



2024

TrailLink Unlimited 

Guides



**Blackstone
River
Greenway**
*Massachusetts,
Rhode Island*



Blackstone River Greenway

Massachusetts, Rhode Island

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Throughout history, the Blackstone River has been an important waterway, from its use by American Indians who fished its once-abundant salmon to its role as a major artery for the transportation of raw materials and manufactured goods along its canal and riverways. Its widespread use during the Industrial Revolution earned it a reputation as “the hardest-working river” in America, though that legacy came at a cost, as the river would later be regarded as one of the most polluted in the country. The cleanup of the river is ongoing—and communities along its banks are embracing tourism and recreation as new industries, with the Blackstone River Greenway (also known as the Blackstone River Bikeway) as a major draw. The greenway is envisioned as a 50-mile network of trails and pathways along the riverbanks from Worcester, Massachusetts, to Providence, Rhode Island.

In Massachusetts completed off-road sections include a 3.5-mile segment that begins in South Worcester and ends in Millbury; a tranquil 3.6-mile canalway in Blackstone River and Canal Heritage State Park; and another 3.5 miles of trail from Uxbridge to the MA state line that crosses the Blackstone River several times. Currently, the longest off-road segment connects Woonsocket and Pawtucket in Rhode Island.

Just north of the Massachusetts–Rhode Island state line, the trail will one day connect to the Southern New England Trunkline Trail (SNETT). On the southern end of the trail, you can continue on bike lanes and shared roadways into Providence, where you can connect to the [East Bay Bike Path](#) in India Point Park.

Visit the [Blackstone Heritage Corridor website](#) for greenway updates and maps with suggested on-road routes that connect the off-road trails.

South Worcester to Millbury (Massachusetts)

This 3.5-mile section begins at the Blackstone Heritage Corridor Visitor Center, where McKeon Road crosses Middle River.

The paved pathway heads south into Millbury, passing a railroad and winding under busy highways as it offers serene river views under a pleasant tree-lined canopy. A parking lot at Millbury Street has maps and information placards, a bike repair station, and bike racks. As you continue south, you’ll see several forks that connect to nearby roadways—stay to the right to continue along the main trail.

The most picturesque portion is the trail’s last 2 miles on its south end. Here, a small bridge carries you to the other side of the Blackstone River. Shortly after, the railroad makes an appearance again as you cross an intersecting branch of the river, revealing an interesting side-by-side view of a rail-with-trail. The trail continues to follow the railroad as you move



Blackstone River Greenway

Massachusetts, Rhode Island

States: Massachusetts, Rhode Island

Counties: Providence, Worcester

Length: 29.9 miles

Trail end points: McKeon Road, just east of Blackstone River Road (South Worcester, MA) to Tockwotton Park (Providence, RI)

Trail surfaces: Asphalt, Boardwalk, Crushed Stone, Dirt

Trail category: Rail-Trail

Trail activities: Bike, Inline Skating, Fishing, Wheelchair

Parking & Trail Access

Northernmost access in Worcester: Parking will be available at the Blackstone Heritage Corridor Visitor Center off McKeon Road in Worcester. At press time, the northernmost parking lot for the trail can be found just south of the intersection of Millbury and Cliff Sts. in Worcester. From I-90 (Massachusetts Turnpike), take Exit 10A toward US 20/MA 146. At the end of the exit ramp, turn right to merge onto MA 122A/MA 146. In 0.6 mile exit and turn right onto Millbury St. Drive south 0.4 mile to Cliff St. The trail parking lot will appear on your right.

Blackstone River and Canal Heritage State Park: To reach the River Bend Farm Visitor Center from I-90, take Exit 10A toward Worcester/Providence. At the end of the exit ramp, turn right, then turn right again onto MA 146 S toward Millbury/Providence. Merge onto MA 146 S, and continue 12.1 mile. Take Exit 3 for MA 16 toward Uxbridge/Douglas, then turn left onto MA 16/Douglas St. After 2.3 miles, turn right onto MA 16/MA 122. Take the next left onto MA 16/ Mendon St. In 0.3 mile turn left onto Oak St., and the entrance to the state park will be on your right in 1.1 miles.

There are three trailheads along the Uxbridge to Blackstone segment: The west trailhead is located at 1 Adams Street, Uxbridge, MA; the Millville trailhead can be found at 44 Hope Street Millville, MA; and the Depot Parking Area in Blackstone (93 Canal Street, Blackstone, MA) is about 0.4 miles from the trail's actual eastern endpoint on Church Street.

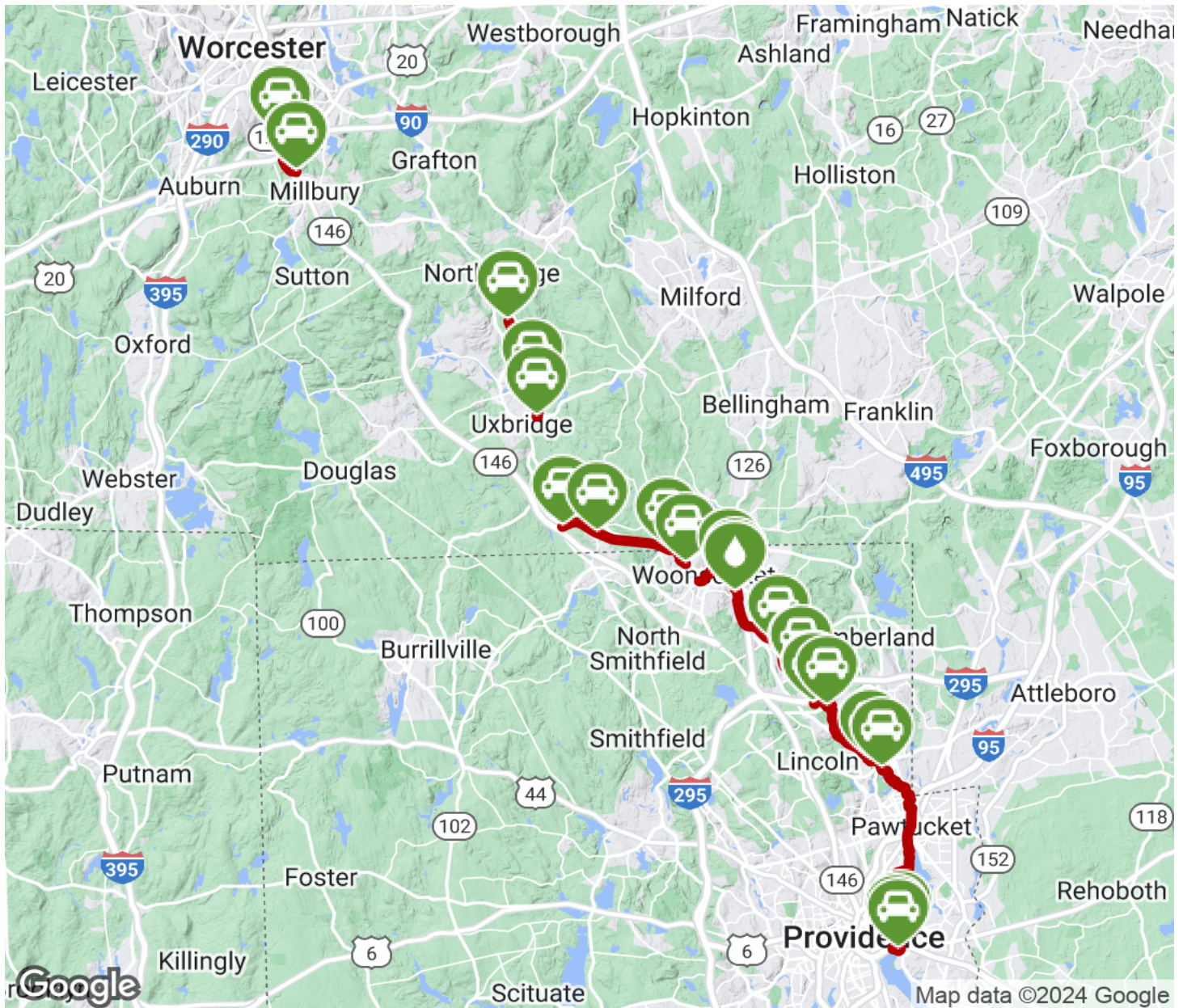
Woonsocket: To reach the Rivers Edge Parking Area on Davison Ave. in Woonsocket from I-295, take Exit 9B for RI 146 N toward Woonsocket, then in 0.3 mile take the exit for RI 99 N. In 2.8 miles, turn left onto RI 122/Mendon Road toward Woonsocket. In 1.5 miles, turn left onto Hamlet Ave. Just after crossing the river, turn left onto Davison Ave. The parking lot will be on your left, just past the Veterans Memorial. The trail begins at the south end of the parking lot.

Lonsdale: To reach the parking area and trail access point near the Pratt Dam in Lonsdale from I-295, take Exit 10 for RI 122 toward Cumberland. Turn left onto RI 122/Mendon Road. In 3.25 miles, turn right onto RI 123/Front St. After a slight bend in the road, in 0.2 mile, turn right into the entrance of Blackstone River State Park.



Blackstone River Greenway

Massachusetts, Rhode Island



Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



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