

FREEDOM'S WAY

National Heritage Area | Nature · Culture · History

CELEBRATING THE HIDDEN TREASURES OF FREEDOM'S WAY NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA



Freedom's Way Hidden Treasures 2017



DISCOVER | EXPLORE | LEARN | CONNECT | FIND



MAY 1 through MAY 31, 2017

www.DiscoverHiddenTreasures.org

Complete program information, updates and event registration information.

Presenting Sponsor



Leominster Worcester Fitchburg Gardner
Shirley Barre Millbury Paxton Princeton



Freedom's Way National Heritage Area
works in partnership with the
National Park Service



HIDDEN TREASURES 2017

Hidden Treasures is a month-long celebration of the natural, cultural and historic resources located within the Freedom's Way National Heritage Area. It provides an opportunity to explore "treasures" hidden in plain sight through family friendly, community organized and presented programs and activities offered free of charge.

DISCOVER exciting and unexpected stories and places within the heritage area's 45 communities.

EXPLORE the region's landscape, public monuments, historic buildings, agricultural properties, cultural and natural features, objects and documents.

LEARN about the visionaries and experimenters who, since before the founding of the nation, lived within the National Heritage Area formulating new ideas about relations of nature and society.

CONNECT with the shared stories and places that are part of your own and neighboring communities.

FIND your place in the heritage area!

ABOUT

Freedom's Way National Heritage Area

Designated by Congress for its unique nationally significant qualities and resources, the Freedom's Way National Heritage Area is a place where a combination of natural, cultural, historic and recreational resources have shaped a cohesive, nationally distinctive landscape. Its story is intimately tied to the character of the land as well as those who shaped and were shaped by it.

Home to Minute Man National Historical Park and Walden Pond, the heritage area is steeped in concepts of individual freedom and responsibility, community cooperation, direct democracy, idealism, and social betterment, perspectives that have inspired national and international movements in governance, education, abolitionism, social justice, conservation and the arts.

The Freedom's Way Heritage Association is the local coordinating entity for the 45 communities within the heritage area. As a partner of the National Park Service, the non-profit organization implements the mission and vision articulated in its management plan through education, interpretation, communication, collaboration and the stewardship of the heritage area's historic, natural and cultural resources.

MISSION

We connect the people, places and communities of the Heritage Area through preservation, conservation and educational initiatives to protect and promote our shared resources and encourage residents and visitors to explore our landscape, history and culture.

VISION

The Heritage Area is a place where people are inspired by the historical and intellectual traditions that underpin the concepts of freedom, democracy, conservation and social justice. Building upon this legacy, we collaborate to create strong communities and support a regional identity.

Presenting Sponsor— **Fidelity Bank**

Community Sponsor— **The LexVest Group**

Phoenix Park, Pepperell Place, Mill Pond Square and 141 Parker

Cover: Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge, USF&W-Concord; Growing Places-Canton; Rauscher Farm & Bigelow Free Public Library-Canton; Groton Public Library-Groton; Dunstable Durable Land Trust-Dunstable.

Registration information online at
www.DiscoverHiddenTreasures.org



ACTON

Backyard and Beyond: Great Hill Exploration

The Discovery Museums, 177 Main St.

Sat. May 20 | 11:00–11:30 AM

Come explore some of the trails that wind through the 184 wooded acres with a Museum educator. Not handicap or stroller accessible; wear appropriate footwear and clothing. Weather dependent.

The Discovery Museums

Still Standing: The Barns of Acton

The Hosmer House Museum & Barn, 300 Main St.

Sat. May 6 | 10:00 AM–4:00 PM

Sun. May 7 | 10:00 AM–4:00 PM

Sat. May 13, 20, 27 | 10:00 AM–2:00 PM

Sun. May 14, 21, 28 | 10:00 AM–2:00 PM

A celebration of Acton's 19th Century Barns through a tour May 6th and 7th of our historic barn and our Museum. Barn and House will be open to the public on these days and at these times.

Acton Historical Society

AMHERST, NH

Amherst Village Walking Tour and Visit to Museums

Reservations Required.

Amherst Town Library, 14 Main St.

Sat. May 13 | 1:00–2:00 PM

A guided, one-hour walking tour of Amherst Village with Katrina Hollman, expert local historian, will start at the Amherst Town Library, concluding at the historical society museums.

Amherst Heritage Commission, Amherst Town Library, Historical Society of Amherst

Hiking and Lunch at Lindabury Orchard

Reservations Required.

Lindabury Orchard

70-72 Christian Hill Road

Sat. May 20 | 10:00–11:15 AM

Springtime hike at one of Amherst's best known hiking trails and learn the history of the orchard. Bring Your Own Lunch to enjoy at the end of the hike.

Amherst Heritage Commission, Amherst Conservation Commission, Friends of the Orchard

ARLINGTON

Arlington's Arts & Crafts Architecture: A Walking Tour

Reservations Required.

Sun. May 21 | 2:00–3:30 PM

Fine examples of the "Craftsman Bungalow", most frequently associated with Arts and Crafts architecture, can be seen on this tour. Space is limited.

Arlington Historical Society

Food Waste: Film and Discussion

Robbins Library, 700 Mass Avenue, Community Room, Basement Level

Tues. May 9 | 6:00–8:00 PM

View screening of "Expired: Food Waste in America" by the Harvard Food Law and Policy Clinic followed by a discussion about food waste.

Food Link

Making History/Making Place:

Small Museums in Massachusetts

The Old Schwamb Mill, 17 Mill Lane

May 20 | 2:00–4:00 PM

Enjoy a talk by William Hosely of Terra Firma Inc., former curator at the Wadsworth Athenaeum in Hartford, CT. Reception immediately follows talk with an opportunity to tour the Old Schwamb Mill.

Old Schwamb Mill

ASHBURNHAM

The Ashburnham Light Infantry

Fairbanks Memorial Town Hall, 32 Main St

May 29 | 8:45–11:30 AM

The Light Infantry Company musters out in Colonial garb firing a reproduction muzzleloading 1791 bronze cannon and the Light Artillery in 1902 Army Uniforms firing a 1902 3" Field Gun.

Events move inside Town Hall for a rain event. Cannons will be fired in the rain.

Ashburnham Light Infantry

The Frederick Historical Piano Collection

30 Main St.

Thur. May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 |

10:00 AM–4:00 PM

Sat. May 6, 13, 20, 27 | 1:00–4:00 PM

Visit the internationally recognized collection and hear the original pianos by 19th century European makers. Free tours take place when people arrive. A complete tour can take

3 hours; shorter tours are possible. The Historical Piano Concerts series take place each Sunday in May. Concerts' admission fee is for adults only; students and kids attend free.
Historical Piano Concerts, Inc.

AYER

Downtown Ayer Treasures of Architectural History Walking Tour

Ayer Town Hall, 1 Main St.

Sat. May 13 | Noon–2:30 PM

Guided walk of Downtown Ayer with Alan S. Manoian, Director of Community & Economic Development, reveals authentic historic architectural treasures.

Ayer Historical Commission

BEDFORD

Visit the Bedford Flag

Bedford Free Public Library, 7 Mudge Way

Sat. May 13 | 1:00–4:00 PM

Sharon McDonald, author of "The Bedford Flag Unfurled," will open the vault and tell you the story of the oldest flag in the United States. The Bedford Flag can be seen as a self-guided tour any time library is open.

Bedford Free Public Library

Tour of the First Parish Church

First Parish in Bedford, UU,

On the Common, 75 The Great Road

May 14 | 1:00–4:00 PM

First Parish is celebrating 200 years in its present meetinghouse. Join docents for a tour of this historic old building.

The First Parish in Bedford,

Unitarian Universalist

Tour the Job Lane House

Job Lane House, 295 North Rd

Sat. May 14 | 2:00–4:00 PM

Take a 40-minute tour of the 300-year-old Job Lane House and reproduction barn with guides in colonial dress. Play colonial games and enjoy refreshments.

Friends of the Job Lane House, First Parish in Bedford, Unitarian Universalist, Bedford Free Public Library



HIDDEN TREASURES 2017

BOLTON

Silas Holman's 1831 Map for the Town of Bolton

Bolton Public Library, 738 Main St.
Tues. May 2 | 10:00 AM–8:00 PM
Wed. May 31 | 10:00 AM–8:00 PM

View the recently restored 1831 map of the Town of Bolton by Bolton surveyor Silas Holman, including information on the restoration process and features within the map. Five additional maps dating from 1794 to 1898 are also included in exhibit. Workshops on deed searches using MassLandRecords take place May 6 (11:00 AM to 1:00 PM) and again on May 9 (7:00 to 9:00 PM). Self-guided experience offered during regular library hours.

Bolton Historical Society

BOXBOROUGH

Steele Farm: Walks, Talks and Open Buildings

Steele Farm, 484 Middle Road
Sat. May 6 | 1:00–4:30 PM
Sat. May 20 | 1:00–4:30 PM

Birding and wildlife walks at the 34-acre Steele Farm with agricultural history talks and demonstrations guided and presented by knowledgeable volunteers. Rain postpones event to following Sunday.

*Boxborough Historical Society, Inc.,
Boxborough Conservation Trust*

BROOKLINE, NH

Brookline's Best Kept Secret Discovered

Andres Institute of Art, 106 Rt 13
Sat. May 6 | 1:00 PM–3:00 PM

A presenter will introduce Andres Institute of Art with a presentation of New England's largest sculpture park at Big Bear Lodge located just beyond entrance to park. Guided tours on May 6 as well as self-guided tours until dusk. The park is open daily dawn to dusk.

Andres Institute of Art

CARLISLE

Farm Open House

Clark Organic Farm, 185 Concord St.
Sun. May 7 | 1:00–4:00 PM

Learn from our staff about the techniques used on a certified organic vegetable farm that is integrated with livestock.

Clark Farm

Smart Barn Tour

Great Brook Farm State Park, 165 North Rd.

Sat. May 6 | 1:00 PM & 3:00 PM

Sun. May 7 | 1:00 PM & 3:00 PM

Discover the latest in Dairy Farm Technology. See our Robotic Voluntary Milking Machine and meet the cows of Great Brook Farm. Enjoy ice cream. Barn Tours occur each Saturday and Sunday in May at 1:00 PM and 3:00 PM.

Pouring rain/lightning cancels tours.

After 30 minutes, parking fees apply.

Mass Department of Conservation and Recreation

CLINTON

How Trees Talk

Reservations Required.

Bigelow Free Public Library/ Rauscher Farm,
54 Walnut St. and 29 Clamshell Rd.

Sat. May 20 | 11:00 AM–2:00 PM

Tune in to the language of trees, starting with a presentation at Bigelow Free Public Library, followed by a walk in the woods on Rauscher Farm.

Rauscher Farm, Bigelow Free Public Library

Learn & Grow Workshop: Garden Art & Structures

Reservations Required by May 15.

Bigelow Free Public Library, 54 Walnut St.

Wed. May 17 | 6:00–7:30 PM

Personalize and complement the natural beauty of your home garden by creating whimsical garden art from new or upcycled materials.

Take-home art project materials included!

Space is limited.

Growing Places

CONCORD

Turtles, Thoreau and Transcendentalism: How American Environmentalism Was Hatched in Massachusetts

Reservations Required by May 7th.

Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge
Concord Unit, Monsen Rd.

Sat. May 13 | 5:00–6:30 PM

Take a walk with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service as we investigate the intersection between modern conservation and classical poetry. Space is limited.

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

The Women of The Wayside

The Wayside: Home of Authors

455 Lexington Rd.

Sat. May 13 | 10:00 AM

Celebrate Mother's Day weekend at The Wayside and see artifacts from the many noteworthy women who called The Wayside home.

Tour of house follows. Space is limited; first come-first serve.

Minute Man National Historical Park

What Were They Fighting For?

The Robbins House and the North Bridge

The Robbins House, 320 Monument St.

Sat. May 6 | 1:00–3:00 PM

Sun. May 13 | 1:00–3:00 PM

Meet Peter Robbins; hear a story that infuriated Thoreau; make startling new discoveries about how Concord's African American experiences connect to the nation's history.

The Robbins House

Gaining Ground Family-Friendly Visit

Reservations Required.

Gaining Ground, 341 Virginia Rd.

Sun. May 21 | 1:00–3:00 PM

Join a family-friendly visit with a farm tour and light refreshments. We grow organic produce with the help of volunteers and donate all 60,000 lbs. for hunger relief. Space is limited. Thunderstorms cancel.

Gaining Ground

Walking, Working, Waking:

What Was Thoreau Seeking?

First Parish Church of Concord
20 Lexington Rd.

Sat. May 6 | 4:00–5:00 PM

Celebrate Henry David Thoreau's life in the church he sometimes attended with a lecture by local historian Jayne Gordon.

Sat. May 6 | 5:00–6:00 PM

Registration required for trivia and dinner.

Following the lecture, Thoreau interpreter Richard Smith will lead a trivia night competition for all ages. Buffet dinner begins at 6:00pm.

First Parish Church of Concord, MA

Henry and the Huckleberries: A Visit with Mr. Thoreau at Walden Pond

Registration Required.

Sat. May 13 | 3:00–5:00 PM

Author Sally Sanford will read her latest children's book at Thoreau Farm, introducing children to Thoreau.

Thoreau Farm



Spring Walk on the Ralph Waldo Emerson-Henry David Thoreau Amble

Reservations Recommended.

Concord Museum, 53 Cambridge Turnpike

Sat. May 6 | 11:00 AM–Noon

Follow the footsteps of writers Ralph Waldo Emerson and Henry David Thoreau with a guided walk from Emerson's house to Fairyland Pond in the Walden Woods. Limited space. Check museum website for weather cancellation info.

Concord Museum, Mass Department of Conservation and Recreation: Walden Pond State Reservation

Visit Henry's Birthplace During the Thoreau 200th

Thoreau Farm: Birthplace of

Henry David Thoreau, 342 Virginia Rd.

Sat. May 6, 13, 20, 27 | 11:00 AM–4:00 PM

Sun. May 7, 14, 21, 28 | 11:00 AM–4:00 PM

Learn about Henry and his life in Concord. Free admission. Guided tours take place at 11:00 AM, 1:00 PM and 3:00 PM.

The Museum closes at 4:00 PM. Self-guided opportunities as well.

Thoreau Farm: Birthplace of Henry David Thoreau

DEVENS

Herbert G. Pratt's Boat House Program and Tour

Bill Ashe Visitors Center at Oxbow Hospital Road

Sun. May 21 | 1:00–3:00 PM

See the remains of the Nashua River boathouse built by Herbert G. Pratt, the Superintendent at Sampson Cordage after James P. Tolson, and located on the East side of the Nashua River in Harvard opposite the Lowell Road buildings in Shirley. Learn about its history. *Formerly James Tolson Boat House Program and Tour*

Armed Forces Day Open House

Fort Devens Museum, 94 Jackson Rd., #305

Sat. May 20 | 10:00 AM–4:00 PM

Celebrate and honor the United States Armed Forces with a day of history and memories. New exhibits, refreshments, raffle prizes, and guest speakers. Self-guided.

Fort Devens Museum

DUNSTABLE

Mountain Views to Railways

Reservations Required.

Flat Rock Hill Conservation Area, 67 Mill St.

Fri. May 12 | 10:00 AM–Noon

Walk from the top of Blanchard Hill, through woodlands and a quarry to Salmon Brook and 1783 Reed Homestead, guided by local historian Alan Chaney. Space is limited. Severe weather cancels event.

Dunstable Rural Land Trust

FITCHBURG

Rollstone Hill "Rock Walk"

Boulder Art Gallery, 960 Main St.

Sat. May 20 | 10:00 AM–1:00 PM

Rain Date May 21 | 10:00 AM–1:00 PM

Guided and narrated historic tour features a scenic, easy two-mile walk from the Boulder in Fitchburg's Upper Common to the summit of Rollstone Hill. Wear walking shoes, bring water and a camera! Call the Boulder Art Gallery at 978-345-7000 for weather updates or check our Facebook page.

Fitchburg Greenway Committee, Fitchburg Historical Society, Boulder Art Gallery

"If These Walls Could Talk" History of the Fitchburg Fire Department Exhibition and Open House

Fitchburg Historical Society, 781 Main St., Phoenix Building

Sat. May 13 | 10:00 AM–2:00 PM

Special weekend hours for exhibition on the history of firefighting in Fitchburg, with Fire Department's Open House, featuring historic photos and artifacts from 100 years. Fire Prevention Week activities at station.

Historical Society open normal hours: Monday, Tuesday and Wednesdays.

Fitchburg Historical Society, City of Fitchburg Fire Department

GARDNER

Perley Brook Reservoir Hike and Outdoor Photography Exhibit

Perley Brook Reservoir–Loop Trail, 110 Clark St. (At the Entrance to the West End Beagle Club)

Sat. May 20 | 1:00–4:30 PM

Explore the natural beauty of one of Gardner's Hidden Treasures and along the way stop to admire the work of several local photographers as

they display their nature, wildlife, and landscape photography.

Gardner Conservation Commission

Letterpress and Bookbinding in Chair City

Chair City Community Workshop

Sun. May 7, 21, 28 | 2:00–5:00 PM

We'll train you on the spot to print and bind books the old-fashioned way! Volunteer a total of 3 hours in May and get a book in the Chair City Oral History Series for free. Check our website for details on additional weekday volunteer times.

Chair City Community Workshop

GROTON

What Glaciers Left Behind

Reservations Required.

Groton Town Hall (start location), 173 Main St.

Sat. May 20 | 9:00–11:30 AM

Sun. May 21 | 1:00–3:30 PM

An interactive Geology Bus Tour of Groton's glacial features for geology enthusiasts of all ages. Space is limited. Registrants will receive weather or cancellation notices.

Groton Commissioners of Trust Fund

A Challenge to a President in a Divided Nation

Boutwell House, 172 Main St.

Sat. May 20 | 1:00–3:00 PM

Historian Brian Bixby will talk about the actions that brought about the impeachment of President Andrew Johnson and the role of Groton's George Boutwell in those proceedings. Self-guided tour.

Groton History Center

Gifts of the Glaciers: How Glaciers Guided Our Natural and Human History

Nashua River Watershed River Resource Center, 592 Main St.

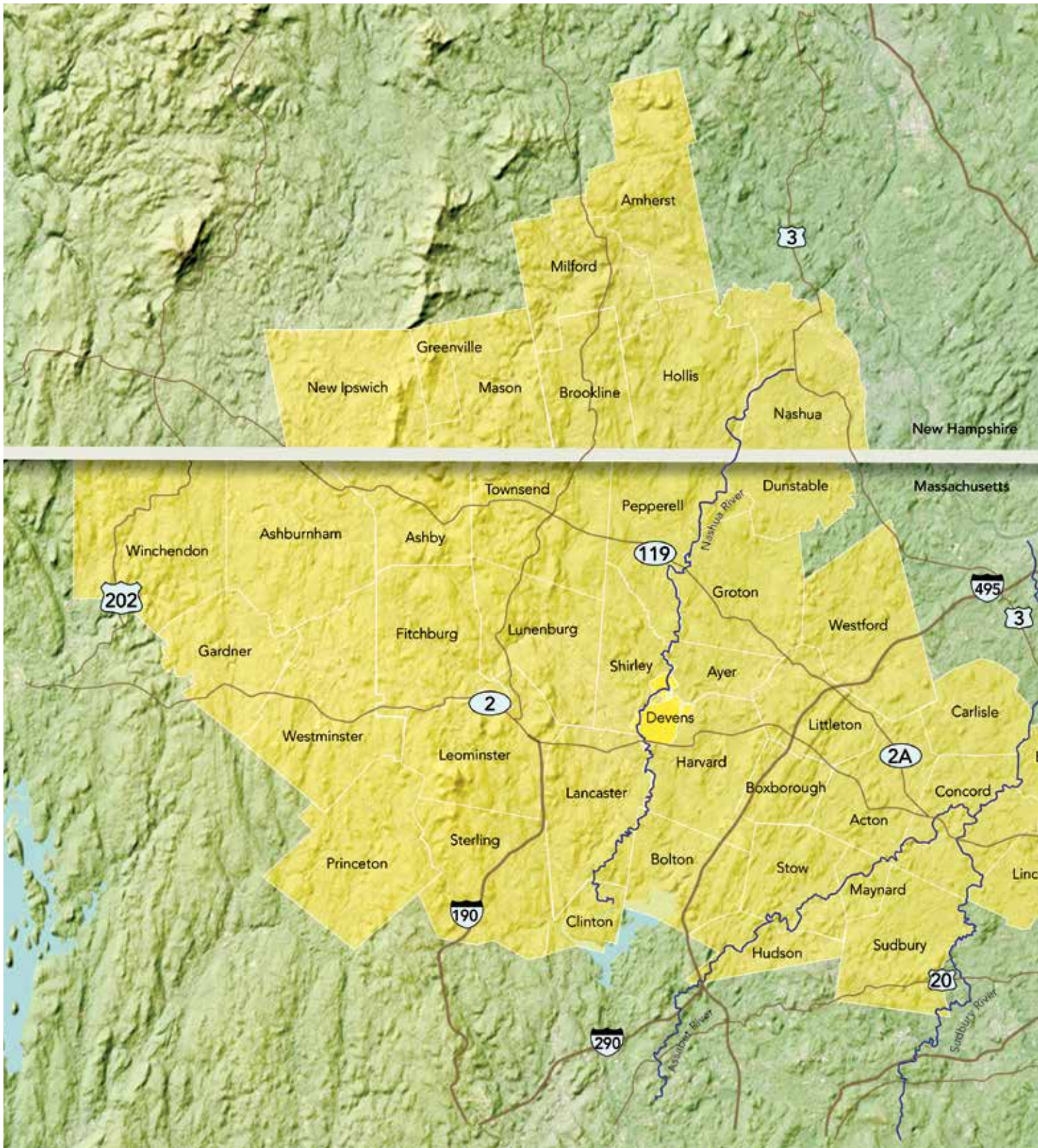
Tues. May 23 | 7:00–9:00 PM

Learn how Groton's geographic location and the Ice Age glacier created a rich biological environment, unique in Massachusetts, as told by local experts Robert Pine, Geologist, and Michael Roberts, Archaeologist/Historian.

Nashua River Watershed Association

Groton Conservation Trust

Registration information online at
www.DiscoverHiddenTreasures.org



Registration information online at www.DiscoverHiddenTreasures.org

FREEDOM'S WAY NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA BY THE NUMBERS



994	Square miles; 636,160 acres
24.72	Percent (158,531 acres) permanently protected conservation lands (easements, public ownership, and conservation trust ownership)
23	Local land trusts
3	National Wildlife Refuges encompassing 7,700 acres Assabet, Great Meadows, Oxbow
21	State parks, state forests, and other state level public recreation areas
1	National Historical Park (Minute Man National Historical Park)
13	Regional trails, about 121 miles
17	National Historic Landmarks
337	Listings in the National Register of Historic Places
61	Historic districts
39	Local governments with historical or heritage commissions
21	Locally designated historic districts
6	Certified local governments
16,225	Surveyed historic sites and areas (15,584 in MA; 371 in NH)
155	Farms serving the general public, plus 28 farmer's markets

MASSACHUSETTS

Acton, Arlington, Ashburnham, Ashby, Ayer, Bedford, Bolton, Boxborough, Carlisle, Clinton, Concord, Devens, Dunstable, Fitchburg, Gardner, Groton, Harvard, Hudson, Lancaster, Leominster, Lexington, Lincoln, Littleton, Lunenburg, Malden, Maynard, Medford, Pepperell, Princeton, Shirley, Sterling, Stow, Sudbury, Townsend, Westford, Westminster, Winchendon, Woburn

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Amherst, Brookline, Greenville, Hollis, Mason, Milford, Nashua, New Ipswich



HIDDEN TREASURES 2017

Birds and Nature Walk

Nashua River Rail Trail, Groton Center
Parking Lot

Sun. May 14 | 8:30–10:30 AM

Join birding enthusiasts Russ and Wanfang Murray for a spring bird and nature walk through the Nashua River Rail Trail.

Groton Trails Committee

Footprints of the Glaciers

Williams Barn, 160 Chicopee Row

May 14 | 8:00–11:00 AM

Moderate 5-mile hike includes climbing Groton's highest drumlin (and viewing several others in the swarm), traversing eskers, and passing by bedrock outcrops and vernal pools.

Groton Trails Committee

The Essential Honeybee

Reservations Required.

Groton Public Library, 99 Main St.

Tues. May 2 | 7:00–8:30 PM

Learn about the vital role of the honeybee in our environment with expert Kenneth Warchol, Worcester County Bee Inspector. With honey tasting! Space is limited.

Groton Public Library

HARVARD

Home Sweet Home at the Fruitlands Museum

Fruitlands Museum, 102 Prospect Hill Rd.

Sat. May 20 | 10:00 AM–4:00 PM

This year Fruitlands Museum joins the Trustees' statewide annual event, "Home Sweet Home", with free museum access, gallery talks, and activities all day long. Self-guided.

Trustees

Old Frog Pond Farm Tour

Old Frog Pond Farm, 38 Eldridge Rd.

Sun. May 21 | 2:00–3:30 PM

Join sculptor and orchardist, Linda Hoffman, for a spring tour of the farm including the apple orchard, espaliered apple trees, grafted trees, the hoop house, mediation hut, and sculpture by Hoffman and other artists installed around the pond. Severe weather cancels event.

Old Frog Pond Farm

Remembering the Price of Freedom

Harvard Town Common, 1 Still River Rd.

Sun. May 21 | 1:30–3:00 PM

Discover Harvard center and honor those who fought for our freedom on this guided walking tour of Harvard's town common featuring Harvard's soldiers memorials.

Harvard Historical Society

Alpaca Farm Tours

Harvard Alpaca Ranch, 58 Old Mill Rd.

Sat. May 6, 13, 20, 27 | 10:00 AM–5:00 PM

Sun. May 7, 14, 21, 28 | 10:00 AM–5:00 PM

Tour the farm on May weekends and learn about what alpacas are, from where they originate, their light footprint on the land, and why their fiber is so highly prized.

Weekday visits by appointment only.

Harvard Alpaca Ranch

HOLLIS, NH

Family/Kids Birding Hike

Reservations Required.

Beaver Brook Conservation Area, Rte 130

Sun. May 7 | 10:30 AM–12:30 PM

This kid-friendly birding hike with Clayton Hobart, Audubon Certified Birder, is aimed to introduce bird watching to kids. Rain cancels.

Appalachian Mountain Club-Boston

Family Outings

Hike and Learn: Natural History and Forestry Trail

Brown Lane Barn - Beaver Brook,

52 Brown Lane Barn

Daily, Dawn to Dusk

Self-guided tour allows hikers to learn about the history and ecology of the area. Signs along the forested trail correspond to a free booklet available at the trail head.

Beaver Brook Association

HUDSON

Guided Walking Tour of Town of Hudson Conservation Land

Reservations Required.

Gerwick Property or Danforth Falls,

10 Old North Rd. or approx. 164 Lincoln St.

Sun. May 7 | 10:00 AM–Noon

Tour of either Gerwick Property or Danforth

Falls with a informational presentation. Check www.Facebook.com/HudsonRecreation on May 1st for final location. Facebook for weather updates.

Hudson Recreation, Hudson Planning & Community Development

LANCASTER

Thayer Memorial Library's Museum

717 Main St., 2nd floor

Mon. May 1 | 6:00–7:30 PM

Sat. May 13 | Noon–1:30 PM

Tues. May 16 | 6:00–7:30 PM

Sat. May 20 | Noon–1:30 PM

Wed. May 24 | 6:00–7:30 PM

Sat. May 27 | Noon–1:30 PM

The program is self-guided but museum docents will be on hand. Historically significant artifacts from Lancaster and surrounding communities are housed in Thayer Memorial Library's Museum, including Colonial & Revolutionary America's objects.

Thayer Memorial Library

LEOMINSTER

Sholan Farms—Story Walk

Sholan Farms, 1125 Pleasant St.

Sat. May 20 | 11:00 AM–4:00 PM

Free Admission as we host the 16th Annual Apple Blossom Festival. Owned by the City of Leominster and operated by the Friends of Sholan Farms, Sholan Farm's Story Walk is an easy self-guided loop through the working orchard. Open daily, May 1–30; self-guided.

Sholan Farms

Urban Tree Identification Walk

Reservations Required.

Starting at Leominster City Hall, 25 West St.

Sat. May 6 | 10:00–11:00 AM

Join us as we get to know Leominster's urban treescape through an hour-long tree identification walk starting downtown at City Hall. Space is limited. Weather cancellation posted on Facebook page.

Growing Places



LEXINGTON

The Art of Flowers, Then & Now

Munroe Tavern, 1332 Mass Ave.

Sat. May 13 | 10:00 AM–4:00 PM

Colonial flower garden tours, artists painting en plein air, flower scavenger hunt throughout the Tavern, and flower crafts for children and adults alike. Self-guided.

Munroe Center for the Arts, Lexington Historical Society, Lexington Field & Garden Club

Lexington Conservation Stewards

Stewardship Saturday Series

Reservations Required.

Shade Street Conservation Area,
500 Shire Way

Sat. May 13 | 9:00 AM–Noon

Spend a morning of camaraderie, nature enjoyment, and work as we build a new trail. Space is limited. Meet at the entrance to the fire road.

Lexington Conservation Stewards

Wild Edibles of Lexington's Waysides

Lincoln Park, 110 Worthen Rd. (approximate address; no building)

Thurs. May 25 | 6:00–8:00 PM

Join wild edibles enthusiast Russ Cohen, author of *Wild Plants I have Known...and Eaten*, to learn about the comestible virtues of at least 18 wild plant species. Severe weather cancels. Meet at the Fitness Trail entrance at the crosswalk on Worthen Road, across from the Lexington High playing fields.

Citizens for Lexington Conservation

LINCOLN

Farrington Memorial from 1650 to Now!

Reservations Required.

Farrington Nature Linc, 291 Cambridge Turnpike

Sat. May 6 | 1:00–2:30 PM

Come hear about Farrington Memorial's long history on one of Lincoln's oldest farmsteads starting with the first structure in 1650 through the 1911 Donaldson built dormitory.

Farrington Nature Linc

Treasure Hunt for Gold!

Reservations Required.

Codman Community Farms, 58 Codman Rd.

Sat. May 20 | 2:00 PM–3:30 PM

Join a group treasure hunt to explore this working farm's gardens, historic buildings and fields of birds/animals. Be prepared to walk on rough

farm terrain through pastures. Space is limited.

Extreme weather cancels event.

Codman Community Farms

Wake Up the Nature Linc Garden

Reservations Required.

Farrington Nature Linc, 291 Cambridge Turnpike

Sat. May 6 | 10:00 AM–Noon

Help us Wake Up Farrington's Garden by weeding, turning the soil over and planting annuals. Hike to our vernal pools to look for frogs and salamanders. Space is limited.

Farrington Nature Linc

Tours of Codman Estate

Codman Estate, 34 Codman Rd.

Sat. May 6 | 10:00 AM–2:00 PM

Overlooking a prospect of farm and pleasure grounds, this gentleman's country seat was a powerful force in the lives of five generations of the Codman family. Each tour limited to ten.

Historic New England

Tours of Gropius House

Gropius House, 68 Baker Bridge Rd.

Sat. May 6 | 11:00 AM–4:00 PM

Walter Gropius, Bauhaus founder designed his family home. The house was revolutionary in impact. It combined elements of New England houses with industrial materials. Tours take place on the hour 11 am to 4 pm. Each tour limited to ten.

Historic New England

Animal Encounter and Nature Walk

Reservations Required.

Drumlin Farm Wildlife Sanctuary

208 South Great Rd.

Sat. May 20 | 10:00–11:30 AM

Take a naturalist-led walk around Drumlin Farm's trails and learn about our sustainable farming methods. Meet one of our resident wildlife! Space is limited. Rain or shine; severe weather cancels outdoor walk.

Mass Audubon's Drumlin Farm Wildlife Sanctuary

Serve & Grow Farm Volunteer Program

Reservations Required.

The Food Project's Baker Bridge Farm

94 Concord Rd.

Sat. May 6 | 9:30 AM–12:30 PM

Help with planting, weeding, and preparing the farm for a season of growing food for those who need it most and learn about sustainable farming. Space is limited. Volunteers must be 18 or older;

Volunteers 14 years and older with a parent or guardian. Dress for weather. Grower monitors weather conditions for safety.

The Food Project

LITTLETON

Family Hike to Williams Land—Newtown Hill

Reservations Required.

Williams Land - Newtown Hill

31 Boxborough Rd.

Sat. May 6 | 9:45 AM–1:00 PM

Easy hike on Williams Land and Newtown Hill is 3 miles and will last 3 hours. Dress for the weather, wear sturdy shoes/boots, and bring personal water, snacks, hat, perhaps bug spray, and a spirit of adventure. Space is limited. Heavy rain cancels.

Appalachian Mountain Club—Boston Family Outings, Littleton Conservation Trust

Family Hike to Oak Hill Reservation—

Tophet Chasm

Reservations Required.

Oak Hill Reservation, at Tophet Chasm, opposite 10 Oak Hill Rd.

Sun. May 21 | 12:45–4:00 PM

Easy to moderate hike at Oak Hill is 4 miles and will last 3 hours. Prepare for the weather, wear sturdy shoes/boots, and bring personal water, snacks, hat, perhaps bug spray, and a spirit of adventure. Space is limited. Heavy rain cancels.

Appalachian Mountain Club—Boston Family Outings, Littleton Conservation Trust

Prouty Woods: A Family Legacy

Reservations required for some events.

Prouty Woods, 32 Foster St.

Sat. May 20 | 10:00 AM–3:00 PM

Drop in to explore Prouty Woods with guided walks, trail hikes, Native American story and kid's crafts. Tour its forest management activities and visit the Prouty house. Register for Medicinal Herb Walk or Kid's Herb Class.

Littleton Historical Society, Littleton Conservation Trust, Littleton Community Farm, New England Forestry Foundation

Registration information online at
www.DiscoverHiddenTreasures.org



HIDDEN TREASURES 2017

LUNENBURG

A Walk with the Blossoms!

Lanni Orchards Inc, 294 Chase Rd., RT. 13

Sat. May 13 | 10:00 AM–6:00 PM

Sun. May 14 | 10:00 AM–6:00 PM

Stop by for our annual Blossom Festival here at Lanni Orchards—it's a beautiful time to take pictures out in the apple orchard and to visit the farm stand. Self-guided.

Lanni Orchards, Inc.

MALDEN

Art and Architecture of the Converse Memorial Building

Malden Public Library, 36 Salem Street

Sat. May 20 | 11:00 AM–Noon, 2:00–3:00 PM

Discover the beauty of Malden's H.H.

Richardson-designed Converse Memorial Building on a guided tour which will highlight its art and architecture. Space limited in each tour. First-come-first-serve.

Malden Historical Society

MEDFORD

Wright's Tower Tour

Middlesex Fells Reservation, South Border Rd.

Sat. May 20 | 10:00 AM–4:00 PM

Wright's Tower will be open and staffed by a DCR Park Interpreter and Friends of the Fells leaders. Learn about the park founders, its history, our program calendars, and more. Lightening cancels.

Friends of the Middlesex Fells Reservation, DCR

Never Caught: The Washington's Relentless Pursuit of Their Runaway Slave, Ona Judge

Royall House and Slave Quarters, 15 George St.

Mon. May 1 | 7:30–9:00 PM

Erica Armstrong Dunbar, Univ. of Delaware professor of Black American Studies and History, will discuss and sign her new book in the only remaining freestanding slave quarters in New England, located next to the 18th-century mansion of the Massachusetts colony's largest slaveholding family.

Royall House and Slave Quarters

MILFORD, NH

Frank History: History You Can't Get from School

Registration required.

Union Coffee Company, South St.

Thur. May 18 | 7:00–9:00 PM

History comes alive during this social evening.

Learn about the little known stories you never hear in school. Space is limited.

Milford Historical Society, Union Coffee Company

NASHUA, NH

Nu Muse Festival

Historic Downtown Nashua, 178 Main St.

Sat. May 6 | Noon–10:00 PM

A day-long music and arts festival, featuring an eclectic mix of genre bending musical acts of regional and national significance, right on Main Street.

Great American Downtown

PEPPERELL

Breakfast with the Birds

Heald Street Orchard, 88 Heald Street—East Gate

Sat. May 20 | 6:30–10:30 AM

Local bird expert Michael Veit will identify the various bird species, including migrating warblers, on a guided Orchard walk.

Pepperell Conservation Commission, Nashoba Conservation Trust

PRINCETON

Wachusett Lake and Park

The Princeton Center, 18 Boylston Ave.

May 21 | 2:00–3:00 PM

A slide show and informative talk about the park which existed 100 years ago at the base of Mt. Wachusett. Space is limited.

Princeton Historical Society

Princeton Historical Society Open House

Woodward Room, 2 Town Hall Dr.

Sat. May 20 | 10:00 AM–Noon

Explore the Woodward Room, our local history archives in the Goodnow Memorial Library.

Princeton Historical Society

Back in Time on the Farm

Mass Audubon's Wachusett Meadow Wildlife Sanctuary, 113 Goodnow Rd.

Sat. May 20 | 1:00–3:00 PM

Self-guided tours of historic farm buildings; National Register Recognition at 1pm; and a guided walk along the former Barre-Boston Turnpike at 2pm. Severe weather cancels event. *Mass Audubon's Wachusett Meadow Wildlife Sanctuary*

SHIRLEY

Tour of Shirley Meeting House

Shirley Meeting House, 41 Brown Rd.

On the Common

Sat. May 6 | 10:00 AM–3:00 PM

Built in 1773, it is the oldest public building in Shirley with many original architectural features as well as a 19th century lending library and 1847 Stevens organ.

Shirley Meeting House

Waste Not — Want Not

Shirley Historical Society Museum

182 Center Rd.

May 13 | 7:00–9:00 PM

Discover the history of the movement to reduce our expenses and conserve our resources while helping families and our world at this museum exhibit and opening program discussion.

Shirley Historical Society

STERLING

Tour of Stillwater Farm

Stillwater Farm, 228 Redemption Rock Trail

Sat. May 13 | 10:30 AM–12:30 PM

Tour the house of Zebedee Reading, a Revolutionary War officer, who built a farm along the Stillwater River about 1790.

Explore the farm on a short hike.

Mass DCR—Wachusett Reservoir



STOW

Stow's Carver Hill: Touring a Scenic, Historic Working Farm and Orchard

Carver Hill Orchard, 101 Boxmill Rd.

Sun. May 7 | 2:00–3:30 PM

Tour the 80-acre Carver Hill Orchard, a 100-year-old working farm and cider mill, and immerse yourself in local history, conservation and geology. Wear walking or hiking shoes.

Stow Historical Society, Stow Conservation Commission, Stow Historical Commission, Stow Conservation Trust

SUDBURY

Historic Bunker Tour at Assabet River National Wildlife Refuge

Reservations Required by April 23rd.

Assabet River NWR Visitor Center, 680 Hudson Rd.

Sun. May 7 | 11:00 AM–1:30 PM

Join local historian Jan Wright for an informative slideshow, talk and tour of one of the ammunition storage bunkers at Assabet River NWR. Space is limited.

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Friends of the Assabet River National Wildlife Refuge

Visit to the Heron Rookery

Reservations Required.

Landham Brook Marsh and Lyons-Cutler Reservation, Landham Rd.

Sat. May 20 | 10:00–11:30 AM

View the expansive great blue heron rookery. Space is limited. Steady rain cancels program. Registrants will be notified by email.

Sudbury Valley Trustees

WESTMINSTER

Planter's Party

Academy Hill, Mountain Peak

Fri. May 19 | 3:30–5:30 PM

Kick off farmers' market season with a hands-on event featuring planting marigolds and tomatoes, mixing compost teas and free compost. Farmer's Market runs entire month of May.

Westminster Farmers' Market

WINCHENDON

Self-guided Tour of Our Dairy Farm and Cheese Shop

Smith's Country Cheese, 20 Otter River Rd.

May 7 | 10:00 AM–5:00 PM

Self-guided tour of our dairy farm that produces farmstead Gouda, cheddar and havarti cheeses using our own fresh cows milk. Free cheese samples in the store. Cheese and wine vendors will have grilled cheese and drinks for sale.

Smith's Country Cheese

Registration information online at www.DiscoverHiddenTreasures.org

YES, I WANT TO PROTECT AND PROMOTE THE SPECIAL PLACES WITHIN THIS HERITAGE AREA

- \$40 Individual \$65 Family \$100 Friend \$50 Nonprofit Organization/Community (with budget under \$100,000)
- \$100 Nonprofit Organization/Community (with budget over \$100,000)
- Annual Fund Donation Other
- Enclosed is my check for \$ _____ Please make payable to FWHA

Make a secure online transaction with a credit card on our website: www.freedomsway.org

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Freedom's Way National Heritage Area works in partnership with the National Park Service

FREEDOM'S WAY NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA PROGRAMS

Connecting Communities: Along Our Trails

A year-long series of free monthly trail-based events, offered in partnership with local communities and organizations, that explores the Heritage Area's parks, forests, open spaces, scenic landscapes and historic places.

Declaring Independence: Then & Now

A public performance piece developed in partnership with the American Antiquarian Society offered in late June/early July in seven historic sites in which a narrator and interpreters reenact how individuals within their communities debated and responded to the Declaration of Independence.

Farms, Fields & Forests: Stories from the Land

An oral history project preserving the stories of individuals within the heritage area involved in conservation and agriculture with an emphasis on multi-generation farms and landowners. Offered in partnership with the Nashua River Watershed Association.

Patriots' Paths

A multi-year, research project led by citizen-historians through which the lost stories of how individuals impacted historical events before, during and in the wake of the American Revolution are uncovered.

Thoreau

One of the heritage area's visionaries, Thoreau set foot in 39 of our 45 communities.

2017: Thoreau Bicentennial

A celebration of Thoreau's 200th Birthday with organizations, both local and around the world, offering programs and events that commemorate Thoreau's vision.

The Big Read

A Massachusetts statewide program inviting every community to celebrate Thoreau's 200th birthday by reading one of his works.

Thoreau Trail

An approximately 60-mile, recreational, walking trail in the planning stages with the National Park Service that kicks off in late June with a multi-day guided walk accompanied by local experts and Massachusetts Walking Tour.

Visit: <http://freedomsway.org/programs/>

Partnership Projects

Supports historic preservation and assessment projects and education and interpretation programs within the heritage area including the Battle Road Scenic Byway, UMass-Amherst/Minute Man NHP Studio Project, Preservation Alliance Assessment of New Hampshire, Steele Farmhouse, Sudbury History Center, Shirley Meeting House, Landmark Inventory Survey and more.

Visit: <http://freedomsway.org/partnership-projects/>

PLAN YOUR ADVENTURE AT WWW.DISCOVERHIDDEN TREASURES.ORG



Leominster Worcester Fitchburg Gardner
Shirley Barre Millbury Paxton Princeton