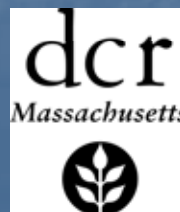


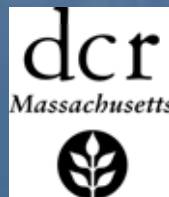


Amanda Lewis, DCR

Recreational Trails Program



- ✓ The DCR Greenways and Trails Program
- ✓ Recreational Trails Program
- ✓ RTP Successes: Examples of Groups and Communities Building Trails
- ✓ Q&A



DCR Greenways and Trails Program

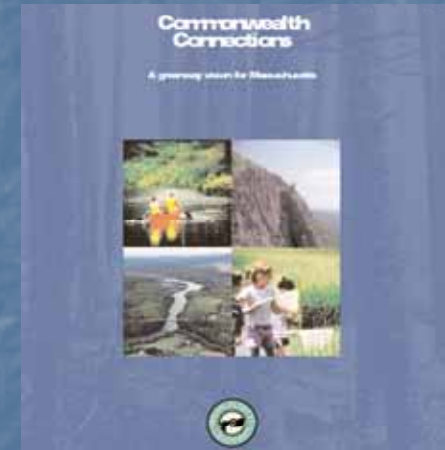
Grant Programs:
Recreational Trails Program
Greenway Demonstration Grants



Information and Technical Assistance



Land Acquisition

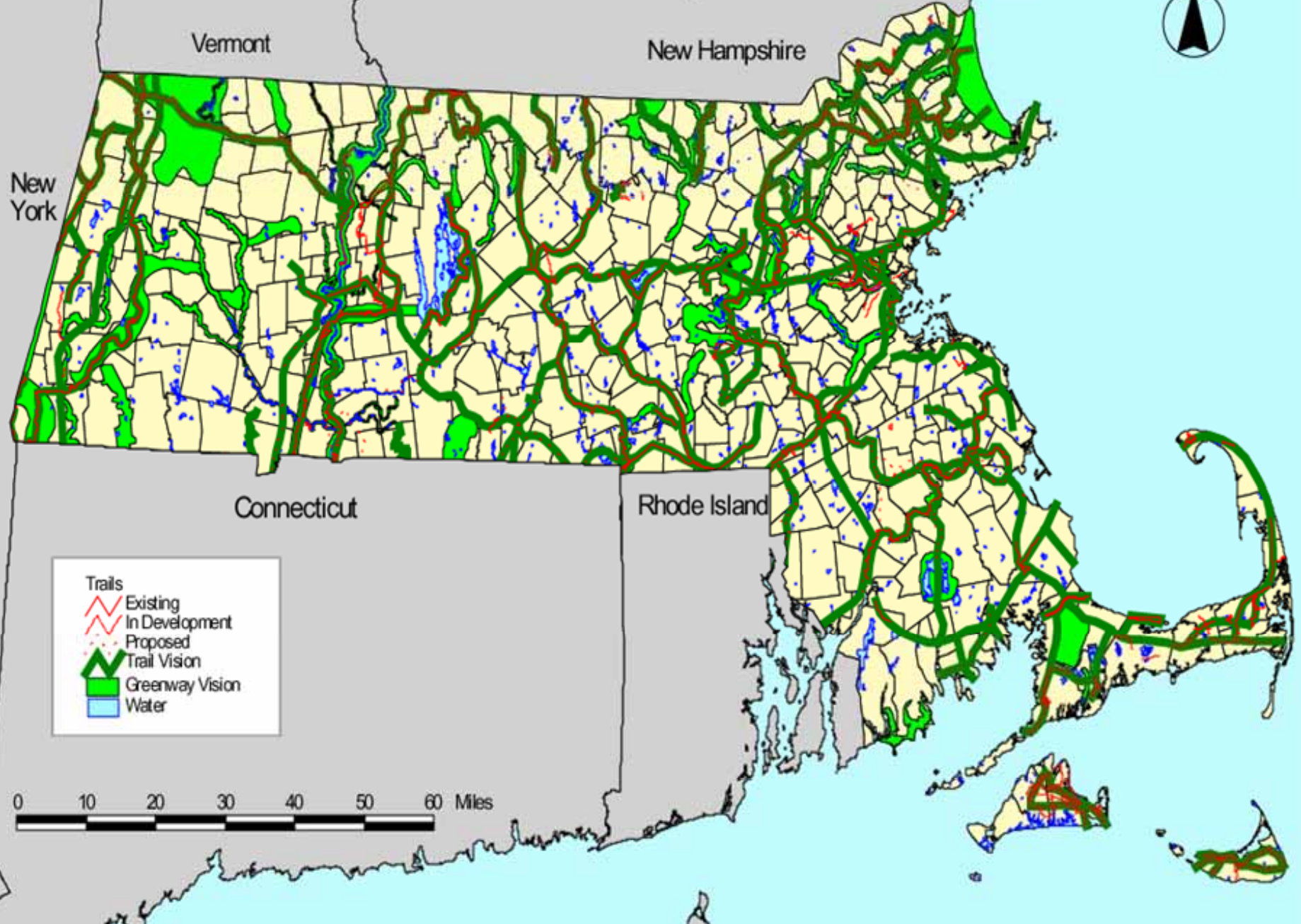


Trails Planning



Paul Jahnige, Director of
Greenways and Trails








Commonwealth Connections: A Greenway Vision for Massachusetts



- Trails**
- Existing
 - In Development
 - Proposed
 - Trail Vision
 - Greenway Vision
 - Water



Commonwealth Connections Statewide Strategies

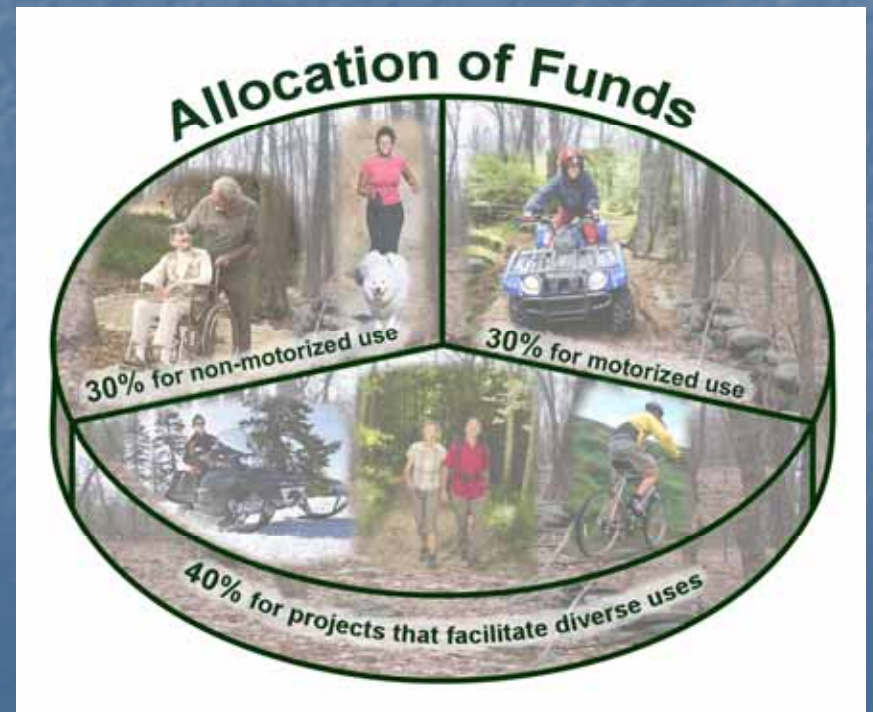
-  Protect and Promote the long-distance trail corridors as the primary spines of the Massachusetts greenway and trail system.
-  Protect critical river corridors and their tributaries.
-  Link important natural and human communities.
-  Create a cross-state multi-use trail from Boston to the Berkshires.
-  "Trail Bank" unused rail corridors and work for public access to utility corridors.
-  Assist with technical support and funding to establish a coordinated statewide greenway system.
-  Increase funding for greenways and trails.

DCR Recreational Trails Program










- Funding to develop and maintain recreational trails and trail facilities for all recreational trail user groups
- Federally-funded, Highway Trust Fund
- Administered by DCR in partnership with the Massachusetts Recreational Trail Advisory Board (MARTAB)

DCR Recreational Trails Program



DCR Recreational Trails Program

Suggested Activities for Recreational Trails Projects

-  Construction of new trails.
-  Acquisition of land or easements to protect trails.
-  Enhancement, stewardship and maintenance of existing trails.
-  Development of trailside and trailhead facilities.
-  Trail stewardship education.
-  Projects that demonstrate creative approaches to trail construction, partnerships, resource protection and stewardship.
-  Provision of features that facilitate trail access and use by persons with disabilities.

DCR Recreational Trails Program








Suggested Types of Trails for Recreational Trails Projects:

- Long distance trails
- Trails that link natural and recreational resources to homes, schools, neighborhoods, and communities - especially communities of socio-economic and environmental need.
- Urban trails in densely populated areas with underserved populations.
- Water trails.
- 'Non-traditional' open spaces such as utility and transportation corridors, watershed lands, former industrial sites, and landfills.
- Snowmobile, ATV or off-road motorcycle trails.



DCR Recreational Trails Program

Project Selection Criteria

-  Clearly demonstrates the need for the project, such as satisfying a recreational demand, connecting under-served communities, or solving a significant trails issue.
-  Furthers goals or strategies identified in Commonwealth Connections, or an adopted regional or local plan.
-  Describes a realistic, tangible trails project that can be accomplished in the time given. Has a realistic and appropriate budget.
-  Creates, expands or enhances a trail system, with real and lasting public benefits.
-  Thoroughly considers relevant environmental, social and cultural issues, and minimizes and mitigates impacts to natural and cultural resources.
-  Creates partnerships among trail users, organizations, or agencies.
-  Demonstrates community support for the project.

Recreational Trails Program Success Stories

Wachusett Greenways – Mass Central Rail Trail Community Collaboration and Connections





\$1.5 million in funding - 13 Miles of Trail





Charnock Hill Road Tunnel in Rutland







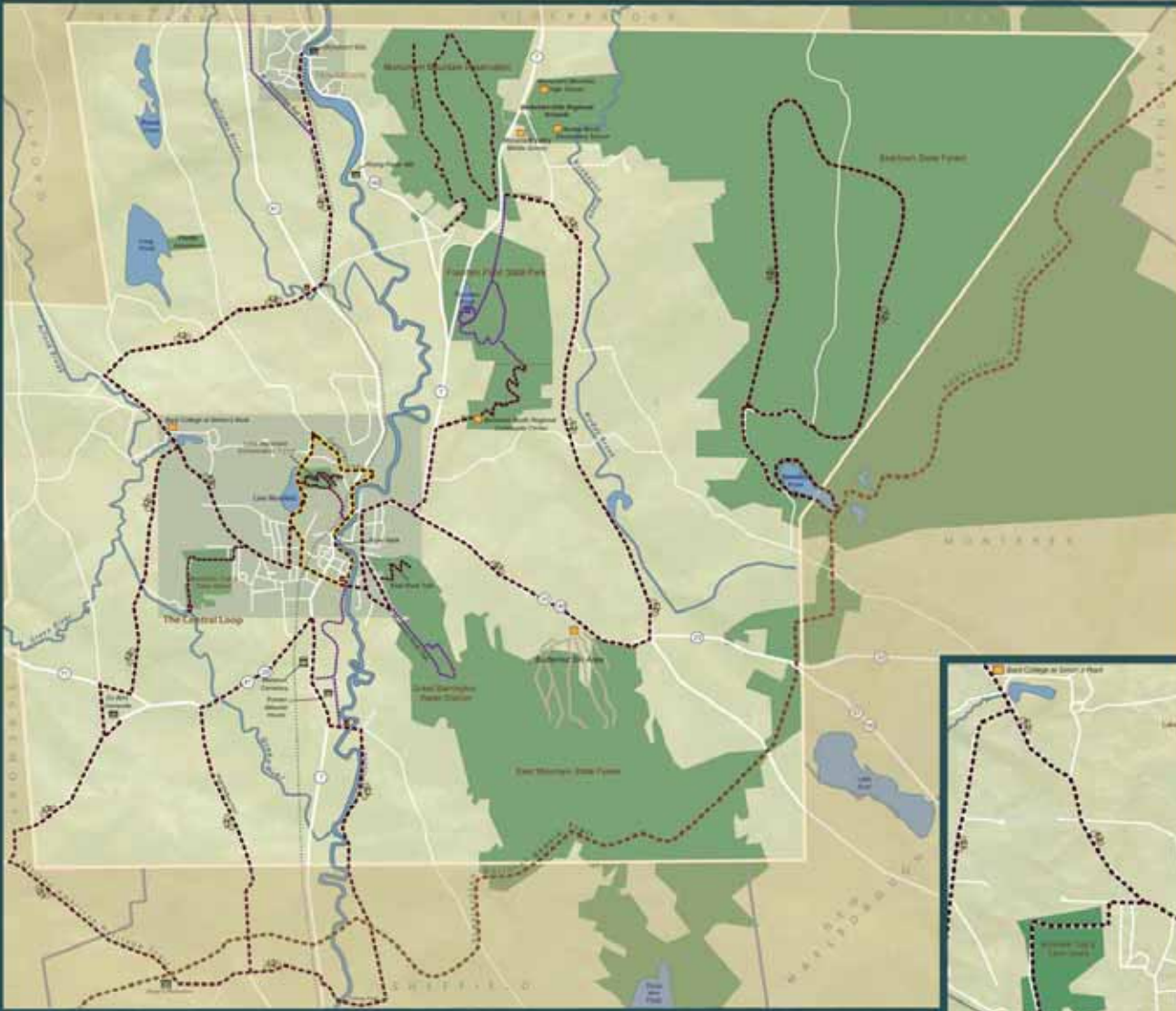
Housatonic River Walk

Great Barrington
Land Conservancy

Youth Volunteer
Support and River
Conservation



Great Barrington Trails & Greenways



A Town-wide Vision for Walking, Hiking and Biking Routes

From Main Street to Monument Mountain

Explore Great Barrington!

Great Barrington Trails and Greenways Project is a collaborative effort, promoting the development of an interconnected network trail system. We will support walking, hiking, biking, and boating. The proposed trail system will provide an all-weather opportunity to actively explore Great Barrington's rich history and natural resources, promoting public health and providing appreciation and support of our diverse communities assets.

'GA Facemakers' is an ongoing program of community walks, hikes and boating outings designed to encourage community trail use.

PARTNERS

Support for a Healthy Great Barrington

Great Barrington Local Government

Wachusett Regional Commission

Wachusett Regional Commission

Wachusett Regional Commission

Wachusett Regional Commission

Wachusett Regional Commission

Wachusett Regional Commission

Wachusett Regional Commission

Wachusett Regional Commission

Wachusett Regional Commission

Wachusett Regional Commission

Wachusett Regional Commission

Wachusett Regional Commission

Wachusett Regional Commission

Wachusett Regional Commission

Wachusett Regional Commission

Wachusett Regional Commission

Wachusett Regional Commission

Wachusett Regional Commission

Wachusett Regional Commission

Wachusett Regional Commission

Wachusett Regional Commission

Wachusett Regional Commission

Wachusett Regional Commission

Wachusett Regional Commission

Wachusett Regional Commission

Wachusett Regional Commission

Wachusett Regional Commission

Wachusett Regional Commission

Wachusett Regional Commission

Wachusett Regional Commission

Wachusett Regional Commission

Wachusett Regional Commission

Wachusett Regional Commission

Wachusett Regional Commission

Wachusett Regional Commission

Wachusett Regional Commission

Wachusett Regional Commission

Wachusett Regional Commission

Wachusett Regional Commission

Wachusett Regional Commission

Wachusett Regional Commission

Wachusett Regional Commission

Wachusett Regional Commission

Wachusett Regional Commission

Wachusett Regional Commission

Wachusett Regional Commission

Wachusett Regional Commission

Wachusett Regional Commission

Wachusett Regional Commission

Wachusett Regional Commission

Wachusett Regional Commission

Wachusett Regional Commission

Wachusett Regional Commission

Wachusett Regional Commission

Wachusett Regional Commission

Wachusett Regional Commission

Wachusett Regional Commission

Wachusett Regional Commission

Wachusett Regional Commission

Wachusett Regional Commission

Wachusett Regional Commission

Wachusett Regional Commission

Wachusett Regional Commission

Wachusett Regional Commission

Wachusett Regional Commission

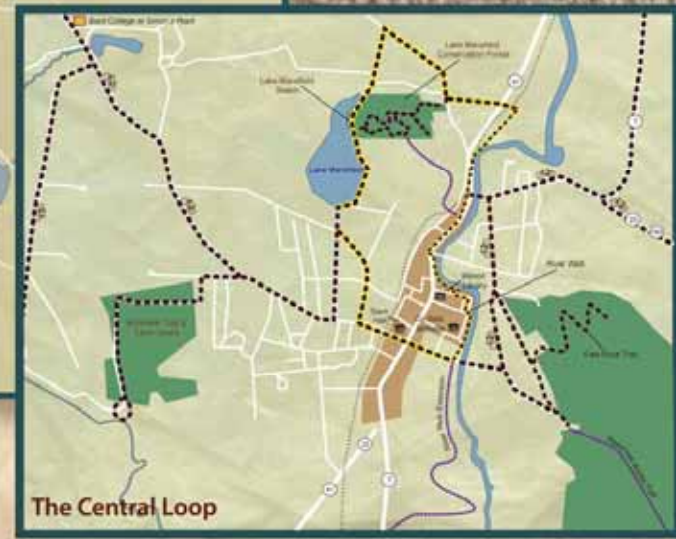
Wachusett Regional Commission

Wachusett Regional Commission



Legend

	Hiking Trails, Hikes and Biking Routes		State Park
	Proposed Trails & Biking Routes		State
	Trail		Water
	Trail		Water
	Trail		Water
	Trail		Water
	Trail		Water
	Trail		Water
	Trail		Water
	Trail		Water
	Trail		Water
	Trail		Water
	Trail		Water



The Central Loop



© J.S. De Witte Historical Society

Housatonic River



Threats:

- Working River
- Dumping
- Run-off
- Erosion
- Invasive/Exotic Plants

Housatonic River Walk Volunteer Corps



Invasive plant removal
& plant propagation

Trail restoration and
renovation



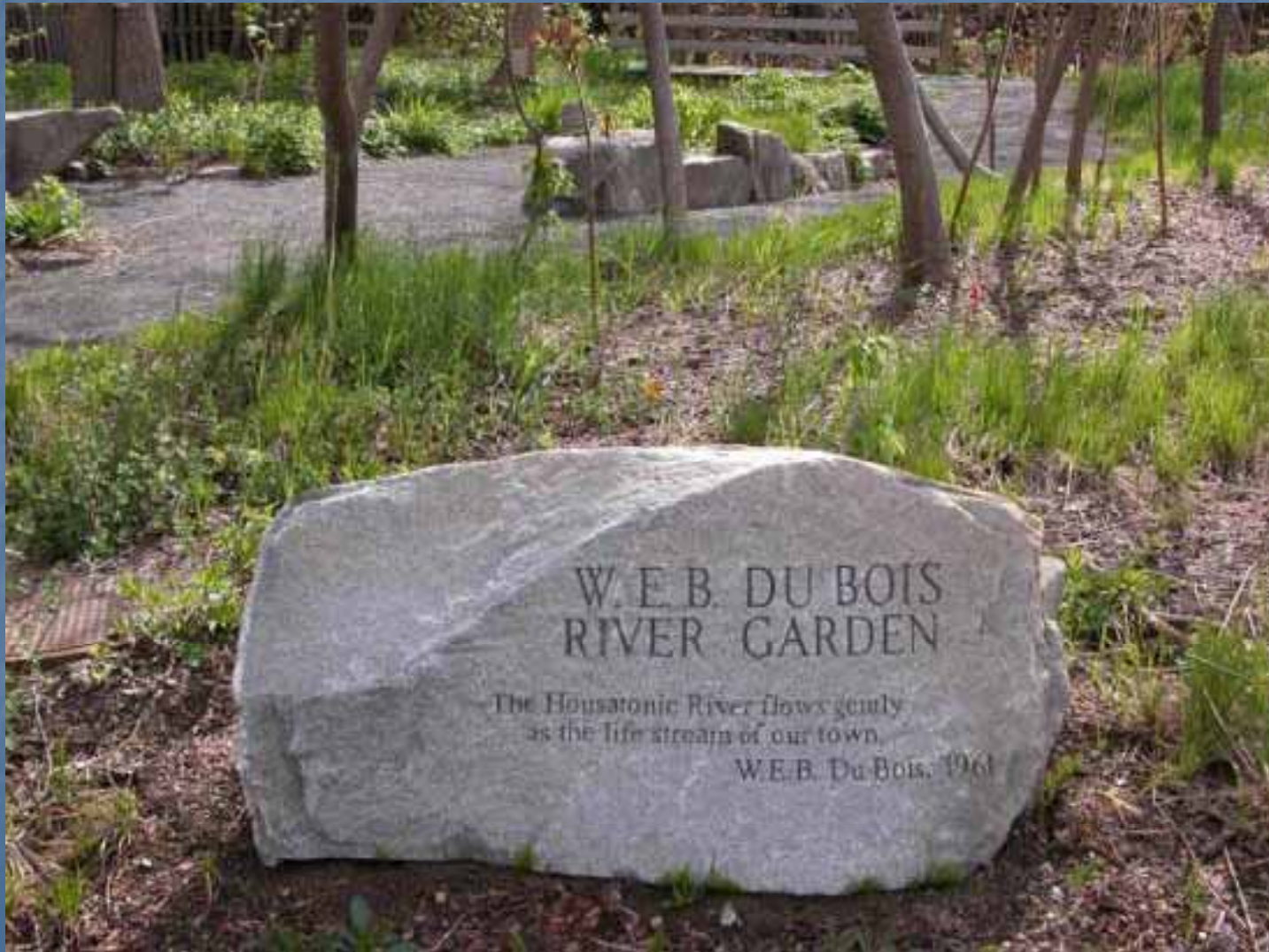
Place-based learning
service programs for
schools and camps

Housatonic River Walk

Safety Issues



Housatonic River Walk



Housatonic River Walk



William Stanley Overlook

City of Little Rock, Arkansas

Medical Mile



Funding Opportunities for Trail Protection & Greenway Projects

- Recreational Trails Grants
- Greenway and Trail Demonstration Grants
- LAND, PARC (formerly Self-Help) and Land and Water Conservation Funds
- Forest Legacy
- Transportation Enhancements and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Funds
- Congressional earmarks for High Priority Projects
- CPA Funds and other Local Sources

For Questions or to apply for a Recreational Trails Grant, Contact:

Amanda Lewis

Recreational Trails Program Coordinator

Department of Conservation and Recreation

413-586-8706

Amanda.lewis@state.ma.us

<http://www.mass.gov/dcr/stewardship/greenway/index.htm>

Get on our mailing list for:



connections

*The newsletter of the Massachusetts
Greenways and Trails Program*