
Conclusion

From historic preservation and economic revitalization to water quality improvement and recreational access, the Blackstone River Corridor in South Grafton is a dynamic opportunity for the region. The three mill villages retain much of their historic charm and character and reflect the rich history of the community. Tremendous support has been demonstrated and continues to grow for the renaissance of this significant area.

The Master Plan for the mill villages of South Grafton provides a road map for revitalization through economic development, increased recreational activities and the interpretation of cultural and historic features. This can be accomplished while also addressing natural and environmental issues such as the clean-up of the Fisherville mill site, the restoration of Fisherville Pond and Blackstone River wildlife habitats and innovative stormwater management techniques.

With the help of public/private partnerships, the Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor and the community at large, this stretch of the River can become a template for the successful redevelopment of mill villages throughout the Corridor. The identification of valuable assets, recommended action steps and a strategic plan for implementation provide the groundwork; local support will provide the impetus to move forward.