

# Blackstone Heritage Corridor's



**GO!** for a walk,  
a tour, a  
bike ride, a  
paddle, a boat ride, a special  
event or harvest experience –  
all in the month of September  
in the wonderful Blackstone  
River Valley National  
Heritage Corridor.

Proudly  
sponsored by





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Visit [BlackstoneHeritageCorridor.org](http://BlackstoneHeritageCorridor.org)  
 for more free, guided experiences  
 and special events (some may charge  
 fees)! Updated daily.



**Blackstone  
 Heritage  
 Corridor, Inc.**

### WATER POWERED!

670 Linwood Avenue  
 Whitinsville, MA 01588  
 508-234-4242

[BlackstoneHeritageCorridor.org](http://BlackstoneHeritageCorridor.org)

Cover photo by Suzanne Buchanan

*We welcome you  
to September in the*

## *Blackstone Heritage Corridor!*

The Blackstone River Valley is known for many things, most notably as the Birthplace of the American Industrial Revolution. In the fall, its many other attributes come vividly into focus as the crispness of autumn grows from the last warmth of summer.

Explore our exceptional Blackstone River Watershed where habitats abound with great varieties of water fowl and other critters. Enjoy the waterfalls and scenic views.

Whether the Mumford or the West Rivers, the Branch of the Mill Rivers, or the grand old Blackstone itself – there are great places to kayak and canoe, fish, hike and photograph.

The 25 cities and towns in the Blackstone Heritage Corridor roll out the welcome mat in September. Each has historical ambiance, interesting eateries and lively pursuits. Each hosts free, guided experiences and entertaining special events all month long. Join us for walks, bike tours, boat rides, performances, harvest traditions, and more!

Visit [BlackstoneHeritageCorridor.org](http://BlackstoneHeritageCorridor.org) for visitor information, calendar of events, and more about our National Heritage Corridor.

**It's all water powered!**

**One valley...**

**One environment...**

**One history...**

**All powered by the  
Blackstone River!**

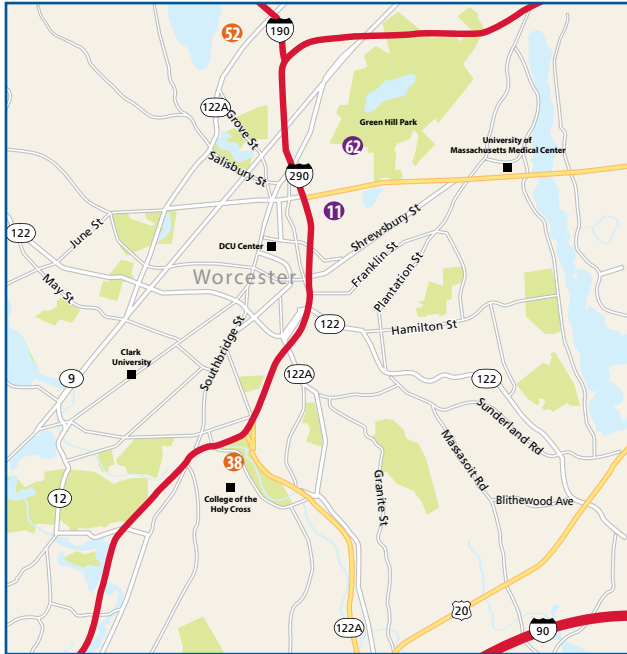
**So nationally significant, it was named the Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor. So important to the American identity, it was designated the Blackstone River Valley National Historical Park.**

Just





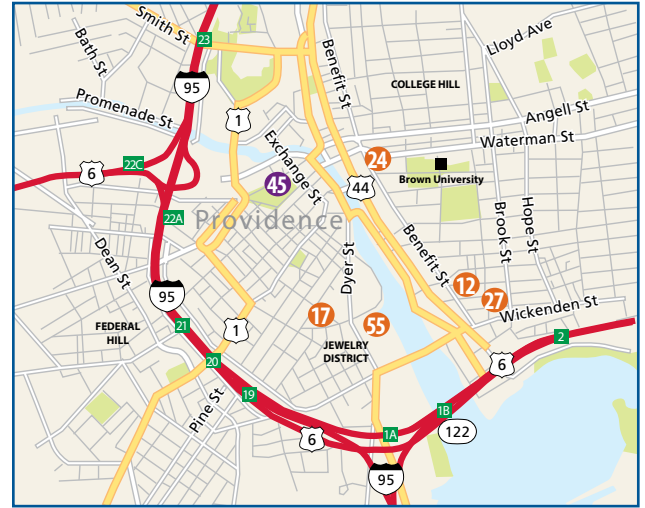
## DETAILED WORCESTER MAP



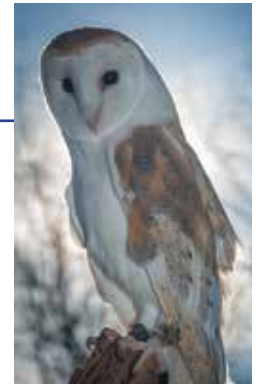
## It's All About the River – We're Water Powered!

The Blackstone River forms the spine of both the Blackstone Heritage Corridor and the Blackstone River Valley National Historical Park. It runs 46 miles from Worcester, MA, to Pawtucket, RI, and drops 438 feet in that distance, narrowing and surging the power of its waters to make it, at one time, the most productive river in the world. During the Laurentide Glaciation 15,000 years ago, a huge formation of ice slowly moved southward over the present Blackstone Heritage Corridor. The heavy, natural bulldozer was a mile thick and dislodged rocks, soil – everything in its path – redistributing those materials as it passed. North to south in central Massachusetts and Rhode Island, the glacier honed out a wide trench with steep banks that created the basic form of the Blackstone River. When the glacier melted, water filled the trench and worked on its banks to erode and shape the contours of the river. The present day headwaters are created by wetlands and small brooks that feed into the tributaries and the main stem of the river. The watershed includes 1,300 acres of lakes, ponds and reservoirs (Blackstone River Coalition, The Blackstone River – Clean by 2015, 2008.) Over time, the course of the Blackstone River has been greatly altered, manipulated by industry to power the mills. The “hardest working river” was left impaired by industrialization but, in recent years, great progress has been made to clean it up and make it safe for swimming and fishing. There is still more to do...

## DETAILED PROVIDENCE MAP



- Orange Numbers = Free Events
- Purple Numbers = Fee Charged



*Have you taken a great shot during GO!?*

**Enter our weekly photo contest online at [BlackstoneHeritageCorridor.org](http://BlackstoneHeritageCorridor.org).**

Watch next summer for our calendar photo contest! Enter for a chance to have your photo be one of only 13 chosen to illustrate our 2018 Beautiful Year in the Blackstone Heritage Corridor Calendar! Enter online at [BlackstoneHeritageCorridor.org](http://BlackstoneHeritageCorridor.org).





<b>9</b>	9/3/2016 • 10-11:30 a.m.  +12 Distance: 2 mi.	<b>Hike to Goat Hill Lock</b> 287 Oak St., Uxbridge, MA 508-278-7604	Uncover some interesting stories in stone and follow the changes in the landscape along the Blackstone Canal, stone arch bridges, an early stone quarry site and preserved remnants of a canal lock. Moderate hike up Goat Hill with roots and rocks along the path. Sponsored by MA Dept. of Conservation & Recreation, Blackstone River & Canal Heritage State Park.
<b>10</b>	9/3/2016 • 1-2:15 p.m.  Distance: 2 mi., 1.25 hrs.	<b>River Bend Farm Canal Walk</b> 287 Oak St., Uxbridge, MA 508-278-7604	Listen to stories about the Canal's history, ecology, geology, and wildlife as we walk where horses once pulled barges on the Lady Carrington Towpath Trail. Enjoy this designated viewable wildlife area with varied habitat of waterways, fields, and forest. Sponsored by MA Dept. of Conservation & Recreation, Blackstone River & Canal Heritage State Park.
<b>11</b>	9/3/2016 • 2-3 p.m.  +12	<b>Profiling Egyptian Art at Worcester Art Museum</b> 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, MA 508-799-4406	More than 5,000 years ago, the ancient Egyptians founded one of the world's oldest civilizations. Learn about the importance of the Pharaoh, cats, the afterlife, and other interesting facets of this fascinating culture. Sponsored by Worcester Art Museum.
<b>12</b>	9/4/2016 • 10 a.m.-4 p.m.  Distance: 1 mi., 1.5 hrs.	<b>Providence Flea Market</b> 435 South Water St., Providence, RI (Providence River Greenway) 401-484-7783	Enjoy this open-air, juried market featuring vintage finds, local artisans and makers, live music, non-profits, and fine, local food vendors. Voted "Best of RI" in <i>Rhode Island Monthly</i> and "Best of New England" in <i>Yankee Magazine</i> . Sponsored by Providence Flea.
<b>13</b>	9/4/2016 • 1-2:30 p.m. Raindate/Time: 9/5/2016, 1-2:30 p.m.  +12 Distance: 1 mi., 1.5 hrs.	<b>Farmers &amp; Rebels – The Sprague Farm Cemetery Walk</b> Pine Orchard Rd., Glocester, RI 401-500-0433	After hearing about the history of the old Sprague Farm, participants will follow a lovely wooded path to the historic graveyard. Hear stories of the Spragues buried there, including Jedediah Sprague, Brigadier General during the Dorr Rebellion, the armed conflict that came to a head in Chepachet in 1842. Sponsored by Glocester Land Trust.
<b>14</b>	9/4/2016 • 2 p.m. Raindate/Time: 9/11/2016, 2 p.m.  +12 Distance: 1 mi., 1 hr.	<b>Precious Blood Cemetery Remembered</b> Corner of Diamond Hill Rd. & Rathbun St., Woonsocket, RI	Precious Blood Cemetery was devastated by the 1955 hurricane. Learn about its history and famous burials. Sponsored by Blackstone Heritage Corridor's Volunteers-In-Parks Program.

## Visit one of the newest National Parks - the Blackstone River Valley National Historical Park

Check out the website at [www.nps.gov/blrv](http://www.nps.gov/blrv).

Our new National Park is the 402nd unit in the National Park System and includes the Blackstone River, the Blackstone Canal and several historic villages associated with the American Industrial Revolution. You can get your National Park Passport stamped at the new park office in the historic Linwood Mill, 670 Linwood Ave., Whitinsville, MA, and at other locations throughout the park. Look for the calendar of Ranger Programs, including Walkabouts in the villages and along the river and canal in the Blackstone River Valley.



Another great place to visit is the Roger Williams National Memorial at 282 North Main St. in Providence, RI. The Memorial commemorates the life of the founder of Rhode Island and a champion of the

ideal of religious freedom. Williams, banished from Massachusetts for his beliefs, founded Providence in 1636. This colony served as a refuge where all could come to worship as their conscience dictated without interference from the state. Enjoy the exhibits, short film and stroll the grove on the 4.5 acre site. And you can get your National Park Passport stamped here, too!



15	9/5/2016 • 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m. ♿ ♿ ♿	<b>Labor Day Open House at Museum of Work &amp; Culture</b> 42 South Main St., Woonsocket, RI 401-769-9675	Join the Museum of Work & Culture for their 18th Annual Labor Day Open House. Tour the Museum for free and enjoy special programming celebrating the Blackstone River and how its power led to the proliferation of mills throughout Woonsocket. Contribute your stories to the development of the Museum's newest digital exhibit documenting the mills, the people who worked in them, and their lasting impact on the city. Sponsored by the Museum of Work & Culture.
16	9/5/2016 • 10 a.m.-3 p.m. ♿ ♿ ♿	<b>Uxbridge Antique Fire Museum Tour</b> 18 Depot St., Uxbridge, MA 508-278-2014	The museum has a large collection of items used in fire fighting from days of old, including a 1940 Seagrave Pumper. Latest acquisitions include a piece of steel column from the World Trade Tower of New York. Sponsored by Uxbridge Antique Fire Museum.
17	9/6/2016 • 10:30-11:30 a.m. ♿ ♿ ♿	<b>The Inside Scoop on the Providence Public Library</b> 225 Washington St., Providence, RI 401-455-8134	Participants will meet at the Washington Street entrance for an hour-long tour of the Library's historic 1900 building; visit the Rhode Island Room to highlight the Library's Rhode Island Collection. The Special Collections Department will showcase varied, unique, and special collections. Sponsored by Providence Public Library.
18	9/8/2016 • 6-7 p.m. Raindate/Time: 9/15/2016, 6-7 p.m. ●	<b>History Brought to Life at Riverside Cemetery</b> 201 Callahan School St. Harrisville, RI 401-500-0433	The Riverside Cemetery holds the earthly remains of notable people. Hear the compelling story of a Burrillville man and the sinking of the steamship, the Narragansett, in 1880. It's a "Titanic-like" story involving a tragic collision of two steamships. The Sherman family will be highlighted with a history of the Sherman Farm, including the unfortunate story and myths involving Bathsheba Sherman. Sponsored by Burrillville Historical & Preservation Society.
19	9/9/2016 • 7-10 p.m. Raindate/Time: 9/10/2016, 7-10 p.m. ♿ ♿ ♿	<b>Evening with the Stars, Planets, and Moon</b> 287 Oak St., Uxbridge, MA 401-854-8661	Members of the R.I. Skyscrapers Club will set up telescopes and provide information on stars and star clusters, planets, and the first quarter moon. The quarter moon shows the best detail of craters, mountains and low features such as hills. The event will be cancelled if there are cloudy skies. Please call if sky conditions are doubtful. Sponsored by Rhode Island Skyscraper Astronomical Club.
20 ★	9/9/2016, 9/10/2016, and 9/11/2016 • 7:30 p.m. on 9/9 and 9/10; 2 p.m. on 9/11 ♿ ♿ ♿	<b>Steel Magnolias at Stadium Theatre</b> 28 Monument Sq., Woonsocket, RI 401-762-4545	At Truvy's beauty shop, six southern spitfires gather weekly to gossip and support each other through thick and thin, but those bonds are about to be tested when the ladies face a life-changing event. Infused with heart and humor, Steel Magnolias is a hilarious story of love, loss, and enduring friendship. A Marquee Room event. Presented by The Encore Repertory Company. Tickets are \$21. Sponsored by Stadium Theatre.
21 ★	9/10/2016, 9/11/2016 8 a.m.-5 p.m. ♿ ♿ ♿	<b>Annual Burrillville Arts Festival</b> Main St., Harrisville, RI 401-486-5972	Historic Harrisville Village and the Assembly Theatre grounds are the setting for the annual showcase by local artists, artisans, crafters and vendors. Includes family events and live entertainment all weekend. Sponsored by Burrillville Arts Festival.
22	9/10/2016 • 10 a.m.-3 p.m. ♿ ♿ ♿	<b>French Heritage Festival</b> Bernon St., Woonsocket, RI (River Island Art Park) 401-965-0056	French Canadian Festival featuring French Canadian music and food. An assortment of vendors selling their wares and activities for children. Soiree at night at Our Lady Queen of Martyrs' School Hall. Sponsored by Northern Rhode Island Council of the Arts.



**Blackstone Heritage Corridor is a cool place!  
DID YOU KNOW THAT...**

**Three rivers run through Northbridge, MA - the Blackstone, Mumford and West Rivers, creating some of the most beautiful habitats in the Blackstone Valley.**



23	9/10/2016 • 11 a.m.-5 p.m. ♿ ♿ ♿ ♿ ♿	<b>Slater Park Fall Festival</b> Slater Memorial Park Armistice Blvd., Pawtucket, RI 401-728-0500	Open air market featuring food trucks, crafts, Pops in the Park with fireworks and more. Enjoy the beauty of Slater Park from the Daggett Farm to the Looff Carousel. Sponsored by Pawtucket Arts Festival.
24	9/10/2016 • 12-5 p.m. Raindate/Time: 9/11/2016, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. ♿ ♿ ♿ ♿ ♿	<b>39th Annual Rhode Island Heritage Day Festival</b> 282 North Main St., Providence, RI 401-222-4133	Rhode Islanders of all ages are invited to join in a lively celebration of our state's rich cultural heritage. The Roger Williams National Memorial will be filled with booths from countries such as Venezuela, India, Haiti, Bolivia, Sweden, Ireland and others that showcase their culture, music and dance. "Travel the world in a day." Sponsored by RI Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission.
25	9/10/2016 • 5-8 p.m. ♿ ♿ ♿ ♿ ♿	<b>Pawtucket Arts Festival Concert with Rhode Island Philharmonic Orchestra</b> Slater Memorial Park, Pawtucket, RI 401-728-0500	Rhode Island Philharmonic presents "Pops in the Park", its last performance of the season. This fantastic show will be followed by a vibrant fireworks display. Sponsored by Pawtucket Arts Festival.
26	9/11/2016 • 8:30-10:30 a.m. Raindate/Time: Cancelled if raining ● ♿ ♿ ♿ ♿ +12	<b>Birding on the Blackstone</b> 1-295 Northbound Visitor Center Cumberland, RI	Join Volunteers-In-Parks Rosanne Sherry for a leisurely walk along the Blackstone River looking for migrant birds. We'll look for other signs of the changing of the seasons along the river. Bring your binoculars and/or camera. Pre-registration is required, e-mail blackstonebirds@gmail.com. Sponsored by Blackstone Heritage Corridor's Volunteers-In-Parks Program.
27	9/11/2016 • 10 a.m.-4 p.m. ♿ ♿ ♿ ♿ ♿	<b>Providence Flea Market</b> 435 South Water St., Providence, RI (Providence River Greenway) 401-484-7783	Enjoy this open-air, juried market featuring vintage finds, local artisans and makers, live music, non-profits, and fine, local food vendors. Voted "Best of RI" in <i>Rhode Island Monthly</i> and "Best of New England" in <i>Yankee Magazine</i> . Sponsored by Providence Flea.
28	9/11/2016 • 10 a.m.-5 p.m. ♿ ♿ ♿ ♿ ♿	<b>Massachusetts Day at Southwick's Zoo</b> 2 Southwick St., Mendon, MA 800-258-9182	It's BOGO at Southwick's Zoo for Massachusetts residents! Simply show a valid ID when purchasing your tickets and get one ticket free. Bring your family to see everything this fascinating zoo has to offer and take advantage of this great deal! Sponsored by Southwick's Zoo.
29	9/11/2016 • 11 a.m.-5 p.m. ♿ ♿ ♿ ♿ ♿	<b>Slater Park Fall Festival</b> Slater Memorial Park Armistice Blvd., Pawtucket, RI 401-728-0500	Open air market featuring food trucks, crafts, Pops in the Park with fireworks and more. Enjoy the beauty of Slater Park from the Daggett Farm to the Looff Carousel. Sponsored by Pawtucket Arts Festival.



Join Blackstone Heritage Corridor's Trash Responsibly™ campaign to rid the National Heritage Corridor of litter. Litter is not only unsightly and a blight on our cities and towns, but is also adversely impacts water quality. One piece of litter can find its way from a storm drain to the ocean.

**Trash:**  
(n) stuff you don't want anymore;  
(v) what you do with the stuff you don't want anymore, i.e. throw away.

**Responsibly:**  
(adv) taking positive action to do the right thing, i.e. not litter but reduce, reuse, recycle.

The Ocean Conservancy itemized the Top Ten Litter Items that comprised 82% of all debris found in the U.S.:

1. Cigarette butts & filters
2. Bags, food wrappers
3. Caps, lids
4. Beverage bottles (glass)
5. Beverage cans
6. Cups, plates, forks, knives, spoons
7. Beverage bottles (plastic) 2 liters or less
8. Straws, stirrers
9. Fast food containers
10. Cigar tips

So Trash Responsibly™ by recycling your trash or disposing of it in an appropriate manner. Get your convenient Trash Responsibly™ car litter bag in our online shop: [BlackstoneHeritageCorridor.org/shop](http://BlackstoneHeritageCorridor.org/shop).

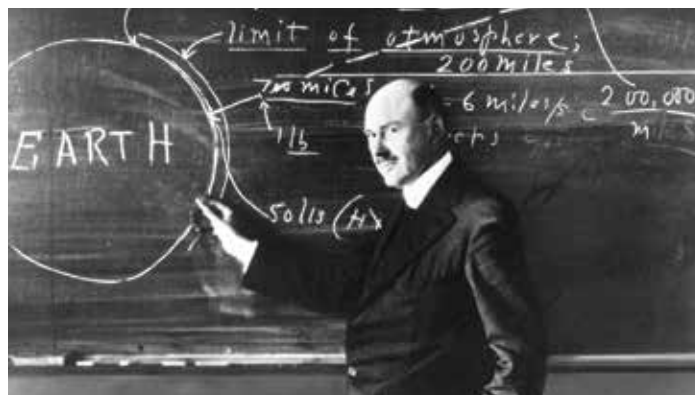
<b>30</b>	9/11/2016 • 11 a.m.-5 p.m. ♿️ 🍷	<b>Daniels Farmstead Farmers Market, Claflin Patriotic Concert and Blackstone Valley Art Show</b> 286 Mendon St., Blackstone, MA 508-883-2840	Vendors will be selling delicious, sun-ripened produce and vegetables, baked goods, honey, sauces, jams, and grass-fed beef. Food from Doris' Kitchen will be available for purchase! Hamburgers, cheese, and veggie burgers and baked goods. Enjoy the sounds of Claflin's patriotic concert while you peruse the Blackstone Valley Art Show beginning at 3 p.m. Sponsored by The Daniels Farmstead Foundation, Inc.
<b>31</b>	9/11/2016 • 12-5 p.m. ♿️ 🐕 🍷	<b>Pet Rock Fest – A Benefit for the Animals</b> 964 Main St., Leicester, MA (Becker College Campus) 508-981-5782	Come and enjoy a day of fun and fundraising with your dog to support New England-based animal welfare organizations. Live music, food, over 150 breed rescues and shelters, fly ball dogs, adoptable dog parade, amateur dog show, agility course and more! Tickets are \$12/adult, \$5/kids. Sponsored by Pet Rock Fest.
<b>32</b>	9/11/2016 • 2 p.m. 📏 Distance: 3 mi., 1 hr.	<b>Millville Lock and the Triad Bridges</b> Corner of Hope & Central Sts. Millville, MA	Explore the changes in transportation from the 1840's to the present by trekking along the incomplete Southern New England Trunkline Trail, the Providence-Worcester Railroad and Millville Lock. Listen to stories about mill life in Millville. Sponsored by Blackstone Heritage Corridor's Volunteers-In-Parks Program.
<b>16</b>	9/12/2016 • 10 a.m.-3 p.m. 🍷 ♿️ 🐕	<b>Uxbridge Antique Fire Museum Tour</b> 18 Depot St., Uxbridge, MA 508-278-2014	See 9/5, 10 a.m. for full description.
<b>33</b>	9/14/2016 • 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Raindate/Time: 9/21/2016, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. ♿️ 🍷 +12 Distance: 1 mi., 2 hrs.	<b>Where Does It Go When You Flush?</b> 7 Nippnapp Trail, Worcester, MA 508-755-1286 Reg: e-mail Liz Mailhot – emailhot@ubwpad.org	A behind-the-scenes tour you will never forget. See first-hand the complexities involved in converting wastewater into an effluent that can be returned to the water cycle. Sponsored by Upper Blackstone Water Pollution Abatement District.
<b>34</b>	9/16/2016 10:30-11:30 a.m. ♿️ 🍷	<b>Nature Story Hour</b> 287 Oak St., Uxbridge, MA 508-278-7604	Nature themed story and activity hour designed to connect young children to nature. Nature stories and outdoor activity followed by a craft. Meet inside the Big Red Barn visitor center during inclement weather. Sponsored by MA Dept. of Conservation and Recreation Blackstone River & Canal Heritage State Park.
<b>35</b>	9/16/2016 • 6 p.m.	<b>Whittier Farms Free Tour Friday &amp; Apple Crisp Night</b> 90 Douglas Rd., Sutton, MA 508-865-1053	Enjoy a free wagon ride tour of Whittier Farm while enjoying our warm, homemade apple crisp. Apple crisp is \$4/person (\$2.50 for teachers with school ID). Sponsored by Whittier Farms.

### Blackstone Heritage Corridor is a cool place! DID YOU KNOW THAT...

Auburn, MA, is the home of Robert Goddard, American Father of Modern-Day Rocketry, who launched the first liquid-fueled rocket from Pakachoag Hill in 1926.

Cyclist Major Taylor, "The Worcester Whirlwind," was the first African-American athlete to achieve the level of world champion in 1899.

In 1970, Aerosmith performed at the Nipmuc Regional High School in Mendon, MA. Guitarist Joe Perry grew up in nearby Hopedale.



36	9/16/2016 • 7:30 –9:30 p.m. Raindate/Time: 9/17/2016, 7:30 –9:30 p.m. ● ●+12 🚣	<b>Full Moon Paddle</b> End of County St., Blackstone, MA Reg: 508-278-5200	Join the Blackstone River Watershed Association for a night under the stars and a full moon on the Blackstone River. We will paddle up the Blackstone River and into Factory Pond. We will pass under a bridge built in 1903. \$5 for members, \$10 non-members. Sponsored by Blackstone River Watershed Association.
37	9/16/2016 • 8 p.m. ♿ ♿	<b>The Garcia Project at Stadium Theatre</b> 28 Monument Sq., Woonsocket, RI 401-762-4545	The Garcia Project's performances are based on actual set lists performed by The Jerry Garcia Band...from the 1970s all the way up to the 1990s. For anyone that never had a chance to experience the Jerry Garcia Band or for fans who want to relive a classic show, The Garcia Project delivers the goods. Tickets are \$21 and \$26. Sponsored by Stadium Theatre.
38	9/17/2016 8:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m. ♿ ●	<b>Bird Watching at River Bend Farm</b> 287 Oak St., Uxbridge, MA 508-278-7604	Join licensed researchers in an interesting morning of bird-banding at River Bend Farm. Volunteers will be capturing songbirds in light nets, identifying them by field marks, and recording data before releasing the birds as some get ready for their journey south for the winter. The public is welcome to watch, ask questions and learn more about songbirds and bird migration at this event. Sponsored by MA Dept. of Conservation and Recreation, Blackstone River & Canal Heritage State Park.
39	9/17/2016 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. ● ♿ ♿ ●	<b>Intro to Freshwater Fly Fishing on the Blackstone River</b> 100 New River Rd., Lincoln, RI Reg. 401-644-3215	Featuring a day for youth and adults to learn to fly fish together. Join instructors from Trout Unlimited, Northern RI Chapter 737 for a 6 1/2 hour workshop to learn about fly fishing equipment needs, basic entomology, knot tying, fly tying, fly casting and where the best fishing areas all located along the Blackstone River. Families with children 10 and older are encouraged to come fish together. Lunch and equipment will be provided. Space is limited. Children ages 10-17 must be accompanied by an adult. \$12.50 per person. Sponsored by Blackstone River Watershed Council/Friends of the Blackstone and Trout Unlimited Chapter 737.
40	9/17/2016 • 9 a.m.-5 p.m. ♿ 🐕 ●	<b>Classic Antique Police Cruiser Car Show</b> 44 Worcester St., Grafton, MA	Visit the newest museum in the Blackstone Valley! Opened one year ago, the Massachusetts State Police Museum and Learning Center celebrates the oldest state-wide police agency in the United States. Artifacts from law enforcement's history, including an antique cruiser car show, will be featured. Bring your children and camera. Sponsored by Massachusetts State Police Museum & Learning Center.
41	9/17/2016 • 10 a.m.-4 p.m. ♿ ●	<b>10th Annual Great Pumpkin Festival</b> 412 Greenville Rd. North Smithfield, RI 401-767-2200 x301	Celebrating North Smithfield, building ties within the community and bringing together charitable, civic, and school organizations to raise funds to serve the residents. Live entertainment, food vendors and other family-fun activities. Sponsored by Pumpkin Fest.

**Blackstone Heritage Corridor is a cool place!  
DID YOU KNOW THAT...**

On March 8, 1860, Abraham Lincoln spoke at the Harris Institute Hall in Woonsocket, RI.

Glocester, RI, is home to the Ancients and Horribles Parade, which has occurred every Independence Day since 1926.



42	9/17/2016 • 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Raindate/Time: 9/18/2016, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. ♿ ♿ 🐕 🅄	<b>Hopedale Day in the Park</b> Corner of Dutcher & Northrop Sts. Hopedale, MA 508-634-2200	Enjoy a day in Hopedale with a juried art show, craft tables, music, food, games and more. Sponsored by Town of Hopedale Cultural Council.
43 ★	9/17/2016 • 10 a.m., 1 p.m., and 4 p.m. ♿ ♿ 🅄+12	<b>American Girl Train Ride</b> One Depot Sq., Woonsocket, RI 401-724-2200 Reg: www.blackstonevalleyamericangirl.com	A fun-filled train excursion encompassing the brilliant history of the Blackstone River Valley National Historical Park and all the American Girl dolls you have come to love. This event features imaginative, interactive games and activities aboard our real-life train. There will be three separate train rides and space is limited. Sponsored by Blackstone Valley Tourism Council and American Girl Boston.
44	9/17/2016 • 10 a.m.-4 p.m. ♿ ♿ 🅄	<b>Little Red Shop Museum Open House</b> 12 Hopedale St., Hopedale, MA 508-341-8160	Come and explore one of the designated communities in the new Blackstone River Valley National Historical Park. The Little Red Shop Museum is located on the banks of the Mill River and adjacent to the Hopedale Parklands. Hear how Hopedale played a significant role in the industrialization of America. Sponsored by Little Red Shop Museum.
45	9/17/2016 Time: See www.woonyride.org ● ■ ◆ 🅄 🚲 Distance: See www.woonyride.org	<b>7th Annual Woony River Ride</b> One Financial Way, Providence, RI 401-861-9046	Get on your bike and explore the Woonasquatucket River from Down City Providence to the Scituate Reservoir and back to Waterplace Park. Ride 5, 10, 30, 45, or 60 miles depending on your preference. There is also a 5-mile walk. This is a supported ride with food, live music, and an after party with local beer. Be advised each distance has a different start time. Please refer to the website for associated times. Save \$20 by using code 20DRR if registered by 9/16/16. Sponsored by Woonasquatucket River Watershed Council.

## Try the Blackstone Bucket List – 101 Things you’ve GOT to do in the Blackstone Heritage Corridor.

*Here are just a few:*

- Ride the 1895 Loof Carousel for 25¢ at Slater Memorial Park, Rte. 1A, Pawtucket, RI.
- Shop the outdoor market and visit the 19th-century E. N. Jenckes Store Museum, 283 Main St., Douglas, MA.
- Put your canoe in the water and paddle the beautiful Blackstone River from Cold Spring Park launch on Harris Ave. and Katherine Rd., Woonsocket, RI.
- Put a blanket in the car, your kids into their pajamas, and take everyone out to the Mendon Twin Drive-In (35 Milford St., Mendon, MA), built in 1953 and still offering family fun.
- Visit Sweet Caroline’s the “Happiest Place in northern Rhode Island,” for a double scoop of Salted Caramel Chocolate Pretzel Ice Cream. Absolute heaven in Burrillville, RI!



- Put yourself in a time-out and explore more than 70 time pieces in the historic house and gallery of the Willard House and Clock Museum, 11 Willard St., North Grafton, MA.

**For more, visit [BlackstoneHeritageCorridor.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/Blackstone-Bucket-List.pdf](http://BlackstoneHeritageCorridor.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/Blackstone-Bucket-List.pdf).**

# Be a GearHead!

## Explore! Discover! Protect!



...and GO!

**GearHead (n.):** a kid, powered by the Gears in their brain; who explore nature, discovers history, protect the environment, and goes on adventures through the Blackstone River Valley.



GearHeads play it safe. Before you ride, inspect your bike.

### DO YOU KNOW YOUR BICYCLE ABC'S?

DO AN ABC QUICK CHECK BEFORE YOU RIDE!

**AIR**

HE, HE, WHEE! PUT AIR IN YOUR TIRES REGULARLY SO YOU CAN RIDE LIKE THE WIND!

YOU, YOU WILL SAY HOW YOUR HE!

**AIR**

- Inflate to the pressure listed
- use a pump with a gauge
- check for damage or wear

IN GOOD WIND, BUT OLD MR. BRAKE IS TIRED AND WORN OUT!

ZZZZZZ

**BRAKES**

- inspect pads for wear
- check if the pad is hitting the tire
- check if you can fit a finger under the brake levers when squeezed all the way

CLEAN AND SHINY YOUR CHAIN TO KEEP THE GRIP MONSTERS OUT!

**CHAIN + CRANK**

- check that the chain is free of rust and grime
- lay crank away from the bike, if it's loose, tighten the bolt

**QUICK RELEASES:** make sure your releases are tightly closed and pointing toward the back of the bike.

### How to Protect Your GearHead - Wear a bicycle helmet.

GearHeads always wear their helmets. In Rhode Island, kids 15 and under are required by law to wear a helmet when riding a bike, roller-skating, and using a skateboard. In Massachusetts, it's kids 16 and under.

## Fitting Your Bike Helmet

**Buy it. Fit it. Wear it. EVERY RIDE!**

**The Proper Helmet Fit**  
Helmets come in various sizes, just like hats. Size can vary between manufacturers. Follow the steps to fit a helmet properly. It may take time to ensure a proper helmet fit, but your life is worth it. It's usually easier to look in the mirror or have someone else adjust the straps. For the most comprehensive list of helmet sizes according to manufacturers, go to the Bicycle Helmet Safety Institute (BHSI) Web site at: [www.bhsi.org/](http://www.bhsi.org/)

- STEP 1** **Size:**  
Measure your head to find your size. Try on several helmets in your size until one feels right. How you put the helmet level on your head and adjust the sizing pads or fitting until the helmet is snug.
- STEP 2** **Position:**  
The helmet should sit level on your head and level on your forehead—over or two finger-widths above your eyebrows.
- STEP 3** **Side Straps:**  
Adjust the slider on both straps to form a "Y" shape under, and slightly in front of, the ears. Lock the slider if possible.
- STEP 4** **Buckles:**  
Center the front buckle under the chin. On most helmets, the straps can be pulled from the back of the helmet to lengthen or shorten the chin straps. This task is easier if you take the helmet off to make these adjustments.
- STEP 5** **Chin Strap:**  
Buckle your chin strap. Tighten the strap until it is snug, so that no more than one or two fingers fit under the strap.
- STEP 6** **Final Fitting:**  
  - A. Does your helmet fit right? Open your mouth wide...big yawn! The helmet should pull down on your head. Check, refer back to step 5 and tighten the chin strap.
  - B. Does your helmet rock back more than two fingers above the eyebrows? If so, unbuckle and shorten the front strap by moving the slider forward. Buckle and tighten the chin strap, and test again.
  - C. Does your helmet rock forward into your eyes? If so, unbuckle and tighten the back strap by moving the slider back toward the ear. Buckle and tighten the chin strap, and test again.
  - D. Did the rubber band down to the buckle. All four straps must go through the rubber band and be close to the buckle to prevent the buckle from slipping.

46	9/17/2016 • 2 p.m. ♿ ♿	<b>Conservation is Cool!</b> 2 Southwick St., Mendon, MA (EARTH Discovery Center) 508-883-9182 x209	The staff at the EARTH Discovery Center will present a live animal presentation and talk about conservation issues including habitat loss and invasive species. Participants should arrive at Southwick's Zoo no later than 1:30 p.m. to be able to walk to the EARTH Discovery Center for the presentation. Mention that you are at the zoo for the presentation and receive \$5 off your zoo admission. Sponsored by Southwick's Zoo.
47	9/17/2016 • 5 p.m. ♿ ♿	<b>Whitman House Colonial Dinner &amp; Show</b> 1147 Great Rd., Lincoln, RI Reg: e-mail Patti Choiniere at pattic14@aim.com or call 401-334-2182	A homemade dinner buffet served by colonial maids followed by a show with the sensational Pat Perry. An exceptional night out with limited seating. Tickets are \$17/person or \$30/couple. Sponsored by Friends of the Valentine Whitman House.
48	9/17/2016 • 8 p.m. ♿ ♿	<b>Phil Vassar at Stadium Theatre</b> 28 Monument Sq., Woonsocket, RI 401-762-4545	Country music hit-maker Phil Vassar is a piano-pounding powerhouse! Phil's reign of signature songs include 10 No. 1 singles and 26 Top 40 hits, including "Charlene," "Just Another Day in Paradise," "Six-Pack Summer," "That's When I Love You" and many more. Tickets are \$46, \$56, and \$66. Sponsored by Stadium Theatre.
49	9/18/2016 • 8:30-10:30 a.m. Raindate/Time: Cancelled if Raining ● ♿ ♿ ♿ +12	<b>Birding on the Blackstone</b> I-295 Northbound Visitor Center, Cumberland, RI	Join Volunteers-In-Parks Rosanne Sherry for a leisurely walk along the Blackstone River looking for migrant birds. We'll look for other signs of the changing of the seasons along the river. Bring your binoculars and/or camera. Pre-registration is required, e-mail blackstonebirds@gmail.com. Sponsored by Blackstone Heritage Corridor's Volunteers-In-Parks Program.
50	9/18/2016 • 8:30 a.m. ♿ ♿ ♿ Distance: 6-10 mi.	<b>Sue Brainard Memorial Fall Hunter Pace</b> 24 Glenn St., Douglas, MA 508-476-3960	A hunter pace is a marked course through the trails with varying types of jumps. All jumps are under 3 feet and have optional go arounds. One can ride solo or in teams of 2 or 3. There are 4 divisions to accommodate your speed. The pace is set before the ride and riders don't know what the optimum time is for each division. The rider's mission is to come as close as possible to the optimum time. After the ride, lunch will be served to pre-registrants, ribbons awarded up to 6th place in each division and numbers drawn for the raffle table. Admission is \$30 and pre-registration is required if you want lunch for \$35. Sponsored by Bay State Trail Riders Association.

## Volunteers-in-Parks Program – Become a VIP!

Our volunteers provide a vital link between the Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor and the 25 communities that are included within its boundaries. These passionate individuals foster a sense of pride and a concern for the Blackstone Valley of the past, present and future.



The Volunteers-In-Parks (VIP) program is a highly respected program of the National Park Service and is administered locally by Blackstone Heritage Corridor. The VIP program aims to create a mutually-rewarding experience for the volunteer and the National Park Service by matching individual interests with the many different venues, groups and events.

BHC provides program coordination, recruiting, training, and networking opportunities for volunteers that support both the National Heritage Corridor, the new National Historical Park, and any of our dozens of partners. With over 200 core volunteers, the Volunteers-In-Parks program is a dynamic part of the fabric of the Blackstone Valley.

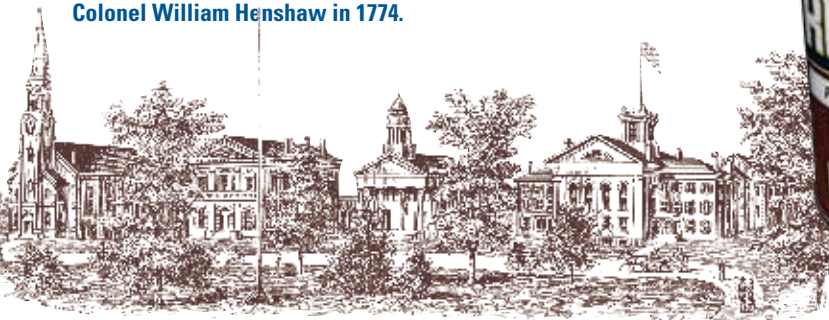
Become a VIP! Visit [BlackstoneHeritageCorridor.org](http://BlackstoneHeritageCorridor.org) and click on the VIP logo to learn more.



<b>51</b>	9/18/2016 • 10 a.m.-5 p.m. ♿ ♿ ♿	<b>Rhode Island and Connecticut Day at Southwick's Zoo</b> 2 Southwick St., Mendon, MA 800-258-9182	It's BOGO at Southwick's Zoo for Rhode Island and Connecticut residents! Simply show a valid ID when purchasing your tickets and get one ticket free. Bring your family to see everything this fascinating zoo has to offer and take advantage of this great deal! Sponsored by Southwick's Zoo.
<b>52</b>	9/18/2016 • 11 a.m.-6 p.m. ♿ 🐕 Ⓞ	<b>stART on the Street</b> Park Ave., Worcester, MA	Central Massachusetts' largest art, music and performance festival. Come shop handmade with over 200 artists and crafters. Watch as artists create unique works right on the street. Free art activities for children and families. Various food vendors and a food court. Sponsored by stART on the Street.
<b>53</b>	9/18/2016 • 1-4 p.m. ♿ ♿ Ⓞ	<b>Smith-Appleby House Museum Open House</b> 220 Stillwater Rd., Smithfield, RI 401-231-7363	The Smith-Appleby House is a living museum and headquarters of the Historical Society of Smithfield. The house was built as a one-room stone-ender in 1696 by Elisha Smith, the grandson of John Smith, "The Miller." He was an original member of Roger Williams' party of six men who started the colony of Providence, RI. Today you'll enjoy free guided tours (beginning every hour), corn husk crafts, and colonial games. Sponsored by Smith-Appleby House Museum and Historical Society of Smithfield.
<b>16</b>	9/19/2016 • 10 a.m.-3 p.m. ● ♿ 🐕	<b>Uxbridge Antique Fire Museum Tour</b> 18 Depot St., Uxbridge, MA 508-278-2014	See 9/5, 10 a.m. for full description.
<b>54</b>	9/19/2016 • 7-8:30 p.m. ● 🐕 Ⓞ Distance: 1.5 mi.	<b>Harvest Moon Walk</b> Rte. 114A, Pleasant St. East Providence, RI (Across from Hunts Mills) 401-578-2746	Join the Ten Mile River Watershed Council and East Providence Land Trust for their annual Harvest Moon Walk. We will trek through Bridgham Farm, along the Ten Mile River and Turner Reservoir under the brightest moon of the year. We will visit the 400-year old Newman Oak and hear stories of early settlers. Apple cider will be provided. Sponsored by Ten Mile River Watershed Council, East Providence Land Trust.
<b>55</b>	9/20/2016 10:30-11:30 a.m. ♿ ♿ ♿	<b>The Inside Scoop on the Providence Public Library</b> 225 Washington St., Providence, RI 401-455-8134	Participants will meet at the Washington Street entrance for an hour-long tour of the Library's historic 1900 building, visit the Rhode Island Room to highlight the Library's Rhode Island Collection. The Special Collections Department will showcase varied, unique, and special collections. Sponsored by Providence Public Library.

**Blackstone Heritage Corridor is a cool place!  
DID YOU KNOW THAT...**

Originally known as Towatid (Native American) when purchased in 1686, the town's name changed to Strawberry Hill and finally to Leicester, MA. It is home to the term "minute man," coined by Colonel William Henshaw in 1774.



Rumford is a village in East Providence, RI, and home to Rumford Baking Powder, (sold in its iconic red can) and the former Rumford Chemical Works.

Every day at 5:00 p.m., the town whistle goes off from the Oakland-Mapleville Fire Department in Burrillville, RI.

Great Road in Lincoln is the oldest highway in Rhode Island, connecting Providence to Worcester.

56	9/21/2016 • 10 a.m.-12 p.m.  Distance: 6 mi.	<b>Ready, Set, GO! for a Bike Ride #2</b> 100 New River Rd., Lincoln, RI 508-234-4242	Enjoy a morning bike ride on the Blackstone River Bikeway. Trip leader Suzanne Buchanan of Blackstone Heritage Corridor, Inc.'s and the Blackstone Valley Bikeway Patrol program coordinator will escort bike riders from the Manville parking area to the Kelly House along the bikeway. Riders will be given a free tour of the museum to learn about early transportation in the Valley and then return by bike to Manville. Sponsored by Blackstone River Bikeway Patrol, Blackstone Heritage Corridor's Volunteers-In-Parks Program.
57	9/22/2016 • 3-7 p.m. 	<b>Back to School in Forestdale</b> 190 School St., Forestdale, RI	Step inside this one-room schoolhouse, used in Forestdale until 1974. Visit with our staff who will share some interesting stories and history about the school back in the day. Sponsored by North Smithfield Heritage Association.
58	9/23/2016 • 8 p.m. 	<b>Led Zeppelin Experience "Zoso" at Stadium Theatre</b> 28 Monument Sq., Woonsocket, RI 401-762-4545	Zoso - The Ultimate Led Zeppelin Experience formed in 1995 to perform the most accurate and captivating Led Zeppelin live show since the real thing. For Zoso, it's much more than just being a tribute. It's about touching a golden era in music. Zoso embodies Page, Plant, Bonham, and Jones in their spirit, tightly-wound talent and authenticity. Each band member has been carefully selected to portray both the appearance and playing styles of their Led Zeppelin counterparts. In 18 successful years of touring, they have perfected their art. Tickets are \$26, \$31, and \$36. Sponsored by Stadium Theatre.
59	9/24/2016 • 12 p.m. 	<b>Alternatives' Valley Bag Toss</b> 50 Douglas Rd., Whitinsville, MA 508-234-6232	Join us for an afternoon filled with music, food, drinks, corn hole boards, and flying bags! Players take turns throwing bean bags at wooden boards with holes towards the far end. Get as many bags in the hole as you can or the other team wins! Teams can compete for prizes. Bring your friends; spectators are welcome! All proceeds benefit Alternatives. \$30/person. Sponsored by Alternatives, Inc.
60	9/24/2016 • 12:30-3 p.m.  Distance: 2.5 mi.	<b>Travel Through Time at Upton State Forest</b> 205 Westboro Rd., Upton, MA 508-278-7604	Hike through history in Upton State Forest. We will encounter cellar holes, stone walls, cut stones, water crossings, early roads, and indications of early settlement and industry. Sponsored by Friends of Upton State Forest and MA Dept. of Conservation and Recreation.
61	9/24/2016 • 1-3:30 p.m.  Distance: 7.5 mi.	<b>"Bike Your Park Day" with the Blackstone River Bikeway Patrol</b> I- 295 Northbound Visitor Center, Cumberland, RI 508-234-4242	Explore your parks and public lands by bicycle with thousands of people across the country on the same day! This is the first ever Bike Your Park Day. Bring your friends and family and join the celebration of the National Park Service's Centennial with a bike ride along the Blackstone River and Canal, part of the 402nd National Park. Sponsored by Blackstone River Bikeway Patrol, Blackstone Heritage Corridor's Volunteers-In-Parks Program.
62	9/24, 9/28, 9/29, 9/30 11 a.m.-5 p.m. (Wed-Sun) 	<b>Jeppson Idea Lab: Renoir's The Jewish Wedding</b> 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, MA 508-799-4406	This Idea Lab presentation gives insight into the recent conservation of <i>The Jewish Wedding</i> by Pierre-Auguste Renoir...Renoir's work, obscured by 70-year old discolored varnish, has now been restored, resulting in the recovery of its original tonality, revealing a major Impressionist painting. Sponsored by Worcester Art Museum.
63	9/24/2016 • 6-7 p.m.  Distance: 1 mi.	<b>Sunset Water &amp; Fire River Walk</b> 287 Oak St., Uxbridge, MA 508-278-7604	Take an easy walk to the bank of the Blackstone River and gather around a campfire at sunset as we talk about water quality and share stories of the river's recovery. Spend some time outdoors and bask in the peacefulness of the sights and sounds of water and fire. Sponsored by MA Dept. of Conservation and Recreation, Blackstone River & Canal Heritage State Park.



64	9/24/2016 • 8 p.m. ♿ ♿ ♿	<b>Beatle Tribute by Beatlejuice at Stadium Theatre</b> 28 Monument Sq., Woonsocket, RI 401-762-4545	For over 17 years Beatlejuice has been giving Beatles fans their Fab 4 fix. Faithfully reproducing some of the greatest songs ever written, Beatlejuice covers every era of the Beatles catalog, even the solo careers of the boys from Liverpool. Your favorites, "She loves you," "A Hard Day's Night," "Ticket to Ride", and "Help!" live!" Tickets are \$21 and \$26. Sponsored by Stadium Theatre.
65	9/25/2016 • 10 a.m.-5 p.m. ♿ ♿ ♿	<b>New Hampshire, Vermont, and Maine Day at Southwick's Zoo</b> 2 Southwick St., Mendon, MA 800-258-9182	It's BOGO at Southwick's Zoo for New Hampshire, Vermont, and Maine residents! Simply show valid ID when purchasing your tickets and get one ticket free. Bring your family to see everything this fascinating zoo has to offer and take advantage of this great deal! Sponsored by Southwick's Zoo.
66	9/25/2016 • 10:30 a.m. ● Ⓢ+12 🚣 Distance: 5 mi.	<b>Flatwater Paddle from Blackstone Gorge to Millville Lock and Back</b> 66 County St., Blackstone, MA 401-647-5887	All membership fees are waived for this easy and scenic paddle. Please bring your own canoe or kayak, life vest and paddle. We will launch from the Blackstone Gorge landing and paddle upstream on the Blackstone River to see the Millville lock and then return to the put-in site. Sponsored by Blackstone Valley Paddle Club.
67	9/25/2016 • 12-6 p.m. ♿ Ⓢ	<b>Annual Central Falls Custom &amp; Classic Car Show</b> 580 Broad St., Central Falls, RI 401-727-7474	Come and see unique classic and custom cars on display at this annual car show held inside Higginson Park. Sponsored by the City of Central Falls.
68	9/25/2016 • 1-3 p.m. 🐕 Ⓢ+12 Distance: 3 mi.	<b>Foliage Hike to Lookout Rock</b> 366 East Hartford Ave., Uxbridge, MA (Rice City Pond Parking Area) 508-278-7604	Take King Philip's Trail through pine and beech groves, along the water's edge, and past interesting geological features to a rewarding view of the Blackstone River snaking through the Valley and Rice City Pond. Sturdy shoes, water, insect repellant recommended. Bring binoculars and a snack for a short break at the lookout. Sponsored by MA Dept. of Conservation and Recreation, Blackstone River & Canal Heritage State Park.

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16	9/26/2016 • 10 a.m.-3 p.m. ● ♀♂ ♿ 🐕	<b>Uxbridge Antique Fire Museum Tour</b> 18 Depot St., Uxbridge, MA 508-278-2014	See 9/5, 10 a.m. for full description.
69	9/27/2016 • 7-8:30 p.m. ● 🐕 ☺ Distance: 1.75 mi.	<b>Lanterns, Ghosts, and King Philip's War</b> 1464 Diamond Hill Rd. Cumberland, RI 401-578-2746	Join the Providence County Hiking Club for a short walk by lantern light (bring your own - battery powered only) to Nine Men's Misery. Hear about King Philip's War in New England and the ghost legends of the Monastery Woods. This will be a mild event, spooky but not too scary! Sponsored by Providence Hiking Club.
70	9/28/2016 • 10 a.m. ♀♂ ♿	<b>Mr. Kelly, the River and the Canal</b> 1075 Lower River Rd., Lincoln, RI 401-333-0295	Situated between the Blackstone River and the Blackstone Canal, the Kelly House shows the history of the river and the canal as a means of transportation by the Native American peoples to the pinnacle of the Industrial Revolution and movement of raw materials and manufactured goods. Sponsored by RI Dept. of Environmental Management.
71	9/30/2016 • 7-8:30 p.m. ♀♂	<b>An Evening with Roger Williams</b> 1147 Great Rd., Lincoln, RI Reg: e-mail Pattic14@aim.com or call 401-334-2182	An evening with Roger Williams portrayed by NPS Ranger John McNiff. Come join us for a fun night with the wit and knowledge of Ranger McNiff. Coffee and pastry will be served. Tickets and registration: \$8/person. Sponsored by Friends of Valentine Whitman House.
72	9/30/2016 • 8 p.m. ♀♂ ♿	<b>Fleetwood Mac Tribute by Tusk</b> 28 Monument Sq., Woonsocket, RI 401-762-4545	The five seasoned musicians of Tusk leave no stone unturned in replicating the sounds of one of the world's most loved bands. Enjoy Fleetwood Mac's hits including "Landslide," "Rhiannon," "Go Your Own Way," and "Tusk"...with a special appearance by the Blackstone-Millville Regional High School Marching Band! Tickets are \$28 and \$31. Sponsored by Stadium Theatre.
73	9/30/2016 • 8-11 p.m.	<b>Central Falls Salsa Nights</b> Roosevelt Ave. Bridge Central Falls, RI 401-727-7455	Salsa dancing lessons by Mambo Pa Ti Dance Company and live music. Food and beverages available to purchase throughout the evening from a rotating lineup of local food trucks. Come and dance the night away! Sponsored by the City of Central Falls.
74	10/1/2016 • 10 a.m.-3 p.m. ♀♂ ♿ ☺	<b>Art &amp; Music Makers Festival at Alternatives</b> 50 Douglas Rd., Whitinsville, MA 508-234-6232	Not your average craft fair! This event will feature artisans demonstrating their unique art as well as selling their finished products. Live music, hand-on opportunities and food from Anzio Brick Oven Pizza available for purchase. Sponsored by Alternatives, Inc..
75	10/1/2016 and 10/2/2016 10 a.m.-4 p.m. ★ ♀♂ 🐕 ☺	<b>Waters Farm Day Fall Festival</b> 53 Waters Rd., Sutton, MA 508-865-0101	An annual Blackstone Valley tradition, Waters Farm Day Fall Festival celebrates its 37th year with two great days of family fun and activities. Animals, crafters, food vendors, demonstrations, Lumberjack show, tractor pull, and more! Tickets are \$7 for adults, \$5 for senior and military, \$2 kids ages 6-17 and free for kids ages 5 and under. Sponsored by Waters Farm.



# Walking Tour **Chepachet (Glocester), RI**

Sa-pat-set means a place to cross the river in the Algonquin language of the Nipmuc tribe. All across America, while big cities carry the march of progress every forward, small villages like Chepachet keep busy maintaining their time-honored traditions. Romanticizing its passion for the past, in the 1920s author H.P. Lovecraft described this place as “a veritable poem”. (Read more at: [BlackstoneHeritageCorridor.org](http://BlackstoneHeritageCorridor.org), click on Valley Communities, then click on Glocester.]

## Directions:

From Interstate 295, exit at Rt. 44 west. Chepachet village is at the junction of Rt. 102, 100 and 44 in the town of Glocester, RI. There is free parking at the Town Hall at 1145 Putnam Pike, Rt. 44/102.

**Begin your tour at the bridge on Main Street. This loop is about .5 miles.**

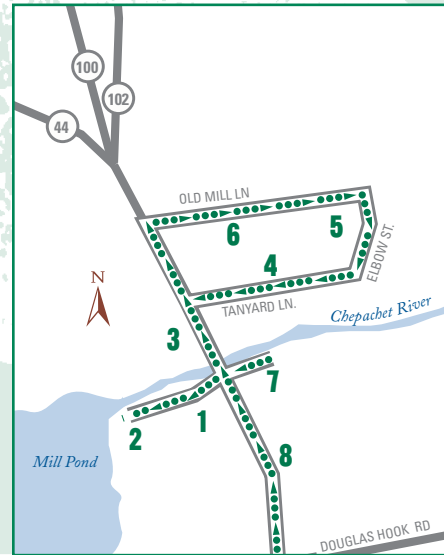
## 1. Chepachet River Bridge:

No one seems to know for sure what sort of grudge young Canton Smith of nearby North Scituate, had against the traveling show of Betty the Learned Elephant and her handlers. Whatever it was, his hard-heartedness forever linked this river crossing with a memorable incident on the night of May 25, 1826. The enormous tragedy is noted on a tiny plaque which you can see mounted on the west railing.

Like hawkers and peddlers of wares, troupes with a rare sight or unusual act journeyed from town to town – often after dark to keep their spectacle a surprise. The show had performed here once before, four years earlier. However, as Betty’s show hit the road this time, two of the six youthful conspirators instigated by Smith, aiming from a window in the second story of a gristmill, fired on the elephant as she walked across the “rustic” span. The shots were fatal, and the six hooligans faced charges for their cruel deed.

## 2. Chepachet River:

Walk down the lane along the right-hand side of the Chepachet Fire Station between the Chepachet River and the narrow canal. All around you are man-made structures that are clues to the meaning of the term “working water.” Falling out 70 feet in elevation between one side of the village and the other, there was enough energy to run sawmills, gristmills, a fulling mill for



processing woolen goods, a cotton carding mill and a nail and tool factory with a water powered trip hammer at the forge – all lining the embankments before 1808.

Above the dam, a channel called a headrace splits off the mill pond drawing water to run the machinery at the mill on the other side of Main Street. At one time, there would have been many spillways, dams, gates and waterwheels, all trying to make the most efficient use of the limited supply of water. Once past the mills, the water went back into the river via trail races, typically carrying environmentally harmful manufacturing wastes with it.

**Return to the main street and turn left.**

## 3. Stores:

At the crosswalk on the main street, you are surrounded by a few of Chepachet’s oldest stores. The building close to the riverbank at 1178 Putnam Pike was originally the Hawkins store and a post office after 1868.

*continued on page 36*



Job Armstrong ran a shop in the basement of his home at 1182 Putnam Pike before building a separate store across the street in 1814. He employed four or five full-time clerks. Restored in 1974, Armstrong's store is now the headquarters of the Gloucester Heritage Society at 1181 Putnam Pike.

Years ago, *Yankee Magazine's* venerable editors challenged readers to name a rural grocery anywhere in America that had been in continuous operation longer than the Brown and Hopkins Country Store, at 1179 Putnam Pike on the main street. It has undergone at least seven name changes under different owners since it opened its doors for business in 1809.

**At the crosswalk, cross the main street with caution.**

#### 4. Tanyard Lane:

Walk down the narrow street between the Job Armstrong store and the Brown and Hopkins store. The signpost on the corner is an easy clue to the past – from about 1800 on, Tanyard Lane led to a tannery where hides were cured into leather.

The first house on the right-hand side, a type of residence often called a “block”, is a restored multi-family worker's tenement, dating from the 1870's.

The house at 15 Tanyard Lane was the office for H.C. White's woolen and cotton mill. Built in the 1860s, it is a private residence today. Lawton Owen, who lived in the house at 16 Tanyard Lane, established the tannery just around the corner.

#### 5. Elbow Street:

Continue around the bend to the left. This quiet wooded glen with its picturesque rolling river was at one time the noisiest, smelliest, most industrious neighborhoods of Chepachet village. Shortly after dawn and again after dark, for over half a century, six days a week, hundreds of men, women and children walked along this lane to and from their jobs at huge factories on both sides of the now reforested riverbanks. Beside the street, you can see some of the old foundations and stone ruins.

Eddy & Owen's tannery, which stood close to the road along the right-hand side, was the setting of the final chapter of the story of Betty the Learned Elephant. Her carcass was skinned and rendered here. The tanned hide and the cleaned skeleton were sold to separate museums.

#### 6. Oil Mill Lane:

Follow the street as it bends to the left again. Another hint to what people did for a living in the village long ago is the name of this lane. It led to a processing plant that extracted oil from cotton seed and linseed. There are three interesting residences here, all close together, yet far apart in age and style. 11 Oil Mill Lane is a classical Greek revival style house from 1840, but the ell was probably built earlier. Lawton Owen, of the tannery business, lived here. Adfer Eddy lived at #12-14 in an ornate Victorian style house

built about 1850. The plain house at #5-7 is the village's oldest mill worker's tenement, dating from about 1800.

#### 7. Stone Mill (c. 1814):

At the end of Oil Mill Lane, turn left onto the main street. As you cross the bridge, look closely at the two different kinds of stonework on the corner of the stone mill. You will notice a massive repair. In February of 1867, the Chepachet River swelled from torrential rains and meltwater. When dams upriver began to break, a flash flood washed away many structures entirely, including the gristmill where Betty's snipers hid. It nearly destroyed the mill.

The oldest part of this stone building was the Chepachet Manufacturing Company, a cotton and later woolen mill. Before the flood, it had three floors, but it was rebuilt with one less story. One of the village's first textile mills, it is now the last left standing. Later, wooden additions were demolished, but not cleared off the site.

#### 8. Stagecoach Tavern (c. 1800):

Walk along the main street to 1157 Putnam Pike. For Thomas Wilson Dorr, a voter's rights activist, the road to rebellion ended at this tavern run by Jedediah Sprague.

Although the People's Party consisted mainly of citizens who did not have the right to vote because they were not landowners, in April 1842 they cast their ballots for Dorr, electing him governor. However, Dorr's attempt to take office led to a charge of high treason from incumbent Governor Samuel Ward King, recently re-elected by the officially registered voters. After a confrontation in Providence, Dorr regrouped on June 25 in Chepachet, where he had many key supporters among workers. They wanted to convene a People's Party legislative session of the General Assembly. This tavern was Dorr's headquarters. King ordered 2500 militiamen to march on the town three days later to capture the insurrectionists, but Dorr had already disbanded his several hundred followers for their own protection. He fled to Connecticut, the New Hampshire.



# Walking Tour

## Douglas, MA

Walk through East Douglas, where an agricultural community evolved into a mill town, and a stage stop became a dynamic commercial center. In East Douglas, you can still catch a glimpse of what it was like when fields met factories and country met commerce in the valley where American industrialization was born. (Read more at [BlackstoneHeritageCorridor.org](http://BlackstoneHeritageCorridor.org), click on Valley Communities, then click on Douglas.)



### Directions:

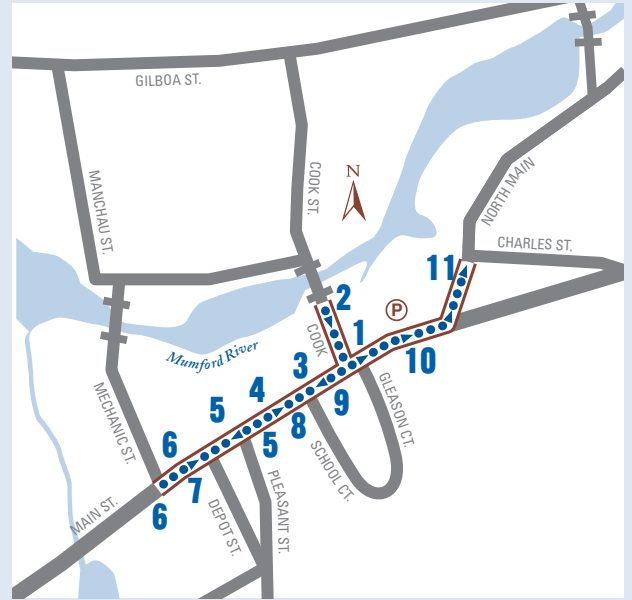
Exit Rt. 146 at Lacky Dam Road toward East Douglas. Turn left on Gilboa Street. Turn Left on North Street. Continue onto Main Street (Rt. 16). Park nearby at the corner of Cook and Main Streets.

### 1. Elmwood Club Restaurant (#338 Main Street):

The Elmwood Club Restaurant at the corner of Cook and Main streets was built c.1865 as the main office for the Douglas Axe Co. After it passed to one of the woolen mills in 1912, it became an employee recreation center. Another recreation outlet supported by mill owners throughout the valley was baseball. Mill owner Walter Schuster sponsored many winning professional baseball teams and helped local boys become major league players. In 1932, in the last week of his life, ailing Walter Shuster had himself driven to Douglas' Soldiers Field to watch the high school team pull ahead of Northbridge in late innings. From the back seat of his roadster, Schuster helped manage one last game. He ordered the Douglas third baseman, who was supposed to pitch exclusively for the mill team, to pitch the final three innings and save the game.

### 2. Lovett Mill (#3 Cook Street):

Behind the Elmwood Club, down Cook Street, is another example of renovation and preservation. One of Douglas' first textile mills, the Lovett Mill was built in 1827 on the Mumford River. The Douglas Axe Company owned the building in 1877, when the company's owners purchased the newly invented telephone. Stripping wires between their office at the Elmwood Club and



their factory buildings, the Axe Company had cornet solos played at their lower factory, which were enjoyed via phone line at the office. The building was briefly a piano factory in 1911 and the Hayward-Schuster Woolen Mills' offices in the 1940s. Today the building contains apartments.

### 3. Baker Store Building (#318/320 Main Street):

The re-use of buildings was a practice embraced early in the Blackstone Valley by settlers who understood the value of "recycling" architectural materials, designs, and labor. This structure was originally a barn, built on Warren Hunt's Mechanic Street farm about 1850. By 1869, Ezekiel Thayer was using it to stable horses, a profitable business on any stage line. In 1874, Thayer

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moved it to the rear of the lot next door. Although the railroad was eroding horse-drawn traffic when Richard Lafleur bought it in 1898, he ran a livery there until 1917, carrying passengers to and from the train, and transporting children to school. Herman Baker moved the building to its present site in the 1930s and, after remodeling it, ran his dry goods business here until 1954. Since that time, it has housed a paint store, a Laundromat, and a liquor store, among many other businesses.

#### 4. East Douglas Hotel (#306-300 Main Street):

Salesmen and traveling shows are said to have once made up much of the clientele at Asa Thayer's inn and tavern, built in 1833. In the decades to follow, however, the establishment was plagued by temperance reformers, leading some patrons to enter and leave by the back door to avoid being seen. When, in 1919, Prohibition banned alcohol sales altogether, the owners left the bar business, selling to the Whiting Machine Works of Whitinsville. The building was then used as a boarding house. In 1934, mill owners Hayward and Schuster bought its western section (#300), turning it into tenements, which they owned until 1940. The eastern ell (#306) was detached c. 1922 and made into a gas station. Recently the station was converted into a restaurant and shops.

#### 5. Rogerson Building (#296 Main Street):

When Asa Thayer's partner, Robert Rogerson, went independent about 1850, he erected this building (#296). Always a saloon or store, it attracted its own share of temperance reformers. According to one account from the early 1880s, a group called The Praying Band burst in on the proprietor of Simpson's Saloon, which then occupied the building. After being lectured on the evils of alcohol, and warned of his fate in the afterlife, Simpson is said to have become agitated, had a stroke, and soon died. Despite a history of temperance agitation and legal prohibition, however, Douglas residents seem to have upheld their right to decide with regard to alcohol consumption. While the building across the street (#295, built in 1847) has at times been a pharmacy, post office, restaurant, convenience store, and clothing shop, today it is a liquor store.



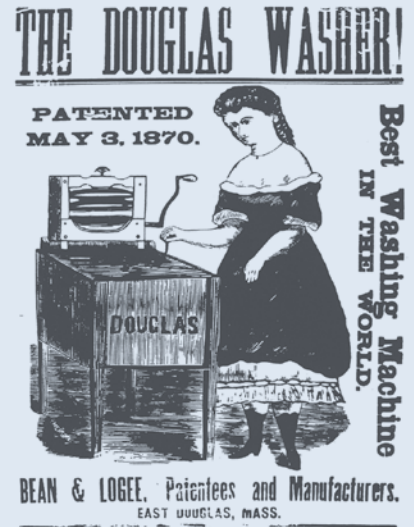
Rogerson Building left, Douglas Hotel right

#### 6. The Hunt Houses (#274 & #271 Main Street):

Axe manufacturer Oliver Hunt's son, Warren, was instrumental in building his father's business, and also became a leading citizen. His success is evident in his mansion, #274, built c. 1825. Federal in style, the Italianate details were added in the 1870s. Warren's brother, Otis, owned a similarly impressive Greek revival mansion, #271 – complete with stately columns – across the street. Both homes set the tone for this section of Main Street, helping to establish the authority and privileges of Douglas industrialists.

#### 7. E.N. Jenckes Store Museum (#283 Main Street):

This classic general store was built by Ebenezer Balcomb c.1833. In 1884, Edward N. Jenckes bought it, making several additions. Over the next decades, he sold groceries on the west side, dry goods on the east, furniture upstairs, and grain from the attached barn. Deliveries were by horse and wagon. After Jenckes died, his daughters, E. Mialma and Helen, ran the store until 1972, and then deeded it to the Douglas Historical Society that operates it as a museum. It was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1988.



#### 8. Wixtead Building (#297-303 Main Street):

The only brick commercial building in East Douglas, this structure was built by James Wixtead in 1910 to replace the old Thayer Block that burned in 1909, destroying Wixtead's grocery and dry-goods store. (Note that the high curb and stone steps at the street, designed for the Thayer Block, do not line up with the Wixtead entrance). When it opened, Wixtead's new store shared space with the Post Office. After his death in 1923, several owners ran the store until it was converted into a pharmacy in 1940. In 1993 it became a restaurant.

#### 9. Batcheller House (#317-325 Main Street):

Consistent with the pattern of building adaptation, this series of structures (marked at one site as #319) was altered from a single to two-family dwelling, and then to commercial and private use. The central part, a brick Cape, was built c.1800. The right-hand wooden frame with Greek revival influences was added when Jeremiah and Joseph Batcheller bought it from Jesse Balcome in 1828. Joseph occupied the newer extension. The left-hand,

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two-story commercial ell, added in 1917, was a fruit store and, from 1927 to 1943, a grocery store. It has since been occupied by a grocery, barber, Laundromat, and dry cleaning business.

#### 10. Balcome Block (#335-342 Main Street):

Second Empire in design, this large commercial block was built by Julius Whipple in 1882 and purchased by Isaac Balcome soon thereafter. Among the town's more impressive structures, its 19th-century feel and 20th-century applications reinforce a sense of ongoing connection between the modern commercial era and that of an earlier time. Built in the early years of prosperity generated by the local axe and textile industries, the block was at one time owned by the Hayward Woolen Company. Its shop fronts have since held a bakery, as well as grocery, drug, hardware, notions, package, and clothing stores.

#### 11. Hayward Landing (#26 North Street):

The power generated by the Mumford River has made this a superb mill site since the 1700s. First used for grist mills, the site also accommodated a cotton mill that was built in 1863 and burned down in 1880. William E. Hayward then built this brick structure, from which he operated Douglas' first successful woolen mill. He was joined by partner Winfield S. Schuster, and was succeeded by his son, William L. Hayward. As partners, the Schuster and Hayward families acquired numerous mills in Douglas, Manchaug, and Millbury. They also were Douglas' largest employer until the industry began to decline in the 1960s.

The mill closed in 1965 and, in 1992, was converted into apartments. Although this ended 200 years of industrial activity, the mill's present embodiment provides another fine example of renovation, preservation, and renewal. Large photos and examples of textile machinery in the lobby reinforce a sense of the mill's historical role in Douglas.



## See what all the BUZZ is about...

### SOUTHWICK'S ZOO



**Charlie Johnson** @johnson23 • 9m

We had a blast at New England's largest zoo, Southwick's Zoo. The kids loved the lions and rhinos the best! #southwickzoo #ilovethezoo



### ASA WATERS MANSION



**Beth Greenburg**  
@B\_Green • 3h

Enjoyed some family time and went to the Asa Waters Mansion for a tour – amazing history and incredible views! My daughter is such a history buff, and she loved it, especially the trip up the spiral staircase to the third floor museum! #MassHistory



### VAILLANCOURT FOLK ART STUDIO



**Heather R. Blackstone, MA**

25.2K Likes  
217 Followers

★★★★★ 8/1/2016

Took the scenic route to the Manchaug Mill in Sutton to visit the Vaillancourt Folk Art Studio this weekend! We got to see the artists at work and I bought two of their hand painted Santas for my collection!

#collector #vaillancourt

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