



**For immediate release  
October 14, 2008**

**Contact: Wendy Fox  
617-626-1453**

## **DCR SELECTS 12 COMMUNITIES FOR CONNECTICUT RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL HERITAGE LANDSCAPE SURVEY**

The Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), the Franklin Regional Council of Governments, and the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission today announced the selection of 12 communities to participate in the Heritage Landscape Inventory Program. The program is part of DCR's Historic Landscape Preservation Initiative, which provides technical assistance and training to help preserve historically significant landscapes throughout Massachusetts.

Since 2001, the Heritage Landscape Inventory Program has given direct technical assistance to help communities identify, document, and plan for the protection of heritage landscapes that are vital to the history, character, and quality of life in the region. Participating communities this year are Bernardston, Easthampton, Greenfield, Hatfield, Leverett, New Salem, Palmer, South Hadley, Southwick, Ware, Westfield, and Whatley.

“The Heritage Landscape Inventory Program will provide an opportunity for these communities and the regional planning agencies to work together to plan for the protection of resources and engage residents in smart growth planning initiatives,” said DCR Commissioner Richard K. Sullivan Jr. “Through this initiative, DCR and our partners will be able to provide these communities with technical assistance in the protection of the special landscapes that help define the communities of the Connecticut River Valley.”

DCR has worked with 96 communities to date through the Heritage Landscape Inventory Program, partnering in the past with the Essex National Heritage Commission, the Taunton River Wild & Scenic Study Committee, the Freedom's Way Heritage Association, the John H. Chaffee Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor Commission, the Quinebaug-Shetucket Heritage Corridor, the Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission, and the North Quabbin Regional Landscape Partnership.

For more information on the Heritage Landscape Inventory Information, please visit DCR's website at [www.mass.gov/dcr/stewardship/histland/Inventoryprog.htm](http://www.mass.gov/dcr/stewardship/histland/Inventoryprog.htm). For more information about the Connecticut River Valley Reconnaissance Survey, contact Jessica Rowcroft at DCR (617-626-1380).

###

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

*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)*