

KIMBERLEY L. RAY



Director of Conservation, Carole Nemore

Conservation

Audubon New York Welcomes Long-Awaited Director of Conservation, Carole Nemore

Staff report

Carole Nemore comes to Audubon New York no stranger to environmental issues nor to Long Island Sound, the conservation program area that she will be responsible for managing, in addition to her other duties as director of conservation.

In 1977 as part of her graduate studies at the State University of New York—College of Environmental Science & Forestry, Nemore worked for New York Sea Grant to determine public attitudes about aesthetics and public participation in coastal zone planning. Based on her research findings on the relative importance of aesthetics in coastal zone management,

she was awarded the “Rene-Schoen” scholarship in 1979. This project work culminated in the publication of a master’s thesis: “Public Participation in Coastal Zone Management” in 1981 and the attainment of a Master’s Degree in Landscape Architecture. In the early 1980’s she was employed by the Department of Planning for the City of Syracuse and was in charge of a citywide survey of the public’s recreational preferences and park-related needs, a document that was used to guide future planning and development decisions in parks and recreation. In 1984 Nemore was awarded a fellowship with the Center for Women in

Government and completed a second master’s degree in Public Administration at the State University of New York at Albany in 1985, with a concentration in legislative studies. From 1986 through June 2001, Nemore served as the principal policy analyst on environmental and energy issues for the New York State Senate - Minority Leader’s Program Office. In 1998 Nemore became involved in the preservation of community gardens in New York City and also assumed responsibility for parks and tourism issues in addition to environmental and energy issues. Nemore’s research and legislative advocacy on behalf of

community gardens helped preserve imminently threatened community gardens and move the policy discussion to consider their permanent protection as small but vital community parks. Since 1996, Nemore has served on the board of directors and is an executive officer of the Albany County Land Conservancy, a nonprofit land trust. She currently serves on the Statewide Advisory Committee to the Land Trust Alliance of New York.

STATE BUDGET STILL PENDING

At the time this edition of the *Audubon Advocate* went to publication, there were still many unanswered questions about the finalization of the state budget for the fiscal year 2001/2002. While the state had approved a bare bones budget of expenditures from the previous year, many questions remained unanswered about critical conservation programs.

While FY 2000/2001 environmental program funds were re-appropriated on September 15, questions remain as to whether the Environmental Protection

Fund and the Clean Water Bond Act Fund proposed for this fiscal year would be approved and appropriated. In addition, numerous Audubon conservation programs have gained support from discretionary funds in the state. At risk this year are Audubon programs such as exhibitry at the Prospect Park Audubon Center, forest and bird conservation research initiatives from the State’s Biodiversity Fund and educational programming at Audubon facilities and centers across New York State.

It is hoped that by the time *Audubon Advocate* readers receives this publication in their mailbox, these unanswered questions will be addressed in a positive manner. For that to occur, Governor George E. Pataki, Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver and Senate Majority Leader Joseph L. Bruno would have had to find a way to come together and reach common ground. Audubon hopes that this will have occurred, thereby, continuing New York’s leadership in conservation.

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