



A Message from our Chapter Chair

Friday, June 5th, 2020

To our community,

As the oldest chapter in the oldest outdoor conservation non-profit in the country, it's important for AMC NY/NoJ to communicate where we stand on important issues.

We stand with the Black Lives Matter movement and condemn the murders of George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and countless others who have suffered due to systemic racism. To overcome hundreds of years of oppression requires action beyond condemnation. We must become actively anti-racist.

We also stand with peaceful activists asserting their constitutional rights to protest police brutality and racial inequities. We believe this conversation is critical and necessary in making forward progress.

We acknowledge that it is a privilege to enjoy the outdoors freely. We believe that outdoor citizens should lead happy and healthy lives, and we will continue our work to ensure that every person has equal access, safety, and respect. This is inextricably tied to our "Be Outdoors" mission.

There is much we don't know, and we believe now is the time to educate ourselves, to listen, and to take positive actions. In the coming days, our Chapter Executive Committee will be meeting to review our strategic priorities and double down on our Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion programs.

We encourage all Chapter members to support this human cause however possible. Silence is NOT an option. If you have a voice, speak up about racial injustice and demand equal treatment of all people. Below are some resources to help you get involved. At this time, we will be using our platform to amplify voices from the Black and African American community at AMC.

Resources I started with

- [White Fragility by Robin DiAngelo](#)
- [Diversify Outdoors](#)
- [Campaign Zero](#)
- [1619 Project by the NY Times](#)

Actions to take now

- [Black Lives Matter](#)
- [BlackOUT Collective](#)

Additional [list of what to see, read, support, amplify \(adHoc\)](#) and continue to learn more on a daily basis.

Thank you to all who have raised your voices, and offered guidance. We're in this together, and it's too important to stay silent. There is much to be done, by all of us– to listen, to learn, and to speak out- and then to act.

Kaspar Alexander
NY/NoJ Chapter Chair

