



GREAT BARRINGTON HOUSATONIC RIVER WALK



Timeline 1988-2012

www.gbriverwalk.org

27 August 1988 – 25 October 1988

Denny Alsop Riverbank Clean-up—16 volunteers remove 15 tons accumulated rubbish and demolition debris from riverbank behind Community Land Trust at 195 Main St.

10-13 June 1989

70 eighth-grade Searles Middle School students clear 19 tons of litter, brush and storm damage—reclaim 266 feet of riverside path adjacent to school



8 September 1990 – 21 April 1991

109 volunteers remove 82 tons of rubbish and debris from Melvin's Prescription Pharmacy gutted by fire in 1978

3 August 1991

Housatilla Float: Flotilla of 50 decorated boats parade down the Housatonic River to celebrate riverbank cleanup, led by Mahican Native American representatives

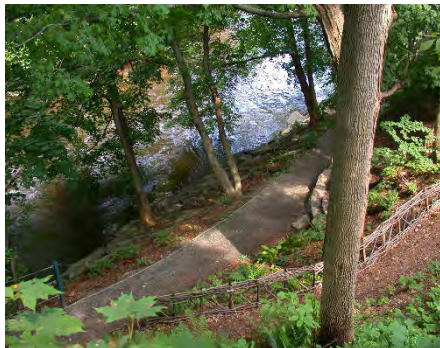


1 November 1992

136 ft of Housatonic River Walk trail, designed by Peter Jensen, open to the public (405 volunteers to date)

September 1994

River Walk begins ongoing water management and ecological restoration of its riverbanks, led by Monica Fadding and Heather Cupo, with native plant propagation/planting, exotic invasive removal, compost tea, and monitoring



River Walk is a greenway trail that follows the river as it flows behind Great Barrington's Main Street, formerly south Berkshire County's most severely abused riverbank. Now a National Recreation Trail, the half mile trail is managed by the Great Barrington Land Conservancy, cared for by Greenagers, and directed by Rachel Fletcher. As of 2015, more than 2700 volunteers continue to be involved in annual clean-ups, education programs and native habitat reclamation.

23 October 1994

300 new feet of trail behind St Peter's Church & Lucien Aigner home open to the public (768 volunteers, 166 tons removed to date)

20 November 1996

150 new feet of trail behind Tryon/Thierot property open to the public (964 volunteers, 196 tons removed to date)



23 October 1999

1150 new feet of accessible trail along Berkshire Corporation and Searles Middle School (1313 volunteers to date)

28 September 2002

River Garden Park and raingarden named for civil rights leader W.E.B. Du Bois. Son David Graham Du Bois is featured speaker. Du Bois Park joins Upper Housatonic Valley African American Heritage Trail dedicated 15 September 2006.

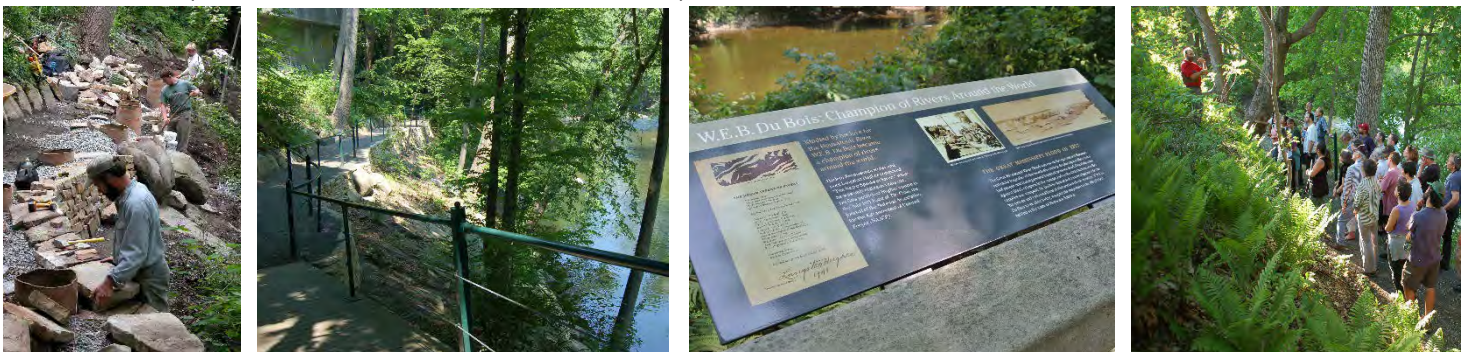


3 June 2006

William Stanley Overlook behind Culleton property recognizes the electrical engineer's alternating-current advances. Grandson George C. Stanley is featured speaker. Upstream section of trail is complete at 800 feet.

13 June 2009

River walk's one-half mile trail is designated a National Recreation Trail by the National Park Service (2164 volunteers, 400+ tons removed to date). 1000 hour volunteer Comstock Small is honored.



8 September 2012

River Walk celebrates 25th anniversary with a riverside festival, passing the baton to the next generation and naming Greenagers to care for the site. Dedicates new outdoor exhibit: W.E.B. DuBois: Champion of Rivers Here at Home and Around the World.