



# Town of Concord

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The Town of Concord, in partnership with the NPS Sudbury, Assabet, and Concord Wild & Scenic River System, Receives National Park Foundation Grant Supporting America's National Trails and Wild & Scenic Rivers

CONCORD, MA - In celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the National Trails and National Wild & Scenic Rivers Systems in 2018, the National Park Foundation today [announced](#) a grant to the Town of Concord, in partnership with the NPS Sudbury, Assabet, and Concord Wild & Scenic River System, in support of Building River Access. This project will create pullout areas for paddlers along the Assabet River, and will provide areas to picnic along with access to downtown West Concord, with signage and mapping to promote these areas. A small parking area will also be constructed at one location.

“The Sudbury, Assabet, and Concord Rivers are a tremendous community asset, offering a peaceful respite to those paddling their gentle flows or walking along meandering river trails. We are so pleased to have the opportunity to enhance the public’s use and appreciation of these areas!” said Delia Kaye, Natural Resources Director for the Town of Concord.

This project is one of 20 across the country being funded by the National Park Foundation as part of this effort. All project descriptions can be viewed on the [Rivers and Trails 50th Anniversary Grants Map](#).

“Trails and rivers bring people together for shared experiences that last a lifetime,” said Will Shafroth, president of the National Park Foundation. “The National Park Foundation’s grants help maintain these treasured resources and enable more people to connect with them and each other.”

These grants demonstrate the impact of the National Park Foundation’s [Centennial Campaign for America’s National Parks](#). To date, this comprehensive fundraising campaign to strengthen and enhance the future of America’s treasured national parks has raised more than \$500 million in private donations from individuals, foundations, and companies.

National Park Foundation Find Your Park/Encuentra Tu Parque partners The Coca-Cola Company and Nature Valley are proud to support this effort. Additional support comes from partners Niantic and Bandit Wines.

Beyond funding much-needed site-specific projects, the National Park Foundation is also inspiring more people to [#FindYourWay](#) along trails and rivers across the country.

[#FindYourWay](#) aligns with the [#FindYourPark](#)/[#EncuentraTuParque](#) movement and invites the public to discover their own personal connections to thousands of trails across the National Trails System and more than 12,000 miles of rivers protected by the Wild & Scenic Rivers System.

**ABOUT GRANTEE:** The Town of Concord is the first inland settlement in Massachusetts, incorporated in 1635. Since its inception, the Town has played a significant role in regional, state, and national development and history. Concord was the original seat of local government in the area and the site of the first battle of the American Revolutionary War on April 19, 1775, where the “shot heard ‘round the world” for liberty and self-government was fired, and is considered to be the birthplace of the nation. In the 18th and 19th centuries, Concord Center became the home of the Districts Courts as well as a thriving commercial center. The Town is also renowned as the home of some of the greatest literary and transcendentalist minds in 19th century America including Ralph Waldo Emerson, Henry David Thoreau, Bronson Alcott, Louisa May Alcott, Nathaniel Hawthorne, and Margaret Fuller. Concord continues to be a leader in advocating for open space and historical preservation.

#### **ABOUT THE NATIONAL PARK FOUNDATION**

Celebrating 50 years, the National Park Foundation is the official charity of America’s national parks and nonprofit partner to the National Park Service. Chartered by Congress in 1967, the National Park Foundation raises private funds to help PROTECT more than 84 million acres of national parks through critical conservation and preservation efforts, CONNECT all Americans with their incomparable natural landscapes, vibrant culture and rich history, and ENGAGE the next generation of park stewards. In 2016, commemorating the National Park Service’s 100th anniversary, the Foundation launched The Centennial Campaign for America’s National Parks, a comprehensive fundraising campaign to strengthen and enhance the future of these national treasures for the next hundred years. Find out more and become a part of the national park community at [www.nationalparks.org](http://www.nationalparks.org).

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