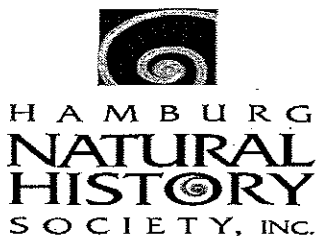


# SUSPENSION



## Penn Dixie

*Paleontological and Outdoor Education Center*

Chris Collins  
Erie County Executive  
Edward A. Rath County Office Building  
95 Franklin Street, 16<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Buffalo, NY 14202-3973

July 28, 2011

Dear County Executive Collins:

The Hamburg Natural History Society, Inc./Penn Dixie appreciates the opportunity to apply for \$25,000 in capital funds from Erie County for improvements to the infrastructure at the Penn Dixie Paleontological & Outdoor Education Center in Hamburg, NY.

The HNHS/Penn Dixie would like to install an additional 400-500 feet of paved handicap accessible trails and a 10 x 20 ft. shelter overlooking the wetlands on the northern section of the site. The wetlands were installed in 2008 and funded by the Federal Aviation Administration as a wetland mitigation project at the site. Penn Dixie was the benefactor of the \$139,000 mitigation project that was required as a result of impacts to wetlands during an expansion at the Buffalo Lancaster Airport. The trails will provide access to on an existing berm overlooking the wetlands and some paved trails will be installed on the inside of the berm so those in wheel chairs may have better access to viewing the plants, aquatic animals, birds and other wildlife. A segment of the proposed trails will be installed leading to the western boundary of the site where the future outdoor education center building will be constructed and will serve as the future access to the site. This additional section of trails will be a continuous extension to the existing 3,600+ feet of paved trails that are currently being used by visitors to the site. Penn Dixie would also like to purchase a gas powered weed whacker to help maintain over 2,000 feet of trails that are used along the northern and eastern perimeters of the site. When funds become available, these trails, and others on the site, will be paved and board-walked to make the site accessible for all.

The estimated costs for the trails, shelter and weed whacker is \$25,000. The HNHS/Penn Dixie appreciates your consideration of our request and thanks you again for this opportunity. If you should require any additional information, please contact me at 627-4560, my cell phone 864-270,1 or by email at [jbpendix@gmail.com](mailto:jbpendix@gmail.com). Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jerold C. Bastedo  
Executive Director

P.O. Box 772, Hamburg, NY 14075  
(716) 627-4560 FAX: (716) 627-4571, [www.penndixie.org](http://www.penndixie.org)  
*Owned & operated by the Hamburg Natural History Society, Inc.*