who have formed a spiritual, physical, and emotional connection with nature and who nurture their love for the outdoors from youth to adulthood.

"BROEP creates a culture of individuals that choose to be active and want to protect the environment."

- Elaine Hage, BROEP Program Director



## **Achieving New Heights**

BROEP continues to thrive, with over 130 schools having participated in the program since it was founded in the spring of 2008. The key to this growth stems from BROEP's emphasis on having children, parents, and educators understand the value of outdoor education and nature at its finest. This synthesis of outdoor activity and education is vital to the success of BROEP.

## **Campus Descriptions**

BROEP utilizes 8 campuses to offer students a broad range of aerobic activities including kayaking, biking, hiking, snowshoeing, and cross-country skiing. Each campus is endowed with its own unique geology, ecology, biology, and history. Students learn how to identify native trees and plants while discovering the role of various wildlife and bird species in their respective habitats. Students are also exposed to the changing role of energy use and how demands on the environment are impacting the region.

## #1 - Potato Hill Farm (PHF)

11904 Potato Hill Road, Boonville, NY 13309



The Potato Hill Farm (PHF) campus offers 7 miles of well-maintained biking and hiking trails across 170 acres of land. Visitors are enthused by the working farm which includes Black Welsh Mountain sheep, Highland and Limousin cattle, Alpine Dairy goats, Percheron horses, alpacas, donkeys, guinea hens, and peacocks.

Activities Include: Biking & Hiking

PHF is a private campus and is not available for public use.

**#2 - Alder Creek Gorge (ACG)** 9338 Egypt Road, Boonville, NY 13309



The Alder Creek Gorge (ACG) campus is home to one of the most diverse forests and geological landscapes in Central New York. At ACG, visitors encounter a series of gully trails leading down to the gorge. ACG is characterized by a hemlock forest and features several glacial remnants including kettle holes, eskers, and erratics. Current ACG weather conditions can be monitored via our external webcam at:

http://www.breiax-countryski.org/webcam.php5.

Activities Include: Snowshoeing & Cross-country Skiing

BREIA maintains ACG and provides the public with free, year-round access to the trails and free, winter use of the warming hut.

## #3 - Jackson Hill East - Telemark Lodge (JHE)

8284 Jackson Hill Road, Boonville, NY 13309



At the Jackson Hill East – Telemark Lodge (JHE) campus, bikers, snowshoers, and cross-country skiers are challenged with a variety of trails overlooking the vast wilderness of the Adirondack Mountains. The trails range from intermediate to advanced and accommodate different skill levels.

<u>Activities Include:</u> Biking, Snowshoeing, & Cross-country Skiing

BREIA maintains JHE and provides the public with free, yearround access to the trails and free, winter use of the warming hut.

## #4 - Towpath Feeder Canal (TFC)

13354 State Route 12, Boonville, NY 13309



The Towpath Feeder Canal (TFC) campus offers a scenic experience for kayakers and bikers. The trail commences by a picturesque covered bridge situated in Erwin Park and winds alongside the canal route for 10 miles to the hamlet of Forestport, NY. In addition to the spectacular scenery, students can also observe deer, turkeys, ducks, geese, and various floras native to the area.

Activities Include: Kayaking & Biking

TFC is managed by the NYS Canal Authority and the town of Boonville, NY, both of which have generously made their facilities, dock, and trail available to BROEP and the public.

### **#5 - Pixley Falls (PXF)**

11430 State Route 46, Boonville, NY 13309



The history of the Black River Canal is brought to life at the Pixley Falls (PXF) campus. The trail starts in Boonville, NY and continues south for approximately 7.5 miles. A portion of the trail runs beside the marvelous Boonville Gorge and passes through Pixley Falls State Park. The trail becomes steeper as it eventually progresses past the famed "Five Combines."

#### Activities Include: Hiking

PXF is a state park which contains trails that have been generously made available to BROEP. The trails are also open to the public year round.

"We connect students with nature and encourage lifelong involvement with the outdoors." - Lisa George, BROEP Assistant Program Director

# #6 - Black River Forest (BRF) 10719 Dustin Road, Forestport, NY 13338



Anchored by an elegant cedar warming lodge, the Black River Forest (BRF) campus offers 10 miles of trails on a variety of terrain, challenging students in all seasons. Bikers can ride through the pine covered pathways and follow a zigzagging, hilly descent to the bike barn. In the winter, snowshoers and cross-country skiers can navigate a series of well-marked intersecting trails.

Activities Include: Biking, Snowshoeing, & Cross-country Skiing

BRF is a private campus and is not available for public use.

## **#7 - Black Creek Landing (BCL)** 537 Fisher Road, Cold Brook, NY 13324



At Black Creek Landing (BCL), paddlers develop a foundation for proper kayaking technique while experiencing the beauty of their natural surroundings. The Black Creek meanders through the pristine woodlands of the Adirondack Park. Through kayaking, students discover a new way to maintain an active and healthy lifestyle.

### Activities Include: Kayaking

Black Creek is managed by the NYS Canal Authority, which has generously provided access to BROEP and the public. However, BROEP's dock site at BCL is private and is not available for public use.

## #8 - Jackson Hill West - Sunfield Lodge (JHW)

7849 Jackson Hill Road, Boonville NY 13309



Some of the most impressive views and landscapes at BROEP can be found at the Jackson Hill West – Sunfield Lodge (JHW) campus. JHW offers bikers, snowshoers, and cross-country skiers panoramic vistas of the Tug Hill Escarpment.

Activities Include: Biking, Snowshoeing, & Cross-country Skiing

BREIA maintains JHW and provides the public with free, year-round access to the trails and free, winter use of the warming hut.

#### **PROGRAM CAMPUSES** Boonville (28) Potato Hill Farm (26) 1904 Potato Hill Road Boonville, NY 13309 Biking | Hiking Alder Creek Gorge 9338 Egypt Road Boonville, NY 13309 owshoeing | Skiing The Adirondack Park Jackson Hill East -(46) Telemark Lodge (8) 12 8284 Jackson Hill Road Boonville, NY 13309 (28) Biking | Snowshoeing | Skiing **Towpath Feeder Canal** 13354 State Route 12 26 Boonville, NY 13309 (365) Kayaking | Biking **Pixley Falls** 11430 State Route 46 (69) Boonville, NY 13309 (8) Holland Patent (28) **Black River Forest** 365 10719 Dustin Road (49) (12) Forestport, NY 13338 Rome Biking | Snowshoeing | Skiing **Black Creek Landing** (28) (49) 537 Fisher Road (365) Cold Brook, NY 13324 Kayaking (69) 12 Area of Detai Jackson Hill West -**Sunfield Lodge** (29) 7849 Jackson Hill Road Boonville, NY 13309 Westmoreland • Utica 90 (31) Biking | Snowshoeing | Skiing

## **Invitation**

BROEP will continue to make the program successful by ensuring a long-lasting commitment between visiting students and the environment. To that end, we encourage students, friends, and family to enjoy 5 of our 8 campuses throughout the year for their entire lifetimes (ACG, JHE, TFC, PXF, JHW). This invitation is offered with the vision that access to outdoor education will lead to increased participation in outdoor activities, as well as a heightened appreciation of nature and the world around us.

**Note:** BROEP provides these educational activities to school groups that pre-register with our operations center. A knowledgeable coaching staff and all required equipment and safety gear are provided upon arrival, free of charge.



**BREIA Team, Maintenance Equipment, & Storage Pavilions** 

"It exposes them to outdoor life and it gives them a chance to get away from the electronic world, the texting, the gaming, and all that."

– Dick Hubalek, Local Resident

BROEP & BREIA By The Numbers	
# of Program Seasons (Fall, Winter, Spring)	3
# of Hours per School Visit	4
# of Activities Offered	5
# of Campus Locations	8
# of Counties Served	10
# of Schools that have Attended	131
Target # of Student Visits per Season	3,000
# of Student Visits Since the Program Began	58,000
# of Public Warming Huts/Structures	3
# of Private Warming Huts/Structures	4
# of Maintenance/Transportation Vehicles	29

Black River Outdoor Education Program 11904 Potato Hill Road Boonville, NY 13309

Phone: (315) 942-2299 Email: broep@blackriveroep.org

Website: http://www.blackriveroep.org/
Facebook: www.facebook.com/BROEP11904



## Who We Are

The Black River Outdoor Education Program<sup>1</sup> (BROEP), in conjunction with its sister entity, the Black River Environmental Improvement Association<sup>2</sup> (BREIA), strives to educate school-aged children about the responsibilities we have towards nature, conservation, and preservation. BROEP and BREIA work in a complementary manner to deliver outdoor recreational opportunities to the people of Central New York State. Both organizations have separate boards and are funded by a private family foundation whose founders have deep roots in Oneida County and other parts of Central New York State.



BROEP's successful implementation of the program hinges largely on its strategic partnership with BREIA. Since 1984, BREIA has been dedicated to conserving, maintaining, and enhancing the scenic and historical values of the Adirondack and Tug Hill areas of New York State. With approximately 30 miles of trails, 8 trail heads, 3 warming huts, and over 13,500 square feet of maintenance and storage facilities, BREIA has much to offer and shares its resources freely with BROEP. BREIA also provides BROEP access to BREIA's trails, equipment, buildings, and infrastructure. For more information about BREIA, please visit http://www.breiax-countryski.org/.

<sup>1</sup>BROEP is a 501(c)(3) private operating foundation incorporated in the state of Delaware.

<sup>2</sup>BREIA is a 501(c)(3) public charity organization incorporated in the state of New York.