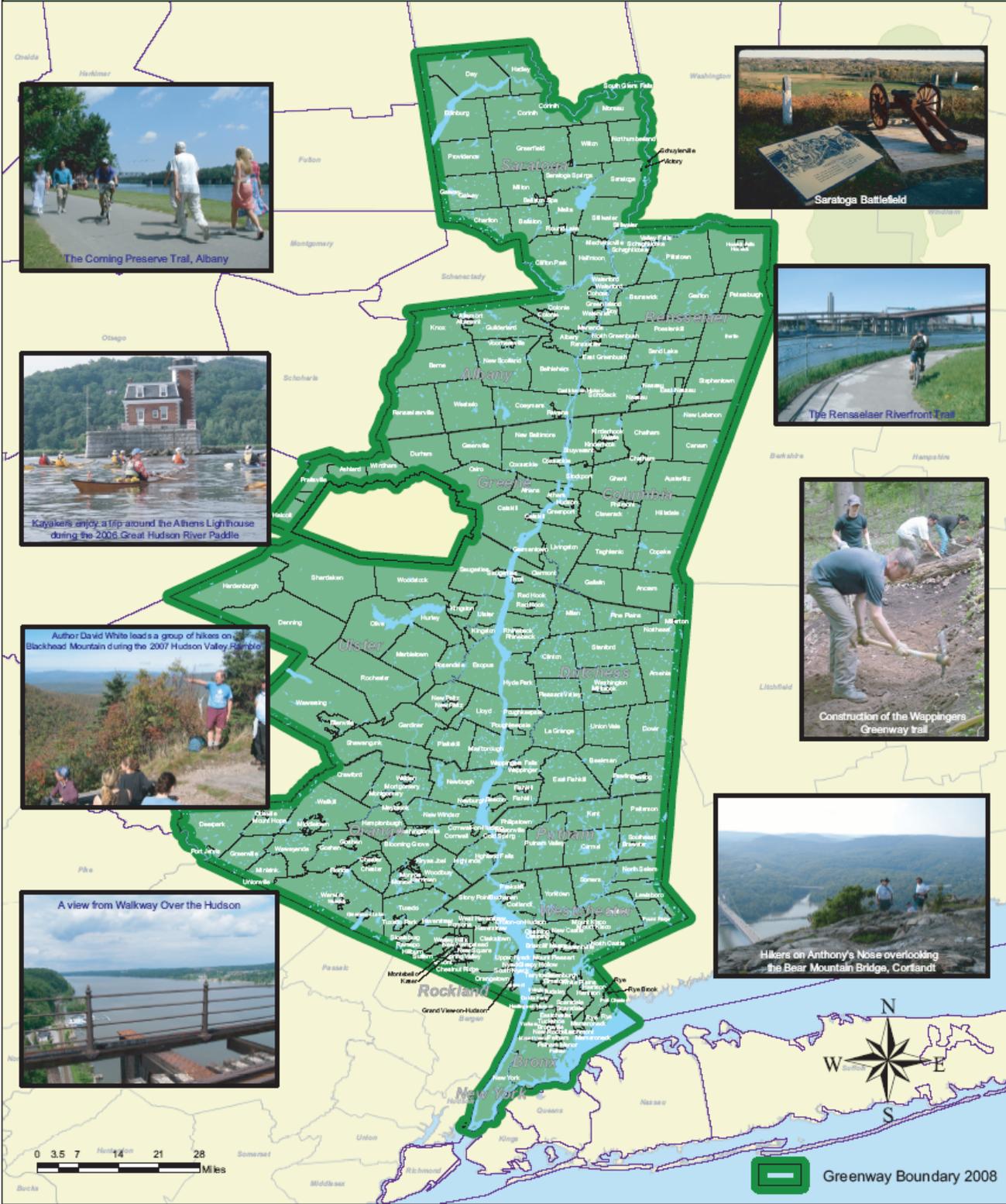


# Greenway 2007 Year in Review and Priorities for 2008



## Hudson River Valley Greenway



The Coming Preserve Trail, Albany



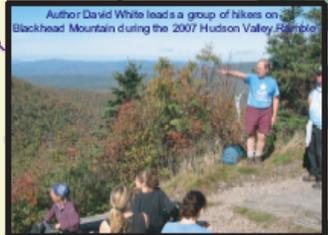
Saratoga Battlefield



Kayakers enjoy a trip around the Athens Lighthouse during the 2006 Great Hudson River Paddle



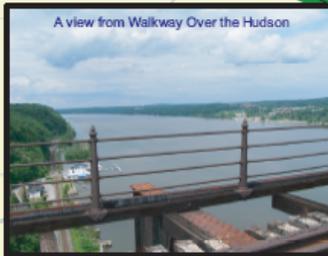
The Rensselaer Riverfront Trail



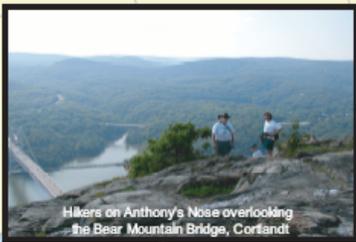
Author David White leads a group of hikers on Blackhead Mountain during the 2007 Hudson Valley Rambles



Construction of the Wappingers Greenway trail



A view from Walkway Over the Hudson



Hikers on Anthony's Nose overlooking the Bear Mountain Bridge, Cortland



Greenway Boundary 2008

## Highlights-

### ***Hudson River Valley Greenway Communities Council***

- The Greenway Council disbursed **\$178,186.43** in 2007, leveraging **\$877, 387** in local match.
- The Greenway awarded 9 planning grants to communities throughout the Hudson Valley totaling **\$52,500**.
- The Greenway boundaries were once again expanded to include 28 additional communities in Saratoga County.

### ***Greenway Conservancy for the Hudson River Valley, Inc.***

- The Greenway has added **25.71** miles to the Land Trail, bringing the total miles of designated riverfront trails to **288.05**.
- The Hudson River Greenway Watertrail has added **9** new watertrail sites, bringing the total number of sites up to **81**.
- With the Greenway's expansion into Saratoga County, the Greenway Watertrail has been extended by **74** bringing its total length up to **232** miles.

### ***Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area***

- Working with the National Park Service contractor for the National Parks' passport program, the NHA deployed a passport program of its own for heritage sites in the Hudson Valley. Each interested site received a custom stamp.
- The Heritage Area received \$25,000 Explore NY funding to complete an interpretive brochure for riders of Amtrak's Hudson River Line.
- The Heritage Area began a restoration project on the Henry Knox Cannon Trail partnering with the National Park Service and the State Historic Preservation Office.
- The Heritage Area released an updated Revolutionary War Map/Guide including an insert highlighting both the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route and the Henry Knox Cannon Trail.
- The Heritage Area released new Landscapes and Gardens brochure bringing the Map/Guide series up to five.
- The 8th Annual Hudson River Valley Ramble included 167 events and over 128,000 participants.

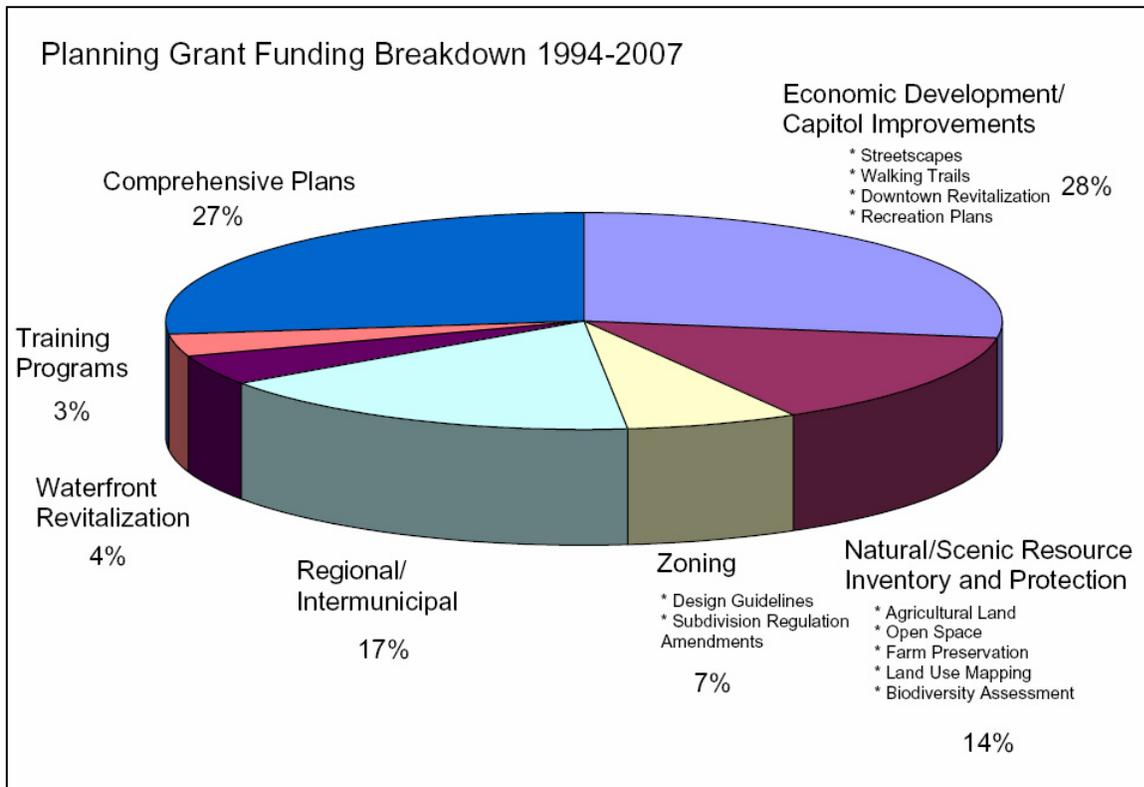
## Record of Accomplishments for 2007

### Greenway Community and Compact Grant Program

The Greenway, through an aid-to-localities community grant program, encourages economic development that is compatible with the preservation and enhancement of natural and cultural resources with emphasis on agriculture, tourism and the revitalization of existing community centers and waterfronts.

Greenway matching grant awards often serve as a catalyst for communities to pursue other grant opportunities or additional funding. It is not uncommon for Greenway funding to be leveraged with money or in-kind services from counties, regional IDAs, soil and water conservation districts, or environmental management councils. Whenever possible we encourage communities to work together to accomplish regional goals while advancing a local priorities. The Greenway communities grant program application is not cumbersome and Greenway planners often work directly with the applicants throughout the application development process and review. Further, if a project is not within the funding scope of any Greenway matching grant program, Greenway planners work with the potential applicant to find other grant programs that are a better fit.

In 2007, the Greenway disbursed over \$178,000 in funding for smart growth and economic development projects throughout the Hudson River Valley.



## Greenway 2007 Year in Review and Priorities for 2008

<b>Greenway Communities and Compact Grant Program Disbursements 2007</b>						
County	Community	Grant Award	Total Spent	Spent in 2007	Total Match	Project
Ulster	New Paltz w/ S.R.B.P.	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	Pace University Land Use Training Program
Dutchess	Wappinger, Town of	\$16,250.00	\$16,250.00	\$16,250.00	\$16,250.00	COMPACT Greystone
Orange	Cornwall, Town of	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$11,500.00	informational kiosks
Dutchess	LaGrange, Town of	\$17,500.00	\$17,500.00	\$17,500.00	\$17,500.00	COMPACT Open Space Plan
Ulster	Scenic Hudson/Esopus	\$18,000.00	\$18,000.00	\$18,000.00	\$75,200.00	WATER TRAIL-
Greene	Durham, Town of	\$7,500.00	\$7,500.00	\$7,500.00	\$10,500.00	Comprehensive Plan
Greene	Athens, Town with Village	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	Joint Comp. Plan
Dutchess	Beekman, Town of	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	Compact - Comp Plan
Dutchess	Amenia, Town of	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$56,500.00	Comprehensive. Plan
Columbia	Austerlitz, Town of	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	Zoning Law Development
Putnam	Kent, Town of	\$7,500.00	\$7,500.00	\$7,500.00	\$12,500.00	Route 52 Corridor Revitalization Plan
Columbia	Kinderhook, Village of	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	Comp. Plan Update
Columbia	Hudson, City with UPRA	\$15,000.00	\$8,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$75,000.00	UHRA Sub-Regional Integration
Albany	Rensselaerville, Town	\$7,500.00	\$7,500.00	\$2,130.00	\$17,500.00	w/Berne - formation of Hilltowns Natural Areas Alliance
Greene	Greenville, Town of	\$7,500.00	\$7,500.00	\$7,500.00	\$13,500.00	Comprehensive Plan
Greene	Coxsackie, T and V	\$17,500.00	\$17,500.00	\$1,535.47	\$75,500.00	Joint Comprehensive Plan
Columbia	Hudson, City of	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$20,000	\$364,437	WATER TRAIL
Putnam	Putnam Valley, Town of	\$7,500.00	\$7,500.00	\$1,301.80	\$64,000.00	Comprehensive Plan
Putnam	Cold Spring, Village of	\$7,500.00	\$969.16	\$969.16	\$7,500.00	Comprehensive Plan
<b>Total Paid in 2007</b>				<b>\$178,186.43</b>	<b>\$877,387.00</b>	

# Greenway 2007 Year in Review and Priorities for 2008

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## ***Greenway Communities and Compact Grants Awarded in 2007***

### **Ulster County (\$15,000)**

***Compact Planning:*** Ulster County's Compact will be developed in conjunction with the goals of the County's economic development, housing, transportation and open space strategies. The Compact development process will help communities to take a balanced approach to local economic development, preservation of community character, open space protection, and heritage education, and help incorporate smart growth principles as core strategies.

### **Town of Clinton, Dutchess County (\$10,000)**

***Open Space Planning:*** The open space plan is being conducted in conjunction with a comprehensive plan update. The plan will identify priority open space areas within the Town while identifying areas for growth and development. This funding will help leverage additional funding through NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets Farmland protection grants.

### **Village of Red Hook, Dutchess County (\$2,500)**

***Traditional Neighborhood Design [TND]:*** TND zoning amendments will guide traditional neighborhood development in the Village. Funding will be used to develop Traditional Neighborhood Guidelines/zoning ordinance amendments that will help implement the vision established by the Intermunicipal Task Force (Town of Red Hook, Village of Tivoli and Red Hook Central School District) in its [Centers and Greenspaces Plan](#). The guidelines will help guide the expansion of the walkable village center area. This project is an outgrowth of the County's Greenway Compact Plan, [Greenway Connections](#).

### **Town of Philipstown, Putnam County (7,500)**

***Comprehensive Planning:*** The Town of Philipstown faces current development pressures and is also seeking a way to create a stronger identity for the town as a whole through the formulation of a shared vision for the future. The five major areas of interest that the Town is focusing on include infrastructure; housing; business and economic development; natural resources and open space; and recreation.

### **City of Albany, Albany County (\$5,000)**

***Comprehensive Planning:*** The comprehensive planning initiative will give residents and stakeholders the opportunity to develop a common vision for the future of Albany. The Comprehensive Plan will identify goals and objectives that relate to issues of economic development, regional planning, and public access to the Hudson River, as well as the protection and expansion of the city's natural and cultural resources. Green building, transportation options, and intermunicipal cooperation will also be explored. This initiative will result in the City of Albany's first Comprehensive Plan.

### **Town of Berlin, Rensselaer County (\$5,000)**

***Comprehensive Planning:*** The basis for the comprehensive planning process will include a Town-wide survey, giving residents and stakeholders the opportunity to develop a common vision for the future of Berlin. Currently, the community faces issues such as a decrease in population, loss of industry and a shift in the Town's demographics due to an influx of second-home buyers. The Town of Berlin hopes to achieve several goals through the comprehensive planning process, including economic development; maintaining open spaces for recreational, agricultural, ecological and aesthetic purposes; and retaining the rural character of the Town.

# Greenway 2007 Year in Review and Priorities for 2008

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## **Town of Taghkanic, Columbia County (\$7,500)**

**Comprehensive Planning:** The Town's comprehensive plan will lay out an effective plan for managing growth that reflects the vision of the community. The comprehensive plan will provide a framework for reviewing existing land use regulations to determine if they adequately address the issues affecting the Town presently as well as in the future.

## **Town of Putnam Valley, Putnam County (\$7,500)**

**Zoning and Subdivision Regulation:** Putnam Valley faces current development pressures along with environmental constraints presented by the Town's varying topography, which includes wetlands, forests, ridgelines, lakes and streams. In order for the Town's comprehensive plan to be an effective tool for Town decision makers to guide future development and land use, it is critical that current zoning and subdivision regulations be amended to reflect the goals of the Plan.

## **Town of Nassau, Rensselaer County (\$5,000)**

**Comprehensive Planning:** This will be the first formally adopted comprehensive plan for the Town of Nassau, which is currently using 1986 land use regulations that do not reflect changing conditions within the community and current standards of community development. Through the planning process, the Town hopes to balance residential development pressures, natural and cultural resource protection and economic development.

## **Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area**

### **1. 8th Annual Hudson River Valley Ramble**

*Great job and great job on the booklet, too. I keep it as a reference guide on "things to do." Thank you for extending this one more weekend.*

**Bob Ulrich, Poughkeepsie, NY (Rochambeau Ramble)**

*Did a number of the hikes this year and had a ball. What a great idea! Wouldn't think it would be a bad idea to spread them out over all 4 weeks in September.* **Dr. B. Strand, Mt. Vernon, NY (Westchester Wilderness Walk)**

The Hudson River Valley Ramble highlights the scenic, natural, cultural and historic riches and resources that earned the region its designation as a National Heritage Area. Covering twelve counties, the Ramble offers participants the opportunity to explore the Hudson River Valley and Hudson River Estuary by boat and on foot through a variety of guided walking, hiking, kayaking, canoeing, and biking experiences. The Ramble is a perfect time to discover the history, culture and landscape that make this region nationally significant. Many Ramble events offer an in-depth exploration of heritage themes such as the Revolutionary War and the Hudson River School of Art, while others celebrate the Greenway Trail or Hudson River Estuary. The events are listed on [www.hudsonrivervalley.com/ramble](http://www.hudsonrivervalley.com/ramble), offers an easy way to access information on the more than 100 guided outdoor Ramble experiences. This year's Ramble included 167 events including 61 events new for this year. The 2007 Ramble included over 128,000 participants, drawing people from all over the region and the country to explore the Hudson River Valley's natural and historic resources.

# Greenway 2007 Year in Review and Priorities for 2008

2. This year, the National Heritage Area website [www.hudsonrivervalley.com](http://www.hudsonrivervalley.com) topped 1 million unique visitors.

### 3. Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area Passport Program:

The Passport Program offers visitors the opportunity to acquire cancellation stamps at no cost at various points throughout the region. The stamps serve as a record of each visit because it lists the site and the date. The program has been very successful in National Parks throughout the nation (they've sold over a million passport books since the start of the program and we've received numerous letters asking when the program will be available in the Hudson Valley).



By offering a National Heritage Cancellation Stamp at Heritage sites, visitors are encouraged to visit multiple sites and then spend more time in the surrounding communities. Heritage Sites are now listed in the passport book and online as a site offering a stamp.

<http://www.easternnational.org/eparks/Cancellations/Cancellation%20%2012-07.pdf>

4. Explore NY Grant program

## Public Access

### Land Trail

Total new miles added: **25.71 miles**

Total Miles: **288.05 miles**

### Hudson River Water Trail

New public access Hudson River Water Trail sites: **9**

Total sites: **81**

New miles added: **74**

Total miles: **232**

### Greenway Conservancy Small Grants:

*Funding secured through member items provided by Senator Stephen Saland and Senator Vincent Liebell*

The program offers funding for trail planning and design, construction and rehabilitation, education and interpretation. This year thirteen projects throughout the Hudson River Valley were chosen to receive matching grant awards. Emphasis was placed on trail projects that seek to implement the goals of the Draft Greenway Trail Vision Plan, particularly the construction of new segments of the Greenway Trail to connect existing portions, and improvements to currently designated Greenway Trails. This annual program has offered technical and financial assistance to municipalities and not-for-profit organizations since 1995 and has provided over \$1 million in funding for trail projects throughout the Hudson Valley. This years funding level was \$65,000.



# **Greenway 2007 Year in Review and Priorities for 2008**

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## **2006 Greenway Conservancy Small Grant Award Recipients (Awarded March 2007)**

### **2006-A-01 Mohawk Hudson Land Conservancy - Normansville Bridge Improvement Project (\$10,000)**

Improvements to the old Normansville Bridge that crosses Normans Kill. The bridge is a critical connection between the City of Albany's trail system on the Steven's Farm and the Conservancy's Normanskill Preserve. When the link between the trails is made, several miles of trail would become connected, including the soon-to-be acquired rail line from the Hudson River to the Town of New Scotland.

### **2006-D-01 Locust Grove Estate - Locust Grove Estate Trail Map (\$4,000)**

Creation of a new map and brochure describing their trails, environmental resources, historic structures and connections, including new trails that will be designated upon completion. Hiring of a graphic designer and print 20,000 copies.

### **2006-D-02 Unification Theological Seminary - Father's Trail Renovation (\$5,000)**

Improvements to Father's Trail will include the following: an information kiosk at the southern trailhead; two picnic benches overlooking the Hudson River; a wooden bridge to allow stream crossing; and the repair/replacement of two box culverts crossing the trail and repair of damaged stream cascades.

### **2006-D-03 Town of Fishkill - Town of Fishkill Greenway Trails (\$5,000)**

Developing a plan to create trail connections including: a link to the Town of Wappinger trail system with the City of Beacon system on the western (Hudson River) portion of Fishkill. The trail system will then traverse the Town to its easternmost border, connecting various Town (and Village) controlled recreation areas, following Fishkill Creek.

### **2006-D-04 Winnakee Land Trust - Winnakee Nature Preserve Sign (\$1,500)**

Installation of a new entrance sign to enhance visibility and use at the 102 acre preserve that is part of the Hyde Park and Greenway trail system.

### **2006-G-02 The Athens Community Comprehensive Planning Committee - Athens Town and Village Recreational Land and Water Trails Program (\$5,623)**

Planning, designing and establishing hiking and nature interpretive trails that cross Athens and join existing or potential public access points along the Hudson River. These new trails could be linked to the existing Greenway land and water trails. This project is also consistent with their draft joint Comprehensive Plan.

### **2006-O-01 Museum of the Hudson Highlands - Discovery Quests Trailhead and Bird Interpretation Platform (\$7,500)**

Construction of a wheelchair-accessible Trailhead Pavilion to provide a gathering place for orientation and environmental education and a Bird Pavilion to teach about the birds found in their wetland habitat. The trailhead will be the starting point for the "Discovery Quests" (puzzles, poems and questions that move people along portions of the Museum's 3.5 mile trail system) which are scheduled to open to the public on June 10, 2007.

### **2006-O-03 Orange County Land Trust - Hamptonburgh Preserve Enhancements (\$4,877)**

## **Greenway 2007 Year in Review and Priorities for 2008**

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Enhancing Hamptonburgh Preserve by improving the two parking areas and the Railway trail, installing a wildlife viewing platform, and creating outreach materials. The Land Trust has submitted a designation nomination for the completed trail as part of the Greenway Trail System.

### **2006-P-01 Philipstown Greenway Committee/Town of Philipstown - Hudson Fjord Hike/Bike Trail Capital Improvements Feasibility Study (\$5,000)**

Feasibility, design and cost study for capital improvements to the Hudson Fjord Bike/Hike Trail in Philipstown, Putnam County, and its potential northward extension into Fishkill, Dutchess County.

### **2006-R-01 Rensselaer-Taconic Land Conservancy - Rensselaer County Trail Vision Plan (\$9,500)**

Conducting an inventory of existing and planned trails in Rensselaer County to use as a framework for creating a community-based regional vision for trails. The project would result in a conceptual map for a countywide trail system.

### **2006-Ro-01 Town of Ramapo - Ramapo River Greenway Trail (\$10,000)**

Development of trailhead and trailside facilities; including an outdoor kiosk, a display booth/storage building, benches, bike racks and animal proof garbage receptacles.

### **2006-U-01 Town of Saugerties - Hudson River Trail at the Glasco Riverfront Park (\$5,000)**

Construction of an ADA compliant Riverside Trail in the 5.1 acre Glasco Mini Park (a designated HRV Watertrail site) to improve pedestrian access and promote passive and active recreation on the Hudson River. The Riverside Trail will be a shoreline promenade that will connect to the boat launch, floating docks, and other park amenities.

### **2006-W-03 Village of Hastings-on-Hudson - Rowley's Bridge Trail Rehabilitation and Maintenance (\$2,000)**

Rehabilitation and improvements to Rowley's Bridge Trail including stream bank stabilization, building and stabilizing reflecting pool structures and establishing a long-term protection program to control erosion of steep slopes of the trail extension.

## ***Expansion of Hudson River Valley Greenway Boundaries***

The Hudson River Valley Greenway Area has been expanded to include all communities within Saratoga County. The original legislation included the Town and Village of Waterford, but did not include the remainder of the county from participating in the Greenway program. Senator Farley and Assemblyman Tedisco, responding to local requests from communities, sponsored legislation (S.1593/A.7210) to make all communities within Saratoga County eligible. The newly eligible communities are the Towns of Ballston, Charlton, Clifton Park, Corinth, Day, Edinburg, Galway, Greenfield, Hadley, Halfmoon, Malta, Milton, Moreau, Northumberland, Providence, Saratoga, Stillwater, and Wilton; the Cities of Mechanicville and Saratoga Springs; and the Villages of Corinth, Galway, Round Lake, Schuylerville, South Glens Falls, Stillwater, and Victory. The Saratoga expansion will encourage regional cooperation in the County and bring those communities into the regional framework of the Greenway. Governor Eliot Spitzer signed the bill into law on July 18, 2007.

## Greenway 2007 Year in Review and Priorities for 2008

### ***Heritage and Environmental Education***

#### **Teaching the Hudson Valley**

Teaching the Hudson Valley [THV] makes annual grants of up to \$10,000 each to public and private schools in the region. Applications for the 2006-07 school year are now available at [www.TeachingtheHudsonValley.org](http://www.TeachingtheHudsonValley.org). The grants are available to local schools for projects designed to familiarize students with significant places in the Valley. Working collaboratively with sites of cultural, historic, or natural importance, educators produce place-based lessons that complement core curriculum. Educators in Albany, Columbia, Dutchess, Greene, Orange, Putnam, Rensselaer, Rockland, Ulster, and Westchester counties may apply, in collaboration with at least one public heritage site. Sites must be open to the public and have missions that promote the interpretation or preservation of the Valley's culture, ecosystem, or history. The Hudson River Estuary Program/NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation, Hudson River Valley Institute at Marist College, and Hudson River Valley Greenway work with NPS and the Heritage Area to fund and manage THV.

<b>Teaching the Hudson Valley Grants Awarded in 2007</b>			
<b>Teaching the Hudson Valley Grants</b>	<b>Project Title</b>	<b>Students</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Albany Institute of History and Art	<i>Fulton's Steamboat: Where History and Art Meet Science and Industry, interdisciplinary</i>	60 fifth graders	\$9,750
Albany Visitors Center	<i>Unearthing the Hudson Valley, interdisciplinary</i>	65 fourth graders	\$3,650
Ellenville Middle School	<i>Windswept Summits to Cool Ice Caves: Exploring Habitats, interdisciplinary</i>	150 seventh graders	\$6,820
Friends of John Jay Homestead	<i>The ReST of the Hudson Valley: Exploring Revolution, Slavery, &amp; Technology, English/language arts and social studies</i>	125 fourth graders	\$8,470
Harness Racing Museum	<i>Hudson Valley Firsts, social studies and reading</i>	350 fifth graders who have never been on a field trip	\$3,675
HR Maritime Museum	<i>Hudson River Explorers Then and Now, interdisciplinary</i>	90 third graders	\$6,680
Krieger Elementary	<i>Getting Your Hands-On History, interdisciplinary</i>	75 fourth graders	\$7,225
			<b>\$46,270</b>

### **2008 Priorities**

The Greenway is uniquely positioned to advance the Governor's Smart Growth initiatives in the Hudson Valley Region. As one of the pioneering NYS organizations in this area, the Greenway will

# **Greenway 2007 Year in Review and Priorities for 2008**

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build upon its successful track record of engaging communities in intermunicipal efforts and projects that reflect the pride of the Hudson Valley region and its renowned natural, cultural, agricultural and historic resources. Some of the most significant goals for 2008 include:

- 1. Continue to Implement and Expand the Greenway Compact Program**
- 2. Engage Communities in Saratoga County**
- 3. Explore Expansion of the Greenway in Washington County**
- 4. Expand the Greenway Land Trail**
- 5. Develop Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plan “Source Document”**
- 6. Promote Heritage Tourism in the Hudson Valley**
- 7. Expand and Improve the Hudson River Greenway Water Trail**

## ***1. Continue to Implement and Expand the Greenway Compact Program***

The Hudson River Valley Greenway Compact program is a proactive tool for motivating municipalities to think regionally and plan accordingly for their growth, while maintaining and preserving the attributes of their community that contribute to their quality of life. As counties in the Greenway complete compact plans, the Greenway will encourage the municipal participation by outlining the benefits of the compact process, and continuing to offer increased funding levels for compact communities. The Greenway will also work with the counties that have not yet begun the compact planning process to foster the development of County compact plans that will create a framework for appropriate growth balanced with economic development.

## ***2. Engage Communities in Saratoga County***

The expansion of the Greenway boundaries to include Saratoga County offers the Greenway the exciting opportunity to work with 28 additional communities. A major goal for 2008 will be to engage these communities and guide them through the process of participation in Greenway programs.

## ***3. Explore the Expansion of the Greenway in Washington County***

Due to overwhelming enthusiasm of the communities in Washington County for the Greenway programs, County legislators have become involved in considering legislation to expand the Greenway boundaries. The Greenway has made presentations to County representatives about the benefits of Greenway participation and the programs that we offer, and will continue to work with Washington County to increase the knowledge base about Greenway programs, and will hopefully have the opportunity to work directly with Washington County municipalities in the near future.

# **Greenway 2007 Year in Review and Priorities for 2008**

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## **4. Expand the Greenway Land Trail**

1. In 2008 the Greenway will work with Greenway municipalities, land trusts and private land owners to encourage the development of local trails that link to the Greenway Trail System and major trail corridors, filling in gaps in the trail identified in the Greenway Trail Vision Plan.
2. The Greenway will take a more proactive approach working with our trail partners to find projects that will fulfill the priorities of the grant program.
3. Explore additional funding opportunities for trail planning and development
4. Launch interactive Greenway Trailhead mapper in Google Maps.

## **5. Develop Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plan “Source Document”**

NYS Scenic Byway designation of a road, highway or highway segment offers benefits to the community in which it is located. A corridor management plan (CMP) is the key document for a nominated scenic byway to achieve designation as a Scenic Byway. The Greenway will develop a Corridor Management Planning Source Document (Source Document) to help provide technical assistance to communities seeking to participate in the NYS Scenic Byways Program, with particular emphasis on local highways or highway segments designated as Scenic Roads pursuant to Article 49 of the NYS Environmental Conservation Law.

## **6. Promote Heritage Tourism in the Hudson Valley**

- a. Hudson Fulton Champlain Quadricentennial Celebration- The Greenway Executive Director is a member of the HFCQ committee, and will continue to contribute to the planning of this historic event.
- b. In 2008, planning will continue for the Hudson Fulton Champlain Quadricentennial celebration, with an emphasis on another signature Greenway event, the Great Hudson River Paddle. In 2009, in celebration of the Quadricentennial, the Paddle will be expanded to become the Great Champlain Hudson Sojourn, a 340-mile, 4 week kayak trip, which will begin in Lake Champlain, go across the Champlain Canal, and down the Hudson River to New York City. In addition to the 2008 Great Hudson River Paddle, planning for the 2009 celebration will continue in earnest during the next year.
- c. In 2008, the Hudson River Valley Ramble, a signature event for the Greenway, will feature a greater number of events and will expand into Saratoga County.
- d. The Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area will expand upon its many programs and projects to promote heritage tourism in the Hudson Valley,
- e. Promote the HRVNHA Passport Program in partnership with the National Park Service
- f. Enhance the [www.hudsonrivervally.com](http://www.hudsonrivervally.com) website to a more user friendly format to encourage increased visitation to the region
- g. Complete the Henry Knox Cannon Trail conservation project
- h. Launch the Amtrak passenger guide to the Hudson River Valley
- i. Continue the distribution of the extremely popular map/guide series.

## **7. Expand and Improve the Hudson River Greenway Water Trail**

The Hudson River Greenway Water Trail continues to grow, and with the addition of Saratoga County to the Greenway, the water trail adds 74 miles to its length. The Greenway will look to

## **Greenway 2007 Year in Review and Priorities for 2008**

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designate or create launches every 10 miles or less on the Saratoga side of the river through Saratoga County. A possible expansion of the Greenway Water Trail could include tributaries of the Hudson River, or even a statewide expansion of the Water Trail to western and southern areas of New York State.

- a. Complete the trail by filling in gaps (long-range dependent upon willing seller in Highland Falls and opening of Highland Landing in Lloyd).
- b. Add campsites or other overnight accommodations in areas where needed, especially in the southern portions of the Hudson.
- c. Survey potential Saratoga County launch sites and try to secure designations.
- d. Launch kayak rack program to fabricate and distribute racks to all interested designated sites.
- e. Update Water Trail Guide for spring 2009 release date.
- f. 2008 Great Hudson River Paddle and planning for 2009 Great Champlain Hudson Sojourn.

**Notes**