

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?

Hudson River Valley Greenway Board Meeting

On June 11, the Hudson River Valley Greenway held a joint meeting of the Communities Council and the Conservancy, including the National Heritage Area, in the Terrace at the [State University of New York at New Paltz](#).

Board members and meeting attendees were welcomed by Steve Poskanzer, President of SUNY New Paltz. President Poskanzer explained the ways that the University is [becoming more environmentally friendly](#). Greenway Board member and [Town of New Paltz](#) Councilwoman Kitty Brown also spoke on behalf of the Town. Matt Millea, Acting President of the [NYS Environmental Facilities Corporation](#), gave a brief presentation on "Financing for a Sustainable Future: Funding for Water and Sewer Projects." Jennifer Garofalini, Land Protection Director at the [Mohonk Preserve](#), informed the Board and meeting attendees about the great projects going on at the Preserve. Following the presentations, Acting Executive Director Mark Castiglione provided a brief overview of the recent initiatives of the Hudson River Valley Greenway and the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area.

New Communities

The Hudson River Valley Greenway is pleased to welcome the [Town of Clifton Park](#) and the [Town of Halfmoon](#) in Saratoga County and the [Town of Ulster](#) in Ulster County as newly designated Greenway Communities. The total number of Greenway communities is now 247.

New Greenway Trail and Water Trail Designations

During the joint board meeting, the [Hudson Highlands Nature Museum](#) Discovery Quest Trails in Cornwall were designated as part of the Greenway Trail System. The three miles of trail offer interpretive environmental information along with a scenic hiking opportunity. In addition, the Mechanicville Dock in the [City of Mechanicville](#) was designated as a Hudson River Greenway Water Trail site.

Greenway Grants

An historic number of grants were awarded at the June 11, 2008 Board meeting. Greenway Community Grants were awarded to the Village of Chestnut Ridge with the Village of Pomona, Rockland County; the Town of Copake, Columbia County, Town of Gardiner, Ulster County, City of Kingston with the Town of Ulster, Ulster County; City of Mechanicville, Saratoga County; Village of Port Chester, Westchester County; Town of Saratoga, Saratoga County; and the Town of Saugerties, Ulster County. Greenway Compact Grants were awarded to the Town of Beekman, and the Village of Tivoli, Dutchess County. Greenway Water Trail Grants were awarded to the City of Kingston, and the Town of Lloyd, Ulster County.

Congressman Hinchey secures Quadricentennial Funding

On Monday, June 23rd at the Vanderbilt Historic Site in Hyde Park, [Congressman Maurice Hinchey](#) announced that he had secured \$492,000 in funding for the [Hudson-Fulton-Champlain Quadricentennial](#).

The National Park Service in Hyde Park will receive and allocate the funds. The Hudson River Valley Greenway and National Heritage Area will oversee several of the projects associated with this funding, including the Quadricentennial Legacy Trail System, and the Great Champlain-Hudson Sojourn and Champlain-Hudson Valleys Ramble, expanding two of the Greenway's signature events up to the Canadian border to mark the Quadricentennial celebration.



2008 Greenway Conservancy Small Grant Program

Also announced at the Board meeting was the availability of the 2008 Greenway Conservancy Small Grant Applications. This yearly grant program is offered to municipalities and not-for-profit organizations for trail-related projects throughout the Hudson Valley. This year, the grant program also emphasizes trail projects that will contribute to the 2009 celebration of the Hudson-Fulton-Champlain Quadricentennial. Applications are available [online](#) or by calling the Greenway office at (518) 473-3835. Applications must be received by September 8, 2008.

Greenway Facilitates Planning Workshop in Hastings-on-Hudson

On June 18th the Hudson River Valley Greenway facilitated a public workshop in the [Village of Hastings-on-Hudson](#). The workshop was held at the James Harmon Community Center and was designed to give members of the public an opportunity to provide their thoughts on the future of Hastings. Following a brief presentation by John Dennehey, Senior Planner for the Greenway, participants broke into groups and were asked to address a variety of questions related to community development and public amenities. The information provided by the public during the workshop will be of valuable assistance as Hastings-on-Hudson develops its first Comprehensive Plan.



Great Hudson River Paddle

The 8th Annual [Great Hudson River Paddle](#) kicks off on Thursday, July 3rd. The thru-paddlers will make their way down the Hudson, camping along the way in riverside communities, and will end up in New York City on Friday, July 11th.

Upcoming Grant Opportunities

Applications for the next round of [Greenway Communities Grants](#) will be due September 19th 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 Conservancy Small Grants will be due September 8th. Applications can be downloaded from the Hudson River Valley Greenway Website by clicking [here](#).

Other Grant Opportunities:

[The Department of Environmental Conservation \(DEC\)](#) is soliciting applications from towns, villages and not-for-profit organizations, located along the Route 28 corridor of the Central Catskill Park/Mountains, for Central Catskill Park/Mountains Smart Growth Grant projects. DEC seeks proposals for capital projects which protect the region's natural resources and accommodate economic growth by revitalizing existing village, hamlet and town centers. (July 11)

[2007 Environmental Justice Community Impact Research Grant Program](#) The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's Office of Environmental Justice announces the availability of Community Impact Research Grants in 2007. These grants will provide community-based non-profit organizations with funding from \$2,000 to \$25,000 to conduct research and education projects on multiple environmental harms and risks to their communities. (July 17)

[Wetlands Conservation Act Standard Grants](#) To promote the long-term conservation of North American wetland ecosystems and the waterfowl and other migratory birds, fish and wildlife that depend on wetlands. (July 27)

[Environmental Protection Agency](#) is seeking applications to develop advanced concepts for linking public health protection with water infrastructure sustainability. Innovative and integrative approaches are sought for monitoring, modeling, operation, and management of drinking water distribution and storage systems and wastewater collection systems that can lead to improved water quality and reduced health risks. (July 29)

[National Parks Service](#) Rivers & Trails Program or RTCA, is the community assistance arm of the National Park Service. RTCA staff provide technical assistance to community groups and local, State, and federal government agencies so they can conserve rivers, preserve open space, and develop trails and greenways. (August 1)

[National Endowment for the Arts](#) The Access to Artistic Intelligence Grant encourages and supports artistic excellence, preserves our cultural heritage, and provides access to the arts for all Americans. This category supports projects that provide short-term arts exposure or arts appreciation for children and youth as well as intergenerational education projects. (August 11)

[NYS Department of Agriculture & Markets RFP](#) This program offers assistance to counties with State approved agriculture and farmland protection plans and other municipalities that have adopted a local farmland protection plan. This program funds local initiatives that are intended to maintain the economic viability of the State's agricultural industry and its supporting land base and to protect the environmental and landscape preservation values associated with agriculture. (September 15)

[Institute of Museums and Library Services](#) Museums for America grants strengthen a museum's ability to serve the public more effectively by supporting high-priority activities that advance the institution's mission and strategic goals. Funds can be used for a wide variety of projects, including: ongoing museum work, research and other behind-the-scenes activities, planning, new programs, purchase of equipment or services, and activities that will support the efforts of museums to upgrade and integrate new technologies. (November 1)

[The Affordable Home Ownership Development Program](#): Administered by the New York State Affordable Housing Corporation, a public benefit corporation, anticipates receiving an appropriation of \$25,000,000 for Fiscal Year 2008-09, which begins on April 1, 2008 and ends March 31, 09.

[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)

Upcoming Greenway and National Heritage Area Events

- 7/3-13: Eighth Annual Great Hudson River Paddle
- 7/29-31: Teaching the Hudson Valley Summer Institute at Hyde Park. This year's topic will be "Teaching the Hudson Valley Diversity: Culture, History, and Nature 1609-2009."
- 8/12-17: Great Hudson Valley Pedal: A 200-mile journey from Albany to New York City, experiencing heritage resources, cultural resources, and parklands
- 9/13-14: [Hudson River Valley Ramble](#): Over 200 events including hikes, bikes, walks, historic tours, and regional festivals.
- 9/20-21: [Hudson River Valley Ramble](#)
- 9/27-28: [Hudson River Valley Ramble](#)

Other Upcoming Events Around the Region

- 7/1,8: [Ranger Guided Ecology Walk](#): Explore Saratoga National Battlefield with a Park Ranger through hands-on experiments. (518) 664-9821 x224
- 7/3, 10: [Children's Programs at Saratoga National Battlefield](#): Children ages 5-12 can play games, try on Colonial clothes, cook, make candles, or enjoy afternoon tea! (518) 664-9821 x224
- 7/3-13: Eighth Annual Great Hudson River Paddle**
- 7/4: [Fireworks at the Empire State Plaza](#): Enjoy kids activities, music, and a free concert by John Waite followed by a spectacular fireworks show.
- [Albany First Friday](#): Visit Center Square and Downtown arts venues for exhibition openings, receptions, and events.
- [Fourth of July](#): Morning citizenship ceremony at the Saratoga National Historical Park, followed by a 1776 town crier with news of American Independence. Join fellow citizens in toasting the 13 "new" states. (518) 664-9821 x224
- [Independence Day 1808 at Van Cortlandt Manor](#): Festivities begin with the roar of the cannon and a reading of the Declaration of Independence. Enjoy an Independence Day Parade through the manor, patriotic speeches, songs and military drill. (914) 271-8981.
- [Independence Day 1858 at Sunnyside](#): A full day of live entertainment includes dramatic presentations, rousing speeches, period music, and traditional country dancing for everyone. Play "Town Ball" (19th-century baseball) with costumed guides and enjoy ice cream demonstrations. (914) 591-8763
- "[Behind Every Great Man](#)": The Continental Army in Winter, 1782-83": Celebrate Independence Day at New Windsor Cantonment with music, cannon and musket demonstrations and reading of the Declaration of Independence with small mortar cannon firing demonstrations. (845) 561-1765
- 7/5, 12: [Ranger Guided Evening Strolls](#): Meet a park ranger in the Saratoga National Historical Park and enjoy a walk with interesting stories about the people and grounds that gave birth to a nation and changed the world. (518) 664-9821
- 7/12: [The Cherry Orchard](#): Chekov's classic performed on Olana's East Lawn. The story of a family's struggle to hold on to the family estate as it is about to be sold at auction for debt. (518) 828-0135
- [History of the Hudson River in Early Settlement of Orange County](#): Join Cornwall-on-Hudson Village Historian, Colette Fulton to learn about the importance of our river in the early settlement of Orange County. (845) 534-5506 x204

[Manitoga - Special House and Landscape Tours](#): Discounts for county residents on appointed days. Reservations required. (845) 424-3812

[Family Tour at Olana](#): Enjoy an Olana house tour specifically geared toward children and families. Pre-registration required. (518) 828-0135.

7/13: [Family Hiking Club](#): Join Environmental Educator, Laurel Dodge, on a family hike at the Hudson Highlands Nature Museum. Registration required. (845) 534-5506 x204

7/14-18, 21-25: [Eco-Mornings Environmental Program at Staatsburgh](#): Enjoy hands-on activities, outdoor games, and art projects about different ecological topics. (845) 889-8851

7/14-18: [Olana's Summer Arts Program](#): Children ages 6-12 work in small groups as they "journey" to one of the locales visited by Church in the 19th century through art, music, history and other hands-on activities. (518) 828-0135

7/16: [Guided Bicycle Tours](#): Fantastic scenery and stories of 1777 mark these guided Saratoga National Historical Battlefield bicycle tours. (518) 664-9821 x224

7/19: [Minnows and More](#): Learn the natural history of some of the fish living in the Hudson River from a Hudson Highlands Nature Museum Educator. A seine net will allow us to examine these creatures up close. (845) 534-5506 x204.

[The Barefoot Boys at The Senate House](#): Enjoy a free concert by The Barefoot Boys, a duo playing traditional folk music on guitar, banjo, mandolin, dulcimer, and other instruments. (845) 338-2786

[An Evening of Magic and Music at Knox's Headquarters](#) : Costumed role-players and an 18th Century magic show bring you back to a torch-lit night in the 1780s featuring live music by "The King's Delight." (845) 561-5498

[Guided Bird Walk](#): Enjoy the sights and sounds of nature during a guided bird walk on the beautiful grounds of Clermont. (518) 537-4240

7/25: [Troy Night Out](#): Visit the City of Troy for an evening of arts and culture with live music, food, shopping and gallery exhibitions.

7/26: [The River Otter](#): Join a DEC Wildlife Educator at the Hudson Highlands Nature Museum to learn about the River Otter, its habits and habitat. (845) 534-5506 x204

[The Big Blue Big Band at The Senate House](#): Enjoy a free outdoor concert featuring a 19-piece ensemble performing big band-era tunes and modern numbers including ballads, swing, jazz, Latin and more. (845) 338-2786

7/27: [Okra, Beans, and Leafy Greens: The African-American Foodways Festival Philipsburg Manor](#): Explore the influence of enslaved and free Africans on colonial and contemporary American cuisine and culture. (914) 631-8200

7/29-31: Teaching the Hudson Valley Summer Institute at Hyde Park. This year's topic will be "Teaching the Hudson Valley Diversity: Culture, History, and Nature 1609-2009."

Heritage Spotlight

[Lindenwald: Martin Van Buren National Historic Site](#)

Lindenwald was the retirement home of Martin Van Buren, America's eighth president. Its opulent interior affords a glimpse into the lives of the upper class in the Hudson River Valley in the mid-19th century. When Van Buren (1782-1862) returned to his hometown of Kinderhook in 1841, after his service as U.S. Senator, Vice President, and President, he purchased a two-story Georgian house and 220 surrounding acres. He turned the house into a country seat, retaining its most impressive design elements - the Palladian window above the front door and carved woodwork on the first floor—and adding others, such as the Zuber wallpaper in the main hallway. In 1849, Van Buren hired Richard Upjohn to design a major addition. He is responsible for the Tuscan-style tower, as well as the front porch, which combines elements of Gothic and Romanesque design.



Lindenwald has been restored by the National Park Service to reflect the grand lifestyle Van Buren led there. Reproductions of the Brussels carpets he purchased for the house complement Empire furniture (much of which belonged to him), as well as china and artwork. Visitors also tour the restored servants' quarters and learn how the house kept running.

1013 Old Post Road (Route 9H) in Kinderhook, open 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. daily mid-May-October, weekends only November and early December. Guided tours. Admission fee. (518) 758-9689.

Green Tip of the Month

Plug your electronics into a power strip and turn it off when not in use. Each month would reduce your carbon footprint by about 20lbs of CO2. Over a year that comes to a savings of about 240lbs!

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

Community Spotlight

[City of Kingston](#)

In 1777, Kingston became New York's first capital (in 1797, the City of Albany was designated New York's capital). However, shortly before the Battle of Saratoga, the British traveled north on the Hudson River to Kingston and burned the city to the ground. Only a handful of buildings survived so the city had to be rebuilt. For several years after the Revolution, Kingston served as one of the meeting places for the state legislature. The 1676 [Senate House](#), which once served as headquarters for the new state government, has been restored and is open to the public.



Kingston Senate House

Today, Kingston's boundaries extend to the Rondout Creek. However, the waterfront along the creek was once dominated by the thriving Village of Robdout. Rondout was a bustling port in the 1800s when the Delaware and Hudson Canal carried Pennsylvania coal through the narrow valley of the Shawangunk Ridge and Catskill Mountains to the Hudson River. Canal barges were unloaded here and the coal transferred to riverboats for the trip to New York City. In 1899 the D&H Canal closed, but the port continued its role in shipping and ship building into the 20th century. In 1872, Rondout was incorporated into the City of Kingston.

Today, this section of Kingston is home to the [Hudson River Maritime Museum](#), which is dedicated to interpreting the maritime history of the Hudson River from the exploration by Henry Hudson to the sloops and steamboats of early commerce. The museum is also one of five water trail sites designated in the City of Kingston or on the Rondout Creek.

Did You Know...

Did you know that Uncle Sam was a resident of the Hudson Valley?

Sam Wilson was born in Arlington, Massachusetts in 1766 and relocated to Troy with his brother in 1789 to open the business firm of E & S Wilson. He was known by many in Troy as "Uncle Sam" Wilson. One of the contracts held by E & S Wilson was to supply meats to the U.S. Army during the War of 1812. The troops received the meat in wooden barrels stamped with "U.S." Whether the stamp referred to "Uncle Sam" Wilson or United States, the suggestion that the meat shipments came from "Uncle Sam" led to the idea that Uncle Sam symbolized the federal government and the two became synonymous.

Samuel Wilson did not look anything like the widely accepted image of Uncle Sam. Uncle Sam's traditional appearance, with a white goatee and star-spangled suit, is an invention of artists and political cartoonists. Thomas Nast, a 19th-century political cartoonist, produced many of the earliest cartoons of Uncle Sam. However, perhaps the single most famous portrait of Uncle Sam is the "I WANT YOU" Army recruiting poster from World War I. The poster was painted by James Montgomery Flagg in 1916-1917. Samuel Wilson died in 1854. His grave is in the [Oakwood Cemetery](#) in Troy.

In 1961 the 87th Congress of the United States adopted a resolution saluting "Uncle Sam Wilson of Troy, New York, as the progenitor of America's National symbol of Uncle Sam."

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



Quadricentennial Countdown



184 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