

## Massachusetts Walking Tour

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## Freedom's Way National Heritage Area

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## Eighth Annual Massachusetts Walking Tour Prepares for Hike Exploring Thoreau's "A Walk to Wachusett"

The Eighth Annual **Massachusetts Walking Tour**, founded by songwriting duo Mark Mandeville & Raienne Richards will be wandering in Thoreau's footsteps – performing 5 free community concerts in towns along The **Thoreau Trail** while traversing the state *on foot*. In 1842 Henry David Thoreau travelled from Concord to the summit of Mount Wachusett in Princeton, a journey which he recorded in the essay, *A Walk to Wachusett*. Engaging with communities and partners throughout the region, the **Freedom's Way National Heritage Area** is working to create a recreational trail as an interpretive walking experience in the spirit of Thoreau's essay.

**The project's signature event in 2017—A Walk to Wachusett**—a multi-day trek exploring the preliminary trail route accompanied by the Massachusetts Walking Tour, will take place June 27th through July 2nd.

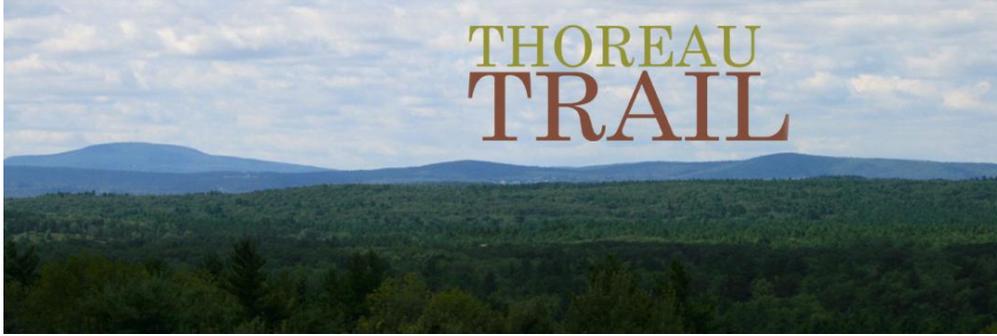
EIGHTH ANNUAL • MASSACHUSETTS WALKING TOUR • 2017

HIKING AND MUSIC  
ALONG THE ROUTE OF  
THOREAU'S WALK TO WACHUSETT

FREEDOM'S WAY  
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SPONSORED BY  
FREEDOM'S WAY NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA  
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH MASSACHUSETTS  
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION + RECREATION  
AND THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**JUNE 27- JULY 2**  
**FREE CONCERTS 6-8 PM AND DAILY HIKES**  
CONCORD \* STOW \* BOLTON \* LANCASTER \* PRINCETON  
SEE BELOW FOR CONCERT INFO AND REQUIRED HIKER REGISTRATION  
WWW.MASSWALKINGTOUR.ORG OR WWW.FREEDOMSWAY.ORG



The Thoreau Trail project launched in 2017 as a Thoreau Bicentennial legacy project with support from the **National Park Service**. Links to the registration for all hikes, concert information, etc. is available at: [www.masswalkingtour.org](http://www.masswalkingtour.org) or [www.freedomsway.org](http://www.freedomsway.org)

### **Schedule of Events:**

All concerts begin at 6:00 pm and end at 8:00 pm and will be performed by the Mass Walking Tour accompanied by local musicians, poets, historians and artists. Concerts are free and open to the public.

**June 27th: Thoreau Farm, Concord**

**June 28th: Stow Community Park, Stow**

**June 29th: Bolton Town Common, Bolton**

**June 30th: Lancaster Town Green, Lancaster**

**July 1st: Mount Wachusett, Princeton**

Since 2010, Mandeville and Richards have organized now over 100 coffeehouse style concerts which showcase local musicians and artists across the state – creating a quality evening program for all ages and an opportunity for talent young and old to be enjoyed by a listening audience.

Carrying approximately 40-50 lbs of gear and instruments, the Massachusetts Walking Tour Troupe, including veteran members Mark Kilianski (guitar, banjo) and Amy Alvey (fiddle), will be hiking from concert to concert using the proposed Thoreau Trail after just completing an 11 day hike through the Blackstone Valley. The tour visits different regions of Massachusetts each June inspiring support for the arts and greenspaces in small towns across Massachusetts.

