



June 2008



# 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?

### Board Meeting

The next Joint Board meeting of the Hudson River Valley Greenway and Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area will take place on June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at the Terrace Facility of [SUNY New Paltz](#), located in New Paltz, NY. SUNY New Paltz has been involved with many green and sustainable initiatives including the installation of solar panels on the roof of the Elting Gymnasium, implementation of water saving measures, development of campus sustainable design guidelines, and the creation of two academic programs that focus on the study and protection of the environment. Please contact the Greenway at (518) 473-3835 or [hrvg@hudsongreenway.state.ny.us](mailto:hrvg@hudsongreenway.state.ny.us) if you plan to attend the meeting, or for further information.

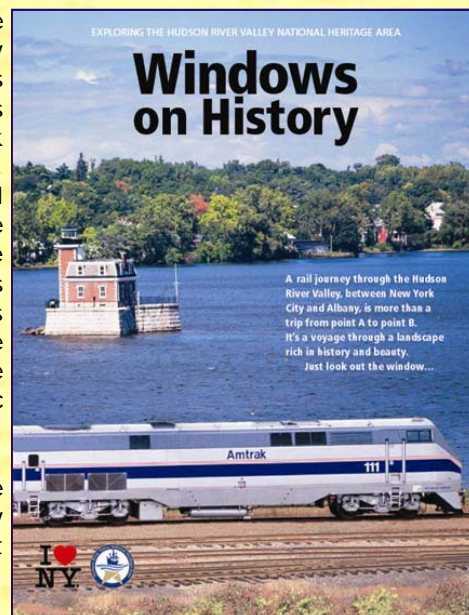
### National Trails Day

Saturday, June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2008, is the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual [American Hiking Society's National Trails Day®](#). It is the largest celebration of trails and the outdoors in America, and features over 1,000 events across the country in every state. This celebration represents an opportunity to explore the [Greenway Trail System](#) and get involved with local and regional trails initiatives. The website for the Hudson River Valley Greenway provides information on designated trails throughout the region while the website for the [American Hiking Society](#) provides additional information about Trails Day, including a list of events in each state.

### Exploring the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area

On Thursday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2008, the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area unveiled its latest guide "Windows on History: Exploring the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area" during a press conference at New York City's Pennsylvania Station. In partnership with New York by Rail and I Love NY, this guide will be located in New York By Rail magazines on Amtrak trains and Amtrak Stations throughout Hudson River Valley. Through narratives, historic depictions, and photos taken from the perspective of passengers on the train, this guide will educate rail passengers traveling through the Hudson River Valley about the resources they are actually seeing outside their windows. Additionally, this guide provides information about the surrounding communities and historic sites located nearby as well as an account of transportation history in the region. As passengers learn more about the nationally-significant resources of the Hudson River Valley, they will be encouraged to explore the region and take advantage of all it has to offer. In turn, regional tourism and local economic development will benefit from visits to these sites and communities.

The Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area looks forward to future collaborations with New York By Rail and I Love NY. To download your own copy of the Windows on History guide, visit the Heritage Area website at [www.hudsonrivervalley.com](http://www.hudsonrivervalley.com).



### Walkway Over the Hudson Groundbreaking

On Tuesday, May 27<sup>th</sup>, the Greenway was proud to be among those present to witness the groundbreaking for the rehabilitation of the Poughkeepsie-Highland Railroad Bridge, as it is converted into a pedestrian walkway and the world's longest elevated public park. Many of the public officials who have contributed to the success of this project were in attendance, including Senator Steve M. Saland and Representative Maurice Hinchey. Also in attendance was Robert Dyson, President of the Board of the Dyson Foundation, who has formed a partnership with the non-profit organization spearheading the project, Walkway Over the Hudson. Construction on the project is expected to be finished by September of next year, in time for the celebration of the [Hudson-Fulton-Champlain Quadricentennial](#), and will be a crowning achievement for all those involved. To learn more about the initiative, visit the Walkway's website at [walkway.org](http://walkway.org).

## Upcoming Grant Opportunities

Applications for the next round of [Greenway Communities Grants](#) will be due September 8th 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](#).

*Other Grant Opportunities:*



[Urban and Community Forestry \(U&CF\)](#) The NYS DEC is requesting proposals for grants for a variety of Urban and Community Forestry (U&CF) projects, in support of State commitments to address issues of climate change, environmental degradation, Environmental Justice, and urban sprawl. (June 4)

[Save our History The History Channel](#) Save Our History is a national history education and preservation initiative that raises awareness and support for preserving local heritage. The History Channel® created Save Our History to support local history education and historic preservation efforts in communities across America (June 6)

[Department of Environmental Conservation](#) The 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. The DEC anticipates approximately \$500,000 in funding will be made available. (June 20)

[Transportation Enhancement Program:](#) A federal reimbursement program under the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU), administered by the New York Department of Transportation (NYSDOT). The categories are listed on the "[Eligible Project Types](#)" link on the Web site. Eligible projects include trail development and historic preservation. Workshops for potential applicants will held by the NYSDOT Regions and the Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs), beginning in late February or early March (June 27)

[The 2008 Hudson River Estuary Program:](#) The Hudson River Estuary Program integrates scientific research, resource protection and management, and public involvement and education to help meet the goals of the *Estuary Action Agenda*. This year all grants are focused on helping to prepare for the [2009 Hudson/Fulton/Champlain Quadricentennial](#) celebration with a program of accomplishments that further *Estuary Action Agenda* goals of river restoration. (June 27)

[New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation Environmental Protection Fund Matching Grants:](#) (June 30)

[Parks Program:](#) For acquisition or development of parks and recreational facilities for projects to preserve, rehabilitate or restore lands, waters or structures for park, recreation or conservation purposes. Funds may be awarded to municipalities or not-for-profits with an ownership interest, for indoor or outdoor projects and must reflect the priorities established in the [NY Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan \(SCORP\)](#).

[Historic Preservation Program:](#) To improve, protect, preserve, rehabilitate or restore properties listed on the National or State Registers of Historic Places. Funds are available to municipalities or not-for-profits with an ownership interest.

[Heritage Areas Program:](#) For projects to preserve, rehabilitate or restore lands, waters or structures, identified in a management plan approved by the Commissioner. Projects must fall within a New York State Designated Heritage Area.

[Acquisition:](#) For acquisition of a permanent easement or fee title to lands, waters or structures for use by all segments of the population for park, recreation, conservation or preservation purposes. To be used for all three program areas where acquisition is of more importance than development.

[The National Endowment for the Humanities](#) These grants support national or regional (multi-state) education and training programs on the care and management of, and the creation of intellectual access to, library, archival, and material culture collections. (July 1)

[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)

[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)

[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)


[2007 Unified Funding \(UF\) process](#) Through the NYS Division of Housing and Community Renewal (DHCR) and the NYS Housing Trust Fund Corporation (HTFC). Capital programs and initiatives that will provide funds for a wide range of affordable housing and community revitalization activities including: new construction, substantial rehabilitation or moderate rehabilitation of rental or owner occupied housing; emergency repair; homebuyer assistance; façade and building renovation; streetscape enhancement, downtown anchor creation; accessibility modifications and tenant-based rental assistance. (Deadlines Vary)

[Google's In-Kind Advertising Services to Nonprofits](#) This program supports organizations that share the company's philosophy of community service worldwide in areas such as science and technology, education, global public health, the environment, youth advocacy, and the arts. (Open)


[Management Assistance Mini-Grant Program](#). Helps board and staff members and volunteer leaders develop new skills by providing financial support to hire consultants and to help defray professional-development costs. The foundation will finance no more than 80 percent of a project budget, and grants will not exceed \$10,000. (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)

[Environmental Training and Technical Assistance Grants](#): Applications for training and technical-assistance funds from the Environmental Support Center to strengthen nonprofit environmental organizations in areas including fund raising, organizational development, and planning. Who may apply: regional, statewide, or local grass-roots organizations serving low-income or minority constituencies that have environmental issues as a significant part of the organization's agenda. (Open)



### Upcoming Greenway and National Heritage Area Events



- 7/3-13: Eighth Annual Great Hudson River Paddle ([registration now open!](#))
  - 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 160 events including hikes, bikes, walks, historic tours, and regional festivals.
  - 9/20-21: [Hudson River Valley Ramble](#)
  - 9/27-28: [Hudson River Valley Ramble](#)
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### Other Upcoming Events Around the Region



- 6/1: [Diggin' Dinos at Hudson Highlands Nature Museum](#): Children & adults become paleontologists as they learn about fossils and excavate a dinosaur skeleton in the museum's dino pit. Registration required. (845) 534-5506 x204
  - [Mother-Daughter Tea at Staatsburgh](#): A Mother-Daughter Tea will be held in the dining room of the mansion. Reservations required. (845) 889-8851
  - 6/6: [Albany First Friday](#): Visit Center Square and Downtown arts venues for exhibition openings, receptions, and events.
  - [Locust Grove Garden Party](#): Enjoy dinner, dancing, and silent auction honoring the Hudson River Valley Institute. (845) 454-4500
  - 6/6, 20: [Church Tower Walk](#): Join a hike up the wooden staircase at the St. Paul's Church tower, leading to the historic, 250-year-old metal bell, one of the oldest in the country. (914) 667-4116
  - 6/7: [Hudson Bush Plant Sale and Exchange](#): More than 30 vendors of heritage and heirloom plants will be at Clermont for this event. (518) 537-4240
  - [The Architect as Client: Stanford White at Box Hill](#): The Annual Bellefield Design Series presents Samuel G. White, the great-grandson of Stanford White, architect of McKim, Mead & White, whose work in Hyde Park includes Bellefield renovations and the Vanderbilt Mansion. White is the author of "McKim, Mead & White: The Masterworks." A tea party and plant sale in the Beatrix Farrand Garden at Bellefield will follow. (845) 229-9115 26.
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[National Trails Day at Olana](#): In celebration of National Trails Day, enjoy a History Hike to explore the carriage trails that meander through the 250-acre estate. (518) 828-0135

[Fifth Annual Canalway Trail Celebration](#): This Fifth Annual Celebration includes local events centered around the Canalway Trail and is organized by Parks & Trails New York, the New York State Canal Corporation, Canalway Trails Association New York, and the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor.

6/7, 21: [Natural History Walks](#): Join park volunteers Doris & Fred Ludewig and park ranger Linda White at the Saratoga National Historical Park. (518) 664-9821 x 224

6/8: [Troy Flag Day Parade](#): Visit the home of Uncle Sam and enjoy the largest parade in the nation in honor of the American flag. (518) 272-7396

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

6/10: [John Burroughs and the Hudson River](#): The Hudson River Maritime Museum will host Dr. Mercier, Marist College Department of English, as the second speaker in the "Tuesday Evening Lecture Series". (845) 338-0071

6/14: [River Street Festival](#): Explore Downtown Troy at this grassroots arts and antiques festival that also offers food and entertainment. (518) 270-4401

[Community Free Days at Dia:Beacon](#): Residents of Orange County are invited to visit Dia:Beacon free of charge. This date coincides with "Second Saturday Beacon," a monthly arts and culture open house. (845) 440-0100

[Manitoga - Special Guided House and Landscape Tours](#): Enjoy Rockland County Day with special discounted admission rates. Reservations required. (845) 424-3812

[Colonial Day](#): Visit St. Paul's Church and enjoy Colonial era music, dancing, crafts, games and arms. There's also a special tour of the colonial section of the historic cemetery, and a concert on the historic pipe organ. (914) 667-4116

6/15: [Clermont Garden Tour](#): Learn about the ins and outs of tree identification. Reservations required. (518) 537-4240

6/18: [Guided Bicycle Tours](#): Enjoy fantastic scenery and stories of 1777 during guided Saratoga National Historical Battlefield bicycle tours. (518) 664-9821 x224

6/21: [Art on Lark 2008](#): A summer celebration of fine art and music that's fun for the whole family. (518) 434-3861

[Open Hearth Cooking Workshop - Sweet Treats and More](#): Learn how to create the confections, cakes, and sweetmeats of the time at Van Cortlandt Manor. Reservations required. (914) 631-8200 x618

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

[First Day of Summer Hike](#): Families welcome for this hike on the grounds of Olana. (518) 828-0135



6/23-8/15: [Nature Explorers Summer Camp](#): Children can enjoy week-long programs at the Hudson Highlands Nature Museum. (845) 534-5506 x204

6/24-8/26: [DATA: Discovering Animals Together Activities](#): Parent/child program at the Hudson Highlands Nature Museum. Learn about animals through crafts, stories, exploration, and music. (845) 534-5506 x204.

6/27: [Troy Night Out](#): Visit the City of Troy for an evening of arts and culture with live music, food, shopping and gallery exhibitions.

6/28: [Family Tour at Olana](#): Enjoy an Olana house tour specifically geared toward children and families. Pre-registration required. (518) 828-0135.

[Citizen Science Program: Dragonfly Day](#): Learn the basics of dragonfly anatomy, their life cycle, feeding habits and species identification at the Hudson Highlands Nature Museum. (845) 534-5506 x204



### Green Tip of the Month



This summer, raise your thermostat from 72 to 73 degrees. Each month would reduce your carbon footprint by about 40lbs of CO2. Over the summer months that comes to a savings of about 160lbs!

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

### [Locust Grove](#)

Locust Grove is the country estate of telegraph pioneer Samuel F.B. Morse. The original Federal style residence was built in 1830 by a wealthy New York City couple. Morse purchased the property in 1847, three years after his breakthrough with the telegraph.

As tastes changed, Morse remodeled the house in the Italianate style with architect Alexander Jackson Davis in 1851. At this time, Morse and Davis added a porte cochere, two octagonal wings, and a four-story tower. For the rest of his life, Morse continued to improve the landscape surrounding the house. The estate was later purchased by the Young family in 1901 and willed to a preservation trust in 1975.

Today, the residence and grounds are open to the public. The house remains essentially as it was in 1915, and is remarkable for the original collection of American furniture and paintings assembled by the Young family. Eighteenth- and nineteenth-century furniture complements the house's unusual architecture, including a half-octagonal library with Gothic bookcases and a billiards room with a domed ceiling. In addition to the grand reception rooms, the kitchen, laundry, and bedrooms in the "below stairs" servants wing are open to visitors. The recreational trails that crisscross the estate are designated Greenway Trails and are open to the public. The Morse Gallery in the Visitors Center offers the opportunity to see Morse's paintings and 19th century telegraph equipment, including a copy of Morse's original patent model (the original is in the Smithsonian).



Locust Grove

*Locust Grove, located at 2683 South Road (Route 9) in Poughkeepsie, is open 10 a.m.-3 p.m. daily May-November; call for December hours. Gardens and grounds open 8 a.m.-dusk daily year-round. Guided tours. Admission fee; grounds are free. 845-454-4500.*

### [City of Poughkeepsie](#)



Academy Street Historic District (Photo by Daniel Case)

Strategically located along the eastern coast of the Hudson River, the City of Poughkeepsie is the county seat for Dutchess County. The name "Poughkeepsie" is derived from a Native American word meaning "the reed covered lodge by the little-water place" referring to a stream that feeds into the Hudson River. Today, the City of Poughkeepsie is known as the "Queen City of the Hudson."

During the 17th century, the land that became Poughkeepsie was settled by a Dutchman, Barent Baltus. However it was not until the late 18th century that a community was formed here and incorporated as a village independent from the Town of Poughkeepsie. By 1854, this village was formally chartered as the City of Poughkeepsie.

During the American Revolution, Poughkeepsie became the second capital of New York. In 1788 the Ratification Convention for New York State, which included Alexander Hamilton, John Jay, and George Clinton, assembled at the courthouse on Market Street to debate and ratify the United States Constitution. With its ratification, New York entered the new union as the eleventh of the original thirteen colonies to join together as the United States of America.

Poughkeepsie's strategic position at the halfway point along the navigable Hudson River has greatly influenced its industrial heritage. During the 1800s, the city was a busy whaling port and home to companies that sent ships to the South Pacific, the Azores and New Zealand. Industries that flourished through shipping also included hat manufacturers, paper mills, and several breweries including some owned by Matthew Vassar, founder of Vassar College.

The city's natural beauty and proximity to New York City also encouraged prominent families such as the Astors, Rogers, and Vanderbilts to build palatial weekend homes nearby. Many of these homes and sites have become historic landmarks, including Locust Grove, the home of Samuel Morse. Poughkeepsie's landmarks also include the oldest continuously operating entertainment venue in the state, the Bardavon 1869 Opera House.

Today, Poughkeepsie is using its rich history as a catalyst for future growth. The 120 year old Poughkeepsie Railroad Bridge has entered the next phase of development to become the longest pedestrian bridge in the world. Walkway over the Hudson, the driving organization behind the project, has gained national support and recognition for this project. In addition, the community continues to promote its history as it relates to our shared national heritage. Through community revitalization initiatives, this walkable community also offers a variety of shops, arts venues, and opportunities for education and professional development.

## Did You Know...



Did you know that Rensselaer County is the home of "Yankee Doodle"?

In 1775, a British Army Surgeon named Dr. Richard Schackburg was visiting Crailo, the home of the Van Rensselaer family, to attend to a wounded prisoner of the French and Indian War. While camping there with his troop, Schackburg wrote "Yankee Doodle Dandy" to make fun of the "disheveled and disorganized" colonial soldiers.

The word "doodle" was a term for a "simpleton" or "fool." The word "macaroni" referred to a group of young British men who dressed in an affected manner and the joke was that the foolish Yankees believed that a feather in a hat was enough to make them the height of fashion.

Although the tune was intended to mock the colonial army, the words were changed and tune was reclaimed by the colonial army as they fought back against the British during the Revolutionary War. The song soon became a patriotic anthem for the American forces.

Following the end of the Revolutionary War, the song continued to gain popularity as new lyrics were written and new adaptations created. Today the song has become synonymous with patriotism in the United States.

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



*Yankee Doodle*  
(a.k.a. *The Spirit of '76*)  
by A.M. Willard.

## Quadricentennial Countdown



214 Days Until the Hudson-Fulton-Champlain Quadricentennial  
Visit [www.exploreny400.com](http://www.exploreny400.com) for more information

The Hudson River Valley Greenway / Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area  
E-Newsletter is published monthly and emailed to friends of the Hudson River Valley.

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