



**For immediate release  
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**Contact: Wendy Fox  
617-626-1453**

## **DCR BRINGS HERITAGE LANDSCAPE INVENTORY PROGRAM TO ADDITIONAL CONNECTICUT RIVER VALLEY TOWNS**

*Planning assistance available to communities*

The Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) is bringing a second round of the state's Heritage Landscape Inventory Program to the Connecticut River Valley region of Massachusetts. The Heritage Landscape Inventory Program works with local communities and regional organizations to identify significant landscapes and develop recommendations for their protection.

"To date, DCR has been able to help 108 communities, providing them with the tools to leverage funds and generate support for the protection of their heritage landscapes," said DCR Commissioner Richard K. Sullivan Jr., who will attend the workshop in Williamsburg. "Due to the high level of interest in the program from communities in this region, we are happy to be offering them a second opportunity to participate."

DCR is launching this round of the regional project with two kick-off meetings to introduce area residents and organizations to the program and distribute application materials. **The first meeting will be on Friday, June 19, at 9 a.m. at the Williamsburg Grange, 10 Main St. (Route 9), in Williamsburg. The second will be on Wednesday, June 24, at 5:30 p.m., in the Sunderland Town Offices, 12 School St., in Sunderland.**

Communities will be selected to participate in this program through a competitive application process. Communities must complete an application form and provide a local project coordinator to facilitate the project on the municipal level. In exchange, communities will receive free technical assistance from DCR and a professional consulting team.

The following 54 communities are eligible to apply: Agawam, Amherst, Ashfield, Belchertown, Blandford, Buckland, Charlemont, Chester, Chesterfield, Chicopee, Colrain, Conway, Cummington, Deerfield, East Longmeadow, Erving, Gill, Goshen, Granby, Granville, Hadley, Hampden, Hawley, Heath, Holland, Holyoke, Huntington, Leyden, Longmeadow, Ludlow, Middlefield, Monroe, Monson, Montague, Montgomery, Northampton, Northfield, Pelham, Plainfield, Rowe, Russell, Shelburne, Shutesbury,

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS · EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

Department of Conservation and Recreation  
251 Causeway Street, Suite 600  
Boston MA 02114-2119  
617-626-1250 617-626-1351 Fax  
[www.mass.gov/dcr](http://www.mass.gov/dcr)



Deval L. Patrick  
Governor

Timothy P. Murray  
Lt. Governor

Ian A. Bowles, Secretary, Executive  
Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs

Richard K. Sullivan, Jr., Commissioner  
Department of Conservation & Recreation

Southampton, Springfield, Sunderland, Tolland, Wales, Wendell, West Springfield, Westhampton, Wilbraham, Williamsburg, and Worthington.

The informational workshops in Williamsburg and Sunderland are open to anyone interested in land conservation, historic preservation, environmental protection, and sustainable growth. Municipal staff members and members of planning boards, conservation commissions, historical commissions, open space committees, and community preservation committees are particularly encouraged to attend.

Those wishing to attend either workshop are asked to preregister by Wednesday, June 17, with DCR Preservation Planner Jessica Rowcroft at 617-626-1380 or [jessica.rowcroft@state.ma.us](mailto:jessica.rowcroft@state.ma.us).

Further information about the Heritage Landscape Inventory program can be found at [www.mass.gov/dcr/stewardship/histland/histland.htm](http://www.mass.gov/dcr/stewardship/histland/histland.htm).

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*The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), an agency of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, oversees 450,000 acres of parks and forests, beaches, bike trails, watersheds, and dams, in addition to 278 bridges and miles of roadways. Led by Commissioner Richard K. Sullivan Jr., the agency's mission is to protect, promote, and enhance our common wealth of natural, cultural, and recreational resources. To learn more about DCR, our facilities, and our programs, please visit [www.mass.gov/dcr](http://www.mass.gov/dcr). Contact us at [mass.parks@state.ma.us](mailto:mass.parks@state.ma.us).*