

Western New England Greenway

Upper Housatonic Valley National Heritage Area & Champlain Valley National Heritage Partnership
 Long Island Sound to Montreal Quebec - Route Map 2 of 6: Cornwall Bridge, Connecticut to Pittsfield, Massachusetts
 National Park Service/U.S. Department of the Interior



Credit: Richard Cheek

The second section of the WNEG continues in Connecticut for about 15 miles and continues to the northern part of Massachusetts. The last town in Connecticut has a nice history on its web page:

“Once there was a dream that Falls Village would become an industrial mecca. It would be fueled with an abundance of hydropower thanks to the miles of stone canals running along the Housatonic River at the great Falls. Those canals (along with much of Falls Village) were built up over the course of several years. In 1851 the canals finally opened. The crowds cheered, the water flowed and everything leaked. Thanks to that dream and the fact that it died, Falls Village lives on—much as it was in 1851.”

Though not historically accurate for each town it captures the spirit of these villages seen along the route. Great Barrington to Lenox are exceptions and together mark an area that is known for many cultural activities among great historical settings.



Credit: Hiliary Scott

Sites of Interest

Tanglewood

The Boston University Tanglewood Institute is located on a wonderful campus on the edge of Lenox, Massachusetts. Its program joins aspiring young musicians and the Boston Symphony in a world famous educational experience of learning and performance throughout the summer.

Norman Rockwell Museum

Home of the largest collection of original Norman Rockwell art this museum in Stockbridge, Massachusetts serves as a center for cultural events in the area. Rockwell's art reflected on everyday life in the area in the mid 1900s and was widely seen through the publications of the Saturday Evening Post. A view into the life and work of Norman Rockwell can be seen in the museum in Arlington, Vermont.

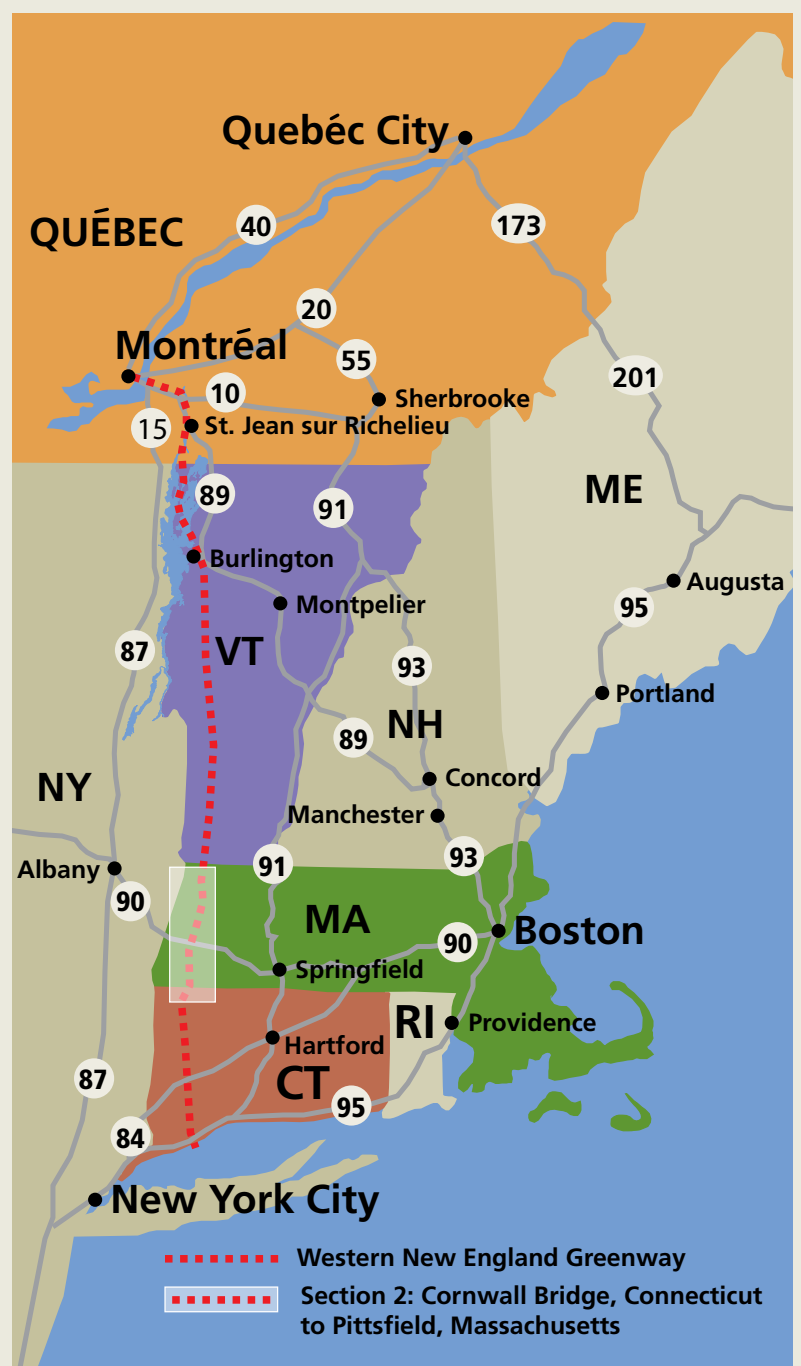
Ashuwillticook Rail Trail

This pleasant off road part of the route is named for the Indian name for the south branch of the Hoosic River. Pronounced ash-oo-will-ti-cook the word means literally “at the in-between pleasant river” or “the pleasant river in between the hills”. The original railroad corridor was created in 1845 and has evolved through many different owners. The name was given to the trail to recognize and commemorate the pre-railroad local history.

About the Western New England Greenway

The Western New England Greenway is a three state, two country bicycling route that connects to the New England Greenway in Norwalk, Connecticut thereby linking New York City to Montreal. The route is comprised primarily of public roads that have been selected for their ease of bicycling, scenic surroundings and interesting places to visit. The major metropolitan areas that the WNEG pass through are Burlington, Vermont and Montreal, Quebec. In each of these areas extensive bicycle path networks exist and are used.

The Connecticut portion of the WNEG follows the Housatonic River north through gently rolling terrain marked by farmland and river views. The Massachusetts section is not very long but it is filled lovely New England towns, historic sites and interesting places to visit. Southern Vermont provides more, but short, hills and mountain views and gradually levels into the flat plains of Quebec following the Champlain Bikeway and Route Verte.



Cue Sheet

Cornwall Bridge - Intersection of Rts. 7 and 4

- CT 66.2 → Continue north on Rt. 7.
- CT 70.5 → Turn right on Rt. 128.
- CT 70.7 ← Turn left on River Rd. at **WEST CORNWALL**.
- CT 72.4 ↑ Stay straight. Becomes Lime Rock Station Rd.
- CT 75.5 ↑ Stay straight. Cross Rt. 7 onto Warren No.1 Turnpike passing high school.
- CT 77.1 → Turn right on Water St. - **FALLS VILLAGE**.
- CT 77.2 ← Turn left on Railroad St., becomes Point of Rocks Rd.
- CT 78.7 → Bear right on Sand Rd.
- CT 80.8 ← Turn left on Boinay Hill Rd.
- CT 81.0 ← Turn left on Rt. 44 and cross bridge.
- CT 81.6 → Turn right on Twin Lakes Rd.
- CT 82.4 → Turn right on Weatogue Rd.
- CT 85.2 ↑ Stay straight at State line. Unpaved for 0.8 miles.
- MA 0.8 → Turn right on Rannapo Rd. (no sign).
- MA 1.6 ← Turn left on Ashley Falls Rd. (Rt. 7A) **ASHLEY FALLS**.
- MA 4.0 ← Turn left on Main Street, **SHEFFIELD** (US Rt. 7).
- MA 6.0 → Turn right on Maple Ave.
- MA 6.7 ← Turn left on Boardman Rd. which becomes E. Sheffield Rd.
- MA 11.8 ← Turn left on Brookside Rd. at Brush Hill Rd.
- MA 12.0 → Turn right on Main St., Rt. 7 thru **GREAT BARRINGTON**.
- MA 15.8 ← Turn left on Rt. 183 - Park St.
- MA 23.2 ↑ Stay straight. Cross under I-90, becomes Interlaken Rd.
- MA 28.5 ← Turn left on Main St. (Rt. 7A) in **LENOX**.
- MA 29.0 → Turn right on Hubbard at Birchwood Inn.
- MA 30.2 ← Turn left on East Street which becomes Chapman Rd.
- MA 33.5 → Turn right on Holmes Rd.
- MA 35.4 → Turn right on Williams St. entering **PITTSFIELD**.
- MA 40.4 ← Turn left on Dalton Ave. - **BIG INTERSECTION**.
- MA 40.8 → Turn right on Cheshire Rd. (MA Rt. 8).
- MA 42.3 ← Turn left on Rt. 7 - Rt. 8 Connector Rd.
- MA 42.4 → Turn right. Enter Ashuwillticook Northern Trailhead.

Safety Guidelines

Motorists and bicyclists share scenic roads. Use caution on narrow, winding or unpaved roadway. Follow traffic laws and ride safely. Bicycles are vehicles by law and have the right to use public roads. You are responsible for operating your bicycle under all conditions.

When cycling, please follow these guidelines:

1. WEAR A HELMET and cycling gloves.
2. Ride with the flow of traffic.
3. When using travel lanes, follow motor vehicle laws. Obey all traffic signs and signals. Do not cut corners.
4. Use clear hand signals when making turns or stopping.
5. Ride in a straight line at least 3 feet from parked cars or curbs.
6. If you must ride at night, use lights and reflectors.
7. Ride defensively! Be aware of motorists' actions.
8. Be aware of train tracks and other road conditions.
9. Ride single file.
10. Carry items in panniers or a handle-bar pack.

Disclaimer: Users assume all risks, inherent and not inherent, in the use of materials recommending routes of the Lake Champlain Bikeways network and all affiliated organizations, and individuals disclaim any and all liability on their part for damages or injuries to persons or property should they occur. Routes are chosen, designated and/or signed because: they are popular, or are preferred, or provide continuous routes to destinations, or are lightly traveled, or are scenic, or have more room for cars and bikes, or possess a combination of these attributes.



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