

ENVIRONMENTAL ALERT
Liberty State Park Protection Act (S1449 and A2189)
Caven Point Peninsula

Description: Legislation to prevent the privatization of protected public parkland known as Caven Point Peninsula located at Liberty State Park.

Liberty National Golf Course, located in Jersey City along the Hudson River, would like to purchase the neighboring 21-acre Caven Point of Liberty State Park in order to relocate 3 holes of their 18 hole golf course.

The targeted land includes salt marsh and beach habitats used by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection as an environmental education area. Annually, the park's environmental program provides hands on exploration to over 600 urban students. Other programs serve another 600 people of all ages and include bird walks, volunteer beach cleanups, and stewardship activities. In addition, it is estimated that over 5 million visitors enjoy this urban sanctuary each year.

The Caven Point Peninsula is also an important stopover for migratory birds on the Atlantic Flyway. Over 200 species of birds have been observed at the Park with approximately 100 species mating and nesting on Caven Point. The harbor estuary makes it an important stop for migrating birds. Other wildlife seen at Caven Point is harbor seal, northern diamondback terrapin, deer and horseshoe crab.

Moreover, to overturn the protection of Liberty State Park would set a precedent exposing state and national parklands to future schemes for privatization or development.

Many well known organizations support the protection of Caven Peninsula. To name a few, they are The Audubon Society, The Nature Conservancy, The Sierra Club, NY/NJ Baykeeper, and NJ Tree Foundation.

To takeaway this area of Caven Point from the public in order to benefit a private golf course would be a social and environmental injustice.

UPDATE: