The Charter Oak Greenway
and the Hop River State Park Trail

We wish to acknowledge the land on which the Charter Oak Greenway and Hop River State Park Trail rest—unceded territory of the Mohican, Mispick, Posnuch, Tunxis, and Wapackan tribes, who stewarded the land and its surrounding areas for thousands of years.

In Manchester, on the corner of Highland and West, is the site of the Charter Oak Greenway.

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www.ct.gov/dmv, or call 860-263-5700

To Manchester, on the corner of Highland and West, is the site of the Charter Oak Greenway.

The Charter Oak Greenway and the Hop River State Park Trail are the unceded territory of the Mohegan, Nipmuck, Podunk, Tunxis, and Andros, agent of King James II, came to Hartford with an armed force to seize Connecticut’s Charter.

The greenway is named after Connecticut's state tree, the Charter Oak, and symbolizes colonial resistance to English rule. In 1667 Sir Edmund Andros, agent of King James II, came to Hartford with an armed force to seize Connecticut’s Charter.

Captain Joseph Wadsworth is credited with having it in a majestic oak. The Charter Oak Greenway was planted in 1647. Promoters obtained a charter for The Hartford & Providence Railroad to build a track from the river docks in Hartford, through Manchester, Bolton, Andover, Willimantic, Baltic, and Moosup to the Rhode Island border. The Hartford, Providence & Fishkill completed the Hartford to Willimantic track in 1846.

In 1847, promoters obtained a charter for The Hartford & Providence Railroad to build a track from the river docks in Hartford, through Manchester, Bolton, Andover, Williamstown, Baltic, and Moosup to the Rhode Island border. The Hartford, Providence & Fishkill completed the Hartford to Willimantic track in 1846. Irish laborers using pickaxes, shovels, hand-dolphins in wooden dandy carts, and large amounts of black powder created the track bed and laid the first rail. Stone for the bridges and culverts was cut from the many granite boulders and ledges outcropping that line the right of way. You can still see the drill holes in the rock core of the track bed.

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The Hop River State Park Trail

The 20-mile Hop River State Park Trail connects Manchester to the Airline Trail in Willimantic, travels through the towns of Manchester, Vernon, Bolton, Coventry, Andover, and Columbia. The 20-mile Hop River State Park Trail was named after the Hop River and its surrounding area.

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By connecting existing and planned shared-use trails, a continuous, traffic-free route is being made possible through the state’s entire northeast corridor, serving self-powered users of all abilities, the East Coast Greenway links Calais, Maine, at the Canadian border, with Yorktown, Virginia. The East Coast Greenway is an ambitious urban trail. It is one of the nation’s most ambitious long-distance urban trails.

The 17-mile Charter Oak Greenway connects Hartford to the Hop River State Park Trail in Bolton.

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