



HUDSON RIVER VALLEY GREENWAY HUDSON RIVER VALLEY NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA



A Monthly Newsletter from the [Hudson River Valley Greenway](#) and the [Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area](#)

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What's New?



Great Hudson River Paddle

The [Seventh Annual Great Hudson River Paddle](#) finished up its 11-day run in New York City on Wednesday, July 11th. New York City Parks Commissioner Adrian Benepe joined the paddlers at the 79th Street Boat Basin, finishing with them in the Hudson River Park at Pier 96. The 145-mile journey from Albany to Manhattan was a resounding success again this year, with three community festivals along the way which helped to get new paddlers out on the water with experienced outfitters. The Hudson River Valley Greenway would like to thank all of our public and private partners in making this year's paddle the best yet!



Great Hudson River Paddle 2007

Two New National Recreational Trails designated in the Hudson Valley

Secretary of the Interior Dirk Kempthorne recently announced 40 new [National Recreation Trail](#) (NRT) designations in 22 states for 2007 including two in the Hudson Valley: Orange Heritage Trail – An 11.5-mile rail-trail in Orange County; Walkkill Valley Rail Trail – A 12.2-mile portion of the Hudson River Valley Greenway Trail that passes through three municipalities

National Heritage Area Featured

The Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area is the [featured Heritage Area](#) in the July 2007 issue of the [Alliance of National Heritage Areas](#) e-newsletter, the Alliance Update. The write-up includes a description of the area that the HRVNHA covers, as well as information about upcoming initiatives.

Preserve America Grant to Scenic Hudson's West Point Foundry Preserve

First Lady Laura Bush recently presented Putnam County, Scenic Hudson and Congressman John Hall with a \$150,000 grant from [Preserve America](#) to help create a world-class industrial-heritage destination at Scenic Hudson's [West Point Foundry Preserve](#) in Cold Spring. The West Point Foundry was established in 1818 to provide cannon, shot and shells for the federal government. It operated until 1912, employing hundreds of workers, and was the site where many of America's first steam engines were manufactured, as well as water wheels, pipes for New York City's water system, ironclad sailing ships, stoves and ovens.



Upcoming Grant Opportunities



Applications for the next round of [Greenway Communities Grants](#) will be due September 12th for our October Board Meeting. Applications received after this date will be considered for our January Board Meeting. Applications can be downloaded from the Hudson River Valley Greenway Website by clicking [here](#).

Greenway Trail Grants will be due September 7th. Applications can be downloaded from the Hudson River Valley Greenway Website by clicking [here](#).

Other Grant Opportunities:

[Grow New York 2007 Food and Agriculture Industry Development \(FAID\) Program](#), designed to fund research and development projects that enhance the production, processing and distribution of agricultural products and food in New York State. Matching funds, up to \$60,000 for proposals that implement innovative and low-risk approaches to the research, development, production, processing and distribution of agricultural products. (August 28)

[Zoos, Botanical Gardens and Aquariums](#): The New York State Office of Parks Recreation and Historic Preservation offers a program for the funding of collections care or special projects at municipal or not-for-profit institutions that house, care for and interpret for the public, systematically organized collections of living things. (August 31)

[Farmland Protection Implementation Projects](#)

The New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets invites proposals for funding to implement certain farmland protection implementation activities described in agricultural and farmland protection plans that have been developed by counties and municipalities. While local land trusts and other non-profit organizations concerned with protecting agricultural land are not eligible by law to apply directly for farmland protection implementation funds, they may work cooperatively with county or municipal governments in support of a project for which funding is requested. (September 17)

[Restore NY](#)

Restore NY is a program of Empire State Development designed to encourage economic development and neighborhood growth by providing municipalities with financial assistance for revitalization of commercial and residential properties. Municipalities, defined as cities, towns and villages, are invited to submit a Request for Funding Proposal for projects to demolish, deconstruct, rehabilitate and/or reconstruct vacant, abandoned, condemned and surplus properties. Additionally, funds can be used for site development need related to the project including, but not limited to water, sewer and parking. Up to \$100 million will be available for Round 2. (September 28)

[Conservation Trust grants from the National Geographic Society](#) For conservation and research programs that promote the sustainable use and preservation of the earth's biological, cultural, and historical resources. Grants of up to \$20,000 each to individuals who have conducted prior research or conservation work related to the proposed program. (Open)

[2007 Unified Funding Process](#) Through the NYS Division of Housing and Community Renewal and the NYS Housing Trust Fund Corporation. Capital programs and initiatives that will provide funds for affordable housing and community revitalization including: new construction, rehabilitation; emergency repair; homebuyer assistance; façade and building renovation; streetscape enhancement, downtown anchor creation; accessibility; and tenant-based rental assistance. (Deadlines Vary)

[The Trust's National Preservation Endowment](#) offers several types of financial assistance to nonprofit organizations, public agencies, for-profit companies, and individuals involved in preservation-related projects. In 2005, through the National Preservation Endowment, the National Trust provided almost \$17 million in financial assistance and direct investment to support preservation in cities, towns, and rural areas all over the United States. If you would like more information on any of these grant programs, please contact the [National Trust Regional Office](#) nearest you. (Open)

[Collaboration Grants](#) Applications for grants from the Dyson Foundation's Strategic Restructuring Initiative, which supports the collaboration of two or more organizations intent on establishing a continuing relationship in order to increase efficiency and service. Grants awarded in four categories: assessment, planning, integration, and enhancement. (Open)

[Historical preservation grants from the Travelers Conservation Foundation](#). Projects designed to conserve, protect, and restore sites of exceptional cultural, historic, or natural significance, and to promote public awareness of and participation in those conservation activities. Priority will be given to projects that are linked to tourism, that are endorsed by local tourism offices, and that have the potential for duplication in other communities. (Open)

[Waste Reduction, Recycling and Household Hazardous Waste Programs](#): Statewide and municipality-specific state assistance programs for waste reduction, recycling and household hazardous waste (HHW) programs. (Open)

Upcoming Greenway and National Heritage Area Events



8/14-19: [Great Hudson Valley Pedal](#): A six-day, 200-mile bicycle tour from Albany to New York City through the magnificent and historic Hudson Valley.

8/18-19: 230th Anniversary of the Battle of Bennington: Commemorating the Battle of Bennington along the Walloomsac River. These battles, as a part of the Saratoga Campaign, marked the turning point of the American Revolution.

9/15-16 [Hudson River Valley Ramble](#): Highlighting the scenic, natural, cultural and 23,29-30 historic resources that earned the region its designation as a National Heritage Area.

9/22: [Patriot's Weekend 2007: The Crossing at King's Ferry 1782](#): Commemorating the 225th anniversary of the return march of General Rochambeau's French expeditionary army to the Hudson River Valley.

11/13-14: New York Heritage Development Conference: Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area partners with the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor and New York State Heritage Area Association to present this conference on issues and opportunities for heritage development.



- 8/1-12/31: [Full Steam Ahead: Robert Fulton and the Age of Steamboats](#): The Albany Institute of History and Art celebrates the 200th anniversary of Fulton's first steamboat voyage from New York City to Albany. (518) 463-4478
- [Bobs' Folly: Inventing America's First Steamboat](#): Exhibit at Clermont featuring exhibits and interactive components related to the bicentennial of the world's first practical steamboat. (518) 537-4240
- 8/1,8,15, 22, 29: [Drop-In For Some Fun at Historic Huguenot Street](#): Kids can get involved in fun, hands-on activities about history. Workshops include activities such as making corn husk dolls and Johnny cakes or crafting a papier mache airplane and making homemade soda pop. (845) 255-1660 x102.
- 8/2: [Sunset Sensations at Locust Grove](#): Sample Culinary creations with vegetables from heritage gardens at Locust Grove. Take part in cooking demonstrations and garden tours by horticulturists. (845) 454-4500 x17
- 8/3,10, 17,24, 31: 18th Century Cooking Demonstrations: [Knox's Headquarters](#) features dishes prepared for the Ellison family and their military guests while [New Windsor Cantonment](#) offers fare from soldiers' rations. (845) 561-5498
- 8/3: [Albany First Friday](#): Visit Center Square and Downtown arts venues for exhibition openings, receptions, and special events.
-  [The Passion of Purcell](#): The Bard Center hosts a program featuring a performance of Henry Purcell's tragic opera *Dido and Aeneas*. (845) 758-7425.
- [That Magical Place Called Val-Kill - A Historic Grounds Tour](#): This Ranger led tour focuses on the grounds of the property and why this "magical place" was so special to Eleanor Roosevelt.
- 8/4: [Dutchess County Day at Boscobel](#): Residents of Dutchess County may visit the elegant nineteenth-century house museum at Boscobel free of charge with proof of residency. (845) 265-3638.
-  [The History of Plum Point](#): Learn the history of Plum Point, now known as Kowawese. Explore the history of the Native Americans and examine the importance of real estate during the Revolutionary War. Learn the impact of Bannerman's Island on Plum Point itself. (845) 534-5506 x204.
- [Walking tour of Kingston's 1658 Stockade National Historic District](#): Explore the largest intact early Dutch settlement in the state. Follow historic streets and stop at the site where the State Constitution was drafted. (845) 339-0720.
- 8/5,16: [Eleanor Everywhere](#): Learn about the countries Mrs. Roosevelt visited – what she saw, the native dress, foods and what she brought back as gifts. A story from one of the countries will be read. Ages 4 to 8.
- [Family Picnic/Cooking Demonstration](#): In celebration of Kid's Day and Family Day, Philipse Manor Hall invites families to bring a picnic to the grounds. A historic cooking demonstration and family field day will be offered.
- [River Day at Van Cortlandt Manor](#): Take a boat-ride and celebrate our relationship to the river in the late 18th and early 19th centuries. Activities include open-hearth cooking, and brick making, and boat building. (914) 271-8981.
- 8/6-9: [John Jay Homestead Summer History Camp](#): For children entering grades 2 through 6. Special guest presenters, historic crafts, and activities at the Homestead. (914) 232-5651.
- 8/7: [Purple Heart Day](#): Come honor those wounded in battle on Purple Heart Day: 225th Anniversary of the Badge of Military Merit, held at the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor. (845) 561-1765.
- 8/9: [Summer 5K Trail Race at Locust Grove](#): The scenic, all-trail course winds along carriage roads overlooking the Hudson. Fresh organic produce from the site's heirloom vegetable garden will be awarded. (845) 454-4500-x17.
- 8/11,31: [Walking in the Foot Steps of Nelson Brown - FDR's Forester](#): FDR commissioned Professor Nelson Brown from the College of Forestry to develop a management plan and implement forestry practices. This tour will introduce you to FDR's tree plantations, techniques for managing forests and the ways that data collection is used. (845) 229-9115.
- 8/12: [Guided Tours of Huguenot Graveyard](#): Explore the graveyard at the 1717 French Church. Changes in funerary rites, and the unique customs of the Dutch and French settlers will also be discussed. (845)255-1660
- 8/14-19: [Great Hudson Valley Pedal](#): A six-day, 200-mile bicycle tour from Albany to New York City through the magnificent and historic Hudson Valley.
- 8/15: [Eleanor's Woodland Walk and Nature Study](#): Explore the wild side of Val-Kill with a walk along trails that Eleanor Roosevelt enjoyed. Learn to create a nature guidebook using bark rubbings, leaf tracings, identification of animal tracks and the sounds of the woods. (845) 229-9115.

- 8/18: [The Wonderful World of Dragonflies and Damselflies](#): Visit the Hudson Highlands Nature Museum and learn the basics of dragonflies. (845) 534-5506, ext 204.
- 8/18-19: **230th Anniversary of the Battle of Bennington: Commemorating the Battle of Bennington along the Walloomsac River.** These battles, as a part of the Saratoga Campaign, marked the turning point of the American Revolution.
- 8/19: [Locust Lawn Candlelight Tour](#): Historic Huguenot Street offers special tours of the Evert Terwilliger House (1738), and the Josiah Hasbrouck House (1814). (845) 255-1660.
-  [18th Annual West Point Triathlon](#): The 18th running of one of the most popular triathlons in the tri-state area provides a great venue for seasoned triathletes as well as beginners.
- [Kill In Dutch Means Stream, So Who Lives In The Fall Kill](#): Eleanor and Franklin Roosevelt loved to picnic along the Fall Kill. Take a scientific look at the Fall Kill ecosystem and its inhabitants.
- 8/20-24: [The Artist's Eye - A Summer Drawing Intensive](#): Visit Kykuit for this popular class led by Randolph Williams, professor of art education at Manhattanville College and consultant to the Museum of Modern Art, the Bruce Museum, and the Neuberger Museum. (914) 631-8200 x618.
- 8/23: [The Roosevelt Farm Lane Hike: an Adventure in Time](#): Hike the roads that FDR had built so that he could access his forest plantations and drive to Val-Kill from Springwood. (845) 229-9115.
- 8/24-25: [Civil War Living History Weekend](#): Join the 150th New York Volunteer Infantry Regiment at Locust Grove as they present a weekend of "living history," a slice of life from the 1860's. Enjoy skirmishes, a ladies fashion show, children's games, demonstrations of camp life, quilting and laundry. (845) 454-4500.
- 8/25: [Birding and Breakfast](#): Experts from the Saw Mill River chapter of the National Audubon Society will lead an early morning bird walk through the historic orchard and gardens of Van Cortlandt Manor, followed by a hearty, 18th-century-style breakfast. (914) 631-8200 x618
- 8/31: [Troy Night Out](#): Visit the City of Troy for an evening of arts and culture with live music, food, shopping and gallery exhibitions.

Community Spotlight

[Town of Amenia](#)

Amenia is derived from the Latin word amoena, meaning "pleasing to the eye."

This Dutchess County Town also boasts ready access to one of the best rail trails in the north east, the [Harlem Valley Rail Trail](#). Located in the Harlem Valley, the Town of Amenia includes the Historic Hamlets of Amenia, Wassaic, Amenia Union, South Amenia & Smithfield.

The Amenia hamlet of "Wassaic" grew up around the Gridley Iron Works and along the new Harlem division of the New York Central Railroad in the early 1800's. In 1861 Gail Borden opened the world's first factory for producing a milk that would not need refrigeration. Known today as Borden's Eagle Brand Condensed Milk, it was a revolutionary product. Made right here in the "Milky Way" and shipped by train throughout the country, it made possible the growth of the local dairy industry, replacing the sheep and grain farming of earlier times. This area was also a major transportation route. During the Revolutionary War General Washington marched his troops through Wassaic on the way to Connecticut.



In the beginning of this century, enlightened thinkers and philosophers like W.E.B. DuBois and Lewis Mumford gathered at Spingarn estate (now [Troutbeck Estate and Resort](#)). The organization we know today as the NAACP was established there.

Amenia has a number of local churches with historic architecture. For example, in Amenia Union is a Gothic Episcopal Church (designed by Richard Upjohn) with Tiffany stained glass windows." More information about the historic character of the community can be found through the [Harlem Valley Chamber of Commerce](#)

Amenia recently completed a draft comprehensive plan revision and zoning ordinance update. By tackling the comprehensive plan update and zoning ordinance amendments concurrently, the Town took an important step to ensure the revised plan is implemented and the vision created by the citizens of Amenia is realized. The Town is a Greenway Compact Community and is a full partner with Dutchess County and the Greenway in realizing the regional vision outlined in Dutchess County's Greenway Compact [Greenway Connections](#). Amenia received a \$10,000 Greenway Compact matching grant for its comprehensive plan update and zoning ordinance amendments.

Heritage Spotlight

West Point Foundry Preserve



From 1817 to 1884, the site of the Preserve was home to the West Point Foundry, one of the most innovative and productive industrial facilities at the dawn of the Industrial Revolution. Today, the 87-acre preserve, with woodland trails and scenic views of Foundry Brook Marsh, is owned and managed by The Scenic Hudson Land Trust.

Chosen as one of four sites for a weapons foundry by President James Madison after the War of 1812, the West Point Foundry gained renown during the Civil War when it produced the Parrott gun, whose rifling gave it greater range and accuracy.

The site now contains foundry ruins, including the boring mill, blast furnace, and casting house where President Lincoln once visited and workers made the first three domestic locomotive trains, as well as sugar mills, steam engines and boilers, and massive pipes for

New York City's water system. On-site research conducted by Michigan Technological University's industrial archaeology program is guiding Scenic Hudson's ongoing interpretation and management of this landscape.

West Point Foundry Preserve, in Cold Spring, can be accessed either via Chestnut Street or from the Metro-North train station. Scenic Hudson is currently working with Mathews Nielsen Landscape Architects to prepare a public access and interpretation plan for West Point Foundry Preserve. (845)473-4440 x265

Trail Spotlight

Rhinebeck/Red Hook Historic District Bike & Walk Tour

On June 13th, 2007, the Greenway Conservancy Board passed a resolution officially designating the Rhinebeck/Red Hook Historic District Bike & Walk Tour as part of the Greenway Trail System. The route was nominated for designation by the Winnakee Land Trust in collaboration with the Town of Red Hook and the Town of Rhinebeck.

The 21.4-mile, on-road biking and walking tour follows local roads and byways, providing majestic views of the Hudson River, Catskill Mountains, farms and forests. The route also links village centers to historic sites and other attractions, such as the Wilderstein Estate, Scenic Hudson's Poet's Walk, and the Dutchess County Fairgrounds. Intended for experienced bicyclists and walkers, the Rhinebeck/Red Hook Historic District Bike & Walk Tour is a wonderful way to experience the rural character of Northern Dutchess County.

The Greenway has supported this project with several trail grants for various phases, including route planning, brochures and directional signs. The Town of Red Hook is currently working on an extension of the route in order to link to Father's Trail - a designated Greenway Trail on the Unification Theological Seminary campus in Barrytown. The Town of Rhinebeck continues to seek ways to improve safety and usability of the route. The Greenway is excited to have the Rhinebeck/Red Hook Historic District Bike & Walk Tour as an official part of the Greenway Trail System and looks forward to supporting the towns of Rhinebeck and Red Hook in their continued efforts to enhance this important recreational resource.



Did You Know...



Did you know the trip to Mount Beacon was a popular destination and a feat of engineering for its time?

The Mount Beacon Incline Railway made its first ascent in 1902 and was one of the steepest incline railways in the world with an estimated 65% grade. The railway used the Otis Elevator Company's balanced cable car system and was designed to bring visitors up the mountain to enjoy one of the most spectacular views of the Hudson Valley. In addition to the magnificent views, visitors could enjoy the casino, restaurant, and dance hall.

Over the years, Mount Beacon welcomed many famous stars of the day including D.W. Griffith and Mary Pickford. During its 76 years of service the Incline took over 3 million people up to the 1,540-foot summit of Mount Beacon. Mount Beacon is also said to be the mountain peak featured on the New York State seal.

The railway stopped running in 1978 and by 1982 was added to the National Register of Historic Places. While fire and vandalism destroyed much of the original Incline, there is a [movement underway to restore the Incline](#) in time to welcome visitors for the 2009 Hudson-Fulton-Champlain Quadricentennial.



Have some good Hudson Valley Trivia you'd like to share with everyone? [Let us know!](#)



519 Days Until the Hudson-Fulton-Champlain Quadricentennial

Visit www.exploreny400.com for more information

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And the National Heritage Website at www.hudsonrivervalley.com

