

## **2016 ANNUAL HERITAGE WALKS ANNOUNCED**

### **Three Autumn Weekends of Free, Guided Tours**

The Upper Housatonic Valley National Heritage Area (Housatonic Heritage) announces the 15th annual Heritage Walks on three autumn weekends -**Saturday & Sunday - September 17 & 18, 24 & 25 and October 1 & 2**. More than 60 FREE, guided interpretive tours are offered throughout Berkshire County (MA) and Litchfield County (CT).

The public is invited to participate in these family-oriented, site-interpretive walks, offered in partnership with our regional historical, cultural, outdoor recreation, and nature organizations and the National Park Service. The Housatonic Heritage mission is to “preserve and celebrate our local heritage”; and the annual Heritage Walks is THE ideal opportunity to experience and learn about our region’s rich, varied heritage.

Expert historians, naturalists, and environmentalists will lead participants on 60+ explorations through historic estate gardens and town districts, behind-the-scenes tours, nature walks, cave tours and trail hikes, and tours of industrial-site ruins that were once thriving local industries. Also included is a canoe paddling trip on the Housatonic River, a bike ride along scenic country roads, a special children’s event at Herman Melville’s ‘Arrowhead’, and an ecology walk in Great Mountain Forest in Canaan, CT.

Detailed Heritage Walks brochures will be distributed in August to libraries, town markets and stores throughout the region. The Walks schedule is also available at website <http://www.HousatonicHeritage.org/events/heritage-walks/>

Brochures may be requested by emailing [Programs@HousatonicHeritage.org](mailto:Programs@HousatonicHeritage.org).