



## Call for Participation

Responses Due Friday, April 30, 2010

### National NeighborWorks & Fall Kill Creek Week – Clean-Up and Art Exhibit

**Background:** A major tributary of the Hudson River, the Fall Kill flows through the towns of Clinton, Hyde Park, Pleasant Valley and Poughkeepsie and finally through the City of Poughkeepsie. As the creek winds its way through the countryside and into the city, it collects trash that is then deposited along the creek's banks. For the past two years the Fall Kill Watershed Committee has organized clean-ups to remove this material from the creek and to educate the public about this great watershed. This year, Middle Main Revitalization is partnering with Clearwater and the Fall Kill Committee to create a conversation about the connection that communities have with their environmental resources through a multi-faceted community event.

**Participation:** As a part of this effort, we are inviting local artists, writers and musicians to join us in removing trash from the creek in the City of Poughkeepsie and then respond to this amazing experience. By speaking with volunteers, helping with the efforts, and possibly using what is found, we hope the Fall Kill will be an inspiration to create work that is influenced by the watershed and those working to restore and preserve it. Work will be accepted in any media from participants in the event. Both amateur and professional artists are welcome to participate.

**Installation:** Once work is completed, participants will then partner with business and property owners along Main Street in Poughkeepsie to display the work, creating a dynamic connection between the city and its environment. This opportunity will not only give those involved a way of interacting with the project, but serve as promotional tool to display their work through Middle Main Revitalization efforts.

**Timeline:** The deadline to respond to this call is **Friday, April 30**. The Fall Kill Creek clean-up is scheduled for early June, which has been designated as National NeighborWorks Week. The art exhibit will start the week of July 12 as a part of Creek Week, which is organized as part of Watershed Awareness Month.

To participate or for further questions, call Andrew at **(845) 454-5176** or visit our website at [www.middlemain.ning.com/profiles/blogs/creek-week](http://www.middlemain.ning.com/profiles/blogs/creek-week). Thank you for taking the time to help improve our neighborhood!

**About Middle Main:** Middle Main Revitalization is a community initiative working to build a stronger Main Street in Poughkeepsie. We are residents, business owners, and concerned citizens working together to strengthen our neighborhood. Through advocacy, collaboration, and action, we are creating an attractive, safer, and more inclusive community.

**Arts and Middle Main:** We see art playing a significant role in this engagement. Here the arts not only support the revitalization of Main Street, but serve as a catalyst for members of the community to participate in a creative conversation about revitalization. Our objective is to use the arts as a way of reframing a narrative about Poughkeepsie through community collaboration that leads to greater understanding of the people and places that make up Poughkeepsie. This effort will be accomplished through a series of partnerships between artists and community groups that want to make Poughkeepsie a vibrant place to live.

***Building a unified vision for the future of Main Street in Poughkeepsie***