Hudson River Valley Greenway Annual Report 2012

“To promote the Greenway as a single, tourism destination...” § 44-0113(30) Greenway Act of 1991

Of the many duties assigned to the Greenway Communities Council and Greenway Conservancy, the one above resonates most with our accomplishments this year. Since 1991, we have seen an increase in recognition of the Hudson River Valley as a region, as a destination, and now, as a world class destination for its combination of scenic, cultural and historic assets.

National Geographic named the Hudson Valley one of its “Best Trips for 2013.” Nat. Geo. editors heralded, “Not even Rip Van Winkle could sleep through the cultural clarion of today’s Hudson Valley,” and in so doing, may have pushed our region past the tipping point and into a new reality. This new reality is one that we and our partners have been working toward since the beginning, and it’s one that firmly recognizes the value and economic impact of our natural, cultural, and historic resources. These are the elements that define our quality of life in the Hudson River Valley. Protecting, promoting and celebrating these assets has become a key piece of our region’s economic development portfolio. Tourism and resource protection have been identified by Governor Cuomo’s Regional Economic Development Councils as key strategies. The numbers back this up.

- Tourism generates over $4.7 billion dollars in our regional economy annually
- The National Heritage Area program generates $584,986,026 million in economic benefit, supports 6,530 jobs, and generates over $66.6 million in tax revenue1
- The Hudson River Valley Ramble generates over $21 million per year1

Details on the various economic development projects the Greenway has helped advance over the last year are detailed in this report. Below are some highlights.

- National Water Trail Designation for the Greenway Water Trail
- Launch of the Cycling the Hudson Valley Guidebook in partnership with Parks & Trails NY
- Expansion of the Hudson River School Art Trail in partnership with the Thomas Cole NHS
- Events including: the Hudson River Valley Ramble, NY Heritage Weekend, Hudson River Day

Celebrating these shared successes is tempered by the loss of federal funding for the National Heritage Area program. The numbers above demonstrate that the Greenway and National Heritage Area program yield a tremendous return on investment. As we pursue restoration of federal funding, we will make clear that investing in what we do is not frivolous, optional, or a secondary priority, rather it is part of a sustainable and resilient regional economic development strategy.

Mark Castiglione
January 2013

1 The Economic Impact of National Heritage Areas: A Case Study Analysis of Six National Heritage Area Sites in the Northeast Region of the United States and Projections on the National Impact of All National Heritage Areas (Draft), TrippUmbach, 2013
Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area

Hudson River School Art Trail Grows, Gets New Mobile App

The Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area and the Thomas Cole National Historic Site formally opened the expanded Hudson River School Art Trail in May at a ceremony at Kingston’s Hasbrouck Park, which includes locations painted by Hudson River School painters that people can visit. The expansion more than doubles the Art Trail’s size – from its original eight sites in New York to 17 sites in New York, two each in New Hampshire and Wyoming, and one in Massachusetts – and includes a new website with hand-held optimization: http://www.thomascole.org/trail. The expanded Art Trail garnered coverage in the NY Times: http://www.nytimes.com/2012/08/31/nyregion/following-the-hudson-river-school-art-trails-in-3-states.html?pagewanted=all

The Hudson River School Art Trail was launched in 2005 by the Thomas Cole National Historic Site, in partnership with the Olana State Historic Site and other organizations, to provide a series of hiking and driving trails that lead visitors to the places that inspired America’s first great landscape paintings, in the 19th century. The artists who created those paintings – including Thomas Cole, Frederic Church, Jasper Cropsey, Asher B. Durand, Sanford Gifford and many others – were part of the art movement now known as the Hudson River School, and created sublime landscape images throughout the Hudson Valley and beyond.

Partners: Thomas Cole National Historic Site, Roosevelt Vanderbilt National Historic Site, Mohonk Mountain House, NYS DEC, NYS DEC Estuary Program, Friends of Historic Kingston, Mohonk Preserve, Cropsey Museum, Westchester County, City of Hudson, City of Kingston, Office of Congressman Maurice Hinchey

National Heritage Area Funding Sunset

September 30, 2012 marked the last day of federal funding eligibility for the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area and eleven other NHAs across the country. While we have enjoyed great bipartisan support for various efforts to extend our funding eligibility, we haven’t been successful. These efforts include Congressman Tonko’s “National Heritage Areas Act of 2012,” AKA “Program Legislation,” extension language included in the interior appropriations bill by Congressman Hinchey, Senator Gillibrand’s hearing and extension bill for the HRVNHA in the Senate, the “National Heritage Area Authorizations Extension Act of 2012” sponsored by Senators Reed/Portman to extend authorizations for all 12, and recent efforts to include language in the Continuing Resolution. This,
however, is not the death knell for the NHA; far from it. We are coordinating with our fellow NHAs, Congressional Staffers in Washington and Governor Cuomo’s office to extend our funding authorization.

**Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area Evaluation Findings**

The Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area (HRVNHA) was evaluated by the National Park Service. The evaluation report was issued by the consultant team Westat in June of 2012. The report found that, "... the HRVNHA and its management entity have remained true to the mission outlined in the original legislation and operationalized in the management plan." The mission of the HRVNHA is to interpret, preserve and celebrate the nationally-significant cultural and natural resources of the Hudson River Valley.

Some of the highlights from the evaluation revealed some interesting statistics from the past 15 years, including:

- Between 1996 and 2010, the Greenway awarded $2,355,424 of Greenway Council Grants to partner organizations for the preservation and interpretation of historic properties.
- During that time, the Greenway also awarded $1,219,401 of Greenway Conservancy Grants to preserve and restore the trail systems along the Hudson River.
- Approximately 95,000 volunteer hours are spent on heritage area events annually to increase stewardship for heritage resources.

**Tiffany Landscape Windows Exhibition**

We continue to develop a web-based exhibition of Tiffany Landscape windows. The exhibit will include 12 sites that feature 19-20 Tiffany landscape windows.

We will create a downloadable PDF for each location (not more than one page back and front) that includes interpretation for the landscape window as well as a sketch map to orient people within the churches. They will also include appropriate contact info, addresses, and hours (or in most cases how you can schedule an appointment). We will also try to connect the landscape window with location it depicts (if known). We will be encouraging people to make donations to the sites.

**Washington Rochambeau Revolutionary Route NHT Interpretive Project**
The Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area and National Park Service embarked on the Washington Rochambeau Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail Interpretation Project in 2012. NPS staff from the Harper’s Ferry Center and the W3R National Historic Trail joined Mark Castiglione, Col. Jim Johnson from the Hudson River Valley Institute and Historian Dr. Robert Selig on a tour of potential locations for interpretation. The NPS and design consultants have developed recommendations for interpretive treatments for the various locations along the W3R Route. A $300,000 transportation enhancement program grant secured by the Greenway was transferred to the NPS to conduct the project.

**Partners:** NPS: Harpers Ferry Center; W3R National Historic Trail; OPRHP, Hudson River Valley Institute, Greenburgh Greenway Committee, Westchester County Historical, Local Historians, and numerous cities towns, villages and organizations that advised on the project.

**Hudson River Valley Institute**

The Hudson River Valley Institute (HRVI) at Marist College is the Academic Arm of the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area.

**Chair of Hudson River Valley History Created:** The Dr. Frank T. Bumpus Professor of Hudson River Valley History at Marist College was upgraded to a Chair position thanks to the tremendous generosity of Dr. Bumpus. HRVI Executive Director Dr. James M. Johnson is the inaugural holder of this permanently funded Chair housed in the School of Liberal Arts. He continues to teach Hudson River Valley Studies courses, to deliver public lectures, and to oversee the creation of new scholarly content on the region that is distributed through The Hudson River Valley Review, the Digital Library, and assorted other venues.

**Lectures:** Nearly 400 people attended lectures sponsored or cosponsored by the HRVI this year. Topics included; Conserving Ironclad Glory: The Monitor at 150; Sanctified Landscape: Thinking and Writing about the Hudson River Valley 1820-1909, Dr. David Schuyler; My Reach: A Hudson River Memoir, Susan Fox Rogers; and My Memories of Lowell Thomas, Kathleen Carroll.

**The Hudson River Valley Review:** The Spring 2012 issue was “Lowell Thomas: From the Hudson River Valley to the Lhasa River Valley;” it presented this larger-than life personality from Pawling and some of his travels abroad. Additional article topics included the role of the press in the Anti-Rent wars, Congress’ attempt to close the United States Military Academy at West Point during the Civil War, and the catastrophic fire at the New York State Library in 1911.
The Autumn 2012 issue featured “Where New England Met New York; Albany after the American Revolution.” This article presented the social, cultural, and bureaucratic negotiations of City residents as Albany changed from a colonial outpost to one of the major ports of a new nation. The edition also featured an article about Benedict Arnold’s Greenwater Fleet on Lake Champlain during the Revolution. This issue included four book reviews and “Regional Writing” as well as the “New and Noteworthy” section.

**Website:** HRVI’s website, [www.hudsonrivervalley.org](http://www.hudsonrivervalley.org), received 28,493 unique visits, averaging 78 per day between November 30, 2011 and November 29, 2012. We had 58,651 page views, averaging 161 per day, with 78% being “new traffic. The HRVI also hired a "social media" intern this past year with dramatic results.

**Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area: Heritage Site Guidebook**

The Heritage Site Guidebook encourages heritage tourism in the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area. By targeting heritage tourists, this guidebook will help grow New York’s tourism economy.

Our partner SUNY Press has been handling wholesale and retail orders for the past year.

- **Guidebooks sold:** 801
- **Gross Revenues:** $3,449.31

**GIS Mapping: Scenic Resources, Access, Trails and Environmental Resources**

This project will update existing GIS datasets including: conserved open space including land protected by the state, federal, municipal, and not-for-profit entities; Greenway Trails including both land and water trails; significant water resources; significant fish and wildlife habitats; River access sites; and designated scenic areas and scenic byways. The result will be a complete inventory of scenic views and viewpoints and a system for their identification, categorization, and prioritization, and a searchable database of these features that allows for sorting by category and attribute. Andrew Meyer from the Department of
Environmental Conservation Estuary program continues to move the project forward.

**Partners:** HRVNHA, HRVG, DEC Estuary, DEC Lands and Forests, Scenic Hudson, Department of State, Open Space Institute

### Teaching the Hudson Valley (THV)

In 2012, our ongoing partnership with the National Park Service, Hudson River Estuary Program and the Hudson River Valley Institute at Marist College focused on providing Explore Awards to boost place-based education so that students could experience the diverse heritage of our Valley. An evaluation of the Teaching the Hudson Valley program confirmed the need for place-based education and the value of providing a forum within which educators from schools and sites can come together and share best practices.

*Many thanks to Debi Duke, THV Coordinator, for working to make this program a success.*

### THVIP

**Explore Awards funding trips in calendar year 2012**

1,028 students | 11 sites | 9 schools | 6 counties | 1 youth organization or agency | Grades: 4 elementary groups | 4 intermediate/middle | 2 high school-age groups | Funds committed: $13,471 (rounded)

### Field Trip Awards

- Capital District Community Gardens Produce Project (Rensselaer County), 15 “at risk” students, ages 15-18, Troy HS, August sail and workshops aboard the Clearwater (regional organization based in Dutchess County), $1,304.90
- John G. Borden MS (Wallkill CSD, Orange County), 261 eighth graders to Home of FDR and Vanderbilt Mansion, December 2011, $1,971
- Lakeland-Copper Beech MS (Yorktown CSD, Westchester County), 40 sixth and seventh graders to the Science Barge (Westchester), October 2011, $400
- Rondout Valley Schools (Ulster County), a total of 412--220 first and second graders, 22 fifth graders, and 170 eighth graders to the fireboat John J. Harvey, Trolley Museum, and (8th graders only) Hudson River Maritime Museum, May, $4,000

*Rondout Valley students aboard the John J. Harvey Fireboat.*

*Credit: Bill Urbin*
• Vail Farm ES (Arlington CSD, Dutchess County), 160 fourth graders to the NYS Museum and Capitol Building (Albany County), May, $3,980

• Vails Gate ES (Newburgh, Orange County), 95 third graders to Mohonk Preserve in May and June, $650**

Writing about place contest winners

• Main Street School (Irvington CSD, Westchester County), 23 10 and 11-year olds, spring sail and workshops aboard the Clearwater, $817.34

• Tabernacle Christian Academy (Dutchess County), 12 seventh graders, May trip to Mohonk Preserve (Ulster County) $236

• Tabernacle Christian Academy (Dutchess County), 10 high school students, June trip to Minnewaska State Park, $102

Partners: National Park Service’ Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area, Hudson River Estuary Program, Hudson River Valley Institute at Marist College

Funding: The Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area provides funding for Explore Awards. In addition to contributions from the partner organizations and private donors, funding is provided by the following: Gannett, Malcolm Gordon Charitable Trust.

Website Statistics
http://hudsonrivervalley.com : Visits increase 26.37% in 2012
http://heritageweekend.org Visits increased by 47.68% in 2012
http://hudsonrivervalleyramble.com Visits decreased by 8.55% in 2012
Trails

Greenway Trail

Totals:
Riverside Trails: 269.35 miles
Countryside Corridors/Connector Trails: 71.66 miles
NYS Bike Route 9: 147.00 miles
Land Trail: 487.62 miles
Hudson River Water Trail: 256.00 miles
Greenway Trail System Total: 743.62 miles

Hudson River Greenway Water Trail Designated a National Water Trail:

The Hudson River Greenway Water Trail has been designated a National Water Trail by the United States Department of Interior. On September 8th, water trail enthusiasts were joined at Kingston Point Beach by Congressman Hinchey, Kingston Mayor Shayne Gallo and other dignitaries for the announcement. The announcement was followed by a paddle on the Hudson River and Rondout Creek. The event also celebrated beginning of the 13th annual Hudson River Valley Ramble.

Greenway Sponsors Successful Dutchess County Trail Conference

On the heels of the successful Ulster County Trail Conference in November 2011, the Greenway partnered with the Winnakee Land Trust and others for a day-long trail conference at the Historic Cornell Boathouse at Marist College on Saturday, April 21. The turnout was incredible and the results inspiring! Keynote speaker Jeff Olson of Alta Planning and Design showed that successful trails projects can happen anywhere, with the right people and a lot of motivation. A visioning session using maps prepared by Dutchess County Planning helped participants to articulate trail needs and opportunities. A poster session during the day was a great chance to make contacts and see what others are working on.
Partners: Hudson River Valley Greenway, Ulster County Planning, Ulster County Department of the Environment, Barton and Loguidice, SUNY New Paltz – Center for Research, Regional Education and Outreach, Scenic Hudson, Wallkill Valley Rail Trail Association, Wallkill Valley Land Trust, Ulster County Trails Committee, and Gilmour Planning, LLC.

Cycling the Hudson Valley: A guide to 150 miles of adventure, history are and architecture along the Hudson River

An economic impact study in Wisconsin showed that bicycle tourism generates more than $250 million a year. The Greenway and Parks & co-published a new guidebook, CYCLING THE HUDSON VALLEY – A Guide to 150 miles of adventure, history, art, and architecture along the Hudson River. The guidebook highlights many heritage resources on both sides of the river, including important 18th and 19th century political and historic sites; beautiful gardens, landscapes and viewsheds; museums and art centers of the Hudson River School and other artists; as well as literary landmarks. It features an overview of the Hudson River Valley, including information about the Greenway and the National Heritage Area; maps showing route details, points of interest, fairs and festivals, and services. The guide is full-color, spiral-bound, and easy-to-carry and use. The guidebook will brand the Hudson Valley as a destination for the growing number of bicycle tourists. It also provides a tangible framework for promoting the strategic vision of a continuous Greenway Heritage Trail.

Partners: Parks & Trails NY, I Love NY, County Tourism Promotion Agencies, NY Bike Coalition, Heritage Sites, NYS Department of Transportation Region 8, Scenic Hudson

Funding: Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area and Greenway Conservancy Trail grant funds.

Spare Seat Tour Spotlights the Hudson River

An epic journey of over 500 miles across New York State, from the Niagara Falls to the Statue of Liberty, the Spare Seat Kayak Expedition was launched by I Love NY to capture the heritage, wildlife and iconic locations along this water route across New York State. Richard Harpham and Glenn Charles are two experienced adventurers who have covered over 19,500 human powered miles between them. The Greenway’s own Scott Keller met up with these intrepid individuals to add his insight on paddling the Hudson and share some new kayaking adventures. Scott also provided safety and logistics info for the entire Hudson River leg of the journey. Their lengthy and inspiring journey was chronicled on the I Love NY Spare Seat blog.

Events and Celebrations

New York Heritage Weekend 2012 Largest Ever
On May 19-20th more than 160 Heritage partners hosted 207 events throughout the State, organized by over 1,847 volunteers who contributed 17,608 hours to plan and present Heritage Weekend. NY Heritage Weekend inspired visitors to spread the word, and to return to heritage sites with friends and family. We feel confident that the success of this program created a greater awareness and appreciation for New York’s heritage and validated the importance of investing in New York State’s heritage resources. To kick off Heritage Weekend, Congressman Tonko, Assembly Majority Leader Ron Canestrari, Mayor John McDonald, Beth Sciumeca from the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor and State Senator Neil Breslin joined Johanna Shogan, Regent of the Gansevoort NSDAR at the Historic VanSchaick Mansion in Cohoes Many thanks to our major partners including the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor, National Park Service, OPRHP, and I Love NY.

**Partners:** More than 160 partner organizations including the following major partners and funders, National Endowment for the Arts, Erie Canalway NHC, National Park Service, NYS Office of Parks Recreation and Historic Preservation, National Trust for Historic Preservation, Hudson Valley Tourism, I Love NY

**13th Annual Hudson River Valley Ramble**

Over 130,000 people attended the 2012 Ramble, contributing to the $4.7 billion tourism economy in the Hudson River Valley.

**Partners:** In addition to over 150 participating sites and communities: Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area, Hudson River Valley Greenway, Hudson River Estuary Program, NYS Office of Parks Recreation and Historic Preservation, New York State Tourism Division, National Park Service, New York/New Jersey Trail Conference, National Public Lands Day
**Funding** (in addition to partners): Hudson River Valley Greenway, Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area, Hudson River Estuary Program, The Ramble also received a $5,000 sponsorship from Erie Insurance, which will be used for the 2013 Hudson River Valley Ramble.

**Hudson River Day 2012**

Hudson River Day 2012 was so successful—with more than 40 events that spanned the length of the Hudson River Estuary—that in 2013, the fifth-annual celebration of our estuary and watershed will take place over a full weekend, July 20-21, 2013.

Activities will include the 2nd Annual Great Hudson River Fish Count, as well as festivals, swims, kayak outings, sails and more.

**Grants**

**Greenway Communities and Compact Grants:**
State funding though the Hudson River Valley Greenway’s Aid to Localities appropriation resulted in 13 matching grant awards totaling $103,960 to member communities for projects that reinforce smart growth principles, provide models for innovation, economic development, regional planning and environmental protection. These small grants help to create jobs by creating opportunities for engineers, planning and economic development consultants to work with communities to create plans and implementation strategies. For this grant program, the amount leveraged by local partners totaled over $170,054.

**Partners:** 13 project awardees (County of Rensselaer; County of Columbia; Village of Walden; Town of Shandaken; Village of Tivoli, Town of Hyde Park; Town of Greenville; City of Newburgh; Village of Brewster; City of Poughkeepsie; Town of Clifton Park; Town of Lloyd; Town of Rensselaerville)

**Greenway Conservancy Small Grant Program**

The Hudson River Valley Greenway awarded $50,000 in matching grants to 7 projects that will develop and enhance the Hudson River Greenway Trail. These trail development projects translate into construction, engineering, planning and tourism jobs.

**Partners:** 7 project awardees (Harlem Valley Rail Trail, BeaconArts Community Association, Town of Stillwater, Mohonk Preserve, Rensselaer Plateau Alliance, Inc., Hudson Crossing Park, Inc., John Burroughs Association)

**Funding:** $50,000 from the Greenway Conservancy Small Grants fund.
## 23 Matching Grants Completed in 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grant Type</th>
<th>Community/Organization</th>
<th>Project Description</th>
<th>Grant Awarded</th>
<th>Match</th>
<th>Award Date</th>
<th>Completion Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Quad Legacy</td>
<td>Historic Hudson, Inc</td>
<td>Business on Warren Street - The First 200 Years</td>
<td>$3,692.20</td>
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<td>Village of Croton on Hudson</td>
<td>Kaplan's Pond Trail Construction and Extension</td>
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<td>Orange County Land Trust</td>
<td>Hamptonburgh Preserve Enhancements</td>
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<td>Manitoga</td>
<td>Russel Wright’s Hudson Highlands Tour</td>
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<td>Quad Legacy</td>
<td>Samuel Dorsky, Research Foundation of State University of New York</td>
<td>&quot;Made in the Hudson Valley&quot; Exhibition Catalog</td>
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<td>Teaching the Hudson Valley</td>
<td>Lakeland-Copper Beech Middle School (Yorktown CSD, Westchester County)</td>
<td>40 sixth and seventh graders to the Science Barge</td>
<td>$455.00</td>
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<td>Teaching the Hudson Valley</td>
<td>Main Street School--Elementary winner (Irvington CSD, Westchester County)</td>
<td>23 10 and 11-year olds, spring sail and workshops aboard the Clearwater</td>
<td>$1,000.00</td>
<td>$525</td>
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<td>Winnakee Land Trust</td>
<td>Red Hook Heritage Breadbasket Trail</td>
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<td>Economic Study for the Rensselaer Plateau Regional Conservation Plan</td>
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<td>Rondout Valley School District (Ulster County)</td>
<td>412--220 first and second graders, 22 fifth graders, and 170 eighth graders to the fireboat John J. Harvey, Trolley Museum, and (8th graders only) Hudson River</td>
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<td>Maritime Museum</td>
<td>City of Newburgh</td>
<td>Land use planning project for vacant city owned properties</td>
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<td>Maritime Museum</td>
<td>Town of Sand Lake</td>
<td>SLCA-CTP performance space upgrade and architectural drawings.</td>
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<td>Maritime Museum</td>
<td>Village of Cold Spring</td>
<td>Comprehensive Plan Update</td>
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<td>Town of New Paltz</td>
<td>Shawangunk Foothills Planning Project</td>
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<td>Greenway Compact (Council)</td>
<td>Village of Rhinebeck</td>
<td>Compact Grant: Rhinebeck village sidewalk improvement initiative.</td>
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<td>Town of Amenia</td>
<td>Design and construction of the Wassaic Trail to Train</td>
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<td>$580,000</td>
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<td>Greenway Communities Grant (Council)</td>
<td>City of Watervliet</td>
<td>Perform a study to determine whether portions of the city are eligible to become National Register historic districts</td>
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<td>$48,440</td>
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<td>Town of Stillwater</td>
<td>Trail Feasibility Study</td>
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<td>Vail's Gate High Tech Magnet School</td>
<td>95 third graders to Mohonk Preserve in May and June</td>
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<td>Capital District Community Gardens (Rensselaer)</td>
<td>15 “at risk” students, ages 15-18, Troy HS, August sail and workshops</td>
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<td>Greenway Communities Grant (Council)</td>
<td>County of Rensselaer</td>
<td>Update Rensselaer County's Agricultural &amp; Farmland Protection Plan</td>
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<td>Town of Shandaken</td>
<td>Shandaken Parks &amp; Recreation Master Plan</td>
<td>$7,500</td>
<td>$7,500</td>
<td>3/21/2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>Greenway Compact (Council)</td>
<td>Village of Tivoli</td>
<td>Waterfront access walkway and Montgomery Street improvements</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
<td>6/7/2012</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Greenway Communities Grant (Council)</td>
<td>Town of Hyde Park</td>
<td>Development of a vibrant town center in Hyde Park</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
<td>6/7/2012</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

20 Matching Grants Awarded in 2012

Total: $125,479.10 $833,946.73
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Greenway Communities Grant (Council)</th>
<th>Town of Greenville</th>
<th>Land development code update</th>
<th>$10,000</th>
<th>$10,000</th>
<th>6/7/2012</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>Greenway Communities Grant (Council)</td>
<td>City of Newburgh</td>
<td>Practical capacity building for green land use</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>6/7/2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conservancy Small Grant</td>
<td>Harlem Valley Rail Trail Association, Inc.</td>
<td>HVRT Copake Falls to Hillsdale Early Trail Opening Project</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
<td>$15,964</td>
<td>10/17/2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conservancy Small Grant</td>
<td>City of Beacon</td>
<td>Beacon Loop Trail</td>
<td>$2,616</td>
<td>$6,406</td>
<td>10/17/2012</td>
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<td>Conservancy Small Grant</td>
<td>Rensselaer Plateau Alliance</td>
<td>Rensselaer Plateau Regional Trails Vision</td>
<td>$8,384</td>
<td>$31,616</td>
<td>10/17/2012</td>
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<td>Conservancy Small Grant</td>
<td>Town of Stillwater</td>
<td>Stillwater Champlain Canal/Hudson River Historic Multi Use Trail</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>$29,500</td>
<td>10/17/2012</td>
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<td>Conservancy Small Grant</td>
<td>Hudson Crossing Park, Inc.</td>
<td>Enhancements to Hudson Riverwalk Sensory Trail &amp; Canoe/Kayak Launch</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>$14,381</td>
<td>10/17/2012</td>
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<td>Conservancy Small Grant</td>
<td>Mohonk Preserve, Inc.</td>
<td>Mohonk Preserve Foothills Trails Conectivity Planning Project</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>$10,610</td>
<td>10/17/2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conservancy Small Grant</td>
<td>John Burroughs Association</td>
<td>Slabsides Gateway Project</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
<td>$7,690</td>
<td>10/17/2012</td>
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<td>Greenway Communities Grant (Council)</td>
<td>Town of Rensselaerville</td>
<td>Farm Brew Cooperative</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>$21,180</td>
<td>10/17/2012</td>
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<td>Greenway Communities Grant (Council)</td>
<td>City of Poughkeepsie</td>
<td>Walkway as Gateway to Success Regional Tourism Implementation Project</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
<td>10/17/2012</td>
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<td>Greenway Communities Grant (Council)</td>
<td>Village of Brewster</td>
<td>Brewster Main Street Study with Patterns for Progress</td>
<td>$7,500</td>
<td>$12,500</td>
<td>10/17/2012</td>
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<td>Greenway Communities Grant (Council)</td>
<td>Town of Clifton Park</td>
<td>Ferry Drive Gateway Site Design</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
<td>10/17/2012</td>
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<td>Greenway Communities Grant (Council)</td>
<td>Town of Lloyd</td>
<td>Black Creek Access for Canoes and Kayaks</td>
<td>$7,500</td>
<td>$13,000</td>
<td>10/17/2012</td>
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<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
<td><strong>$153,960</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 286,221</strong></td>
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</table>
“Class of 2012”

Marcel Florestal was appointed to the Greenway Council by the Senate Minority Leader and hails from New York City.

Greg Helsmoortel, former Saugerties Town Supervisor, was appointed to the Board of the Hudson River Valley River Greenway Communities Council by Ulster County Executive Mike Hein. Mr. Helsmoortel will be the Ulster County representative to the Board.

Linda von der Heide, Principal Planner for Rensselaer County Economic Development and Planning, has been appointed to the Board of the Hudson River Valley Greenway Communities Council by Rensselaer County Executive Kathy Jimino. Ms. von der Heide will be the Rensselaer County representative to the Board.

Jennifer Schwartz-Berky was appointed to the Greenway Conservancy by Assembly Speaker Silver and hails from Kingston.
The Greenway Act of 1991 created two organizations to facilitate the Greenway process: the Hudson Valley Greenway Communities Council and the Greenway Conservancy for the Hudson River Valley.

**THE GREENWAY MISSION**
To continue and advance the state’s commitment to the preservation, enhancement and development of the world-renowned scenic, natural, historic, cultural and recreational resources of the Hudson River Valley while continuing to emphasize economic development activities and remaining consistent with the tradition of municipal home rule.

**GREENWAY CRITERIA**
“the basis for attaining the goal of a Hudson River Valley Greenway”

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The Hudson River Valley generates over $4.7 billion dollars in economic benefit, supports 6,530 jobs, and generates over $66.6 million in tax revenue. The Hudson River Valley Ramble generates over $21 million per year, according to an Economic Impact study. Of the many duties assigned to the Greenway Communities Council and Greenway Conservancy, the one above resonates most with our accomplishments this year. Since 1991, we have seen an increase in recognition of the Hudson River Valley as a region, as a destination, and now, as a world class destination for its combination of scenic, cultural and historic assets.

National Geographic named the Hudson Valley one of its “Best Trips for 2013.” The editors heralded, “Not even Rip Van Winkle could sleep through the cultural clarion of today’s Hudson Valley,” and in so doing, may have pushed our region past the tipping point and into a new reality. This new reality is one that we and our partners have been working toward since the beginning, and it’s one that firmly recognizes the value and economic impact of our natural, cultural, and historic resources. These are the elements that define our quality of life in the Hudson River Valley. Protecting, promoting and celebrating these assets has become a key piece of our region’s economic development portfolio. Tourism and resource protection have been identified by Governor Cuomo's Regional Economic Development Councils as key strategies.

The numbers back this up.

- Tourism generates over $4.7 billion dollars in our regional economy annually.
- The National Heritage Area program annually generates $584,986,026 million in economic benefit, supports 6,530 jobs, and generates over $66.6 million in tax revenue.
- The Hudson River Valley Ramble generates over $21 million per year, according to an Economic Impact study.

The various economic development projects the Greenway has helped advance over the last year are detailed in this report.

Celebrating these shared successes is tempered by the loss of federal funding for the National Heritage Area program. The numbers above demonstrate that the Greenway and National Heritage Area program yield a tremendous return on investment. As we pursue restoration of federal funding, we will make clear that investing in what we do is not frivolous, optional, or a secondary priority, rather it is part of a sustainable and resilient regional economic development strategy.

Mark Castiglione
January 2013

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2012 Annual Report
Hudson River Valley Greenway
Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area

**“Not even Rip Van Winkle could sleep through the cultural clarion of today’s Hudson Valley.”**

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The Combined Annual Economic Benefits:
Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area

| Economic | $584,986,026 |
| Employment | 6,530 jobs |
| Tax Revenue | $66,667,434 |
| HRV Ramble | $21,000,000 + |
| Regional Tourism | $4.7 billion + |

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625 Broadway, 4th Floor Albany, NY 12207
WWW.HUDSONGREENWAY.NY.GOV - WWW.HUDSONRIVERVALLEY.COM
**13th Annual Hudson River Valley Ramble**

Attendance topped 130,000 participants during the 13th Annual Hudson River Valley Ramble in September. This year’s roster included more than 170 hikes, bike rides, paddles, festivals, and interpretive walks taking place from the Capital Region to New York City. A recent economic impact study estimated the Ramble generates $21 million in the regional economy each year. The continued success of the Ramble is made possible by our over 150 public and private partners, and by the event leaders who volunteer their time to guide residents and visitors through the wonders of the Hudson River Valley.

Ramblers set sail on the Woody Guthrie, Embark on the Iona Island Paddle, and Hike Platte Clove (Photo credit: Robert Goldwitz)

GRANTS FROM THE COUNCIL AND CONSERVANCY

**Greenway Communities and Compact Grants**

State funding through the Greenway’s Aid to Localities appropriation resulted in 13 matching grant awards totaling $103,960 to member communities for projects that reinforce smart growth principles, providing models for innovation, economic development, regional planning and environmental protection. For this grant program, the amount leveraged by local partners totaled over $170,054.

**Partners:** 13 project awardees (County of Columbia; County of Rensselaer; Village of Bryne; Town of Clifton Park; Town of Greeneville; Town of Hyde Park; Town of Lloyd; City of Newburgh; City of Poughkeepsie; Town of Rensselaerville; Town of Sandaken; Village of Tivoli; Village of Walden).

**Greenway Conservancy Small Grant Program**

The Hudson River Valley Greenway awarded $50,000 in matching grants to 7 projects that will develop and enhance the Hudson River Greenway Trail. These trail development projects translate into construction, engineering, planning and tourism jobs.

**Partners:** 7 project awardees (BeaconArts Community Association, Harlem Valley Rail Trail, Hudson Crossing Park, Inc., John Burroughs Association, Mohonk Preserve, Rensselaer Plateau Alliance, Inc., Town of Stillwater)

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**National Water Trail Designation**

The Hudson River Greenway Water Trail has been designated a National Water Trail by the United States Department of Interior. On September 8th, enthusiasts were joined at Kingston Point Beach by Congressman Hinchey, Kingston Mayor Shayne Gallo and other dignitaries for the announcement, followed by a paddle on the Hudson River and Rondout Creek. The event also celebrated beginning of the 13th annual Hudson River Valley Ramble.

Congressman Maurice Hinchey joins Mark Castiglione, NYSDEC Region 3 Director Willie Janeway, Scott Keller of the Greenway, and others to celebrate the National Water Trail designation. (Photo credit: Robert Goldwitz)

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**National Water Trail Receives Grant**

The Regional Economic Development Councils recently announced their 2012 awardees, including the Greenway, which was awarded a $90,000 grant to promote use of the Hudson River Greenway Water Trail.

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**Water Trail Receives Grant**

The City of Newburgh was awarded a $5,000 Greenway Communities and Compact Grant to address vacant land issues. After mapping vacant areas and hosting public workshops, the City worked with partners to launch a pilot community garden at the Newburgh Armory. Individuals, families and non-profit service organizations actively participated, providing food to local soup kitchens and pantries. With generous support from other partners and donors, work began on several more lots in spring and summer, providing employment and training to city residents. Year Two of the Plan will be dedicated to the “green” rehabilitation of small lots to create “pocket parks” that install community amenities such as seating and plantings.

(Excerpted from the PathStone Grant Report)

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**Hudson River School Art Trail Expansion**

The Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area, the Thomas Cole National Historic Site, and partners formally opened the expanded Hudson River School Art Trail in May. Launched in 2005, it provides a series of hiking and driving trails to the places that inspired America’s great sublime landscape painters – including Thomas Cole, Frederic Church, Jasper Cropsey, Asher B. Durand, Sanford Gifford and others. The expansion more than doubles the Art Trail’s size from its original eight sites to twenty-two and includes a new website with hand-held optimization: hudsonriverschool.org.

Congressman Hinchey joins other dignitaries at the Hudson River School Art Trail expansion launch event at Kingston’s Hasbrouck Park in May.

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**Greening the Greenway: Urban Land Reuse**

The Greenway and Parks & Trails NY co-published a new cycling guidebook, “Cycling the Hudson Valley,” which highlights many heritage resources on both sides of the river, including political and historic sites, landscapes, museums and art centers, and literary landmarks. It features an overview of the Hudson River Valley, including information about the Greenway and the National Heritage Area; maps showing route details, points of interest, fairs and festivals, and services. The full-color, spiral-bound, easy-to-carry and use guide will brand the Hudson Valley as a destination for the growing number of bicycle tourists, while providing a tangible framework for promoting the strategic vision of a continuous Greenway Trail.

**Cycling the Hudson Valley**

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**Greenway Trails**

**Greenway Trails**

**Countryside Corridors/Connector Trails:**
- 71.66 mi
- 269.35 mi
- 487.62 mi
- 147.00 mi
- 256.00 mi
- 723.62 mi

**To order your copy of the guidebook, visit us online at HudsonRiverValley.com or scan here to order from SUNY Press.**