

WOO IN THE WOON
W O O

MAY 1-7, 2017

PRESENTS

J A N E W E E K

"Cities have the capability of providing something for everybody, only because, and only when, they are created by everybody."

—JANE JACOBS, DEATH AND LIFE OF GREAT AMERICAN CITIES

Come out and experience Worcester with "Jane Jacobs in the Woo"!

Jane Week gives Worcester residents and visitors a chance to connect to each other, explore Worcester by foot and participate in interesting discussions on how we can enhance the design and function of our city. The event is named for Jane Jacobs, an urban theorist and activist who championed a community-based approach to city building. Jane Week in Worcester is primarily composed of Jane Walks, volunteer-led walking tours, a pop-up parklet and other forums. Jane Week in Worcester joins an international movement that occurs the first week in May in over 250 cities across the world.

All walks and events during Jane Week are free and open to the public.

Rain or shine! Pre-registration suggested but not required. For Jane Walks, please show up five to ten minutes before scheduled departure time.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Tuesday, May 2

GROWTH BY DESIGN

Tuesday, May 2, 7:45–9AM, DCU Center Arena

The Worcester Regional Research Bureau (www.wrrb.org) will kick-off Jane Week's activities with a discussion of urban design and its importance for cities like Worcester. Beginning with an overview of urban design by one of New England's leading design experts, a panel of practitioners from Massachusetts cities and towns will discuss the challenges and opportunities for local governments in promoting and regulating urban design.



Organized by Worcester Regional Research Bureau

WOODLAND ACADEMY SCHOOL ROUTE CLEAN-UP WALK

Tuesday, May 2, 8–10:30AM, Meet at Woodland Academy, 93 Woodland St.

Woodland Academy is building a sustainable Safe Routes to School program that helps students walk and bicycle safely to and from school. The PTO Public Safety Committee will hold a clean-up walk along designated routes to school to get ready for Massachusetts Walk and Bike to School Day. The event starts with a kickoff breakfast, followed by teams of volunteers walking the priority routes with gloves and bags for trash pickup, and finishing with wrap-up and raffle.



Organized by Woodland Academy PTO and Worcester Safe Routes to School

Wednesday, May 3

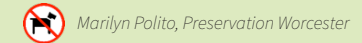
WEDNESDAY, MAY 3 IS MASSACHUSETTS WALK AND BIKE TO SCHOOL DAY!!

Massachusetts Walk and Bike to School Day is a statewide event through the Massachusetts Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Program. Last year, the Commonwealth celebrated the biggest event to date with over 42,000 elementary and middle school students walking or biking to school! Let's get walking and biking to school in Worcester on this day. Better yet, in honor of Jane Week, we are encouraging Worcester residents to leave the car home as much as possible. See how much you can walk, bike, take the bus or ride the train to the places you need to be this week.

WORCESTER CITY HALL: A PALACE FOR THE PEOPLE

Wednesday, May 3, 12:30–1PM, Meet at front entrance of City Hall

Take a 30 minute "flash" tour! Tour Worcester's City Hall and see why it was called, "A Palace for the People." Take a close-up look at the imposing Renaissance Revival exterior and the sweeping curved staircases at the main entrance. As you climb the Grand Staircase, look up at the barrel vaulted ceiling, stately marble columns, and magnificent moldings. Learn the historical significance of the Star on the Sidewalk and the contributions of early citizens Levi Lincoln, Esther Howland, and the Norcross brothers.



Marilyn Polito, Preservation Worcester

Thursday, May 4

DESIGN YOUR IDEAL NEIGHBORHOOD!

Thursday, May 4, 5:30–8PM, Drop-in at the pop-up parklet on North Main St.

The EcoTarium's new exhibit "City Science: The Science You Live" is an immersive exploration of the science stories hiding all around us. The EcoTarium is bringing a piece of the exhibit, "Magnetic Neighborhood," to the pop-up parklet for you to get creative designing your ideal neighborhood and hear more about Worcester's starring role in this first-in-the-country exhibit. *Family friendly activity*

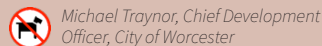


Betsy Loring, Director of Exhibits at the EcoTarium

WORCESTER'S ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION: PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

Thursday, May 4, 5:30–6:30PM: Meet at front door of City Hall, 455 Main St.

Get a view of the city's vision for Worcester's economic revitalization with a special focus on Union Station, City Square and Mercantile Center. This walk will end at the pop-up parklet on North Main St.

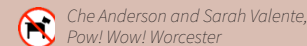


Michael Traynor, Chief Development Officer, City of Worcester

WORCESTER WALL TO WALL

Thursday, May 4, 5:30–6:30PM: Meet outside front door of City Hall, 455 Main St.

Public art often draws people to public places and serves as a key ingredient for urban revitalization. Learn the stories behind some of the murals and graffiti in the city and discover some hidden creative gems on this walking tour. Walk will end at the pop-up parklet on North Main St. Come and celebrate!



Che Anderson and Sarah Valente, Pow! Wow! Worcester

A TASTE OF C.H.I.P. (COMMUNITY HEALTH IMPROVEMENT PLAN)

Wednesday, May 3, 5–7PM, Meet Worcester Common by back entrance of City Hall

4:15 PM: arrive early for yoga, music and city hall tours
5:00 Walk starts promptly from Worcester Common by the back entrance of City Hall
Join us as we highlight the great work currently being done to make Worcester one of the healthiest cities in the country. #healthy2020 The CHIP Walk will feature a mobile farmers' market, a tree planting at a playground, innovative health centers and a few of the organizations that are "CHIPping" in to improve the health of Worcester residents.



Dr. Mattie Castiel, Dr. Michael Hirsch and staff of the Worcester Department of Public Health

POP-UP PARKLET PARTY ON NORTH MAIN ST.

Thursday, May 4, Drop in anytime, 4–8PM, outside of Deadhorse Hill, 281 Main St.

Celebrate Jane Jacobs birthday on the north of Main St! A miniature park will pop up on the north end of Main St. Come experience painting and music, explore historical neighborhood photos and eat birthday cake in celebration of Jane Jacobs. All are welcome!

Organized by Action! Worcester



Friday, May 5

WORCESTER'S FAMOUS GHOST TOUR

Friday, May 5, 5:30–6:30PM, Meet at the front of City Hall

Ever wonder who once walked the streets of the city? Join Worcester Historical Museum for an evening of insightful and surprising experiences as you encounter phantoms of Worcester's past on this walking tour.



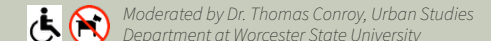
Staff of the Worcester Historical Museum

Saturday, May 6

URBAN RENEWAL, THEN AND NOW: SHORT FILM AND POST DISCUSSION

Saturday, May 6, 9:30–11AM, Saxe Room at the Worcester Public Library

A 45 minute documentary on the demise of Worcester's Laurel/Clayton neighborhood and the rise of Plumley Village in the 1960s will be followed by a panel and open discussion. What lessons can we learn from Worcester's past urban renewal? In what ways is our future economic development compatible with the preservation of intact neighborhoods?



Moderated by Dr. Thomas Conroy, Urban Studies Department at Worcester State University

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Saturday, May 6

FINDING WORCESTER: A FAMILY SCAVENGER HUNT ADVENTURE

Saturday, May 6, 11AM–1:00PM, Start at Worcester Historical Museum, 30 Elm St.

Upon your arrival at the museum, you will receive your scavenger hunt questions and your hunt will take you around the Downtown. Return to the museum by 1:00 PM to have your answers checked and receive your prize! This is a family friendly, stroller friendly adventure walk!



Organized by Walk Bike Worcester and Worcester Historical Museum

WALK YOUR SANCTUARY IN THE CITY: BROAD MEADOW BROOK WILDLIFE SANCTUARY

Saturday 9AM–4PM, Sunday 12:30–4PM

This 430 acre wildlife sanctuary offers over 5 miles of well- marked trails for walking and exploring. Trails are always open dawn to dusk. Some trails are considered accessible and designed for wheelchairs, baby strollers and walkers. Volunteers will be on hand to especially welcome visitors during Jane Weekend. Located at 414 Massasoit Rd (1/2 mile of Route 20) and can be reached on WRTA Millbury 22 bus route. Call the Visitor Center at 508-753-6087 for more information.



EAST AND EAST AND UP!

Saturday, May 6, 10AM–12NOON, Meet at the Lion Statues at Christoforo Columbo Park (East Park) on Shrewsbury St.

Hike a section of the East Side Trail as it travels from Shrewsbury Street up to the top of Belmont Hill and up to an old quarry in Green Hill Park. It is quite a pump but the views are worth it. The East Side Trail is a three mile trail that connects Shrewsbury Street to Lake Quinsigamond traveling through Green Hill Park and along conservation land by Coal Mine Brook. The East Side Trail represents a collaborative effort with the Greater Worcester Land Trust, the Green Hill Park Coalition, and City of Worcester. Bring water and snacks.



Deborah Carey, Mass Audubon and Colin Novick, Greater Worcester Land Trust

UNA PASSEGGIATA: A STROLL DOWN SHREWSBURY ST.

Saturday, May 6, 1–2:30PM, Meet at the front entrance of Union Station

Learn about the history of one of Worcester's most vibrant ethnic neighborhoods – from its early Pine Meadow days, through Italian immigration, to its present status as Worcester's "Restaurant Row."



Marilyn Polito and Francis DeNicola, Preservation Worcester Docents

Sunday, May 7

RELIGION AND RADICALS: REVISITING WORCESTER'S JEWISH EAST SIDE

Sunday, May 7, 11AM–12:30 PM, Meet at Oak Hill CDC, 74 Providence St.

Until the 1950s, East Side's Union Hill was the locus of Worcester's large Jewish immigrant community. Re-experience the history of this ethnic neighborhood with stops at former synagogues, a neighborhood ritual bath house and even the site of famous anarchist Emma Goldman's ice cream shop. Tour ends on Water Street with optional lunch at the Broadway Restaurant.



Moe Bergman, City Councilor, Attorney and Preservation Worcester Docent

KILBY-GARDNER-HAMMOND: COMMUNITY-DRIVEN NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION IN MAIN SOUTH

Saturday, May 6, 4–5:30PM, Meet at Main South CDC, 875 Main St.

The KGH Project represents a community-driven approach to the redevelopment of an inner city neighborhood. The Main South CDC worked with its development partners (Clark University, the Boys and Girls Club, and the City of Worcester) to reclaim a 30-acre blighted section of the Main South neighborhood that had over 40 vacant lots and over \$600,000 of property tax liens. This \$32 million project produced 107 affordable housing units, including 44 units that were sold to First Time Homebuyers, a state-of-the-art Boys & Girls Club, a bike/pedestrian pathway, and a new athletic facility for Clark University.



Casey Starr, Main South Community Development Corporation

ON THE WATER AT COES RESERVOIR WITH MASS AUDUBON

Saturday, May 6, 2–4PM, Drop in anytime on the beach along Mill St.

Come enjoy a canoe ride or try out paddleboats on one of Worcester's most wonderful waterways. Coes Reservoir is home to plans for a new inter-generational park, and a new hiking trail around the southern shoreline established by the Greater Worcester Land Trust, and the re-located historic Stearns Tavern. Personal Floatation Devices (PDFs), paddles, and instructions provided. Children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult guardian and all participants must know how to swim.

Sponsored by Mass Audubon's Broad Meadow Brook Sanctuary

HIKE THE EAST-WEST TRAIL AT NEWTON HILL

Sunday, May 7, 12 Noon–1:30PM, Meet in the parking lot of Spencer Savings Bank, 230 Park Ave.

Hike the Edward Winslow Lincoln Trail that passes disc golf baskets and an urban orchard at the summit. This tour will discuss the development of the Fire Alarm Building, the history of Elm Park and acquisition of Newton Hill, the orchard and partnership with Doherty High and description of the East West Trail.



Ruth Seward, Director of Worcester Tree Initiative and Stacy Hill, Friends of Newton Hill

THE CANAL DISTRICT, PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE: WATER POWERED

Sunday, May 7, 2:30–4:30PM, Meet at the front entrance of Union Station

The Blackstone Canal opened in 1828 connecting Narragansett Bay to the Town of Worcester. The Worcester economy exploded enabling Worcester to incorporate as a city in 1848. About 15 years ago, a group of citizens advocating for the reopening of the canal started a revitalization effort to rejuvenate this mill neighborhood. Will water be the answer to the Canal District's future growth? This tour will end with a "meet and greet" with some of your favorite local businesses at historic Crompton Place.



John Giangregorio, property and business owner and JoAnn Mills, Preservation Worcester

"JANE JACOBS IN THE WOO" AWARD CEREMONY

Sunday, May 7, 4:30–5:30PM, Crompton Place, 138 Green St.

"Jane Jacobs in the Woo" will announce the winner of the **2017 Jane Award**, a person, place or project that best emulates the ideals of Jane Jacobs. Join us for some light refreshments.



Jane Jacobs in the Woo

Want more of Jane after Jane Week? Consider attending the Massachusetts Smart Growth Alliance annual conference at the DCU Center on May 18, 2017. For more information and conference registration: ma-smartgrowth.org

What is Jane Jacobs in the Woo?

In honor of Jane Jacobs' 100th birthday in May 2016, "Jane Jacobs in the Woo" was founded to initiate a year of conversations and actions to build a more vibrant Worcester. We believe in Worcester's potential and promise to become one of the most livable cities in New England and beyond. We are working together to create a lively city with active streets, sidewalks and strong neighborhoods. The five essential building blocks include:

- **Preserve Worcester's unique attributes:** We support the creative reuse of our historic properties and advocate the development of locally owned stores and restaurants.
- **Build walkability into our street design:** We want streets for people and bicycles not just for cars! We support Worcester's adoption of a Complete Streets policy providing equitable street use for walkers, cyclists and car drivers. Additionally, we advocate for the strategic design and placement of parking lots and garages.
- **Practice excellence in building design:** We encourage mixed-use, compact development with windows and doors linking buildings to the street. We support the creation of guidelines, regulations and processes that promote high-quality architecture and best practices in urban design in Worcester.
- **Improve the Public Realm:** Well-designed sidewalks, street trees, public art, high-quality parks and green spaces make Worcester vibrant and fun and encourage more people to be on the street, participating in civic life.
- **Welcome Civic Participation in the Development Process:** We advocate for increased opportunities for the public to participate in planning processes and comment on proposed projects. Information on projects before the Conservation Commission, Historical Commission, Planning Board, and Zoning Board of Appeals should be made available electronically for public review. Moreover, public notification by Department of Public Works and Parks of upcoming maintenance or construction work on streets, sidewalks and street tree removals should be made to affected parties well in advance of such work.

Questions or comments? Contact us at janejacobsinthewoo@gmail.com or visit our website, www.janejacobsinthewoo.org or www.janeswalk.org/united-states/worcester-ma/.

Sponsor



Key Partners



Who was Jane Jacobs?

Jane Jacobs (1916–2006) was an American-born writer and activist best known for her writings about cities. Her first book, *The Death and Life of Great American Cities* (1961), upended the ideas of modernist city planning and building, and offered a new vision of diverse, fine-grained cities made for and by ordinary people. After moving from New York City to Toronto in 1968, she published six more major books about cities, economics, ethics, governance and culture, two of them Canadian bestsellers.



Ten Big Ideas

1. **Eyes on the Street:** Pedestrian traffic throughout the day, and the watchful eyes that come with it, enhance the safety of city streets.
2. **Social Capital:** The everyday activities and interactions that occur in a neighborhood slowly build up a network of relationships between neighbors. This "social capital" provides a foundation for mutual trust, shared efforts, and resilience in times of trouble.
3. **The Generators of Diversity:** Four factors in city planning and design help make the city diverse, safe, social, convenient, and economically vibrant:
 - a. **Mixed Uses:** A mixture of all kinds of residences, workplaces, and shops brings people out on the street at all times of day.
 - b. **Aged Buildings:** Humdrum, rundown buildings provide cheap space for new businesses and other low- or no-profit enterprises.
 - c. **Small Blocks:** A denser street network means more opportunities for retail and more chances for people to meet their neighbors.
 - d. **Population Density:** Simply put, you need lots of people in a small area to provide enough use for a city's streets, parks, and enterprises.
4. **Form Still Follows Function:** Fashions and technologies come and go, but what always remains relevant are the countless ways that people use the city, how the city works as a whole, and whether or not our urban design and planning reflect and serve those functions.
5. **Local Economies:** Economic growth, whether local, national or global, relies on the ability of urban economies to provide amply and diversely for themselves, rather than relying on imports.
6. **Innovation:** All new work is added to fragments of older work, like the first dressmaker to take up bra-making to improve the fit of her dresses. The greater the diversity of existing work in a local economy, the more opportunities to add new work and recombine old work in new ways.
7. **Make Many Little Plans:** The diversity of a good neighborhood can only be achieved when we allow many different people to pursue their own little plans, individually and collectively.
8. **Gradual Money:** Both diverse little plans and new kinds of work require diverse little sources of money available on an ongoing basis. Unfortunately, both public and private sources often only provide money floods and money droughts instead.
9. **Cities as Organized Complexity:** Cities function like ecosystems. Everything is connected to everything else in intricate, particular ways that cannot be captured well by statistics or formulas. Only close observation and reasoning from the bottom up will do.
10. **Citizen Science:** The people best equipped to understand urban complexity are "ordinary, interested citizens." Without the assumptions that often come with professional training, everyday users of the city can learn more freely from what they see and experience firsthand.

Written by Nate Storringer for the Jane's Walk Project Office. Contact us at info@janeswalk.org.