

Visitor & Resource Guide

Central Massachusetts

Our Towns

Belchertown

Brimfield

Brookfield

East Brookfield

Hardwick

Holland

Monson

New Braintree

North Brookfield

Palmer

Spencer

Wales

Ware

Warren

West Brookfield

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Town by Town
Outdoor Attractions
Brimfield Show Guide
Business Listings

2007 Brimfield Antique Shows

May 8-13 • July 10-15 September 4-9

2008 Show DatesMay 13-18 • July 8-13 • Sept 2-7

www.quaboag.com







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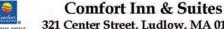
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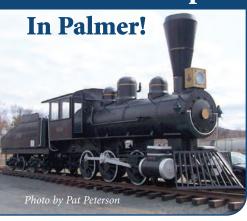
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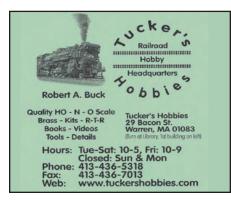
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In a state not well known as a rail fan destination, Palmer proves how wrong such an assumption can be. There is main line action here, in the form of CSX's (ex-CR, ex-B&A) Boston to Albany route, Amtrak's Lake Shore Limited flows thru in mid-afternoon.

Arriving Soon! The first book about Palmer's Railroads! It's not just about trains...it's about Palmer too. Information available at Palmer Public Library.



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Welcome to the Quaboag Hills Region

Visiting the Quaboag Hills is like going back in time. From our white steeples and country stores to our front porches and tree swings, we're classic New England, and proud of it.

We're historic, through and through. First came the native Quaboags and Nipmucs, then the Puritan settlers, then King Philip's War, Ben Franklin's Post Road, the Colonial Revolution, the Industrial Revolution, and even today's high-tech revolution. Artifacts abound, especially at our antique shops and world famous Brimfield Antique Shows.



The Quaboag Hills are **perfect for a drive** anytime. Curving roads. Stone walls. Majestic maples. Over every rise and around each bend comes a new discovery far from the beaten path. Wander our country roads. Kick back on our village greens. Get to know the Quaboag Hills, and get to know the real New England!

Visit us at www.quaboag.com

Stimulating economic development through tourism in the Quaboag Hills Region!

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www.qvcc.biz



Upcoming Events

SUMMER CONCERTS ON THE COMMON

JUNE - AUGUST 2007 • 7PM-9PM FREE

June 27 Charlie Lask Tribute To Neil Diamon July 3 The Premier Jimmy Buffett Tribute Show July 4 Rain Date For July 3- Skid Marks

July 11 Bennie And The Jets

July 18 Flamingo's (14 Piece All Girl Band)

July 25 Eddie Forman Orchestra

August 1 Jimmy Mazz

August 8 Union Jack - British Invasion Revue
August 15 Donna Lee Tribute To Patsy Kline
With Crooked Edge Country Band

For More Information Call Sue Labarge (413) 967-3681

Sponsored by Friends of the Bandstand • West Brookfield

BRIMFIELD'S OPEN STUDIO TOUR

DECEMBER 8-9

Visit unique specialty arts and crafts in local studios! **Artworks • Photography • Weavers • Clay Art • Pottery** *Sturbridge, Brimfield, Holland, Wales, Monson, Palmer* (413) 245-0947 (Map available)

BACK ROADS STUDIO TOUR

SEPT. 29 & 30, 2007 • 10AM-5PM

Visit local artists in their home studios while driving the Quaboag Hills country roads! Studios in Ware, North Brookfield, Gilbertville, Barre, Hardwick, Petersham and Phillipston.

For more information call (413) 477-8819 or visit us at www.backroadsstudiotour.com

CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE

DECEMBER 1-2 2007

Holiday Decorated Cookies

great for hostess gifts, party favors and stocking stuffers

For more information call June Glidden (413) 477-6962 or (508) 867-0099 135 Pierce Road, New Braintree 119TH ANNUAL

THE SPENCER FAIR

AUG 31-SEPT 3, 2007

Family fun with Agriculture! The largest agricultural fair in Central Mass!

> Exhibit Hall • Junior Poultry Show Cattle Barn • Pulling Contest Demolition Derby

For more Information: 508-867-6877 or www.spencerfair.org

Spencer Agricultural Association • P.O. Box 46, Spencer, MA 01562

245TH ANNUAL HARDWICK COMMUNITY FAIR

August 17 & 18, 2007

The oldest fair in the United States, originated in 1762. Fair supper, exhibitions, art show, lumberjack contest, hay rides, road race, sheep show, barbecue, horse show, blacksmith, stone cutting.

For more information call Hardwick Farmers Coop (413) 477-6429

 29^{th} annual

APPLE COUNTRY FAIR BROOKFIELD

OCTOBER 6, 2007 • 10AM TO 4PM

Bring the Kids! Hay rides, children's games, face painting and more! Take in the aroma of popcorn, mulled cider and apple pies!

A True New England Event! Rain or Shine

For more information call (508) 867-1955 or email: applecountryfair@charter.net Sponsored by the Brookfield Community Club

WHITE CHRISTMAS

DECEMBER 2ND, 2007

Noon to 8 p.m. Horsedrawn Hayrides, Crafts, Shops Open House, Tree Lighting and Concert.

West Brookfield Common

Shops open at noon. FREE

For more information call (508) 867-4201



Spring

Maple Days, Sturbridge-BrookfieldMarch 2008

Daffodil Days, Brookfield Spring 2008 **June Glidden Easter Open House** March 15-16, 2008

Art Show at Monson House of Art April

Cow Chip On the Common, Brookfield June 19th • 10am to 4pm

Strawberry Festival, New Braintree Mid June

New England Pioneer Valley Art Exhibit Brimfield Town Hall, May 12-13, 2007

Asparagus & Flower Heritage Festival West Brookfield Town Common May 19th

Drover's Roast, Salem Cross Inn West Brookfield June 17th

Summer

St. Mary's Carnival, Ware

2nd Week of June, ends on Saturday

Town Tag Sale, Ware, June 23rd 9am-3pm Benefit restoration for Ware Meeting House

Living History @ the Stone House Museum Belchertown • July 7-8

Concerts on the Common, Belchertown

Thursdays in July and August

Concerts on the Common, Brookfield Sunday evenings in July (6,13,20 and 27th)

Independence Day, E. Brookfield (509) 795-4617

Tag Sale On The Common, Brookfield July 10, 8am

Monson Summerfest July 4th weekend

Antique Tractor Show, Belchertown July **Old Home Days, Wales**

2nd Weekend in August

Concerts on the Common, Belchertown

Thursdays mid July - mid August 7-9 free

Fall

Belchertown Fair, Belchertown September 24-26 (handicap accessible)

Drover's Roast, Salem Cross Inn West Brookfield September 9th Sunday

Yuletide at the Stone House Museum Belchertown November

Handcraft & Collectibles Show Salem Cross Inn, West Brookfield November 4th 10am-3pm

Arts Council Craft Fair, Monson

Thanksgiving Weekend

Holiday Traditions, Spencer Thanksgiving Weekend

Winter

Christmas Stroll , Spencer Saturday, December 2nd

Christmas Tree Lighting, Warren Common Sunday, December 3rd

Christmas at Elm Hill, Brookfield Saturday, December 10th

Railroad Hobby Show, West Springfield, Big E, January 26-27-2008

On Going

Murder Mystery Dinner Series, Salem Cross Inn West Brookfield Monthly

Farmers Market, Greenwich Park, Ware 25 Saturdays, May 2 until October 27

Keep Homestead Monthly Events, Monson 1st Sundays, April - December

Quaboag Valley Railroad HO & E. Brookfield Historical Museum

2nd Saturday each month (July TBD)

Friends of Library Book Sale, Belchertown Oct. & April at the Clapp Library

Farmers Market, Belchertown May 31st though October 18th

Looking for More Information?

Brochure racks are located throughout Quaboag Hills Area containing literature about the region!

Athens Pizza, Brimfield

Belchertown Town Hall Breezeland Orchard, Warren Brimfield Antique Center Brookfield Orchard, N. Brookfield Brookfield Town Hall Carmella's Restaurant, Brookfield Dave's Appliance, Brookfield E.B. Flatts, E.Brookfield Hardwick Town Hall Hardwick Farmers Coop, Gilbertville Haston Free Library, N. Brookfield Holland Library Holland Town Hall Hooya's, Brimfield Monson Free Library Monson Town Hall N. Brookfield Town Hall Palmer Town Hall Oak Haven Campground, Wales Oakwood Farm Christmas Barn, Spencer Paige Memorial Library, Hardwick Reed's Country Store, New Braintree Richard Sugden Library, Spencer Salem Cross Inn, West Brookfield Spencer Town Hall Spencer Savings Bank, Warren State Police Academy, New Braintree Steaming Tender, Palmer Stop & Shop, Belchertown Sunsetview Campgrounds, Monson Warren Public Library Wedgewood Motel, Palmer W. Brookfield Town Hall Westview Farm Creamery, Monson



Town by Town

As the communities of the Quaboag Hills gained prosperity during the 19thcentury Industrial Revolution, the area's architectural beauty blossomed. Farm houses became more elaborate. Residences in the towns took on greater ornamentation. Even mills and factories reflected pride of ownership. Today, several hundred buildings and monuments in the region are listed on the National Register of Historic Places, including fine examples of Georgian, Federal, Italianate, Greek Revival, Victorian, Tudor, Oueen Anne, Cottage, Stick, and Colonial Revival architecture. Although most are private residences, some buildings are open to the public. Please be respectful of private property.

Brimfield

On Route 20 in Brimfield at the town common, On the east end you'll find the Italianate **Hitchcock Free Academy** (c. 1855), which schooled Brimfielders until 1955. Head west to the **Congregational Meeting House**, an 1847 Greek Revival prominent at the center of the common. **Brimfield Town Hall** (c. 1878) is the striking, pink building designed by Eugene Clarence Gardner. Built in the unique Stick style, the building features a combination of clapboards, shingles, and mock half-timbering, plus cupola and corner tower. Other buildings of note are the **Elias Carter House** on the Common, and the Craftsman/ Tudor Revival **Brimfield Public Library** (c. 1903). Also on the common are monuments commemorating Civil War and World War I veterans. Stop and read the two markers denoting the Steerage Rock, an Indian stronghold in the 1600s.

Wales

On Route 19 in the town of Wales, where you'll see the **Samuel Austin Hitchcock House** (c. 1826) at 15 Wales Road, a fine example of transitional Federal/Greek Revival. At the **Brimfield Burial Ground** on Wales Road explore early grave markers, with carved death's head and soul effigies dating back to the 1700s. Main Street in Wales features many historic homes built by renowned New England architects Calvin Vinton and Stephen Fisk, including the **Gregoire House** (c. 1870) at 45 Main Street, a Greek revival with scroll porch, the **Crawford House**, a Victorian Italianate, and the Neo-Gothic **Wales Baptist Church**. Stop by the Wales Public Library (c. 1841) on





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Wilton's Children's Outlet, Ware

Main and Church Street for a look at a plaque commemorating Civil War veteran Private Joseph Reed of the African-American 54th Massachusetts 'Glory' Regiment.

Holland

A small town in South Central Massachusetts is a largely rural and residential community of about 2100 year-round residents. Holland's chief attractions are the scenic beauty of its rolling, wooded hills, and its waterways; **Hamilton Reservoir**, **Holland Pond** and the **Quinebaug River**. These recreational resources attract many visitors who have vacation homes here and who more than double the population during the summer months.

Monson

While on Monson Road enjoy the rolling hills and beautiful countryside on your ride to the center of Monson. On the way you will pass Moulton Hill Cemetery with many tombstones dating from the Revolutionary War. Take a right (Route 32) onto Main Street where you will find **Memorial Hall**(c. 1884) a Romanesque Style building erected of Monson granite that contains an original G.A.R. Hall (Civil War) on its second floor, the original Town jail in the basement and the main hall used for theater, concerts and other events. Continuing, on your left is the **Norcross House** built by Emily Dickinson's grandfather, Joel, which houses the Norcross House Coffee Shop and other businesses. Two doors down is a beautiful Italianate Villa, built for Horatio Lyon. At the intersection of Main and High Streets are the **Monson Free Library** (Lyon Memorial Library c. 1882), the **Soldiers Monument** (c. 1884) and the **Congregational Church** (c. 1873), further down Main Street is the Flynt Fountain Monument (c. 1882). The Keep Homestead Museum (handicapped accessible), 35 Ely Road, an early New England center Colonial Farm House, displays the largest antique and vintage button collection in the Northeast. It has several miles of marked walking trails. The museum is open the first Sunday April-December. The meticulously restored **Jacob Thompson House** (c. 1811), at Main and Thompson Streets, is the house museum of the Monson Historical Society.

Palmer

Palmer most famously known as the "Town of Seven Railroads" boasts New England's top railroad enthusiast hot spots. Rail Fans from as far away as Europe come to watch and take photos of the STATION and the many passing. The mainline is CSX's ex-Boston to Albany route, which sees several trains a day, in addition to manifest movements. Amtrak's Lake Shore Limited flows thru in mid-afternoon in both directions. Finally, the New England Central Railroad & Mass Central Railroad has offices, interchange and local work in Palmer. All this activity is centered on the 19th century Romanesque style TRAIN STATION "Steaming Tender" Restaurant which has been authentically restored. Dine in the original 1884 Waiting Room as the trains rumble by. See the 1915 Porter Steam Locomotive and its Tender that is on display at the historic railroad station. Young and old can enjoy a piece of railroad history! The Palmer Railroad Station was the 3rd largest station in Massachusetts and was designed by the world-renowned architect, Henry Hobson Richardson. Many famous people have passed through Palmer including:

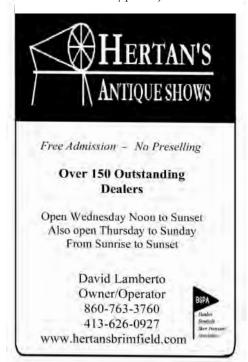
James K. Polk, Al Smith, Jenny Lind, Andrew Johnson (Vice President), Teddy Roosevelt, Ulysses S. Grant, Abe Lincoln and Mark Twain. Some stopped for just a few minutes others such as Jenny Lind had lunch at the hotel and others such as Al Smith got lost and missed his train. Take a stroll to Main Street and continue to the **Palmer Library Railroad Research Center** then stroll and view the extensive collection at the **Pease Collection of Historical Instruments**.

Belchertown

From Palmer, head north on Route 181 and follow the railroad line to Belchertown, with its well manicured and colorful Victorian houses. **Belchertown Center Historic District** lists 74 properties on the National Register of Historic Places. The **Clapp Memorial Library** and the **Walker-Collis House** are also National Register highlights. The Carriage Towne Bed and Breakfast, a Georgian colonial built in the late 1700s, is reputed to have been a signal house during the Revolutionary War. The **Stone House Museum** is located on Route 202. The Federal-style home exhibits furniture, china, and decorative accessories from 1700-1800s.



New Palmer Library photo by Pat Peterson



Ware

Once a thriving manufacturing center with striking residences and factories, today, it's a community reminiscent of a by gone era. Continuing down Ware's Main Street pass the historic, now closed, Casino Movie Theater across from the mid-nineteenth century Town Hall with its clock tower. On the way to the historic **Millyard** on Main St. to the east, stop for a time at Nenameseck Square with its Victorian wrought iron fence and fountain. Note the granite horse trough marked 1872, with the library across the street, a lovely example of mid-1800 brick architecture. Nenameseck is the Native American word for basket or weir used to fish the river, thus the origin of the town's name: Ware. Ware Town Meeting House in Old Ware Center, erected 1799, is listed on National register of Historic Places. Grenville Park, is a piece of property on the banks of the Ware River, given to the town in memory of a son, Gilbert Grenville III, who was lost in WWI. The serenity of the park is a perfect picnic spot or place to canoe the river, watch a ball game, the wildlife, attend the Independence Day fireworks or hike. On Church Street find Old Gilbertville Road on the left leading to the Ware-Hardwick Covered Bridge (above, c. 1886) one of only three covered bridges in Massachusetts, the only one spanning two towns and two counties. When reaching the main road (Route 32) take a right and continue to the junction with Route 9 east once again or left to visit Hardwick on Route 32A which boasts a classic village green with a typical general store. At the end of August for 24 hours Hardwick annually hosts the longest continuously running United States country fair.



Newly restored Ware Center Meeting House. Built in 1799, former home of First Church of Ware. Heavily damaged by fire in 1986. Listed in the State and National Registers of Historic Places.Ware Meeting House.

Photo by Pat Peterson

Hardwick

The Town of Hardwick, is a rural industrial hill town in the highlands northwest of the Ware River corridor. Hardwick started as an agricultural community with grazing and orchards on well-watered lands. As industry grew and changed in Hardwick, the community developed into four distinct villages: Furnace, Gilbertville, Wheelwright and Hardwick Village, Jobs and prosperity brought growth to the town and over 2,200 people were recorded in the community by the 1870's. In the early 20th century, the Quabbin Reservoir depopulated the western upland areas of Hardwick and flooded some valleys. With a decline in industrial activity, Hardwick was left with a robust agricultural business involved in poultry raising, market gardening and dairying. Hardwick Center remains an unusually intact example of early 19th century highland meetinghouse village. Visit the Hardwick Historical Society (American Association of Museums) located on the Hardwick Common and learn more!

Spencer

From its humble beginnings as part of Leicester, Spencer has grown to become a picture of small-town charm that is rich in history. Settled in 1717 by Nathaniel Wood, Spencer was incorporated as a town in 1753. Honoring the 319 men from Spencer who served in the Civil War is the **Soldiers Monument** at **Issac Lothrop Prouty Park**; dedicated on Patriots Day in April 19, 1911. Occupying and maintaining 1752 acres of land in Spencer is **Saint Joseph's Abbey** (founded in 1950); belonging to the Order of Cistercians of the Strict Observances (popularly known as "Trappists"). Also located in Spencer is **Howe State Park and Monument**, honoring Spencer resi-

Quaboag Plantation and King Philip's War of 1675

Native American tribes farmed the Quaboag Hills region since the 4th century, making the area attractive to the Puritan farmers from Ipswich who settled the Quaboag Plantation in 1660. Fields and home lots were already cleared, so the Puritans willingly paid the natives 300 "fathoms" of wampum (mussel shells) for the land that eventually became the Brookfields. After living together for a time in peace, tensions with the natives mounted as the settlers' appetite for land increased.

King Philip (the son of Massasoit, of Pilgrim Thanksgiving fame) and his band of warriors attacked the Quaboag Plantation in August, 1675. After a harrowing three-day siege in which nearly 100 Puritans took refuge from flaming arrows in Ayres Tavern, King Philip and his warriors were driven off by soldiers from eastern settlements. The settlers were saved, but the smoldering Quaboag Plantation was abandoned until 1686.

continued on page 22

dents: William and Tyler Howe and their nephew Elias Howe, Jr. who is credited with developing and securing the first patent for a sewing machine in 1846. Spencer is home to the **Spencer State Fair** one of the oldest agricultural fairs in the state; held each year on Labor Day weekend.

Warren

On your way to the Brookfields, take a side trip down Route 67 to historic Warren. For many years Warren's economic base was agriculture and the textile industry, with many mills sited along the Quaboag River. Today, two mills and half a dozen farms remain. Warren Pumps, Wright's Factory, and Hardwick Knitted Fabrics are still active. Signs in the Center Village, Lower Village, #4 Village, West Warren, South Warren and also on Reed Street (formerly a section of the Boston Post Road) describe the area's history. Warren Public Library founded 1879 has a museum dedicated to local history. The library has a wealth of information for history buffs. Warren is also home to Tucker's Hobbies, one of New England's most popular model railroad shops.

West Brookfield

Is known to have one of the most beautiful town commons. It is here where the Bandstand shell will send out "sounds of summer" with their annual concert program. The Rice Fountain and Bandstand Shell is a favorite venue for photographers, bridal parties and artists as well as tourists looking for a place to have a picnic. It's the **Birthplace**

of Lucy Stone, a pioneer of the 19th-century Women's Movement. A commemorative marker is located on the south side of Route 9 on the way to town from the west. Plan a stop at historic **Salem Cross Inn** (c. 1705). The Inn was built and operated by eight generations of the White family until its purchase by the Salem family in 1950. During renovation, the Salems made an eerie discovery: the sign of the 'Salem Cross, a Puritan marking to ward off witches and evil spirits, was engraved on the front door latch. Lunch and dinner is served, and the Inn is famous for its 'Drover's Roast' and 18th-century feasts cooked on the open hearth of their great fieldstone fireplace. The West Brookfield Historic **District** along Route 9 has more than 200 properties listed on the National Register, and makes a great walking tour. Don't miss the exquisite Merriam-Gilbert Library (c. 1880) on the village green, where you can pick up a walking tour map. **Town Hall** (c. 1859) over time has served as post office, library and general store. Across the street, Established in 1760, **Ye Olde Tavern** is the oldest continually operating Inn in the country. George Washington was a guest on October 22, 1789, and made mention of his visit in his journal. President John Adams came in 1799 and in 1804 Jerome Bonaparte and his bride Elizabeth Patterson stopped here on their honeymoon. Lafayette was a guest in 1824, as was Daniel Shays, famous leader of Shays' Rebellion. The Inn offers a fully equipped Banquet facility and accommodations up to 225 guests. The Pub is open 7 days a week where guests can enjoy a game of billiards or darts with friends.







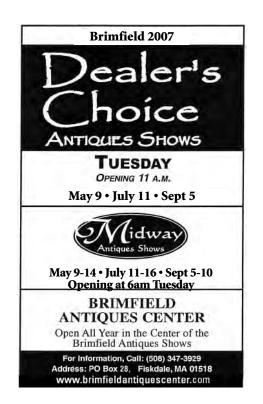


North Brookfield

Take Route 67 north into North Brookfield. Buildings of note in the town center include the **Haston Free Library** (c. 1894), the **Union Star Building**, and the **North Brookfield News Building**. Stop and see the **1854 Grove School Bell** and explore old gravestones at the Bell **Road Cemetery**. In autumn, art enthusiasts love to take the **Back Roads Studio Tour**, open house tours through the studios of local artists.

Brookfield

Brookfield is unique in that it has three National Historic **Districts**. The **Brookfield Common** district encompasses the town's common and old marching field know as **Banister** Mall. Facing the mall is the newly restored Brookfield **Congregational Church** on Common Street and the granite Unitarian Universalist Church on River Street. At the southern end of the common is Banister Memorial Hall which houses the Pliney Merrick collection of early books that were donated to establish the town's Merrick Publick Library. Following east on Lincoln Street is Saint Mary's RC parish church. This building was originally the Second Meeting House of Quaboag plantation, and was moved from Foster's Hill. Built in 1717, it has housed three denominations of faith in three different locations. Situated at the northern end of the common, in the town's Garden Club Garden, is the General Henry Knox Memorial marker. To the west is one of the most gracious homes along



West Main Street, the **Oliver Cosby Homestead**. Reputed to be designed by the famous architect Asher Benjamin, its front entrance is a fine example of Georgian architecture. Traveling west on route 9 you come to the Brookfield Cemetery. Recently nominated to be on the National Register, this cemetery dates back to the Puritan beginnings of the town. Actively used for almost 300 years, the cemetery is a record of our nation's history. Our Puritanical founding, the American Revolution, the Civil War, the Victorian Era and the present, all stand together, in a rolling field of history. The Elm Hill Farm National Historic District is to be found on East Main Street, Established in the 1780s by Amasa Blanchard, a carpenter and businessman, the 1,200 acres remained as a family farm until recently when 1,000 acres were given to the Massachusetts Audubon Society. The balance became the Blanchard Means Foundation which works in the interest of people with special needs. Elm Hill Farm was best known nationally as the home of "Elsie the Cow," since this is where she was born and raised by her owner, Dr. Oliver Means.

East Brookfield

East Brookfield was originally home to the Lashaway and Quaboag Indian Tribes, who used the Seven Mile and Quaboag rivers as routes of commerce, later becoming part of the historical Baypath and Boston Post Roads. James Ford is the first name documented in association with the original settlement, Quaboag Plantation. In 1673 a significant portion of the plantation became the town of Brookfield, which then included the villages of West Brookfield, North Brookfield, East Brookfield and Podunk. Many residents of East Brookfield contributed to the development and success of our community. Our most noted citizen was Connie Mack (Cornelius McGillicuddy), "The Grand Old Man of Baseball", Mr. Mack transformed major league baseball yet he was widely known for his accomplishments as the highly successful manager, and owner of the Philadelphia Athletics, (presently the Oakland A's). The "Tall Tactician", as known by fans and colleagues, became the oldest and most victorious manager in the major leagues with a managing career spanning nearly 50 years.

New Braintree

The Town of New Braintree was first settled in 1709 and was officially incorporated in 1775. The town has been almost wholly agricultural throughout its history, with a reputation for fine grazing land. By the late 18th century, New Braintree was shipping its annual production of dairy products, cheese and beef to Boston and had attained a high degree of prosperity. Over 1,000 milk cows lived in New Braintree by the 19th century and the town produced over 200,000 pounds of cheese annually. The **Massachusetts State Police Academy** is located in New Braintree. Also, available now is the "**History of Hardwick**", written by Emily Bancroft, available at the Salem Cross Inn.

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Brimfield, Mass. 2007 – ONE DAY SHOWS

May 8 & 12

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July 10 & 14

Tuesday 1 PM - 5 PM Saturday 8 AM - 12 PM

September 4 & 8

Tuesday 1 PM - 5 PM Saturday 8 AM - 1 PM

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Offices in: Ware, Palmer, West Brookfield, Brimfield, Belchertown, Wilbraham, Leicester, Ludlow, Charlton and Paxton

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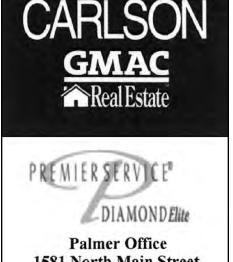
www.countrybank.com

Member FDI Member DIF Equal Housing Lender









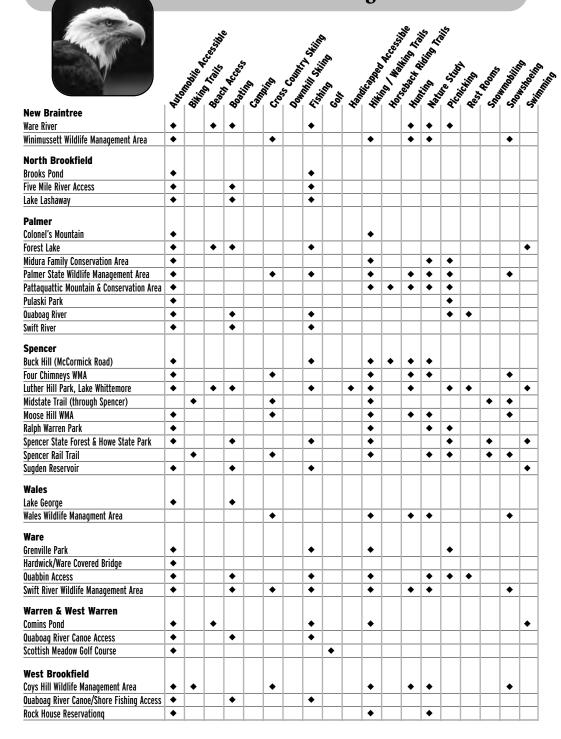
1581 North Main Street, Suite D Palmer, MA 01069 (413)283-8030 www.carlsonre.com/ Palmer



Outdoor Attractions

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Norcross Wildlife Sanctuary	•										•			•					
Peaked Mountain	•	•				•		•			•			•				•	
Quaboag Country Club	•								•							•			
Sunsetview Farm Camping Area	•				•											•			

For additional information on Lakes, Ponds & Reservoirs check out: www.masswildlife.org



Bus tours welcome in the Quaboag Hills Region

Consider a visit to one or more places

Atkins Farm Country Market Bogey Lanes Family Fun Center Brimfield Antiques Show Brimfield Antique Center The Book Bear

Breezeland Orchards
Brookfield Orchards

Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art E.I. Candies

Keep Homestead Museum King Brook Farm

McLaughlin Fish Hatchery Oakwood Farm Christmas Barn

Old Sturbridge Village

The Purple Onion Quabbin Reservoir Salem Cross Inn Restaurant Steaming Tender Restaurant Westview Farms Creamery

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Fax (508) 867-5203

 ${\it Email:} {\bf tomd@greenpathgarden supply.com} \\ {\it Web:} {\bf greenpathgarden supply.com}$

Route 9, 68 South Maple Street Brookfield, MA 01506

WHITE'S LANDING & QUABOAG CAFE

Route 48, Brookfield, MA

Located on the historic Quaboag River

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(508) 867-5561 www.whiteslanding.com





200 Year Old Farm Offers Fresh Vegetables at Affordable Prices July – October

Hay and Straw also available Located near the Quaboag River

(508) 867-2099

15 Long Hill Road, Brookfield, MA 01506



Regarded to some as a Brimfield Antiques Show icon, "The lady in the White Hat" Jeanne Hertan (above) who established the Jeanne Hertan Antique Show, passed away this September. She will be remembered and missed by many!

Directions to Brimfield

From North: Travel south on 1-91 to Mass Pike Entrance. Take the Mass Pike East to Exit 8 (Palmer). Turn right after the toll booth and left at the first light onto Route 20 East. Continue east about 8 miles to the shows.

From South: Travel north on 1-91, to 291 East, to Mass Pike entrance (Exit 6). Take the Mass Pike East to Exit 8 (Palmer). Turn right after the toll booth and left at the first light onto Route 20 East. Continue east about 8 miles to the shows. Or you may consider 1-84 to Sturbridge, then Route 20 West (about 7 miles) to Brimfield.

From East and North:

Take 495 south to the Mass Pike. Take the Mass Pike west to Exit 9 (Sturbridge). Turn right after the toll booth onto Route 20 West. Continue west about 7 miles to the shows.

To avoid traffic tie-ups at Mass Pike exits 8 and 9, you may exit sooner and take Route 19 or Route 32 from southerly directions, or consider Routes 32 or 67 from the north. Consult your map.

Tour Bus Accommodations:

Tour bus parking is available at several locations within the one-mile stretch of Route 20 where the shows are located.



2007 Brimfield Antique Shows

2007 Show Dates

May 8-13 • July 10-15 September 4-9

2008 Show Dates

May 13-18 • July 8-13 • Sept 2-7

Show Information

The Brimfield shows run three times a year – May, July and Sept. and are open for a six day period, Tuesday through Sunday. Some operators open all days and others are open for a few days during this period.

Admission: Some shows charge admission, the fee is around \$5.

Parking: There is plenty of off street parking available at costs ranging from \$3.00 - \$6.00. Parking is prohibited on the roadside and tow trucks do patrol the area, so park with caution.

Food: There are plenty of food vendors located on all of the fields offering a variety of food items. There are also a few local restaurants in town where you can sit and enjoy dining.

Restrooms: There are portable toilets set up on all fields.

Weather: The weather in New England is very unpredictable. The shows run rain or shine so come prepared.

Cash: The Country Bank has an ATM in Brimfield which is located on Main Street. There are also several others located about 10 miles away, in the towns of Sturbridge, Monson, Palmer and Warren. Also, several of the field operators have ATMs located on their property.

Pets: It's not a good idea to bring pets. Many operators prohibit pets on their fields and it's hazardous to keep an animals in a cars.

Laundromat: Located in downtown Warren and Ware.

Lost & Found: Contact the Brimfield Police Station (413) 245-3442 after shows.

Emergencies: call 911

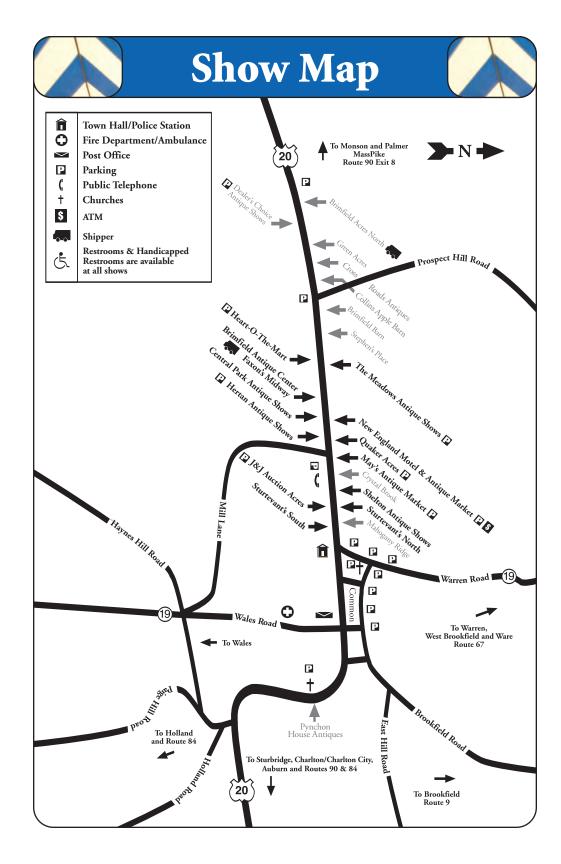




Show Schedules



Quaboag Valley Chamber of Commerce members appear in bold type.





Helpful Hints

- **Arrive early** to be sure you find parking. While spaces are plentiful, they fill up fast!
- Bring a tote, backpack or other equipment to carry your new-found treasures. Wagons or carts are often used for hauling.
- If you plan to meet someone or visit a particular dealer, be sure to **note the booth number** and the name of the field or show. Show operators maintain lists of dealers, and only they can distribute dealer information.
- The show goes on rain or shine. Be prepared for a change in the weather. Dress appropriately. Don't forget comfortable shoes!
- Take time to **rest and replenish your liquids**, particularly in high heat. A drink of water is, at times, hard to find at the shows. Bring some with you.
- Brush up on your **negotiation skills**. Most dealers expect you to bargain.
- The following may come in handy; calculator, notebook, sunscreen, sun/rain hat, fanny pack, and a plastic poncho.
- **Looking for something in particular?** Ask a dealer who carries similar items. Chances are, they'll have great recommendations, or even have what you're looking for still packed in a box at their booth.
- Lost something? Look for lost items at each show promoter's office. Also, marking your belongings with your phone number can help get the item back to you if it becomes lost.

The Teddy Bear Depot L Coffee Bar Antiques L Collectables New L Used Gifts -Teddy Bears 47 Main Street Ware, Massachusetts 01082 Owner Dale E. Ramsey Store 413-967-5300

Corporate Office 413-283-6483



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The chamber of commerce builds strong businesses and communities by connecting you to new customers and suppliers, as well as to those who influence the local economy and quality of life. You'll get the tools and resources you need to grow and make a positive impact.

Access to the right tools. One more way the chamber makes an impact.

Be a part of the Quaboag Valley Chamber of Commerce... Leading Businesses. Leading Communities.™

Call us at (413) 283-2418 or Visit us at www.qvcc.biz



The 350th Anniversary of the Quaboag Plantation is being planned for 2010!

It will be a celebration of the founding of "Quaboag" the beginning of the Brookfieds, New Braintree and Warren **Visit www.quaboag2010.com**

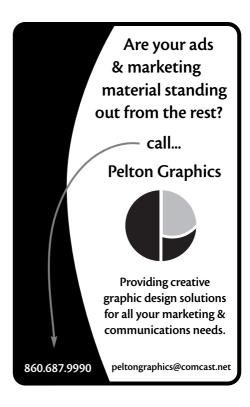
"Small businesses and individual entrepreneurs are the backbone of the Quaboag Valley economy"

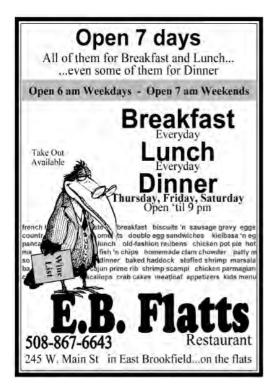
TODD M. SMOLA

STATE REPRESENT ATIVE
1° HAMPDEN DISTRICT
REP.TODDSMOLA@HOU.STATE.MA.US

STATE HOUSE, ROOM 156
BOSTON, MA U2133
617.722.2240

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES





The Old Post Road

Travel between Boston and New York was a priority in Colonial times, just as it is today, and it wasn't long after the Quaboag Plantation was settled that viable routes were established to connect the area with the cities.

In 1672, King Charles II decreed a mail system to aid communication between the colonies. A rider on horseback, saddlebags marked for each town along the route, would deliver mail once a month from New York to Boston through the Quaboag Hills.

Fees for delivering mail were assessed according to the miles it traveled, the recipient paying the tariff. Benjamin Franklin, the country's first postmaster, in 1767 devised a precise method to levy postage fees. He ordered brownstone markers placed each mile along the route between Boston and New York City so mail carriers could charge the correct postage. These mileposts gave birth to the historic "Boston Post Road," now Routes 9 and 67 in the Quaboag Hills.

Fourteen Franklin milestones, dating from 1767, can be found in the towns of Brookfield, East Brookfield, West Brookfield, and Warren. Many are visible from the road. Others are on private property (please be respectful). Approximately one mile separates each.

Trout Fishing on the Quaboag

The Quaboag River is one of Massachusetts' major trout streams of the put and take (catch and release) variety. Survival of spring stocked trout is difficult due to very warm temperatures in the summer months. The Quaboag is different from most rivers in that its headwaters are very placid and slow flowing and its lower reaches are faster flowing.

The river starts in Brookfield, flowing out of Quaboag Lake, (North Pond to locals.) From Brookfield it flows through West Brookfield into Warren. All of the upper reaches of the Quaboag are well known bass waters worthy of an article in themselves. The parts of the river we will mostly concern ourselves with for trout fishing are the waters from Warren to Palmer.

The Quaboag is a dark water river with abundant insect life from caddis and Mayflies to Helgramites. Most trout I have dressed over the years have had mostly caddis larvae and sometimes small crawfish in their stomachs.

There are a couple of types of feed fish in the river. The little black nosed dace are seen very commonly in the shallows. Also, there is a large population of silver dace, which grow quite large and have fooled many an angler when the nice trout he thought he was fighting fumed out to be a dace.

While there is a small population of native brook trout, which mostly descend from the many tributaries, the Quaboag is dependent upon stocking by the state of Massachusetts. Also, the local sportsmen's clubs stock some trout most years. The state stocks all three major species into the Quaboag, with the majority being rainbow and brown trout in excess of 9".

Every year there are some very nice trout introduced into the Quaboag, which makes for a quality type of fishing. I like to catch five or six nice 14", or larger trout, rather than a dozen smaller ones. How about you?

The biggest I have ever heard of taken from the Quaboag was a monstrous 8 lbs. 12 oz. It was caught by Leon Furgal (whom recently passed) in Warren quite a few years ago.

Every spring you hear of a few large fish taken. Either they are holdovers or recently stocked brood fish.

Fly Fisherman from Warren

Quaboag Plantation and King Philip's War of 1675, Continued

Fighting continued throughout Massachusetts, but the strength of the British forces was too much for the natives. King Philip was hunted and, in the end, shot by an Indian fighting on the British side.

To see the actual site of the Quaboag Plantation battle, travel up Foster Hill Road off Route 9 in West Brookfield. Several historical markers commemorate the action. One, framed in stone, is dedicated to tavern owner John Ayres, "Killed by Indians 2nd 1675 Aug." A second marker reads, "Here stood the Fortified House–besieged in King Philip's War, August 2-4, 1675."

As you enter Brookfield on Route 67 South and Route 148 you'll find a sign detailing the history of Quaboag Plantation.

In West Brookfield view the stone monument commemorating Fort Gilbert (1688), built to protect the 2nd Settlement of Quaboag from Indian raids. Explore the Old Burying Ground on Cottage Street where the "haymakers," six farmers attacked and killed on Foster Hill, are buried.

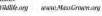
10 Ways to Help You Experience MassOutdoors!

- 1. Take a Hike or Ride the Rails! Pick up trail maps to state parks and forests. Visitors the local rail trails for easy biking, hiking and nature viewing.
- 2. Become a Wildlife Watcher! Keep a pair of binoculars and magnifying glasses handy. Keep a notebook or chalkboard of birds, mammals and other "critter" sightings. Find out about daily or weekly nature walks by local amateur or professional naturalists that serve as a tour guide on local public lands.
- **3. Get Artsy With Kids!** Use crayons and paper to draw their favorite Massachusetts animal! Consider encouraging your artistic child to enter a state agricultural photo calendar or wildlife stamp competition.
- **4. Get Smart About the Outdoors!** Find field guides, natural history books & maps.
- 5. Get Wet! Find visitors maps on local ponds boating information. Know where the local state park pools beaches, or waterfalls are found. Seek out a local shop that rents boats to visitors.
- **6. Savor the Flavor of Massachusetts!** From maple sugar houses, honey, fresh cheese and ice cream, berry farms, wineries and farmers markets, the taste of Massachusetts locally grown and produced food is a special treat for all ages.
- **7. Try an Outdoor Treasure Hunt** Make up scavenger hunts for your family can they find a pine cone, or spot a chipmunk, peek into a maple sap bucket or pat a goat?
- **8. Go Fish! (or Hunt!)** Keep fishing rods & tackle on hand and know how licenses may be purchased. Find a local bait and tackle shop or sporting goods store who assist visiting anglers or hunters.
- **9. Pick Your Own!** A wealth of locally grown vegetables, fruits and flowers are available for the picking! Keep a copy of the Mass. Agricultural Calendar on hand so you can see what produce is currently in season.
- **10. Pitch a Tent!** Enjoy overnight stays at state campgrounds near the beach or in the forest.











Keep Homestead Museum
35 Ely Road, Monson

Extensive button collection, special exhibits, house museum, nature trails. Open 1st Sunday of each month, April to December, 1:00 - 3:00pm.

Mailing Address: 110 Main St., Monson, MA 01057 For more information: Call 413-267-4137 E-Mail: khm@keephomesteadmuseum.org Web Site: www.keephomesteadmuseum.org



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Libraries

Belchertown

Clapp Memorial Library (413) 323-0417

Brimfield Brimfield Public Library (413) 245-3518

Brookfield Merrick Public Library (508) 867-6339

East Brookfield East Brookfield Library (508) 867-7928

Hardwick Paige Memorial Library (413) 477-6704

Holland Holland Public Library

(413) 245-3607 Monson

Monson Free Library and Reading Room Association (413) 267-3866

New Braintree

New Braintree Library

North Brookfield

Haston Free Library (508) 867-0208

Palmer

Palmer Public Library 1455 North Main Street Palme, MA 01069 (413) 283-3330

Spencer

Richard Sugden Library (508) 885-7513

Wales

Wales Public Library (413) 245-9072

Ware

Ware Public Library (413) 967-5491

Warren

Warren Public Library (413) 436-7690

West Warren

West Warren Library (413) 436-9892

West Brookfield Merriam-Gilbert Library

Town Halls

Belchertown, MA 0107 (413) 323-0400

Brimfield

Brimfield, MA 01010 (413) 245-4100

Brookfield

6 Central Street Brookfield, MA 01506 (508) 867-2930

East Brookfield 122 Connie Mack Drive

Fast Brookfield, MA 01515 (508) 867-6769

Hardwick

P.O. Box 575 Gilbertville, MA 01031 (413) 477-6700

Holland

27 Sturbridge Rd. Holland, MA 01521 (413) 245-7108 ext. 12

Monson

110 Main Street Monson, MA 01057 (413) 267-4115

New Braintree

20 Memorial Drive New Braintree, MA 01531 (508) 867-2071

North Brookfield

North Brookfield, MA 01535 (508) 867-0203

Palmer

4417 Main Street Palmer, MA 01069 (413) 283-2608

Spencer

7 Main Street Spencer, MA 01562 (508) 885-7500

Wales

P.O. Box 834 Wales, MA 01081 (413) 245-7571

Ware

126 Main Stree Ware, MA 01082 (413) 967-4471

Warren

48 High Street Warren, MA 01083 (413) 436-5701

West Brookfield

PO Box 372 West Brookfield, MA 01585 (508) 867-1415

Quabbin Reservoir

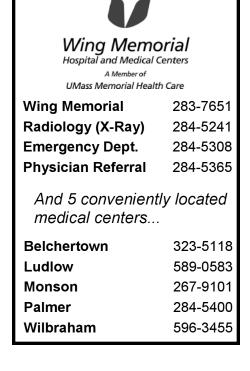
Quabbin Reservoir is one of the largest man-made public water supplies in the United States. Created in the 1930's by the construction of two huge earthen dams, the reservoir is fed by the three branches of the Swift River, and seasonally by the Ware River. Construction of the reservoir remains a great engineering feat, and Quabbin is one of the largest unfiltered water supplies in the world. The reservoir is 18 miles long and has 181 miles of shoreline including 61 miles along the reservoir's 60 islands. Ouabbin collects an average of one-half of the water that falls as rain or snow on the watershed. When full, the reservoir holds 412 billion gallons of water.



photo by Pat Peterson

The Quabbin Reservoir is managed by the Department of Conservation and Recreation's Division of Water Supply Protection (formerly Metropolitan District Commission). **The Quabbin Visitor's Center** is located at the southern tip of the Reservoir and the main phone number is (413) 323-7221. Please call for information on rules, regulations, boating regulations, access and more.











Business Listings

Please note: listings are accurate at the time of publication. Bold listings are businesses sponsoring this guide. Please call the Quaboag Valley Chamber of Commerce at (413) 283-2418 for information about handicapped accessible establishments.

Bed & Breakfast

Elias Carter House on the Common

8 North Main Street, Brimfield, MA 01010 (413) 245-0903

www.eliascarterhouse.com

Enjoy the charm of a country bed and breakfast
located in the heart of Brimfield overlooking
the town common, within walking
distance of the markets.

Nathan Goodale House

Warren Road, Brimfield, MA 01010 (413) 245-9228

www.Brimfield.org email:kay@brimfield.org

Close to the town common and the Brimfield Antique Show. Built by Nathan and his wife, Lucy Homer in 1855. Three rooms 413-245-9228.

Yankee Cricket Bed & Breakfast

106 Five Bridge Road, Brimfield, MA 01010 **(413) 245-0030**

Fax (413) 245-0098 www.yankeecricket.com

Email: wsimonic@charter.net

A reproduction colonial offering a quiet stay close to Brimfield, Sturbridge and the Brookfields.

Campgrounds

Sunsetview Farm Camping Area &

57 Town Farm Road, Monson, MA 01057 **(413) 267-9269**

Fax (413) 267-3163

www.sunsetview.com

Email: camp@sunsetview.com

RV's, trailers and tents can be accommodated on grass or wooded sites with hookups. Pool, recreation hall, ball fields and modern bathrooms.

Highview Campground

58 John Gilbert Road West Brookfield, MA 01585

(508) 867-7800

Fax (508) 867-2339 www.highviewcampground.net Email: highview1@verizon.net 156 sites with water and electric 85 full hook up sites (at no additional charge) Petting Zoo, Playground, Pool and much morel

Hotels, Motels & Inns

Comfort Inn & Suites &

321 Center Street Ludlow, MA 01056

(413) 589-9300

Fax (413) 547-0488 www.pvhg.com Email: swarren@pvhg.com

Copper Lantern Motor Lodge

184 West Main Street, P.O. Box 1138 West Brookfield, MA 01585 (508) 867-6441

Fax (508) 867-9635 www.copperlanternmotorlodge.com 24 units. All bedrooms have microwaves and refrigerators. Efficiencies also have stoves.

Hampton Inn &

328 Main Street Sturbridge, MA 01566 (**508**) **347-6466**

Fax (508) 347-2666 www.hamptoninn.com

As a proud member of the Hilton family of hotels, guests can earn Hilton HHonors® hotel points and airline miles for the small stay. Our friendly service and many extras are all backed by our 100% Hampton Guarantee™.

New England Motel & Antique Market

30 Palmer Road Brimfield, MA 01010 (413) 245-3348

Fax (508) 345-3784

www.antiques-brimfield.com Email: nemotelbrimfield@aol.com

Antiques and collectibles shows. Food court and on-site parking.

Publick House Historic Inn &

277 Main Street, Route 131 Sturbridge, MA 01566 (508) 347-3313

(800) 782-5425

Fax (508) 347-5073 www.publickhouse.com Email: info@publickhouse.com

The Red Maple Inn

217 Main Street Spencer, MA 01562 (**508**) **885-9205**

www.theredmapleinn.com Email: TheRedMapleInn@aol.com Luxury Accommodations & Fine Dining. Shari Alexander & John Bills, Innkeepers. Sunday Brunch By Reservation Only.

Southbridge Hotel & Conference Center

14 Mechanic St. Southbridge, MA 01550 (**508**) **765-8000** Fax (508)765-7600

Fax (508)765-7600 www.southbridgehotel.com

Sturbridge Country Inn

530 Main Street Sturbridge, MA 01566 (**508**) **347-5503**

www.sturbridgecountryinn.com Email: info@sturbridgecountryinn.com

Sturbridge Host Hotel &

366 Main Street Sturbridge, MA 01566 (**508**) **347-7393**

Fax (508) 347-3824

www.sturbridgehosthotel.com

Our lakeside resort, located on Cedar Lake, features swimming, boating and fishing, as well as an indoor pool, whirlpool and a 9-hole miniature golf course.

Wedgewood Motel

1430 Park Street, Route 20 Palmer, MA 01069 (413) 283-4501

Fax (413) 283-2214

Exit 8 off Mass Pike, 1.5 miles east of Palmer. efficiency and family units, cable T.V., weekly rates, AC, central heating, individual control.



Antiques

Antique Barn at King Creek Farm

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www.kingcreekfarm.com

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Brimfield Acres North

Route 20, Brimfield, MA 01010 **(413) 245-9471 or (508) 745-4185**

Fax (508) 754-4185 Email: brimfield1@aol.com

Postcard & Ephemera Center open: May 4-12, July 6-14, Aug. 31 - Sept. 8, 9am - 6pm except regular show dates.

Brimfield.com

106 Five Bridge Road Brimfield, MA 01010 (413) 245-0030

www.brimfield.com Email: wsimonic@charter.net

Brimfield Exchange

10 Palmer Avenue, PO Box 459 Brimfield, MA 01010 (413) 245-0961

brimfieldexchange.com Make your Brimfield connections here!

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Fax (508) 347-9584 www.brimfieldantiquescenter.com 400 dealers offering the finest antiques and collectibles.

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(413) 245-9427 or (413) 245-3215 Fax (413) 736-0362

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www.steamingtender.com

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www.kingcreekfarm.com

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Fax (413) 284-5212

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Wing Medical Center/Belchertown

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Brimfield **(508) 245-7162**

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West Brookfield

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Historic Church Street

Ware

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Hitchcock Academy

Brimfield

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Main and Thompson Streets, Monson (413) 267-4292

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www.keephomesteadmuseum.org Open 1st Sunday of month, 1-3pm April to December. Extensive button collection, special exhibits, house museum, nature trails.

Lucy Stone Homesite Homestead

West Brookfield

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Palmer Art Connection (413) 283-7592

Outdoor Art Shows on lawn at Palmer Library. Artists of all mediums. May – September.

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167 North Spencer Road Spencer, MA 01562

(508) 885-8700

www.spencerabbey.org

The monastery features a Retreat House with 11 private rooms with a private bath. Retreats for clergy and laypeople are offered mid-week, Mon. to Fri. morning, and weekends, Fri. to Sun. afternoon.

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Off Route 32 in Gilbertville Village 1886 Covered Bridge 137'6" long. Closed to traffic.

Ware Center Meeting House

ware (413) 967-7136

Built in 1799, former home of First Church of Ware. Heavily damaged by fire in 1986, restoration efforts are underway. Listed in the State and National Registers of Historic Places.



photo by Pat Peterson

Visitor Information

Quaboag Valley Chamber of Commerce

3 Converse Street, Palmer, MA 01069-0269 (413) 283-2418 www.qycc.biz

Central Massachusetts CVB

30 Elm Street (2nd Floor) Worcester, MA 01609

(508) 755–7400 or (800) 231-7557 Fax (508) 754-2703

www.centralmass.org or www.worcester.org

Central Mass South

380 Main Street, Sturbridge, MA 01566 **(508) 347-2761**

www.centralmasssouthchamber.org www.sturbridge.org

The Chamber at the Crossroads of New England. Open 9-5 seven days a week. Tourist information about central Massachusetts and specifically Sturbridge is available. Accommodations information available.

Greater Springfield Convention & Visitors Bureau

1441 Main Street, Springfield, MA 01103 **(800) 723-1548 •** Fax (413) 781-4607 www.valleyvisitor.com

Open 9-5 Monday-Friday. Tourist information about the Pioneer Valley of Western Mass. is available.

Mass. Division of Fisheries & Wildlife

1 Rabbit Hill Rd., Westboro MA 01581 **(508) 389-6300**

www.mass.gov/masswildlife Fishing, Hunting, Wildlife Viewing Information

Mass. Dept. of Conservation & Recreation

251 Causeway Street , Boston MA 02114 (617) 626-1400

> www.mass.gov/massparks State Parks, Forests and Campgrounds

Mass. Dept. of Agricultural Resources

251 Causeway St., 5th Fl., Boston MA 02114 www.mass.gov/massgrown Farmer's Markets, Pick Your Own, Farm Stands

Massachusetts Office of Travel and Tourism

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