

# The Green Visitor Guide

Blackstone Valley, Rhode Island



**Sustainable Tourism Planning and  
Development Laboratory**

Blackstone Valley Tourism Council



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- \*An Energy Star clothes washer can save more water in one year than one person drinks in an entire lifetime!
- \*The average household spends \$1,300 each year on their energy bills. By choosing ENERGY STAR qualified products, you can cut this by 30%, saving about \$400 each year.
- \*About 75 % of the water we use in our homes is used in the bathroom. Unless you have a low flush toilet, for example, you use about 5 gallons to 7 gallons of water with every flush! A leaky toilet can waste more than 10,000 gallons of water a year. Wow!
- \*If one out of every ten homes used an Energy Star appliance, the change would be like planting 1.7 million new acres of trees.
- \*Do not open the oven when cooking unless necessary, 25% of the heat escapes each time you do so. Also, turning the oven off 15-20 minutes prior to the end of cooking time will allow for the leftover heat to finish cooking the food, while saving you energy.
- \*Running your washing machine and dishwasher with cold water and when full will save you up to 100 gallons of water a month and a significant amount of energy.
- \*Avoid putting uncovered foods and liquids in your refrigerator. Vapors from these items can add to the compressor workload, therefore increasing energy.
- \*If every household changed a light bulb to an Energy Star bulb, not only would they use 75% less energy than that of a regular bulb, but together we'd save enough energy to light 7 million homes.

# Contents

## Acknowledgements

We would like to thank those whose input has influenced this Guide.

*The Greater Madison Convention and Visitor Bureau, whose “Official Green visitors guide to Madison & Dane County” provided both the inspiration and outline for this booklet. We gratefully acknowledge their assistance and encouragement.*  
<http://www.visitmadison.com>

*Ms. Kristin Zawistowski, the VISTA© member in charge of the “Keep Blackstone Valley Beautiful Keep America Beautiful” initiative ([www.keepblackstonevalleybeautiful.com](http://www.keepblackstonevalleybeautiful.com))*

*Ms. Eugenia Marks, Senior Director of Policy and Mr. Lawrence J. F. Taft, Executive Director, Audubon Society of Rhode Island (<http://www.asri.org/index.html>) for their comments.*

*Natalie Carter, Operations Manager ([sustainabletourism.org](http://sustainabletourism.org))*

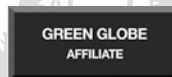
*To the many others, whose suggestions, corrections and comments have enriched this Guide.*

Send questions and comments to:

*The Sustainable Tourism Planning  
and Development Laboratory  
The Blackstone Valley Tourism Council  
Blackstone Valley Visitor Center  
175 Main Street  
Pawtucket, Rhode Island 02860, USA  
[www.sustainabletourism.org](http://www.sustainabletourism.org)*

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*Blackstone Valley*  
TOURISM COUNCIL RHODE ISLAND



# Welcome to the Blackstone River Valley

Dear Visitor:

On behalf of the Valley's residents, I would like to welcome you to the Blackstone River Valley – we are glad you are here. We are proud to highlight our unique mix of rural landscapes, beautiful rivers, lakes and ponds, farmland, community and State parks, bike and walking trails, a wonderful mix of small and larger communities with a variety of ethnic cultures, nightlife, traditions and interesting activities to enjoy. We hope you enjoy your visit as much as we enjoy living here!

In the Blackstone Valley, we work to preserve this vital mix, and to do so, we make sustainability practices a priority. It's important to us that we employ practices that foster our community's sustainability, both at work and in our personal lives. We hope you appreciate these same values,

## Our Philosophy of Tourism Development in the Blackstone River Valley of Rhode Island

*The Blackstone Valley Tourism Council (BVTC) believes in tourism development that sustains and enhances the Blackstone Valley's character, environment, culture, aesthetics, heritage, and the well being of our residents.*

*The Council believes in integrity of place. It adheres to principles of the World Tourism Organization's Global Code of Ethics for Tourism and the Principles of the Cultural Tourism Charter established by ICOMOS. The Tourism Council focuses on Market Selectivity and Diversity; Visitor Satisfaction; Community Involvement; Community Benefit; Protection and Enhancement of our Valley's appeal; Appropriate Land-Uses; Conservation of Resources; Appropriate Planning Strategies; Interactive Interpretation of our Heritage and Culture; and Evaluation of the Council's work performed by an independent panel of stakeholders.*

*Adopted from the Geotourism Charter of the National Geographic Society's Center for Sustainable Destinations.*

and will help us to protect our natural resources in a way that allows future generations the same pleasure you enjoy today.

The Council's work is to create a mix of preservation, environmental, heritage, historic, educational and economic development: a goal of the living laboratory that is the Sustainable Tourism Laboratory program of the Blackstone Valley Tourism Council. This guide's audience is the growing community of people who are seeking to delve more deeply and tread more lightly in their travels. By following the suggestions, you are helping to keep the Valley as you found it; preserving it for future generations. You'll also learn simple things you can do at home to preserve that which needs to be preserved and change that which needs to be changed.

This Guide gives direction, offers some great information, practical tools and general inspiration to set you on your own personal adventure. Let's see the forest and the trees, while we enjoy the Blackstone River Valley.

Sincerely,

Robert D. Billington, Ed.D.  
President  
Blackstone Valley Tourism Council

# A Brief History of the Blackstone River Valley

Archeological records show that Native Americans lived in the Blackstone River Valley at least 5,000 years ago. While the first European settler, the Rev. William Blackstone, settled on the river's banks in 1635, the area stretching from Pawtucket, Rhode Island to Worcester, Massachusetts really came into its own as a child of America's Industrial Revolution.

Native Americans and early settlers used the Blackstone River for drinking water and fishing while eighteenth century life in the Valley centered on farming. In the latter part of the century, the river's steep and constant drop in elevation attracted

**"The hardest working river in America."**

craftsmen and would-be industrialists. Thus manufacturing, the engine of economic development in the United States, was born on the Rhode Island banks of the Blackstone and small manufacturing operations began to flourish.

It wasn't until Samuel Slater brought the formula for the Arkwright spinning jenny from England to the Brown and Almy Mill in Pawtucket in 1790 that the Industrial Revolution really took off. Investors raced to establish small mills using waterpower technology and with wool and cotton textiles predominating, manufacturing became the major industry and mills began to proliferate.

From Pawtucket north to the Massachusetts line, industry took form. Central Falls, Valley Falls, Berkeley, Ashton, Albion, Manville and Woonsocket all began to thrive, while tributary streams in Glocester, Smithfield, North Smithfield, Burrillville and Cumberland became economic mainstays.

While sections of the river were bordered by spectacular wetlands, for the most part, mill villages were everywhere. Every town on the river and its tributaries had a mill and every waterfall had a mill next to it. In the October 1909 issue of *Technical World* magazine, Winthrop Packard called the Blackstone, "The hardest working river in America." Iron and steel made a stand along the Blackstone with blast furnaces or forges at Arnold Mills, Robin Hollow, Albion and Manville, but it was the process of turning cotton into thread and then into cloth that really brought fame and fortune to the area.

The mill became the workplace for the whole family, including the children. It also became the focal point for the region's social development. In order to entice people off their farms, owners surrounded the mills with entire villages including housing, schools and churches. These services would be provided in exchange for a 60-hour workweek. While this system had its share of critics, others argued that industry would secure independence and provide more secure jobs.

A diverse, immigrant community developed from settlers seeking jobs. While the first settlers to the region came for religious freedom, immigrants began flooding the area in the 1820's, seeking construction, manufacturing and in some cases, farming work.

“The nineteenth century landscape of the Blackstone Valley was shaped by the pockets of industrial settlement that developed in the agricultural region. The siting and craftsmanship of the villages’ structures, in combination with the quiet woods and fields along the river banks, created a unique landscape.” (*Working Water: A guide to the historic landscape of the Blackstone River Valley*. [Providence]: Rhode Island Parks Association, 1987, p. 5).

For several decades, the Valley enjoyed relative prosperity. Economic decisions in the early 20th century, however, left the region dependent on a single industry: textile manufacturing. Over time, outdated plants and machinery, labor troubles and climate control caused the Valley’s resource advantages to be lost to southern states where capital and labor costs were lower. Primary employment in the Valley shifted away from textiles and for a time, there was a period of profound dislocation and higher unemployment in the Blackstone Valley.

The Blackstone Valley may be North America’s first “Green” valley. From the 1600’s, when English settlers used raw waterpower to grind corn, saw wood and power the American Industrial Revolution, to the present, where water turbines generate electricity for some mills and homes, “Green” energy has been a critical and common part of the community. In Pawtucket, the Slater Mill Historic Site demonstrates how waterpower drove the machinery of industry.



## Leave No Trace:

*Outdoor skills and ethics as suggested by the River Management Society*

- Pack what you want and bring it back with you.
- Appreciate historic structures and artifacts.
- Avoid introducing non-native species, including live bait, by cleaning equipment between trips.
- Observe wildlife from a distance. Do not follow or approach them.
- Control pets or leave them at home.
- Avoid wildlife during sensitive times: mating, nesting, or when food is scarce.
- Respect other visitors and protect the quality of their experience.
- Let nature’s sounds prevail.
- Practice and promote *Leave No Trace Outdoor Skills and Ethics* policies.

For more information contact:  
[www.river-management.org](http://www.river-management.org)



# The Valley at a Glance

The Valley's reputation as a "Green" destination is emerging. This reputation is no fluke; the area has a long history of preserving its beautiful landscape but it was not always like this. The Blackstone River became North America's first polluted river and the first river to die. This was due to the heavy industrialization of the Blackstone River from Worcester Massachusetts to Pawtucket, Rhode Island and the fact that 49 dams were constructed along its length that halted anadromous fish from entering from the Atlantic Ocean

The communities of Cumberland, Glocester, and Pawtucket, among others, have historic district commissions, which guide the rehabilitation of historic buildings, ensuring that the visual character of the Valley will be maintained.

In the Valley, there are extensive parklands, conservation areas, and protected lands open to the public. In fact, the Valley has considerably more open space than the New England average.

Efforts such as the "Rhody Fresh" initiative, bring Rhode Island's 18 dairies together in a common marketing effort and seasonal farmers' markets, provide fresh produce and preserve open space. Contact: [www.rhodyfresh.com](http://www.rhodyfresh.com) for additional information

The Rhode Island Center for Agricultural Promotion and Education provides resources and services to farmers, gardeners, agricultural professionals, educators, chefs and business and community leaders dedicated to sustaining agriculture and education about it. Its mission is to keep viable, Rhode Island's farm communities, strengthen pride of place and enhance quality of life by reinforcing the connections between people and agriculture through programs and activities that nurture our young, build awareness, inspire engagement, cultivate knowledge, values and skills and promote jobs, careers and community service.

For a listing of their programs please contact:  
*Rhode Island Center for Agricultural Promotion and Education*  
(401) 592-0209  
Email: [ricape@cox.net](mailto:ricape@cox.net)  
[www.rifarmways.org](http://www.rifarmways.org)

The Blackstone Valley lies within a National Heritage Corridor that contains 24 Preserve America Communities. It is a special management area of the National Park Service, which assists communities in Rhode Island and Massachusetts to protect their nationally significant culture, heritage and environment.

Contact information:  
*Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor Commission*  
One Depot Square  
Woonsocket, Rhode Island, 02895  
[www.nps.gov/blac](http://www.nps.gov/blac)  
(401) 762-0250

*In addition to these efforts, our citizens are taking progressive action to reduce future impact on our natural resources. For example:*



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*Rhode Island has mandatory statewide curbside recycling, which has saved energy equal to 58% of all energy used by industry in Rhode Island.*

*This is equivalent to 116,674,431 gallons of gasoline. This would power 139,647 homes for one year in Rhode Island.*

*Curbside recycling alone saved 1,910,769 million BTUs of energy in 2005.*

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### **Keep Blackstone Valley Beautiful**

Local affiliates of Keep America Beautiful sponsor and carry out litter cleanups, litter prevention education, recycling drives, graffiti removal, beautification and community improvement projects, as well as park renewals, tire recycling, clothes collection programs, river, lake and seashore cleanups and the recycling of computers, phones etc. [www.keepblackstonevalleybeautiful.com](http://www.keepblackstonevalleybeautiful.com)

### **The Rhode Island Resource**

**Recovery Corporation** is the state environmental agency dedicated to providing the public with environmentally sound programs and facilities to manage solid waste. [www.rirrc.org](http://www.rirrc.org)

### **National Recycling Coalition**

The National Recycling Coalition is a membership organization of recycling professionals and advocates dedicated to maximizing recycling. [www.nrc-recycle.org](http://www.nrc-recycle.org)

Rhode Island has mandatory statewide curbside recycling, which has saved energy equal to 58% of all energy used by industry in Rhode Island. This is equivalent to 116,674,431 gallons of gasoline and would power 139,647 Rhode Island homes for one year. Curbside recycling alone, saved 1,910,769 million BTUs of energy in 2005.



# Going Green 101: Becoming a Green Visitor

*Welcome to the Blackstone Valley! This Guide will help you enjoy all of the activities that our region and surrounding landscape have to offer. The communities of the Blackstone River Valley follow the Blackstone River from Worcester, Massachusetts to Pawtucket, Rhode Island.*

*The Blackstone Valley welcomes more than one million guests annually, and you are a link in a long chain of visitors through the years. When added to the resident population of more than one and a half million, the impact on our natural environment is immense. Every “Green” action that we take as individuals helps to reduce that collective impact.*

The United Nations’ World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) notes that increasingly, consumers are looking for a less destructive and a more “R.E.A.L.” (Rewarding, Enriching, Authentic, Learning) experiences.

## The Green Visitor:

*Is ecological responsible* - Protecting, conserving, and/or enhancing nature and the physical environment to ensure the long-term health of our life-sustaining ecosystem.

Participates in local economic vitality - Supporting local economies, businesses and communities to ensure economic vitality and sustainability.

Is culturally sensitive - Respecting and appreciating cultures and cultural diversity to ensure the continued well-being of local or host cultures.

Engenders experiential richness - Providing enriching and satisfying experiences through active, personal and meaningful participation in, and involvement with, nature, people, places and/or cultures.

Being a Green visitor is about living a healthy and environmentally friendly lifestyle, not only while you’re here, but also in all the destinations you visit. As

a Green visitor, you will be more aware of your environmental impact, water and energy usage, and waste production. A simple rule to follow is to treat the places you visit with the same respect you would want visitors to observe in your own community.

Green tourism provides many opportunities – from riding a bicycle to a performance at a local theater, recycling your picnic containers, supporting the planting of a tree, eating locally produced foods, and buying local environmental products.

Green tourism also supports the ongoing local efforts of citizens and organizations that safeguard our natural environment. Additionally, you



acknowledge your place in a larger ecosystem with an understanding that actions today will impact future generations. Follow the lead of the “locals;” use our resources wisely, and enjoy.

Being Green is easy! This guide will help you make informed decisions and take simple steps to protect and preserve the land, water and other natural resources, preserving them for all to enjoy in the years to come.



~~~~~  
*We never know the worth  
of water till the well is dry.*

~Thomas Fuller, Gnomologia, 1732

### ***Top Ten Ways To Be A Green Visitor\*:***

- ❖ Think and Dream Green: Read up and Get Excited
- ❖ Pack for a Green Adventure
- ❖ Go Green: Choose Sustainable Transportation
- ❖ Stay Green: Choose Green Accommodations
- ❖ Eat and Drink Local, Organic Produce
- ❖ Reduce, Reuse, Recycle
- ❖ Shop Green, Spend Green, and Do Green Business
- ❖ Don't buy over-packaged single servings of anything
- ❖ Don't buy Tetra Pak containers of juices
- ❖ If you can't reuse packaging, recycle it
- ❖ Reject over-wrapped produce
- ❖ Reduce or eliminate throwaway Styrofoam or waxed paper cups or throwaway plastic cutlery
- ❖ Recycle aluminum cans, batteries, coat hangers and newspapers

\*adapted from *The OTHER Guide to Toronto*. Toronto, ON: Green Tourism Association, 2000 and the Fairmont Hotels and Resorts, *The Green Partnership Guide*, 2001.

# Key Information and Resources

**Planning your Trip** – before you arrive or while you’re here, consult these sources:

## Blackstone Valley Tourism Council

Since its beginning in 1985, the Tourism Council has worked to develop, promote and expand the economic and community development base for the cities and towns in Rhode Island’s Blackstone River Valley to create a viable visitor and cultural destination, while continually working to improve the region’s quality of life, environment, recreational uses, and preserving the region’s historic heritage.

Contact us at [BVRI@aol.com](mailto:BVRI@aol.com), 800-454-BVTC, [www.tourblackstone.com](http://www.tourblackstone.com) or visit our offices in the Blackstone Valley Visitor Center, 175 Main Street, Pawtucket, or Route 295 Northbound in Lincoln, or at the Museum of Work and Culture, Market Square, Woonsocket, Rhode Island for the most up-to-date visitor information.

## Other Links of Interest

John H. Chafee Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor  
[www.nps.gov/blac](http://www.nps.gov/blac)

Rhode Island Transit Authority (RIPTA)  
[www.ripta.com](http://www.ripta.com)

Restaurants  
[www.dineblackstone.com/](http://www.dineblackstone.com/)

Narragansett Bay Wheelmen  
(bike tours & maps)  
[www.nbwclub.org](http://www.nbwclub.org)

Guide to Cycling in the Ocean State  
[www.dot.state.ri.us/bikeri](http://www.dot.state.ri.us/bikeri)

Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (Parks)  
[www.riparks.com](http://www.riparks.com)

The State of Rhode Island provides general information at its website  
[www.visitrhodeisland.com/index.aspx](http://www.visitrhodeisland.com/index.aspx)

**Accessibility:** Pick up a copy of “Accessible Rhode Island”. Buses of the Rhode Island Public Transportation Authority (RIPTA) are accessible. Hard copies of *Accessible Rhode Island* are available through:

- ❑ VSA arts of Rhode Island - (401) 725-0247
- ❑ OSCIL - (401) 738-1013, or (401) 783-1015 TTY
- ❑ PARI - (401) 725-1966
- ❑ The Rhode Island Developmental Disabilities Council - (401) 737-1238

## Lodging

*Consider Camping-* For a low-impact Green experience, visit one of the camping sites located throughout the Valley. Please refer to the list in the Low-Impact Activities section below

*Request Environmentally-Friendly Rooms -* Many of our Blackstone Valley hotels and B & Bs now offer special features, such as low-flow showers and toilets, energy-efficient lights, and recycling bins. If your accommodation currently isn’t as Green as you’d like, gentle prodding to the management might help.

*Bring your own toiletries -* If you remember to bring your own toiletries (shampoo, soap, toothpaste etc.), you are assured of getting the brands you like, while

reducing the amount of packaging and resources required to produce the mini-containers in your lodging.

*Hang on to your linens* - Many hotels provide the option of not changing linens daily, reducing the water, detergent and energy needed. Check with the hotel for hangtags or cards to request housekeeping to tidy the room, not change linens daily.

**Save Energy and Water** - Some tips to reduce the total energy and water use:

- Turn off lights, radio and television when you leave the room.
- Set the thermostat back 5° - 10° when sleeping or away.
- Use low-power features on your laptop and other electronics.
- Consider rechargeable batteries rather than single-use.
- Try to use energy in off-peak times, typically 2:00 – 6:00 p.m.
- In the winter, close blinds and drapes at night to further insulate rooms.
- During the summer, open windows and shades in the cooler nighttime hours and close blinds and drapes during the day to preserve the cooler air.
- Don't continually run the tap water while brushing teeth, shaving, washing your hands and face.
- Please report drafts from doors, windows, and leaking showerheads or faucets to the management as soon as possible.

## Dining:

*Use it again and lighten up* - Opt for reusable dishes, utensils and cloth napkins. If you order carry out, take only the utensils and napkins you need and put condiments on the food before leaving the restaurant.

This will significantly reduce excess packaging waste.

*Make it meatless - Go ahead* – try a vegetarian dish. Eating a meat-based diet uses about 20 times as much land as a vegetarian diet. Besides being generally healthier for you, plant-based menus can be a very tasty experience. Many Valley restaurants are vegetarian-friendly or have vegetarian options; consider experimenting at one of the ethnic restaurants in the Valley.

*Pick up a copy of the “International Restaurant Guide”* at the Blackstone Valley Visitor Center in Pawtucket, Lincoln or Woonsocket, ask at your lodging, or review other options at [www.DineBlackstone.com](http://www.DineBlackstone.com).

If you try to sample all the local specialties in the Valley, you'll be quite busy, but it's worthwhile, as food is an integral part of the multiple cultures that make up the Blackstone Valley lifestyle.

*Eat Seasonally* - Try local produce and fruits. Many restaurants feature local produce, as it is fresher and tastier than produce that has traveled long distances. Ask your server which meals are made with local produce (see page 30).

Not only does eating local produce support local farmers, but this healthy food does not require extensive transportation that emits Greenhouse gases into the atmosphere.

*Visit the local farm stands* or “pick your own” locations (listed in the Shopping section) to support sustainability of area farms and their open spaces.

*Tap into it* - Valley tap water quality is comparable to bottled. It uses less packaging and requires less energy for transportation.

## *Volunteer Tourism in the Blackstone River Valley*

The Blackstone Valley offers several opportunities for visitors to lend-a-hand and help us clean up the Blackstone River and to restore historic and other environmental places in our Valley. Go to [Tourblackstone.com](http://Tourblackstone.com) to see the opportunities.

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## **Reduce. Reuse. Recycle.**

Reduce your ecological footprint. The footprint is a measure of human impact on nature. You can reduce:

- Energy use by turning off lights and appliances when not needed.
- Toxic waste by using a chemical-free dry cleaner.
- Materials associated with photography by using a digital camera and e-mailing images to friends and family.
- Energy pollution by walking, bicycling or paddling to take in the local culture.
- Financial drain by saving your money for pleasure – buy local art, local produce, support a local cause.

### **Reuse**

- Check out vintage clothing stores for value and fashion.

*We do not inherit the earth from our ancestors, we borrow it from our children.*

~Native American Proverb



- Bookstores can provide you with a used copy of that novel you've been waiting to read.
- Find a used CD shop and buy a local band's CD.
- If you need something short-term, try a rental center.
- Consider used auto parts.

### **Recycle**

- You can recycle your cans, glass bottles, plastic bags and newspapers using the appropriate bins in your lodging accommodations, or in shopping and entertainment centers.
- Donate the books you've read to a local charity, such as Goodwill or St. Vincent de Paul.



## Getting Around / Transportation Options

### **Travel by car:**

Take a Load Off To improve gas mileage, leave luggage at your lodging, observe the speed limit, keep your tires inflated to the recommended pressure and try to keep the roofline clear. For additional tips, visit the U.S. EPA's gas mileage tips site at [www.fueleconomy.gov/feg/driveHabits.shtml](http://www.fueleconomy.gov/feg/driveHabits.shtml)

*Plan Accordingly.* Try to group your destinations so you can take advantage of alternate transportation options or plan the most efficient route to reduce fuel consumption and emissions.



**Travel by Bus:** An economical and efficient way to travel, the Rhode Island Public Transit Authority (RIPTA) covers points of interest within and adjacent to the Valley. Taking the bus is a great way to cut down on parking hassles, the stress of trying to navigate a new area, and Greenhouse gas emissions. Unlimited use day passes are available for \$6.00 (Children under 5 ride free if accompanied by an adult).

**RIPTA buses** are handicapped accessible, and most full-sized buses have carrying racks for two bicycles – the “Rack and Ride” program. [www.ripta.com/content260.html](http://www.ripta.com/content260.html)

Schedules and maps are available at the Visitor Center in Pawtucket and at Kennedy Plaza, Providence. A list of all routes is available at <http://www.ripta.com/trips/trips.php> or by calling (401) 781-9400

### **Travel by Bicycle:**

The Visitor Centers in Lincoln (Route 295 North), Pawtucket (175 Main Street) and Woonsocket (in the Museum of Work and Culture, Market Square) offer information on bicycle-friendly routes, maps of the Blackstone Valley bike path network, the DeTours maps, and local conditions. Local bicycle tour maps, courtesy of the Narragansett Bay Wheelmen, are available at [www.nbwclub.org](http://www.nbwclub.org) *Howard Stone's Short Bike Rides in Rhode Island* (Chester, CT: The Globe Pequot Press) is also a useful reference.

The Blackstone River Bikeway, when completed, will result in a mostly off-road transportation link between Worcester MA and Providence RI. Existing components include:

### **Blackstone River Bikeway:**

The bikeway follows the path of the Blackstone River and extends from Woonsocket to Pawtucket. A work in progress, it eventually it will connect with the Blackstone River Bikeway in Massachusetts, reaching to Worcester. Parking is available:

*Front St., (Rte. 123) in Lincoln at the flashing yellow light. Route 116 parking area (George Washington Highway) in Lincoln, about one mile east of Mendon Rd. Kelly House, Lincoln, at the northern end of Lower River Road, underneath the Rte. 116 Bridge.*

The Blackstone River Bikeway provides unparalleled vistas. Join the many Valley residents who enjoy our bike paths for roller-blading, casual bicycling, jogging or just strolling. Consider bicycling to local destinations and joining the “bicycle commuter corps”.

For a map of the Blackstone River Bikeway to: [www.blackstoneriverbikeway.com/maps.php](http://www.blackstoneriverbikeway.com/maps.php)

### **Ten-Mile River Greenway**

The newest bike path segment, the Ten Mile River Greenway, extends from Kimberly Ann Rock Athletic Fields in East Providence to Slater Memorial Park in Pawtucket. Parking is available at Slater Memorial Park on Newport Avenue.

### **East Bay Bike Path**

*Veterans Memorial Parkway, East Providence*  
(401) 253-7482

[www.riparks.com/eastbay.htm](http://www.riparks.com/eastbay.htm)

The East Bay Bike path is a 14.5 mile, 10 foot wide, ribbon of asphalt that provides a safe place for unobstructed cycling. Users can enjoy the sights, sounds and smells as the path takes them by coves and marshes, over bridges, and through State Parks from Providence to Bristol along the abandoned railroad line. For the greater part of its length, it passes along or near the shore of Narragansett Bay.

For a complete list of bicycle-friendly routes, as well as the “Rack ‘n Ride” program (bicycles on RIPTA buses), pick up a copy of the “Guide to Cycling in the Ocean State” at any Valley Visitor Center or visit the Rhode Island Department of Transportation’s Bike Rhode Island page at [www.dot.state.ri.us/bikeri](http://www.dot.state.ri.us/bikeri)

### **RENT A BICYCLE**

#### **East Providence Cycle**

*414 Warren Ave, East Providence*  
(401) 434-3838

[http://eastprovidencecycle.com/page\\_cfm?PageID=141](http://eastprovidencecycle.com/page_cfm?PageID=141)

A unique perspective of the Blackstone Valley can be found in the bicycle, bed & breakfast tours of the Valley offered by the Blackstone Valley Tourism Council. These low-environmental impact tours explore the picturesque mill villages, culture, the arts and the historic legacy of the Blackstone Valley. Contact the Blackstone

Valley Tourism Council at (401) 724-2200 or [CycleBlackstone.com](http://CycleBlackstone.com) for additional details.

### **TOUR BY BOAT**

Ask for the “Blackstone River & Canal Guide” maps at the Blackstone Valley Visitor Centers in Pawtucket, Lincoln or Woonsocket. Local information can also be found at the store below, as well as many sporting goods shops and outfitters.

For another on-water experience, try the Blackstone Valley Explorer riverboat for narrated cruises of the Blackstone River.

#### **Blackstone Valley Explorer**

*Blackstone Valley Tourism Council*  
*175 Main Street*  
*Pawtucket Rhode Island*  
(401) 724-2200 or (800) 454-BVTC  
[www.rivertourblackstone.com](http://www.rivertourblackstone.com)

For a unique “Green” experience, the Samuel Slater canal boat, located in Central Falls Rhode Island, brings the ambience of England to the Blackstone Valley. The only British-built canal boat licensed for operation in the United States, the Samuel Slater is both a tour boat and a floating Bed & Breakfast. For more information, or to reserve your dates, contact the Blackstone Valley Tourism Council at (401) 724-2200 or [www.bedandbreakfastblackstone.com](http://www.bedandbreakfastblackstone.com)

### **RENT A KAYAK OR CANOE**

Blackstone Valley Tourism Council offers paddling overnight trips as well as shorter and longer paddling adventures. Go to [Paddleblackstone.com](http://Paddleblackstone.com) for more information.

#### **Blackstone Valley Outfitters Inc**

*2 Mendon Road Cumberland, Rhode Island*  
(401) 312.0369, [dmartin361@cox.net](mailto:dmartin361@cox.net)  
Rentals, maps, and local information  
[www.bvos.com](http://www.bvos.com)

# Low-Impact Activities and Outdoor Attractions

Outdoor activities in the Valley include concerts, festivals, biking, and boating. No matter the time of year, there is always something for you to do outdoors. A terrific place to start is the Blackstone Bikeway, an urban environmental corridor that is home to marshes, restored wetlands, parks and open spaces, with easy access from major roads, most on public bus lines.

## Hit the Water

*Plan ahead and Prepare*

Ask outfitters about local water conditions. Review current water levels on the Blackstone River at:

Millbury Massachusetts

[http://waterdata.usgs.gov/ma/nwis/uv/?site\\_no=01109730&PARAMeter\\_cd=00065,00060](http://waterdata.usgs.gov/ma/nwis/uv/?site_no=01109730&PARAMeter_cd=00065,00060)

Northbridge Massachusetts

[http://waterdata.usgs.gov/ma/nwis/uv/?site\\_no=01110500&PARAMeter\\_cd=00065,00060](http://waterdata.usgs.gov/ma/nwis/uv/?site_no=01110500&PARAMeter_cd=00065,00060)

Uxbridge Massachusetts

[http://waterdata.usgs.gov/ma/nwis/uv/?site\\_no=01110500&PARAMeter\\_cd=00065,00060](http://waterdata.usgs.gov/ma/nwis/uv/?site_no=01110500&PARAMeter_cd=00065,00060)

Woonsocket Rhode Island

[http://waterdata.usgs.gov/ma/nwis/uv/?site\\_no=01112500&PARAMeter\\_cd=00065,00060](http://waterdata.usgs.gov/ma/nwis/uv/?site_no=01112500&PARAMeter_cd=00065,00060) or at the Blackstone Alert website <http://blackstonealert.com>

Select sections of water that match your ability. Try to travel in off-times to minimize river congestion. Get local phone numbers for river rescue and emergency services

## Outdoor Ethics as suggested by the River Management Society

- When traveling along our bike paths or rivers and parks, pack what you want and pack it back out.
- Know river skills and carry the necessary equipment to minimize your impact.
- Schedule your trip so that you encounter appropriate river flows for your group's ability.
- Prepare for extreme weather, hazards and emergencies.
- File a float or hiking plan with local authorities if you plan an adventurous trip.

For more information contact:

[www.river-management.org](http://www.river-management.org)

## Paddle the Blackstone with the Blackstone Valley Paddle Club

<http://www.ricka-flatwater.org/bvpaddlers.htm>

The Blackstone Valley Paddle Club was formed by the John H. Chafee Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor, in conjunction with the Rhode Island Canoe and Kayak Association. Contact Cheryl at [StoneFoxFarm@juno.com](mailto:StoneFoxFarm@juno.com) or (401) 647-5887

## Paddle on your own:

You can get specific information from any outfitter, such as Blackstone Valley Outfitters in Cumberland. The National Heritage Corridor has produced a series of float guides, available at Blackstone Valley Visitor Centers, which cover:

Blackstone Gorge to Millville Lock  
(Beginner tour)

Valley Falls to Pratt Dam  
(Beginner tour)



River Island Park to Manville Dam  
(Beginner tour)

Blackstone State Park to Pratt Dam  
(Intermediate tour)

These maps are also available at  
[www.nps.gov/blac/planyourvisit/get-on-the-river.htm](http://www.nps.gov/blac/planyourvisit/get-on-the-river.htm)

## Blackstone River Launching Sites

### Blackstone Canal

Route 123 in Lonsdale  
[www.riparks.com/eastbay.htm](http://www.riparks.com/eastbay.htm)

This fun, scenic paddle parallels the bike path in Lincoln and is suitable for everyone.

### Albion to Manville

John Street Cumberland  
Put-in above the Albion Dam and paddle upstream to the Manville Dam and back.

### Blackstone Gorge to Millville Lock, Blackstone MA

County Street, Blackstone Massachusetts  
[www.nps.gov/blac/planyourvisit/upload/Blackstone%20Gorge%20to%20Millville%20Lock%208x11.pdf](http://www.nps.gov/blac/planyourvisit/upload/Blackstone%20Gorge%20to%20Millville%20Lock%208x11.pdf)

The Rolling Dam is large and backs up a lot of water into a millpond that was used to power the Blackstone Manufacturing Company (1904) and currently provides waterpower for hydroelectricity. About one mile up river you pass under the “Triad Bridge” where three railroad lines were to cross at a point forming a three-tiered bridge. At about 1 1/2 miles look carefully on the left bank for the Millville Lock (1828) at the end of Hope Street. For the best view of the lock, pull out on river left and walk the 10 yards from the riverbank to the lock. This is the best-preserved lock on the Blackstone Canal.

You can continue to paddle up stream to Central Street in Millville, just below the

rapids that flow on your right under the bridge. Just before the Central Street bridge is a 2-acre island that serves as a bridge support and divides the river. After exploring Millville, return to the Blackstone Gorge by paddling back downriver

### Ashton to Lonsdale Village

Lower River Road, Lincoln  
[www.zaptheblackstone.org/Maps/Lincoln%201x17.pdf](http://www.zaptheblackstone.org/Maps/Lincoln%201x17.pdf)  
River and canal trail loop. To put-in the Blackstone River, carry up the road under the viaduct towards the dam where there is a portage trail to the right just past the pedestrian bridge or put-in just below the bikeway bridge behind the Blackstone River State Park’s Kelly House Museum.

The Wilbur Kelly House Museum describes the evolution of transportation in the Blackstone River Valley, from primitive trails through the canal, the railroad and on to modern highways. This evolution in transportation was responsible for the spread of the American Industrial Revolution from the Slater Mill in Pawtucket, RI northwards throughout the Valley.

Take out on river right just above the Pratt Dam and portage over the dam on the bikeway to the Blackstone Canal. Cross the bikeway bridge and put in the Canal at the steps to head back up the Canal for a return trip to the Canal Museum.

### Cold Spring Park, Woonsocket

Katherine Road (off Harris Avenue)  
For an easy paddle on flat water (approximately 3 miles), put in at the Cold Spring Park canoe launch. This stretch of the Blackstone River was widened and straightened as part of the 1955 Flood Control Project. All four bridges that cross the river in this area (Singleton Street, River Street, Fairmount Street, and Sayles Street) were replaced after being seriously damaged in Hurricane Diane.

The water in this area is generally quiet. Upstream is the historic Nyanza Mill complex and the Waterford Mill Village in Blackstone, MA. Downstream is the Alice Mill, once part of the Woonsocket Rubber Company and the largest rubber footwear manufacturing facility in the world; Jules Desurmonte's Riverside Worsted Company mill; and the Woonsocket Falls. As you approach the falls, you will see the Sayles Street Bridge and the historic Glenark Mill. Resist the urge to paddle up to the falls – it's a 30 foot drop, currents close to the falls can be unpredictable.

### **Albion to Manville**

*Albion Road Cumberland - Blackstone River State Park*

Put-in above the Albion Dam and paddle upstream to the Manville Dam and back.

### **River Island Park to Manville Dam**

*Bernon Street, Woonsocket to Manville Quarry, Cumberland*

[www.nps.gov/blac/planyourvisit/upload/Woonsocket%20to%20Manville%208x11.pdf](http://www.nps.gov/blac/planyourvisit/upload/Woonsocket%20to%20Manville%208x11.pdf)

From the heart of downtown Woonsocket, through forested city-owned land in the western part of the city. The stretch between Hamlet Avenue and Manville features mostly forested banks that are a strong contrast to the earlier urbanized part of this segment. Just before the Manville Dam (1868) is a large wetland on the left bank; it's a great place to spot waterfowl. Paddle into the wetland area and you will see the canoe ramp, just past the granite wall along the side the dam.

### **Seekonk River in Pawtucket**

*Tim Healy Way*

Paddle about ½ mile north to get a nice view of Pawtucket Falls on the Lower Blackstone. Then turn around and head for Bold Point (about 4 miles).

### **Valley Falls Marsh, Cumberland**

*Madeira Avenue, Central Falls*

[www.nps.gov/blac/planyourvisit/upload/ValleyFalls8x11.pdf](http://www.nps.gov/blac/planyourvisit/upload/ValleyFalls8x11.pdf)

Put-in at Central Falls Landing on Madeira Ave. off of Broad St. in Central Falls. Paddlers can travel all the way up to Pratt Dam (approximately 2 miles) or explore several little coves of Lonsdale Marsh. Park at Central Falls Landing for put-in and take out.

The Lonsdale Marsh is the largest fresh-water marsh in Rhode Island and was created by the flooding caused by the Valley Falls Dam. The marsh is an important stopping point for migrating birds on one of the great northeast flyways, and each spring several breeds of waterfowl use the marsh for their nesting grounds. You can paddle around the Marsh or head upriver. Once the Lonsdale Drive-In, a portion of the Lonsdale Marsh was recently restored through a partnership between state and federal agencies.

The bikeway runs along the edge of the property, and the original Drive-In sign locates access, just off of John Street. Continue paddling upriver and pass under Mendon Road to reach the Pratt Dam where the Blackstone River Bikeway crosses the River between Lincoln and Cumberland. Return to Central Falls Landing to explore more Valley Falls history.



# Blackstone Valley Public Launching Sites

| TOWN                    | LOCATION                                                                                                                                                                   | HP RESTRICTION                                                    |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Burrillville</b>     | Clear River access to Harrisville Pond, Rt. 100 from Chepachet to Rt. 98 to Harrisville, site is a quarter mile north of Harrisville Village on left. Cement slab ramp (S) | None                                                              |
|                         | Union Pond 8 acres. Rt. 44 to Rt. 100, left on Reservoir Rd. (S)                                                                                                           | No outboard motors                                                |
|                         | Spring Lake 96 acres. Rt. 102 to Joslin Rd., to Spring Lake Rd., to Blackhut Rd., access site on the right. Cement slab. (S)                                               | Electric trolling motors only                                     |
|                         | Wakefield Pond 72 acres. Rt. 100 N., to left on Wakefield Pond Rd., to left on Lee Circle, to top of hill, a right to bottom of hill, take left. Ramp is on right. (S)     | No outboard motors 6/20 - 9/20                                    |
|                         | Wilson Reservoir 127 acres. Rte. 100 from Chepachet to Wallum Lake Rd., left _ mile on East Wallum Lake Rd. (S)                                                            | 10 HP limit                                                       |
| <b>Glocester</b>        | Bowdish Reservoir 126 acres. Rt. 44, Glocester; to George Washington Camp Ground entrance, 3rd left to boat ramp. Concrete slab                                            | 10 HP limit                                                       |
|                         | Clarkville Pond Rte. 44 Glocester to Richardson clearing trail, to Cold Spring Trail, first left off Cold Spring Trail. (S)                                                | Electric trolling motors only                                     |
|                         | Keech Pond 129 acres. Rt. 44 Glocester to Chestnut Hill Rd., to Indian Trail, to end, ramp on left.                                                                        | 10 HP limit                                                       |
|                         | Lake Washington 42 acres. Rt. 44 to Lake Washington Dr.                                                                                                                    | Electric trolling motors only                                     |
|                         | Pascoag Reservoir (Echo Lake) 352 acres Rt. 44 West to Jackson School House Rd., North, site is _ mile on the right. (S)                                                   | 10 HP limit - Sat. before Memorial Day to day after Labor Day.    |
|                         | Smith & Sayles Reservoir 186 acres. Rt. 44 Glocester to Chestnut Hill Rd., to Sand Dam Rd. (S)                                                                             | 10 HP limit                                                       |
| <b>Lincoln</b>          | Olney Pond 126 acres. Lincoln Woods State Park. Rte 95N, to Rt 146. 3.5 miles to State Park. (S)                                                                           | All power boats prohibited on Sat., Sun. & Holidays 6/5 thru 9/15 |
| <b>North Smithfield</b> | Upper Slatersville Reservoir 147 acres, Rt. 295 N, to Rt. 7 N, to Rt. 102 N., approx. 1 1/4 mile on right. Slab ramp (S)                                                   | none                                                              |
| <b>Smithfield</b>       | Woonasquatucket Reservoir (Stump Pond) 304 acres. Rt.5 to Log Road (S). Slab ramp (S)                                                                                      | 10 HP limit                                                       |

(S)= State-owned & operated, (T)= Town/City-owned & operated,  
(H)= Handicapped accessible. **Parking is available at all locations.**

**Enjoy a Cruise on the Blackstone Valley Explorer riverboat  
(401) 724-2200 [www.tourblackstone.com/explorer.htm](http://www.tourblackstone.com/explorer.htm)**



## Blackstone Valley

0 1 5 Kilometers  
0 1 5 Miles

## Camping in Blackstone Valley

| TOWN                | CAMPGROUND                                                                                                                                                                  | SEASON/SITES                                                               |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Burrillville</b> | Buck Hill Family Campground<br>464 Wakefield RD<br>Burrillville RI 02859<br>(401) 568-0456                                                                                  | Open May 1 - Sep 30<br>58 trailers, 41 tents                               |
|                     | Echo Lake Campground<br>180 Moroney RD<br>Burrillville, RI 02859<br>(401) 568-7109                                                                                          | Open May 1 - Sep 30<br>150 trailers (100 full hook-ups)                    |
| <b>Glocester</b>    | Bowdish Lake Camping Area<br>40 Safari RD<br>Glocester RI 02814<br>(401) 568-8890<br><a href="http://www.bowdishlake.com/">http://www.bowdishlake.com/</a>                  | Open April 30 - Oct 10                                                     |
|                     | Camp Ponagansett<br>100 Rustic Hill RD<br>Glocester RI 02814<br>(401) 647-7377                                                                                              | Open April 15 - Oct 15<br>40 trailers                                      |
|                     | George Washington Management Area (Campground)<br>2185 Putnam Pike<br>Glocester RI 02814<br>(401) 568-2013                                                                  | Open April 11 - Oct 15<br>45 Trailers or tents                             |
|                     | Holiday Acres Campground<br>591 Snake Hill RD<br>Glocester RI 02857<br>(401) 934-0780<br><a href="http://www.holidayacrescampground.com">www.holidayacrescampground.com</a> | April 15 through Columbus Day weekend, Open for winter camping in November |
|                     | Oak Leaf Family Campground<br>43 Oak Leaf Way<br>Glocester RI 02814<br>(401) 568-4446                                                                                       | Open April 15 - Oct 31<br>60 trailer hook-ups                              |



# Gone Fishin'

Fishing in the rivers and ponds of the Blackstone River Valley is a relaxing and environmentally friendly way to spend quality time. Visitors 15 to 64 are required to have fishing licenses, which can be obtained at RI DEM, most Town Halls and hunting/fishing outfitters. Please refer to the list below

Non-Resident licenses are \$35.00 and a three-day Tourist license is \$16.00. If you plan to fish in a “catch-and-release” or “fly-fishing only” area, or to keep a trout, salmon or char, an additional trout stamp must be purchased for \$5.00.



## Purchasing A Fishing License in Blackstone Valley

| LOCATION                     | ADDRESS                                                                | LOCATION                 | ADDRESS                                                          |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Glocester Town Clerk         | 1145 Putnam Pike<br>Chepachet, RI 02814<br>(401) 568-6206              | Cumberland City Clerk    | PO Box 7<br>Cumberland, RI 02864<br>(401) 728-2400               |
| Snowhurst Farm               | 462 Chopmist Hill Road<br>Chepachet, RI 02814<br>(401) 568-8900        | Lincoln Town Clerk       | Old River Road<br>Lincoln, RI 02865<br>(401) 333-1100            |
| Big Bear Supply, LLC         | 401 Putnam Pike<br>Harmony, RI 02829<br>(401) 949-0339                 | N. Smithfield Town Clerk | Main Street<br>Slatersville, RI 02876<br>(401) 767-2200          |
| Burrillville Town Clerk      | 105 Harrisville Main Street<br>Harrisville, RI 02830<br>(401) 568-4300 | Bullseye Shooting        | 837 Park Avenue<br>Woonsocket, RI 02895<br>(401) 766-4409        |
| Addieville East Farm         | 200 Pheasant Drive<br>Mapleville, RI 02839<br>(401) 568-3185           | Pete's Bait & Tackle     | 341 Burnside Avenue<br>Woonsocket, RI 02895<br>(401) 767-0990    |
| All Things Hunting           | 75 Main Street<br>Pascoag, RI 02859<br>(401) 567-7870                  | Wal-Mart                 | 1919 Diamond Hill Road<br>Woonsocket, RI 02895<br>(401) 762-0640 |
| Dick's Sports & Hobby        | 460 Smithfield Avenue<br>Pawtucket, RI 02860<br>(401) 258-2498         | Woonsocket City Clerk    | 169 Main Street<br>Woonsocket, RI 02895<br>(401) 762-6400        |
| Pawtucket City Clerk         | 137 Roosevelt Avenue<br>Pawtucket, RI 02860<br>(401) 728-0500          | Benny's                  | 200 Pheasant Drive<br>Smithfield, RI 02917<br>(401) 949-9820     |
| Central Falls Town Clerk     | 580 Broad Street<br>Central Falls, RI 02863<br>(401) 727-7400          | Dick's Sporting Goods    | 371 Putnam Pike<br>Smithfield, RI 02917<br>(401) 232-0051        |
| Blackstone Valley Outfitters | 2 Mendon Road<br>Cumberland, RI 02864<br>(401) 312-0369                | Smithfield Town Clerk    | 64 Farnum Pike<br>Esmond, RI 02917<br>(401) 233-1000             |

# Come Out and Play

## Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management

(401) 222-2632 [www.riparks.com](http://www.riparks.com)  
Can provide information on all of the parks in Rhode Island.

Walk along one of the bike paths (Maps and suggestions are available at the Blackstone Valley Visitor Centers in Lincoln, Pawtucket, or Woonsocket) or pick up a self-guided Walking Tour of one of the communities in the Corridor and learn more about the history of the Valley and its many unique places. Walking Tour brochures can be picked up at any of the Visitor Centers throughout the Valley

## BURRILLVILLE

### BLACK HUT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA

*Spring Lake Road*  
(401) 568-4300

This preserve covers 1,548 acres of forest, wetlands, and farmland. The Area contains many observation points.

### BUCK HILL TRAIL

*Buck Hill Road*

*Buck Hill Management Area*

4.7-mile hike that has abundant wildlife. Along this trail are tiny ponds with nesting boxes, which provide housing for the wood ducks. Hikers actually walk in Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut. The stonewall roughly marks the Massachusetts border. A brook will bring you close to the Connecticut border. In the spring, you might even see a fox or a deer, not to mention other animal tracks. Along the trail are places to stop and rest.

### SPRING LAKE BEACH AND ARCADE

*Follow signs from Route 102*

(401) 568-9457

[www.burrillville.org/Public\\_Documents/](http://www.burrillville.org/Public_Documents/)

[BurrillvilleRI\\_RecDocs/Other\\_Facilities/Spring\\_Lake\\_Beach](#)

Come spend a day at the Spring Lake Beach Recreation Facility, one of Burrillville's premier beaches. The fresh-water pond, fed by springs throughout the lake, is always cool and clear. The facility includes 750 feet of lakefront beach, two volleyball areas, boat rentals, a snack bar and ice cream stand, an antique penny arcade, shaded picnic groves and a hall that is available for social and family functions. Admission charged. Open Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day

## CENTRAL FALLS

### JENKS PARK

*Broad St*

(401) 727-7455

Built on land donated to the city by Alvin Jenks in 1890, the Park contains the Cogswell Clock Tower, erected in 1904. The Tower stands atop Dexter's Ledge, which was used as an Indian lookout during King Philip's War in 1676. There is no charge to climb the tower and enjoy a spectacular view of the Valley. The city sponsors Sunday afternoon concerts throughout the summer, and the tower is open for observation on concert dates, and during special events and festivals. There are walking paths and a gazebo. Hours: Open year-round from dawn to dusk.

### PIERCE PARK & RIVERWALK

*High Street*

(401) 727-7400

Site of Captain Michael Pierce's fight with the natives as part of the King Philip's War in March of 1765, it is the city's first riverfront park and includes a scenic overlook, riverbank walkway and recreational facilities. Hours: Daylight hours, year round.

## **RIVER ISLAND COMMUNITY PARK AND BLACKSTONE RIVER ISLAND NATURE TRAIL**

*High Street*

*(401) 727-7400*

Success in EPA-Lead Targeted Brownfield Assessment Program. The two, six-plus acre Green spaces include various community, health and environmentally centered features. There is an exercise track, nature hiking trails, a field house, a multipurpose field for community sports and play, a pedestrian bridge over the scenic Blackstone River to the island park, and a canoe launch for weekend trips on the river.

More information can be found at [www.epa.gov/region1/brownfields/success/spin-texmill\\_ri\\_tba.htm](http://www.epa.gov/region1/brownfields/success/spin-texmill_ri_tba.htm)

## **CUMBERLAND**

### **DIAMOND HILL PARK**

*Rte. 114*

*(401) 728-2400*

Named for its mile-long face of mica, Diamond Hill is another great place to do some jogging or hiking, have a picnic and enjoy a free concert. The town sponsors the free Summer Concert Series in July and August. Climb to the summit and you can see for miles. Once you've gotten to

the top of the former ski slopes (the smaller hill on the left is a much easier hike), there are walking trails from which you can see the Diamond Hill Reservoir to the east and Woonsocket and beyond to the west. There are picnic sites throughout. The pond is a favorite of kids looking for frogs and tadpoles. Bathroom facilities are open only during special events and for large gatherings that have received a permit.

### **MONASTERY**

*1464 Diamond Hill Road*

*(401) 728-2400*

Former Cistercian Monastery is owned by the Town of Cumberland and used as a recreation area and home of Cumberland's Edward J. Hayden Public Library. Grounds open sunrise to sunset. [www.cumberlandlibrary.org/monasterypage.htm](http://www.cumberlandlibrary.org/monasterypage.htm)

### **VALLEY FALLS HERITAGE PARK**

*Broad Street at Mill Street*

Educational park built on ruins of The Valley Falls Company Mill. Interpretive displays explain how the Blackstone River was harnessed to power factories and the growth of the Valley Falls Mills and village. Open dawn to dusk.

## **GLOCESTER**

### **BURTON WOODLAND**

*Joe Sweet Road, Chepachet*

This area, of nearly 112 acres, is dotted with streams and ponds. The area is a noted birding spot, including the Black-throated Blue Warbler, long thought to be extinct in Rhode Island.

### **HAWKINS POND**

*Putnam Pike (Rte. 44)*

Hawkins' Pond and its system of streams are the most prominent features of





this 71-acre site. The pond features an abundance of fish and waterfowl; deer, fox, coyotes, porcupines, raccoons, otters, muskrats, woodchucks and opossum frequent it. Pheasant and partridge are present and wild turkeys thrive at the pond.

### **HERITAGE PARK TRAIL**

*Chestnut Oak Road*

Parents will love the short hike, about 1.75 miles, perfect for little children. The trail is overflowing with wildlife. Along the trail are birdfeeders, picnic tables, a play area and a shepherd's hut, a reproduction of the huts used before the area was returned to the forest. The hut is a low room with rock walls and grass growing on the roof.



### **ROBERT HUCKINS WOODLAND**

*Route 44, Chepachet*

This 176-acre area abuts both Sprague Farm and Burton Woodland. Dotted with streams and ponds, the area features a variety of habitats for both plants and animals.

### **PHILLIPS FARM**

*Putnam Pike (Rte. 44), Harmony*

Phillips Farm is an historic homestead also known as Phillips Farm, Cutler Farm and Cutler's Tavern. The area encompasses a variety of different habitats including wetlands, forest and open fields. The

68-acre parcel varies sufficiently so that many excellent views of the natural features are afforded over a short walk.

### **SIGNE PHILLIPS WOODLAND**

*Chopmist Hill Road (Rte. 102),  
Chepachet*

This 15 acre property is a forest management area.

### **CASIMIR PULASKI MEMORIAL STATE PARK**

*Rte. 44  
(401) 568-2013*

Located in the George Washington Management Area, it features freshwater swimming, picnicking, cross country skiing, sledding, camping, bird watching and hiking. Also includes primitive tent and trailer campsites with fireplaces, tables, drinking water, toilets, and shelters.

### **SCOTSTUN TOWN FOREST**

*Chopmist Hill Road (Rte. 102),  
Chepachet*

Scotstun Town Forest is a compact parcel of approximately 46 acres.

### **STEERE-COMBER WILDLIFE PRESERVE**

*Whipple Road, Chepachet*

Farmed for five generations, this property is being allowed to return to its natural state. It is comprised of forest and spring wetland, making it ideal for such wildlife as deer, coyotes, wild turkeys, foxes, birds and other small animals.

### **SPRAGUE FARM**

*Pine Orchard Road, Chepachet*

The farm is nearly 250 acres, abutting both Burton Woodland and Robert Huckins Woodland. Approximately 200 years of agricultural activity has left several open fields, which help diversify the habitat, as well as a clearly defined set of trails.

## **GEORGE WASHINGTON MANAGEMENT AREA**

(401) 647-1439 or 647-3367  
TDD Services: (401) 222-4462

The George Washington Management Area was the first state forest created in Rhode Island. Within this 3,500-acre area are woodlands, cedar swamps, hemlock forests, ponds, forestry demonstration and experimental areas. The unfragmented forest environment provides habitat for a variety of birds including hawks and owls. Waterfowl and other wetland-dependent birds and mammals make their home in and around the marshes and swamps. The Pulaski Wildlife Marsh covers about 10 acres and is a good spot for wildlife viewing.

There are campsites for tents and trailers. Two shelters, in a wooded area overlooking Bowdish Reservoir, are also available. The 225-acre Bowdish Reservoir is a key recreational spot for activities such as boating, fishing, camping and swimming. An interesting feature of the Reservoir is the floating bog mats. During the winter, it is not unusual to see an otter running over the ice of the Reservoir.

In 1965, sailors from the Australian ship Perth constructed an 11-mile trail that they named the Walkabout Trail. It is well marked with orange blazes. Two and six mile cut offs marked by blue and red blazes can be used to shorten the length of your hike.

## **LINCOLN**

### **BLACKSTONE RIVER BIKEWAY STATE PARK**

*Manchester Print Works Road*  
(401) 723-7892

Part of the Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor on the banks of the Blackstone River, with canoeing,

boating, a fishing area, and walking trails. There is about three miles of bike path developed.

### **BLACKSTONE RIVER STATE PARK**

*Lower River Road*  
(401) 333-1100

Located between the Blackstone River and Blackstone Canal, the riverfront park contains walking paths, canoe portage, and fresh water fishing. Historic walking tours along the canal built in 1828 are available.

### **CHASE FARM**

*100 Great Road*  
(401) 333-1100

This 118-acre dairy farm was active for a century. Now preserved as a Green space it is used for a number of activities such as summer concerts. Also on site is a butterfly garden. Park is open from dawn to dusk.

### **LIME ROCK PRESERVE**

*Wilbur Road*  
[www.nature.org](http://www.nature.org)

The Lime Rock Preserve is a beautiful and unique habitat that supports more rare plant species than any other site in Rhode Island. The preserve is laced with trails illustrating a wide variety of distinctive New England habitats -- rich woodlands, forested swamps, streams, open water, and calcareous ledges. Open dawn to dusk.

### **Lincoln Woods State Park**

*Manchester Print Works Road*  
(401) 723-7892

A short distance from Providence, this well-developed 627-acre forested park offers many opportunities to enjoy and learn about Rhode Island's environment. Many large glacial boulders are scattered throughout the park. Olney Pond offers opportunities for boating and fishing and the bathing beach is a popular summer

attraction. During migratory periods, flocks of waterfowl can be seen on the pond. Among the more common species to be seen are double crested cormorant, mallard, American black duck, hooded and common mergansers, and ring-necked duck. Fish include (stocked) trout and several warm water species. The pond is also popular for ice fishing.

There are many recreational activities, including horse trails (bring your own horse or contact Sunset Stables at (401) 722-3033, [www.sunsetstablesri.com](http://www.sunsetstablesri.com))

## **NORTH SMITHFIELD**

### **BLACKSTONE GORGE**

*County Street, Blackstone Massachusetts  
(401) 762-0250*

This popular overlook is part of a 100-acre, two-state corridor that runs along the Blackstone River and offers spectacular views. The Blackstone cascades over Rolling Dam, past boulders and hemlocks, providing a rare glimpse of the heavily industrialized river as it looked 200 years ago. At some spots, stepping-stones allow access across the river when water levels are low. Both Rhode Island and Massachusetts have purchased land around the gorge for a bi-state park. At press time, a trail system and parking lot were planned.

### **Florence Sutherland Fort & Richard Knight FORT NATURE REFUGE**

*Providence Pike (Rt. 5)  
[www.asri.org/fort.htm](http://www.asri.org/fort.htm)*

The headwaters of the Woonasquatucket River rise on this 235-acre woodland. Three small ponds and a variety of deciduous and coniferous trees provide diverse habitat for wildlife.

## **PAWTUCKET**

### **MAX READ FIELD**

*Pleasant Street*

This athletic field complex is located on Pleasant Street next to Francis J. Varieur Elementary School. The 13.8-acre site contains football, baseball, and softball fields and a quarter-mile running track. Beyond the playing fields are a few benches and a steep set of stairs leading to the banks of the Seekonk River. Concessions and restrooms are open during games only. On-site parking is available.

### **METROPOLITAN PARK**

*School Street*

*Also known as the Seekonk River*

Reservation, this 15.8-acre park is the site of the Pawtucket Boys' and Girls' Club. A small amount of the acreage is wooded and the remainder of the site contains tennis courts, two baseball diamonds, and a soccer field. A paved walk leads around the ball fields to a scenic sitting area above the Seekonk River. The site commands a nice view of the Swan Point and Riverside cemeteries across the water. Access to the water is dangerous, as there are no steps or paths down the steep slope. Ample parking makes this municipal site a spot to have lunch, relax, enjoy the river, and play ball.

### **PAWTUCKET TOWN LANDING**

*Taft Street*

This is a great place to launch a boat into the Seekonk River or to relax on a bench. Off-street parking for boat trailers is available both across the street and just south of the ramp.

### **SCHOOL STREET FESTIVAL PIER**

*Tim Healy Way*

A steep cobblestone road leads from School Street (Route 114) to this facility

on the Seekonk River owned by the city of Pawtucket. The pier is currently used primarily for fishing, though there is a cement boat ramp. Plenty of on-site parking is available. The city plans to develop a riverfront park on this 7-acre waterfront site.

### **SLATER MEMORIAL PARK**

*Newport Avenue (Route 1A)  
(401) 728-0500, Ext. 252.*

Slater Park, with 197 acres, contains a mixed deciduous forest, a freshwater pond, a swamp, and open fields. The Ten Mile River runs along the edge of the park, too, and the canal that was built along the river can be seen. Additionally, the park offers a bike path, picnic sites, and a carousel. The Park offers 18 picnic sites, tennis courts and ball fields, gardens and walking paths, pony rides, the historic 1685 Daggett House and historic Loeff Carousell, built in 1894. Pony rides for kids take place in the old zoo area, is now set up like a small farm. The Marconi Gardens, near the Armistice Boulevard entrance, is a popular spot for wedding photos,

and includes a footbridge and gazebo.

Permits are required for photos. The Casino houses the RI Watercolor Society Art Gallery.

### **Pawtucket Veterans Memorial Park**

*Exchange Street and Roosevelt Avenue  
(401) 728-0500, Ext. 225*

The recently completed park, overlooking



the Blackstone River, contains a monument to all Pawtucket Veterans and a 225-seat amphitheater with a covered stage.

## **SMITHFIELD**

*Enjoy Seven Scenic Walks in Smithfield*

written by Ken Weber.

- Mowry Reservation Area
- Cascade Brook Reservation Area
- Esmond Park
- Stillwater Scenic Trail
- Connors Farm Conservation Area
- Georgiaville Town Beach, Dam and Gorge
- Mercer Lookout

[www.smithfieldri.com/7scenicwalks.htm](http://www.smithfieldri.com/7scenicwalks.htm) has an explanation of the walks and images of hand drawn maps.

### **CASCADE BROOK CONSERVATION AREA**

*Mapleville Road*

This 27-acre property features a seasonal brook and small waterfall, immense boulders and rock outcroppings, and a blazed walking trail.

### **POWDER MILL LEDGES WILDLIFE REFUGE**

*12 Sanderson Road (Rt. 5)*

*(401) 949-5454*

*[www.asri.org/pml.htm](http://www.asri.org/pml.htm)*

Bird lovers love the Powder Mill Ledges, where 200 acres of land are dedicated to the preservation of bird life. The refuge has fine stands of pines, a pond, and a brook. The refuge has a library, gift shop, teachers' resource center, and bird feeding station. There are three trails of varying lengths with a complete loop totaling about two miles.

Open: Monday through Friday,

9 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Saturday, noon - 4 p.m.

## **ESMOND PARK**

*Farnum Pike (Route 104)*

Comprising approximately 4 acres, the park is a place for quiet walking or relaxing conversation. Visitors can now cross the Woonasquatucket River on an arching footbridge just above a curving stone structure that creates a scenic little waterfall in the river. Just above the waterfall is a small cattail marsh that attracts numerous birds in the spring and summer. On the far side of the river, the walking path runs on what was the old Providence to Springfield railroad bed that once served the mills.

## **MOWRY CONSERVATION AREA**

*Old Forge Road*

An increasingly popular spot, this shady 20 acre retreat offers something for just about everybody: a stocked trout stream, a picturesque place for picnics, stone walls, marked walking trails and stonework from an 18th century forge.

## **WOONSOCKET**

### **CASS PARK**

*Cass Avenue*

Walking paths and benches, pond for fishing, tennis and basketball courts, baseball fields, skating rinks and street hockey courts, playground.

### **RIVER ISLAND PARK**

*Bernon Street*

*(401) 762-6400*

Newly developed River Island Park is part of the Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor. Located on the edge of Woonsocket's downtown area, it combines city park amenities, such as attractive lighting, benches, and concrete sidewalks with direct access to the Blackstone River for fishing, canoeing, or bird watching. Boat tours along this stretch of the Blackstone

provide an unusual view of the park. The handicapped-accessible overlook permits a view of the tiny island for which the park is named. For more information, contact the City of Woonsocket, Department of Parks and Recreation at (401) 762-6400.

### **WORLD WAR II VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK**

*Social Street*

Surrounded by brick mills, high rise apartments, triple-deckers and an office/shopping district; this 15-acre park is a creatively designed outdoor recreation area. Water flows from a reflecting pool on the Social Street side of the park cascades down in to a manmade stream into a large pond and swimming area. Also included are footpaths, playground equipment, tennis and volleyball courts and a bandstand for outdoor concerts. World War II Veterans Memorial Park is the location of Woonsocket's annual Autumnfest Celebration.

### **COLD SPRING PARK**

*Harris Avenue*

For generations, Woonsocket residents came here to draw their drinking water. This recreation area is a canoe access point for the Blackstone River. It is currently a popular picnic site, location of outdoor movies and concerts in the summer, as well as softball fields and other recreational opportunities.



# Shopping

*Pack your Sack* Bring your own reusable shopping bag. If you forgot yours, pick up a canvas bag in one of the Valley shops and bring it home as a souvenir. Paper and plastic shopping bags can be recycled at many markets and thrift stores.

*Fresh from the Farm* The season's best produce and specialty products can be found at a local farm stand, Farmers' Market, or in season, you can pick your own. Ask for details at your lodging, or any Visitor Center. Try:

## Farmers' Markets

### Central Falls

Broad St. & Lincoln Avenue  
Saturdays, noon - 4:00 p.m.  
June - October

### Lincoln

Blackstone River State Park  
Visitor Center  
(401) 222-2781  
Tuesdays, 2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.  
July - October

### Pawtucket

Broadway & Exchange St.  
(401) 301-7690 Sunday, noon - 3:00 p.m.  
June - October

### Woonsocket

Precious Blood Church  
(Carrington & Park)  
Monday, 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
July - October

## Farm Stands

Appleland Orchard  
135 Smith Avenue  
Greenville, RI  
(401) 949-3690  
Daily - 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. - Aug.-Dec.  
Apples, Peaches, Pumpkins

Butterfly Farm  
679 Great Road  
Lincoln, RI 02865  
401-723-5464

[www.farmfreshri.org/food/farm.php?org=farmfreshri&local=02909&farm=22#stands](http://www.farmfreshri.org/food/farm.php?org=farmfreshri&local=02909&farm=22#stands)

Goodwin Brothers  
Rt. 5 and 104  
North Smithfield, RI  
(401) 765-0368  
Daily - 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.  
June - Oct.  
Blueberries, Raspberries, Strawberries  
Corn, Cucumbers, Pumpkins,  
String Beans, Tomatoes

## Pick Your Own

(call ahead to check hours and what's available)

Barden Orchards  
Putnam Pike, Glocester, RI  
(401) 934-1413  
Open: Sept. - Oct., Saturday & Sunday, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.  
Apples

Christiansen Orchard and Farm Stand  
Buxton Street, North Smithfield, RI  
(401) 766-5393.  
Open: July - December, every day,  
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
Apples, Peaches

Goodwin Brothers  
Greenville Road & Providence Pike,  
North Smithfield, Rhode Island  
(401) 767-2261, (401) 765-0368  
Open: daily from 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.,  
June - Oct. Please call in advance.  
Strawberries, Blueberries

Goodwin Brothers  
Greenville Road & Providence Pike, North  
Smithfield, RI  
(401) 767-2261, (401) 765-0368.  
<http://www.farmfreshri.org/food/farm.php?farm=12&org=farmfreshri&local=02909>  
Please call in advance.  
Strawberries, Blueberries

Harmony Farms  
359 Sawmill Road, Glocester, RI  
(401) 934-0741  
Open: Sept. - Oct.,  
Fri. Sat. & Sun., 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Apples, Peaches, Pears

Henry Steele Orchards  
150 Austin Ave., Smithfield, RI  
(401) 949-1456 or (401) 949-1307.  
Open: August - March,  
daily, 9 a.m. - 5p.m.  
Apples, Pears, Pumpkins, Peaches

Jaswell's Farm  
50 Swan Road, Smithfield, RI  
(401) 231-043.  
June - December  
daily, 9 a.m. - 5p.m.  
Apples and Berries

Moosup Valley Farm  
1 Snake Hill Road, Glocester, RI  
(401) 949-7898  
Open: only selected months (part year)  
so call first.  
In season, Open: daily,  
8 a.m. - 5p.m.  
Apples

Matteo's Farm  
90 Swan Road, Smithfield, RI  
(401) 231-4393  
Open: September - January,  
daily, 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Apples

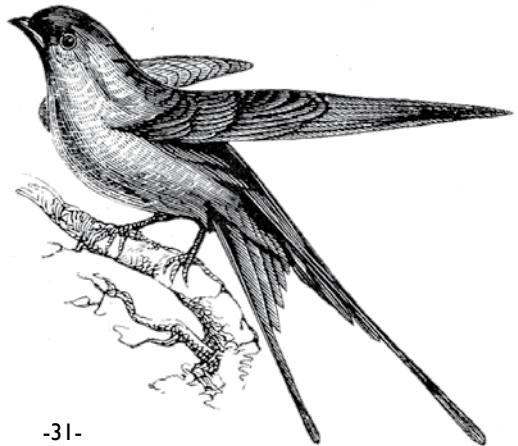
Phantom Farms  
Diamond Hill Road, Cumberland, RI  
(401) 333-2240  
Open: all year,  
daily 7 a.m. - 7p.m.  
Apples

### **Giving Gifts that Give**

Make a donation to a local environmental organization in the name of a gift recipient, or give them an annual membership.

### **Support**

- The local land trusts whose property you visit
- Environmental organizations (e.g. Audubon)
- Keep America Beautiful and its local affiliates
- The Blackstone Valley Legacy Trust



# Resources and Programs in Action

## **Keep Blackstone Valley Beautiful/Keep America Beautiful**

*(<http://keepblackstonevalleybeautiful.com>)*

*To bring together many of the citizen environmental initiatives, the Blackstone Valley Tourism Council is working with the Keep America Beautiful organization to establish an affiliated group, "Keep Blackstone Valley Beautiful." Even as the formal certification process is ongoing, many of the activities of Keep America Beautiful have been replicated within the Valley. Among the projects:*

- The 2006 Great American Cleanup brought 1,200 volunteers together in the Valley to contribute 4,200 hours towards beautifying their communities, collecting over 183,000 pounds of trash, cleaning 52 miles of roads, 147 acres of public lands and parks, 77 acres of wetlands.
- The Tire Round Up, collected 2,500 tires for recycling, preventing them from ending up in the Blackstone River.
- Our Computer and Electronics Collection, in conjunction with Green-Tech Assets, Inc. in Cumberland, collected over 9,000 pounds of electronics for recycling, preventing the electronic waste from ending up in landfills in the future. For additional information about electronics recycling nationwide, please visit [www.greentechassets.com/](http://www.greentechassets.com/) or contact them at (401) 721-9996

Local students participated in the "Return the Warmth" program. The program,

- encouraged students to recycle PET bottles to earn fleece jackets to give to the needy children of their community. Keep the Valley Beautiful was in the top 50 programs nationwide, and jackets were distributed to 30 social service organizations and 2,000 needy children in the Blackstone Valley community.

For additional information about Keep the Valley Beautiful initiatives, please contact the Blackstone Valley Tourism Council at 175 Main Street, Pawtucket RI or (401) 724-2200, or [www.TourBlackstone.com](http://www.TourBlackstone.com).

## **Rhody Fresh**

*<http://www.rhodyfresh.com/> (800) 746-3934 or (401) 397-3033*

The 18 working dairy farms of Rhode Island formed the Rhode Island Dairy Farms Cooperative to market their products under the "Rhody Fresh" label.

## **Blackstone River Coalition**

*<http://www.zaptheblackstone.org/#>*

The Blackstone River Coalition is a partnership of numerous organizations and individuals working to restore the Blackstone River and to improve the health of the Blackstone River Watershed.



# LAND TRUSTS

**Cumberland Land Trust** - Dedicated to preserving the natural resources of Cumberland for present and future generations by preserving land for open space. For more information, please link to <http://www.cumberlandlandtrust.org/> or contact Neil Rodin, at (401) 333-4825

**Glocester Land Trust** - All eight sites are open to the public daily from dawn until dusk for the enjoyment of their educational and passive recreational resources. For more information, please call the Town Hall at (401) 568-6206 or link to <http://www.glocesterri.org/landtrust.htm>.

**Lincoln Open Space** - A listing of open space within the town can be found at <http://www.lincolnri.org/directions/maps/openmap/topdata.jpg>, or the Town Hall at (401) 333-1100.

**The Audubon Society of Rhode Island** - Maintains trails and habitats in the Valley at both the Fort Nature Refuge and Powder Mill Ledges. More detailed information about programs and operating hours can be found at either (401) 949-5454 or [www.asri.org](http://www.asri.org)

**The Rhode Island Wild Plant Society** - The Rhode Island Wild Plant Society, Inc. is a nonprofit conservation organization dedicated to the preservation and protection of Rhode Island's native plants and their habitats. Additional information can be found by calling (401) 453-3777 or linking to <http://www.riwps.org/default.htm>



# At Home

*Compact the light* - Compact fluorescent light bulbs require only 25% of the electricity used by incandescent bulbs. According to Energy Star, if every household in the U.S. replaced one light bulb with an Energy Star-qualified compact fluorescent bulb, it would equal removing one million cars from the road. Especially target the 60 to 100 watt bulbs you use several hours a day.

*No half-measures* - Only run the dishwasher, washing machine and dryer when you have full loads. For further energy savings, wash clothes in warm or cold water, not hot.

*Pull the plug* - Many electronic devices continue to draw power even when they're turned off or fully charged. Cordless phones, cell phones, iPods® and digital cameras are some of the major culprits. TVs, cable boxes and computer monitors also waste energy. Plug these devices into a power strip and turn the strip off when the devices are not in use (the strip doesn't draw power).

*Push grass* - (on the lawn) Use a push mower and get a workout while you cut the lawn.

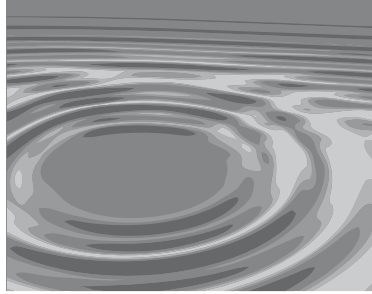
*Become an Energy Star* - If you need new appliances, you'll save hundreds of pounds of carbon dioxide and hundreds of dollars a year by updating everything from your refrigerator and dishwasher to your telephone and TV to products with the government's Energy Star label.

*Keep it clean* - Clean or replace furnace, air-conditioner and heat-pump filters to ensure that appliances run as efficiently as possible

*Keep 'em rolling* - Keeping the tires on your car adequately inflated means you'll burn less gas (check the air pressure monthly). Changing air filters and oil regularly also saves gas.

*Dump the junk* - Are you driving around with a trunk full of junk? An extra 100 pounds in your vehicle reduces fuel economy by up to 2%.

*Links to further reading and actions can be found on page 36.*



## Water Ways

*A single quart of oil on the ground can seep in and pollute 250,000 gallons of drinking water.*

*Pouring oil down a storm sewer is the same as pouring it directly into a stream or river.*

*A faucet with a slow, steady drip (100 drops a minute) will waste 350 gallons of water a month. A fast stream will leak 4,600 gallons of water in a month.*

*Don't use hot water when cold will do.*

*Warm a wet cleanup cloth for baby in the microwave for 7 seconds rather than running gallons of water until it's warm.*

*Use your garbage disposal sparingly.*

*Don't "sweep" walks and driveways with the hose; use a broom or a rake instead.*

*Stop watering the street or sidewalks – they won't grow a thing!*

## **Additional Resources**

### **An Inconvenient Truth**

[www.climatecrisis.net/takeaction/carboncalculator/](http://www.climatecrisis.net/takeaction/carboncalculator/)

### **BP Global**

[www.bp.com/extendedsectiongenericarticle.do?categoryId=9008204&contentId=7015209](http://www.bp.com/extendedsectiongenericarticle.do?categoryId=9008204&contentId=7015209)

### **US Environmental Protection Agency's Climate Change Site**

[www.epa.gov/climatechange/](http://www.epa.gov/climatechange/)

### **Natural Resources Defense Council**

[www.nrdc.org/globalWarming/default.asp](http://www.nrdc.org/globalWarming/default.asp)

### **National Climatic Data Center (NOAA)**

[www.nrdc.org/globalWarming/default.asp](http://www.nrdc.org/globalWarming/default.asp)

### **New York Times, Science**

**15 February, 2007**

<http://topics.nytimes.com/top/news/science/topics/globalwarming/index.html?inline=nyt-classifier>

### **National Geographic Center for Sustainable Destinations**

[www.nationalgeographic.com/travel/sustainable/](http://www.nationalgeographic.com/travel/sustainable/)

### **Fairmont Hotels & Resorts' Green Partnership**

[www.fairmont.com/EN\\_FA/Articles/Environment](http://www.fairmont.com/EN_FA/Articles/Environment)

### **Sustainable Travel International**

[www.sustainabletravel.com/](http://www.sustainabletravel.com/)

### **Sustainable Tourism Destination Planning and Development Laboratory**

[www.sustainabletourismmlab.com/](http://www.sustainabletourismmlab.com/)

## **A Green Valley Overview**

Outdoor enthusiasts, homemakers, cooks and gardeners will enjoy passing the time at Grace Note Farm. Country Life Activities and overnight stays, tucked away by the Washington Management Area. (401) 567-0354 or on the web: [www.gracenotefarmweb.com](http://www.gracenotefarmweb.com)

The Water Wheel at Slater Mill Living History Museum demonstrates original renewable energy production, leaving a near zero carbon footprint! (401) 725-8638 or on the web: [www.SlaterMill.org](http://www.SlaterMill.org)

Canoe, kayak or bicycle along the Blackstone River. Joggers, walkers and skateboarders are welcome! Rentals at BVO: (401) 312-0369 or on the web: [www.thepeloton.net](http://www.thepeloton.net).

Old time craftsmanship is in the works and on display at Gloucester Boatworks in the village of Chepachet. Discover John Devine's genuine Yankee Stove Shop next door on Route 44. 401-568-4209

Spend a night on the river aboard the Samuel Slater. This authentic English Canal boat is also a delightful Bed & Breakfast. (401) 724-2200 or on the web: [www.bedandbreakfastblackstone.com](http://www.bedandbreakfastblackstone.com).

# Help Us Keep the Blackstone Valley Green

Visitors and residents of the Valley appreciate its beauty and historical significance. However, like many sites, the Valley could find itself “loved to death,” since vehicular travel throughout the Valley leaves an environmental footprint in the form of vehicle exhaust, unintentional fluid spills (e.g. antifreeze, oil) and other contaminants.

What you do and what you use adds up to the amount of carbon dioxide - a greenhouse gas - you create. Do you drive? Fly? Use public transportation? Tour by bus? How often? How far? The size of your carbon footprint changes depending on how you answer those questions. All of these outputs generate carbon dioxide emissions, typically called a “carbon footprint.” Since we want to minimize carbon dioxide, we would want our carbon footprint size to be as small as possible.

To preserve the environmental character and sense of place of the Valley, we work with local and state government agencies and volunteer groups to reduce the total carbon footprint (the current buzz-word is “carbon neutral”) by reforesting riparian areas, developing initiatives to improve transportation efficiency via truck-stop electrification, internet-based carpool matching (eRideShare.com), and traffic-signal optimization. Of course, to get around the Valley, we encourage use of bicycles, rollerblades, and just walking on the bike paths or lower-use secondary roads to get around the Valley.

With the financial help of visitors and residents, we fund the planting of carbon-absorbing trees within the Valley, both to keep the Valley beautiful and to offset the emissions of residents and visitors. The average “carbon footprint” for a U.S. household is 21 tons of CO<sub>2</sub>, according to BP’s web site; on average, it takes one tree grown to maturity to absorb one ton of CO<sub>2</sub>.

To help offset the CO<sub>2</sub> generated by residents and visitors to the Valley we hope you will consider sponsoring the planting of trees, by placing a donation in marked containers throughout the Valley or at any Visitor Center, or online at [www.blackstonelifestyle.com](http://www.blackstonelifestyle.com). As your carbon impact varies with the distance you travel, we have arranged the following chart by distance from the Valley:

| Distance Traveled (miles) | Number of Trees | Suggested Donation |
|---------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| Over 4000                 | 6               | \$10.00            |
| Over 3000                 | 5               | \$8.00             |
| Over 2000                 | 4               | \$6.00             |
| Over 1000                 | 3               | \$5.00             |
| Over 500                  | 2               | \$2.00             |
| Less than 500             | 1               | \$1.00             |

*100% of the proceeds are given to local groups, in support of tree-planting activities within the Blackstone River Valley.*

Enjoy your time in the Valley, participate in the Blackstone Valley Lifestyle and please help us keep the Valley green for visitors and residents alike!

## Take Action!

We hope you've enjoyed this premier edition of the Green Guide. We would like you to tell us what worked, as well as what you'd like to see in a future Green Guide!

Go to [www.tourblackstone.com/greenguide](http://www.tourblackstone.com/greenguide) for a brief online survey. Your feedback is very important to us and will help to shape this publication in the years to come. If you'd prefer, just drop a note about our Green Guide to [bvri@aol.com](mailto:bvri@aol.com).

When you are finished with these and other brochures, please pass them on to a friend or return them to the place where you picked them up! For additional copies of this guide, please contact the Blackstone Valley Tourism Council at (401) 724-2200 or download your very own at [www.tourblackstone.com/greenguide](http://www.tourblackstone.com/greenguide).

To watch and contribute to the definition of the Blackstone Valley Lifestyle (which includes patterns of social relations, entertainment, dress, reflecting an individual's attitudes, values and worldview), please visit the open forum at [www.blackstonelifestyle.com](http://www.blackstonelifestyle.com) and add your comments.

## Sponsored By

Glocester Boat Works & Yankee Stove  
Route 44 (Putnam Pike)  
Chepachet, RI 02814  
401-568-4209

Collette Vacations  
162 Middle Street  
Pawtucket, RI 02860  
800-528-0351  
[www.collettevacations.com](http://www.collettevacations.com)

Quality Inn  
355 George Washington Highway  
Smithfield, RI. 401-232-2400  
<http://www.qinn.net>

Solar Wrights  
17 Burnside Street  
Bristol, RI 02809  
401-396-9901  
[www.solarwrights.com](http://www.solarwrights.com)

John H. Chafee Blackstone River Valley  
National Heritage Corridor  
One Depot Square  
Woonsocket, RI 02895  
401-726-0250

  
BLACKSTONE RIVER VALLEY  
New England's Historic National Park Area

Life does come with directions after all.



When you recycle, it's like following directions Mother Nature would have given. Materials such as paper, plastic, and metals can be remanufactured as new products made of recycled content. Giving new life to old items, while saving resources and energy in the process – sometimes it really is worth going in circles.

For more information on all that you can recycle, visit [rircr.org](http://rircr.org)



[www.rircr.org](http://www.rircr.org)



**10 Monument Square  
100 Old River Rd  
Woonsocket RI 02895  
(401) 767-1990**



**Lincoln RI 02865  
(401) 333-0780**

The Blackstone River Federal Credit Union  
welcomes you to the Greater Blackstone Valley area.

**Stop by or call to ask us about the many services we offer:**

New & Used Auto Loans  
Home Equity Loans  
Equity Line of Credit  
Mortgages  
Boat & Motorcycle Loans  
Tuition Loans

Savings Accounts  
Money Market Accounts  
Share Draft Accounts  
Certificate of Deposit Accounts  
Notary Service  
And many more services..

**NCUA INSURED**

## urbanSMARTgrowth

returning energy to our urban cores



Our mission is to create vibrant, dynamic communities in urban neighborhoods, fostering synergy between

arts & small business communities while incorporating green-friendly design in the restoration of Rhode Island's historic mills in the Blackstone River Valley.

### CALL 401.722.0752 FOR LEASING INFO

...or visit our offices at the Hope Artiste Village on 1005 Main Street in Pawtucket!

## [www.urbansmartgrowth.net](http://www.urbansmartgrowth.net)



**Just as important is protecting the environment.**

At Green-Tech Assets LLC, we offer **THE** solution

to electronic waste and the effects on our Mother Earth.

By remarketing, parts recovery, de-manufacturing and shredding,

we ensure that North American E-waste stays in North America

and out of rivers, lakes and landfills.

If you are ready to clean your space of e-waste,

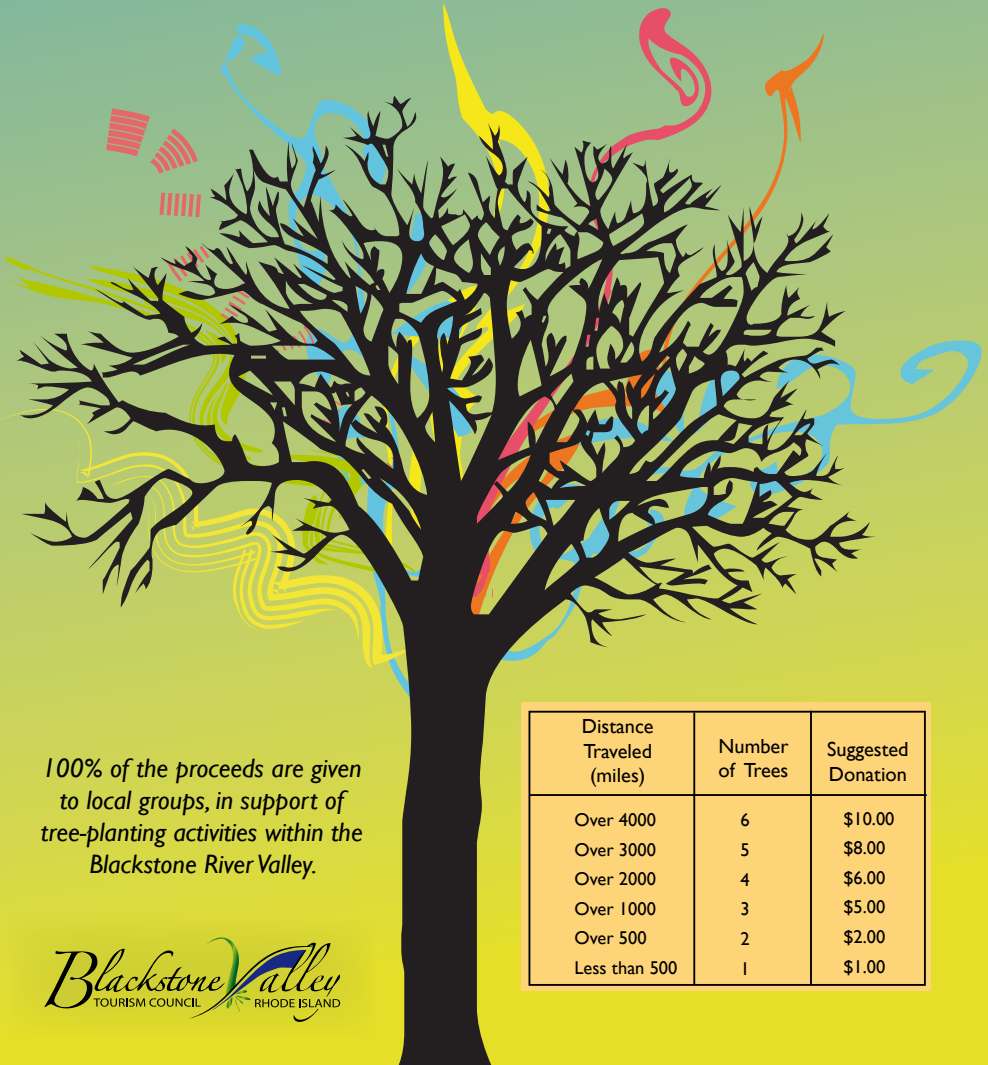
we are ready to provide you with the solution you can be proud of.



For details on technology recycling services [www.GreenTechAssets.com](http://www.GreenTechAssets.com) or 401. 721.9996

# Take Home Memories. Leave Behind A Tree.

To help offset the CO<sub>2</sub> generated by residents and visitors to the Valley, please support our tree planting program. Donations can be made in marked containers throughout the Valley, at Visitor Centers, or online at [www.blackstonelifestyle.com](http://www.blackstonelifestyle.com). Carbon impact varies with distance traveled. Below is a chart to help guide you in your decision.



100% of the proceeds are given to local groups, in support of tree-planting activities within the Blackstone River Valley.

| Distance Traveled (miles) | Number of Trees | Suggested Donation |
|---------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| Over 4000                 | 6               | \$10.00            |
| Over 3000                 | 5               | \$8.00             |
| Over 2000                 | 4               | \$6.00             |
| Over 1000                 | 3               | \$5.00             |
| Over 500                  | 2               | \$2.00             |
| Less than 500             | 1               | \$1.00             |