



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?



Governor and Legislative Leaders Agree on Greenway

The New York State budget that has been agreed upon by Governor Paterson and the State Legislature maintains the Hudson River Valley Greenway Communities Council and Greenway Conservancy for the Hudson River Valley in their current state. However, the operating budgets for both organizations will be reduced by 20%. Within this reduction, the Greenway will be able to maintain its current operating structure.

In a press release announcing key environmental protection initiatives in the budget agreement, Governor Paterson stated, "Our commitment to New York's long-term fiscal stability would be in vain if we did not also commit to programs that ensure our long-term environmental health. Our expansion of the Bottle Bill, continued investment in the Environmental Protection Fund, and commitment to protecting New York's parks, waterways and wildlife demonstrate our promise to improve the lives of every day New Yorkers while also producing a balanced, responsible budget."

The Greenway remains committed to working with our partners to help communities work together on a regional basis to protect and preserve the natural and cultural resources that define our quality of life in the Hudson River Valley while helping to advance a sustainable regional economy.

Greenway Board Meeting

On March 26, 2009, the Greenway held a joint meeting of the Boards of the Hudson River Valley Greenway Communities Council and Conservancy, in addition to the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area, at the Henry A. Wallace Center on the grounds of the [FDR Library](#) in Hyde Park, New York. Meeting attendees were welcomed by Cynthia Koch, FDR Library Director; Sarah Olson, Superintendent of the Roosevelt-Vanderbilt National Historic Sites; and Pompey Delafield, Supervisor of the Town of Hyde Park. A web cast of the Greenway Board Meeting can be viewed [online](#).

The meeting featured a presentation given by the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation's Mark Lowery, describing New York's portfolio of actions to address climate change. Lowery is the Climate Partnership Coordinator in the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's Office of Climate Change. Presentations were also given by Erin Tobin regarding the Preservation League's "[2009 Seven To Save](#)" list as well as Andy Bicking, Director of Public Policy and Special Projects at Scenic Hudson, on the topic of the future of the Hudson River Valley Greenway. Following the Board Meeting, Greenway staff toured the FDR Presidential Library and FDR's home, [Springwood](#).



Andy Bicking Addresses Attendees at the Joint Board Meeting

Greenway Grants Awarded

At the March 26th Board Meeting, the Greenway awarded \$20,500 in Community grants to the Town of Cairo in Greene County; the City of Mechanicville in Saratoga County; and the Town of Rosendale and the Town of Shawangunk, both in Ulster County. The Greenway also awarded a \$32,500 Water Trail grant to the City of Watervliet in Albany County for a canoe and kayak launch site.

Additionally, Hudson River Waterfront Park in Town of Halfmoon, Saratoga County, and Hudson Shores Park in the City of Watervliet, Albany County were designated as Hudson River Greenway Water Trail Sites.

Walkable Westchester

[Walkable Westchester](#) is a comprehensive guide to 600 miles of trails in more than 180 parks, preserves, sanctuaries, and protected open space in Westchester County. Many of these trails include designated Hudson River Valley Greenway trails. This comprehensive guide contains maps, photos, contact information, driving directions and more. Published by the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference, the book by Jane and Walt Daniels was seven years in the making, and offers an unparalleled look at the vast opportunities for outdoor recreation available in Westchester County. All proceeds from this guide will go to the NY/NJ Trail Conference. For more information, visit www.nynytc.org.

Help New York State Parks in your community

For the first time ever, [New York's State Parks](#) are proud to be a beneficiary of Macy's One Good Turn charity shopping event. This event raises much-needed funds that will support environmental programming at parks and historic sites you know and love. Shopping passes are available at **Olana**, **Staatsburgh** and **John Jay Homestead State Historic Sites** and **Franklin D. Roosevelt State Park** or **Rockefeller State Park Preserve**. Your \$5 donation entitles you to an all-day savings pass worth 10-20% off most purchases, plus you will receive \$5 off a one-time \$15 purchase between April 25 – May 9, 2009. This year, 100% of the proceeds from the \$5 donations made at the park or historic site will benefit environmental programming, as will 40% of the in-store donations.



Franchise Owners Help the Hudson

Pat and Doug Arnott, owners of the Watervliet McDonald's restaurant, have donated approximately \$1,500 towards Watervliet's [Hudson Shores Recreational Initiative](#). The initiative encourages non-motorized water sports such as crew and kayaking in the municipal park. Additionally, a boathouse and a floatable-retractable dock are being planned at the site. During the month of December, 25 cents of every Happy Meal sold at the restaurant went toward this project.

Upcoming Grant Opportunities

Greenway Grant Opportunities:

[Hudson River Valley Greenway Grants](#) provide financial and technical assistance to municipalities located within the designated Greenway Area who share the Greenway goals and objectives. [Greenway Communities Grant](#), [Greenway Compact Grants](#), and [Greenway Water Trail Grant](#) applications are available online or by contacting the Greenway office. (May 8)

Other Grant Opportunities:

The 2009 [American Recovery and Reinvestment Act](#) provides funding for governments, organizations and other entities to create jobs and boost the economy. New York State will receive \$24.6 billion for updating infrastructure, improving schools and training unemployed. To submit a proposal to receive funding, fill out the form located [here](#).

[Enterprise's Green Communities](#) offers grants to cover the costs of planning and implementing green components of affordable housing developments. These opportunities are open to 501(c)(3) nonprofits; public housing authorities; tribally designated housing entities; for-profit entities; and for-profit entities participating through joint ventures with qualified organizations.

[The Department of Health's Community Empowerment for Aging in Place](#) grant to encourage improvements in age-friendly communities that enable older persons to "age in place" and stay in their own neighborhoods. For more information, contact Dona Dicarolo at (518) 474-0441; or e-mail: donna.dicarolo@ofa.state.ny.us (April 17)

[Division of Housing and Community Renewal](#) is soliciting applications for the New York Main Street Program which provides resources to assist with Main Street and downtown revitalization efforts. (April 24)

[US Environmental Protection Agency](#) to fund the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Recovery Act). The *Smart Way Clean Diesel Program* will provide \$30 million in new funding to support projects that reduce diesel emissions and maximize job creation and preservation. (April 28)

[Wachovia Next Award for Opportunity Finance](#) provides financial services to Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs) that benefit low-income people — building homes, schools, small businesses, and community facilities. (April 30)

[Department of Agriculture and Markets](#) for *The Community Garden Capacity Building Program* to build capacity of existing community gardens. Projects must involve outreach, planning, community programs, leadership development, or fundraising training. (May 4)

[The Federal Transit Administration \(FTA\)](#) is soliciting proposals for applied research in the area of public participation as it relates to the planning of public transportation projects and programs. (May 8)

[Save Our History](#) grants for history organizations that partner with schools or youth groups on preservation projects that engage students in learning about, documenting, and preserving the history of their communities (June 5)



Events identified as "2009 Quad Event" denote "2009 Hudson-Fulton-Champlain Quadracentennial Events." For additional information about the Quadracentennial, visit the online website at exploreny400.com.

4/1-1/3/10: [\(2009 Quad Event\) Hudson River Panorama](#): The Albany Institute explores the influence that the Hudson has had on our region. Enjoy artifacts, works of art, and rare archival documents. (518) 463-4478

4/1-12/31: [\(2009 Quad Event\) Horseshoes & Waterwheels: NY's Tech Valley 1800s](#): Visitors to the Children's Museum can explore the importance of the Hudson River to the region and our nation. (518) 235-2120

4/1-9/1: [\(2009 Quad Event\) Antoni Tapies, Works from 1950's and 1960's](#): Dia Beacon and Museo nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia, Madrid, present this exhibition of the Spanish artist.



[\(2009 Quad Event\) Grand Walkabout](#): Stroll along scenic and historic foot trails in Ulster, Dutchess, Orange and Putnam counties to celebrate the Quadracentennial. Track your miles earn awards.

4/1-30: [\(2009 Quad Event\) Beneath the City - Archaeological Perspectives](#): Explore Albany's archeological discoveries and their meaning at the State Museum. Learn about the early settlement and the life of past residents. (518) 474-5877

4/1-5: [\(2009 Quad Event\) American Waters: A Celebration of the NY 400th](#): The National Academy Museum offers this exhibition of American landscape paintings whose subject is American waterways. (212) 369 4880 x 223

[April Fools Olana](#): Objects that don't fit in are scattered throughout the house, some better hidden than others. Bring the family and see who has the sharpest eye. (518) 828-0135

4/2: (Quad Event) The Formation of Government: The Ulster County Clerk presents an exhibit about government from the Charter of the Dutch Court at Kingston in 1661 up to the most recent Ulster County Charter. (845) 340-3415

[Adult Workshop Series: Reducing Energy Consumption](#): Join the Hudson Highlands Nature Museum for a workshop that follows the book "Low Carbon Diet." The workshop will also meet on April 16 and 30. (845) 534-5506 x204

4/3: [Albany First Friday](#): Visit Center Square and Downtown arts venues for exhibition openings, receptions, and events.

4/4: [Native American Seminar-The Mohican response to Henry Hudson](#): The Native American Institute introduces ten scholars at the State Museum who will discuss local Indian presence before arrival of Europeans. (518) 369-8116.

[Family Nature Series: Frogs in Concert](#): Visit Sterling Forest State Park to search for frogs and explore their homes. This program is geared to children ages 5 to 15. (845) 351-5907

[\(Quad Event\) Amsterdam/New Amsterdam: The World of Henry Hudson](#): The Museum of the City of New York presents rare 16th- and 17th-century objects from major American and Dutch collections to reveal how Henry Hudson's epic third voyage of exploration planted the seeds of a modern society in the New World.



[Cruise to Castle Point](#): Visit Minnewaska State Park for a seven-mile hike featuring Castle Point, a scenic vista offering a nearly 360 degree panoramic view of the Hudson Valley and surrounding mountains. (845) 256-0579

4/5: Princeton Singing Group at Jay Mansion: Princeton's oldest a cappella singing group performs at the Mansion which was restored and lived in by Princeton graduate, Edgar Palmer, Princeton Class of 1903. (914) 698-9275

4/7: [Survival Skills Workshop at Minnewaska State Park](#): Learn hands-on outdoor skills, including basic orienteering, leave-no-trace, proper preparation for a long hike, and building debris huts. (845) 256-0579

[Children's Spring Tea at Mount Gulian](#): Children enjoy crustless sandwiches, scones, an array of desserts and tea while immersing themselves in an activity of earlier times. (845) 831-8172.

4/7-8: [New York State Wetlands Forum Annual Conference and Meeting](#): This Annual Spring Conference and Business Meeting will examine wetlands and watersheds in this Quadracentennial year. 845-485-5300

4/9: [History of Sterling Lecture](#): Enjoy this lecture about the forest from 1923 to 2008. (845) 351-5907



4/11: [\(Quad Event\) Howland To Hudson: 400 Years of Hudson Poetry](#): Contemporary poets from the Hudson Valley visit the Howland Cultural Center to read works of past masters from 400 years. (845) 566-4425

[Incredible Eggs at the Hudson Highlands Nature Museum](#): Children ages 5 and up can learn how animal parents care for their young. (845) 534-5506, ext 204.

[River Explorers—Hunt for the Hatchlings](#): The Beczak Center invites children to learn about animals that lay eggs and see the differences between various species. (914) 377-1900 ext. 13

[Washington's Spies](#): St. Paul's Church presents historian Alexander Rose who will discuss Revolutionary War espionage and a dedicated group of spies who supplied Washington with crucial information. (914) 667-4116

4/13: [Wild for Wildlife at Minnewaska State Park](#): Children ages 5 and up can learn about the art of wildlife detection and make plaster casts of an animal tracks to take home. (845) 256-0579

4/13-17: [Landscape Dance and Movement at Olana](#): Children of all ages are invited to explore dance improvisation with a new toolkit of skills including space, time, and flow. (518) 828-1872


[Spring Break Discovery Days at Hudson Highlands Nature Museum](#): Enjoy animal presentations, guided hikes, stories and crafts. Learn about a different animal each day! (845) 534-5506, ext 204.

4/14: [Film Night at Beczak: "Swim for the River"](#): Meet Christopher Swain, the man who swam the entire length of the Hudson, and watch his documentary. (914) 377-1900

4/17: ["The Hudson as a Living River"](#): Stephen Stanne, Interpretive Specialist of the Hudson River Estuary Program DEC, joins Beczak to discuss the ecological history of the Hudson River. (914) 377-1900

4/18-30: [\(Quad Event\) Moments in Time reflected by Archival Records](#): The Kingston Senate House presents a display of diaries, photographs, newspapers and various other sources illustrating personal narratives. (845) 340-3415

4/18: [Lecture Series - Prehistoric Walls](#): Sterling Forest State Park welcomes archeologist and author Ed Lenik for a talk on legends that abound in the Ramapo Mountains. (845) 351-5907

 [Terrific Trout at the Hudson Highlands Nature Museum](#): Spend the morning learning about this important family of fish and its ability to help scientists manage the quality of our stream and lake habitats. (845) 534-5506, ext 204


[\(Quad Event\) Hudson River School Film Premiere](#): View this short film about Thomas Cole and the art movement he founded, the Hudson River School. Afterwards, enjoy celebratory events at local art galleries. 518-943-7465

4/19: [Why the Rocks are Spotted](#): Visit Minnewaska State Park for a guided walk to learn about the many species of lichens that color the surface of the rocks. (845) 256-0579

[Sunday Fun Day at Hudson Highlands Nature Museum](#): Learn fascinating facts about rabbits and bunnies. Suggested for adults and children ages 5 and up. (845) 534-5506 x204.

4/20-26: [\(Quad Event\) Riverway Storytelling Festival](#): Enjoy fairy tales and shivery stories during this festival. Enjoy workshops, story swaps, and performances (518) 437-9880

4/22: [From Garden to Table](#): Produce and herbs from the kitchen garden were used for family meals at Olana. Learn how to use the local Hudson Valley bounty to make delicious recipes. (518) 828-1872

Bookbinding at Ellenville Public Library: Learn the secrets of bookbinding nature journals. (845) 647-5530. 


[Blessing of the Hudson on Earth Day](#): Experience the first sunbeams of Earth Day on Beczak's Hudson River beach. Offer good will and blessings during an interfaith ceremony (914) 377-1900

4/24: [Troy Night Out](#): Visit the City of Troy for an evening of arts and culture with live music, food, shopping and gallery exhibitions.

[Church Tower Walk](#): Visit St. Paul's Church for a hike up the wooden staircase in the Church tower, leading to the historic, 250-year-old metal bell, one of the oldest in the country. (914) 667-4116

4/24-6/27: [A Fugitive Slave Rescued: Charles Nalle Paintings at Rensselaer County Historical Society](#): Follow the story of this fugitive slave, his capture, and rescue by Trojans under the leadership of Harriet Tubman. (518) 272-7232

4/25: [Hudson Highlands Nature Museum Hike-A-Thon](#): Celebrate Community and fitness at this event. Pre-register, Recruit Team Members, Encourage all of your Team Members to get sponsors. (845) 534-5506, ext 204.

 [The Great Saw Mill River Cover-up](#): Joan Jennings, President of the Friends of Philipse Manor Hall, visits Beczak and reveals how the river that powered Adriaen van der Donck's saw mill became the hub of Yonkers. (914) 377-1900

4/25-26: [Hudson River Weekend of Seining at Beczak](#): Put on chest waders and walk into the river to learn who and what lives in the Hudson by dragging a 30-foot seine net through the water. (914) 377-1900 ext. 13.

4/26: [Glories of the Hudson: Olana / Cedar Grove Quadricentennial Student Symposium](#): Area students discuss the intersection between art and other fields of inquiry in Hudson Valley history. (518) 828-0135 or (518) 943-7465

[\(Quad Event\) Nyack Springfest](#): Enjoy more than 250 arts, crafts and antique vendors who will have their fine wares on display on the streets of Nyack as well as a food court, live music and entertainment for the kids. (845) 353-2221

Green Tip of the Month

This month, focus on keeping your tires properly inflated. Each month would reduce your carbon footprint by about 21lbs of CO2. Over the year that comes to a savings of about 252lbs!

All information courtesy of National Geographic's [Green Guide](#)

Heritage Spotlight

[New York State Capitol](#)

The capitol was constructed between 1867 and 1899 and was inspired by the City Hall in Paris, France. However, this 5-story granite building took five architects to complete and represents a variety of styles. The exterior offers just a hint of the opulence inside, for which architects Leopold Eidlitz and Henry Hobson Richardson were primarily responsible. Eidlitz designed the building's largest room, the Assembly Chamber, as well as the Assembly and Senate Staircases. Richardson, then America's most renowned architect, was responsible for the Senate Chamber, Hallway, and the Great Western Staircase.

The restored skylight above the staircase now shines a natural spotlight on this impressive feat of design and craftsmanship. Also to be seen are the 25 murals created by William deLeftwich Dodge that fill the domed Governor's Reception Room (also known as the "War Room"). The works depict everything from Henry Hudson's first contact with Native Americans to New York troops serving in World War One.

Free guided tours begin at the Empire State Plaza Visitor Center in the Main Concourse. Mon.-Fri. 10 a.m., 12 p.m., 2 p.m., and 3 p.m.; Sat. and Sun. at 11 a.m., 1 p.m., and 3 p.m. (518) 474-2418.



Community Spotlight

[City of Albany](#)

Strategically located along the western bank of the Hudson River, the City of Albany is the capital of New York State and forms the "Capital District" with nearby cities of Troy and Schenectady. Albany is the fourth oldest continually inhabited city in the United States and the second oldest state capital. The [Pine Bush](#), located at the far edge of the city, is the only sizable inland pine barrens in the United States and is home to many endangered species.

Originally known by native Americans as Penpotawotnot, Albany's colonial ties began with Henry Hudson's exploration in September 1609. In 1624 the Dutch East India Company built Fort Orange, a fur trading post, and by 1652 the area was incorporated as the village of Beverwyck. In 1664 the English took the land and renamed the village "Albany" to honor the Duke of Albany.

Governor Thomas Dongan formally chartered Albany in 1686 and appointed Pieter Schuyler as mayor. In 1754, Benjamin Franklin and other colonial leaders met in Albany to draft the [Albany Plan of Union](#). Although never adopted, the document is considered a precursor to the US Constitution. In 1797, Albany was designated capital of New York State. With the advent of the steamboat, railways, and nearby canal development, Albany quickly became a transportation center.

Today Albany is a center for politics and education in New York State. Higher education institutions include Albany Law School, the College of Saint Rose, Maria College of Albany, Sage College of Albany, Albany College of Pharmacy, Albany Medical College, Excelsior College, and the University at Albany. The city also plays a vital role in the regional "[Tech Valley](#)" initiative and is home to many national and international entities.

Albany's cultural amenities include galleries, arts venues and museums as well as summer concerts and festivals. The city contains some of the finest examples of American architecture and includes works by Richardson, Fuller, and Eidlitz. Significant features include historic [Center Square neighborhood](#), [Washington Park](#) (designed by Vaux and Olmstead, architects of Manhattan's Central Park), the Empire State Plaza, and the State Education Building. Residential neighborhoods throughout the city retain their pedestrian-friendly orientation.

Albany was designated an "[All American City](#)" in 1991 and is currently identified as a top city in the fields of technology and nanotechnology. With numerous amenities for residents and visitors, Albany offers something for everyone.



Did You Know...?

Did you know the Hudson Valley will soon be home to the longest pedestrian span in the world?

Built in 1888, the Great Poughkeepsie Railroad Bridge was once the longest span in the world and the first bridge to cross the Hudson south of Albany. In its heyday, this 6,767-footlong cantilever bridge was a crucial rail link between the Pennsylvania coal mines and New England. It was in active use until 1974 when fire damaged a portion of the deck and it was closed.

Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the bridge is once again in the limelight as plans have been underway to transform the bridge into a pedestrian walkway over the river. Walkway Over the Hudson, the non-profit group that now owns the bridge, plans to bring this project to fruition during the 2009 Quadricentennial celebration of Henry Hudson's historic trip up the river. The Walkway Over the Hudson initiative has been identified as one of the main legacy projects in New York State for the Quadricentennial celebrations.



When completed, this walkway will be the longest pedestrian span in the world and is estimated to generate roughly \$21 million in local and regional revenue.

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To remove your name from our mailing list, please [click here](#).
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Be sure to visit the Greenway Website at www.hudsongreenway.state.ny.us
And the National Heritage Website at www.hudsonrivervalley.com

