



***18th Annual Grafton Gazebo Road Race
and Children's Fun Runs***

**A Premier Event of Grafton Heritage Week
In Celebration Of National Tourism Week
Grafton, Massachusetts
Saturday, May 7, 2005**

Local Restaurant & Spectator Guide

For Release Upon Receipt
Thursday, April 14, 2005

Grafton Media Contact:
John LaPoint
glfjl@aol.com
508-839-3367 or 508-735-5316

Entry Forms Now Available For The 18th Annual Grafton Gazebo Road Race And Children's Fun Runs On Saturday, May 7th

GRAFTON: Entry and Registration Forms for the Saturday, May 7th Grafton Gazebo Road Race and Children's Fun Runs are now available by visiting the Town of Grafton's Official Web Site:

http://www.town.grafton.ma.us/Public_Documents/GraftonMA_Recreation/index

The 18th annual edition of the Grafton Gazebo Five Mile Road Race for men and women of all ages is staged over the scenic byways of Grafton with its traditional run through the town's historic and picturesque circa 1728 Grafton Common. The official race day start time is 9:00 AM. Race day registration begins at 8:00 AM on the grounds of the Grafton Municipal Center at 30 Providence Road.

Road Race Entry Forms are available at the offices of the Grafton Recreation Commission located at the Grafton Municipal Center. The Road Race entry form, in PDF format, is also available for downloading at the following web address:

http://www.town.grafton.ma.us/Public_Documents/GraftonMA_Recreation/Gazebo.pdf

Again in 2005, Grafton's *Together We Can Committee* and the Grafton Recreation Commission will sponsor two exciting Children's Fun Run Competitions at the track and field facilities of the Grafton High School. The half-mile fun run is for children age nine and under, and the one-mile fun run is for youth ages 10 to 13. This family styled event starts at 8:00 AM sharp.

Separate entry forms for the Children's Fun Runs are available at the Grafton Municipal Center or by visiting on-line at:

http://www.town.grafton.ma.us/Public_Documents/GraftonMA_Recreation/FunRun.pdf

For additional information on all of these "racey events" happening in Grafton on May 7th, please contact the Grafton Recreation Department Office, Director Betty Wright at 508-839-5335 extension 156.

The 18th Annual Grafton Gazebo Road Race and Children's Fun Runs are conducted with the generous community support of the Grafton Water District, the Grafton Police Association, Leclair Properties, Inc., Gaudette Insurance Agency, Inc., Grafton Stop & Shop Supermarket, G.N. Prunier & Sons, Inc., Magill Associates, Inc., Savers Bank, Collette Motors, Lipinski & Sons Electrical Contractor, Grafton Suburban Credit Union, Temp-Flex Cable, Inc., Grafton's Koopman's True Value Hardware, Millbury National Bank, Together We Can, and the Grafton Recreation Commission.

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18th Annual Grafton Gazebo Road Race and Children's Fun Runs

**A Premier Event of Grafton Heritage Week
In Celebration Of National Tourism Week
Grafton, Massachusetts
Saturday, May 7, 2005**

Event Information Sheet

Race Schedule

7:30 AM to 8:00 AM - Sign up For Fun Runs - High School Track Facilities

8:00 AM - Half-Mile and One-Mile Fun Runs at High School Track Facilities

8:00 AM to 8:45 AM - Gazebo Race Day Registration

9:00 AM - Start of 18th Annual Grafton Gazebo Road Race

Course: 5 mile wheel-measured course along scenic roads

Start / Finish: Grafton Memorial Senior High School, Route 122 , Grafton, MA.

Amenities: Ample parking and bathroom facilities valuable - no locker rooms. Splits each mile, water stations, post-race refreshments

T-Shirts: First 200 entrants who register before April 22, 2005

Timing: TriValley Front Runners

Awards: Top male and top female winner overall

Top three finishers (male and female) (no cash awards) in each age group

Under 15, 15-19, 20-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, 60 and up

No Multiple Awards

Registration: T-Shirt pick up and race day registration from 8:00 am to 8:45 AM
Grafton MunicipalCenter, 30 Providence Road, Grafton, MA.

Fees: \$15.00 pre-registration (entries postmarked before April 22nd, 2005)

\$20.00 post registration non-refundable

Make checks payable to: Grafton Gazebo Road Race

For More Information, call 508-839-5335 ext. 156

Proceeds to benefit Town Parks and Fields

18th Annual Grafton Gazebo Road Race and Children's Fun Runs

Saturday, May 7, 2005

Conducted by Grafton Recreation Commisison

Course: 5.0 Miles in Length

Start Line At Lake Ripple - Route 122

Finish Line At Grafton Municipal Center

<u>Start Time</u>	<u>Category</u>	<u>Laps</u>	<u>Miles</u>
8:00 AM	Children's Fun Runs	2 Laps	0.5 Miles
	Children's Fun Runs	4 Laps	1.0 Miles
9:00 AM	18th Annual Gazebo Road Race	1 Lap	5.0 Miles



Start of Grafton Gazebo Road Race - 2002

18th Annual Grafton Gazebo Road Race

Sponsors

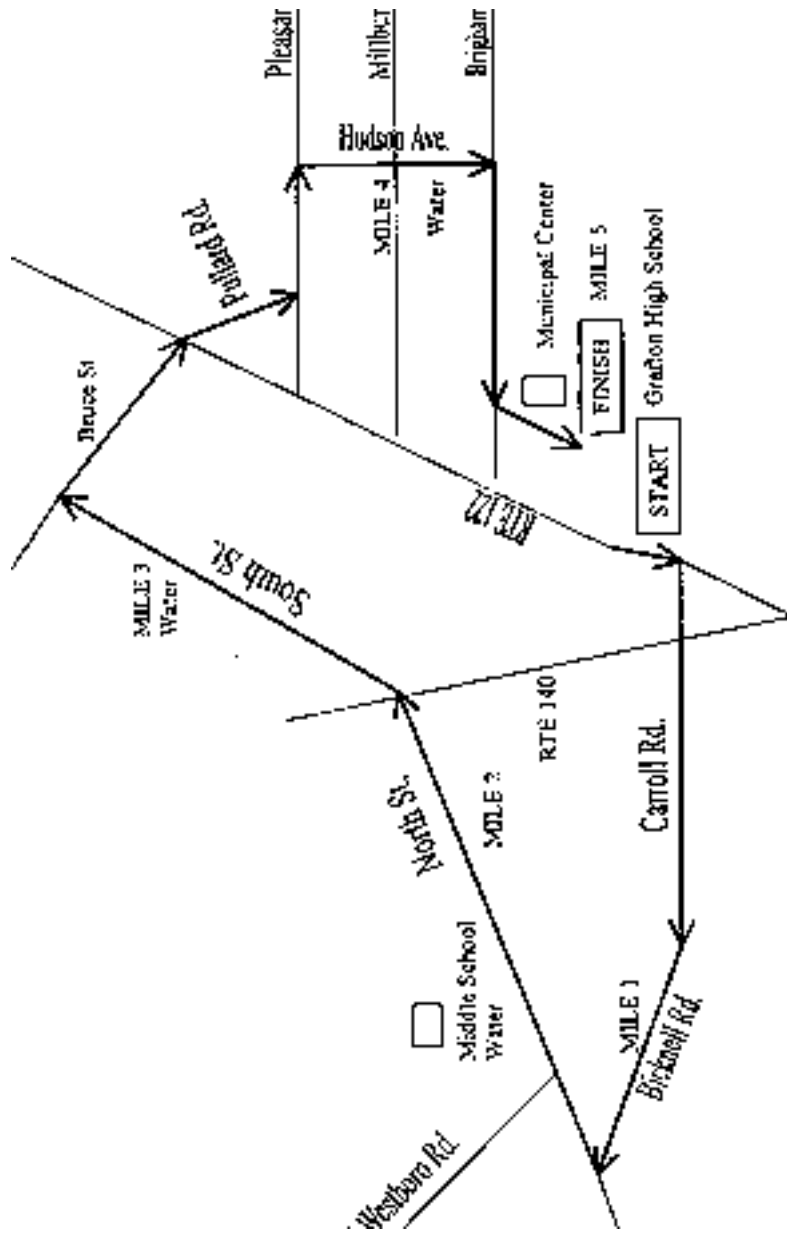
***Grafton Water District
Grafton Police Association
Leclaire Properties, Inc.
Gaudette Insurance Agency, Inc.
Grafton Stop & Shop Supermarket
Grafton Recreation Commission***

Mile Marker Sponsors

***G.N. Prunier & Sons, Inc.
Magill Associates, Inc.
Savers Bank
Collette Motors
Lipinski & Sons Electrical Contractor***

Additional Sponsors

***Grafton Suburban Credit Union
Temp-Flex Cable, Inc.
Grafton's Koopman's True Value Hardware
Millbury National Bank
Together We Can***



Grafton Gazebo Road Race (5 Mile)



The Grafton Gazebo Road Race **Championship Road Race Course**

<u>Mile Marker</u>	<u>Street</u>	<u>Sites of Interest</u>
0.0 - Start Line	Providence Road - Route 122	Old & Indian Cemetery Lake Ripple
0.1	Across Worcester Street Junction of Route 140 & 122	Swirls & Scoops
0.4	On Carroll Road	Past Janet Circle
0.6	Across Grafton & Upton Railroad	Historic Circa -1874 Railroad
0.7	On Carroll Road	Abner Temple Farm
0.8	RIGHT onto Bicknell Road	Massachusetts Turnpike on Left
1.1	RIGHT onto North Street	
1.7	On North Street	Merge into Old Westboro Road Ray Jordan Memorial
1.9	On North Street	Past Grafton Middle School
2.1	On North Street	Past Merriam Road
2.2	On North Street	Historic Homes Past Chestnut Street
2.3	On North Street	Minor Field / Norcross Park - Mini Fenway Park
2.5 -	On North Street	Grafton & Upton Railroad Tracks Circa 1887
2.5	HALFWAY	ENTER GRAFTON COMMON



The Grafton Gazebo Road Race
Championship Road Race Course

<u>Mile Marker</u>	<u>Street</u>	<u>Sites of Interest</u>
2.6	Grafton Common -1728	1731 Congregational Church 1885 Fisher Mansion Jerome Wheelock Statue The Grafton Inn -1805
2.6	ENTER South Street	Captain Slocumb House - Bed & Breakfast Historic Homes
3.0	RIGHT of Bruce Street	
3.3	RIGHT of Pullard Road	Historic Thomas Hooker Trail
3.4	Cross Route 122 - Providence Road	
3.6	LEFT of Pleasant Street	The Baptist Bridge - Quinsigamond River
3.7	RIGHT on Hudson Avenue	
4.2	CROSS Millbury Street	Riverside Cemetery St. Philip' s Cemetery
4.5	RIGHT on Brigham Hill Road	
4.6	On Brigham Hill Road	Cross Quinsigamond River Hisoric Tannery Mill
4.8	RIGHT into Muncipal Center	1950's Grafton High School
5.0 FINISH LINE	Grafton Municipal Center	

Grafton Gazebo 5Mile

Grafton, MA, May 1, 2004

Overall Results

Tri-ValleyFrontrunners.com

PLACE	NAME	CITY	TIME
1	Michael Munroe	Newington, CT	29:42
2	William Newsham	Northbridge	30:03
3	Shad Miller	Somerville	30:12
4	Peter Horsey	Grafton	30:26
5	Paul Oparowski	Grafton	30:44
6	David Audet	Concord, NH	30:47
7	Edward Verschoor	Marlborough	31:08
8	Justin Contois	Grafton	31:24
9	Andrew Duffy	Shrewsbury	31:33
10	Michael Hoffman	Northbridge	31:41
11	Michael Ferrari	Shrewsbury	31:45
12	Mark Wigler	Hubbardston	32:48
13	George Cunha	Douglas	34:05
14	Lester Forgit	Worcester	34:26
15	Alan Rotatori	North Grafton	34:34
16	Jesse Fleming	Grafton	34:41
17	James Gonyea	Auburn	35:02
18	Brennan Wall	Grafton	35:20
19	Dennis Demers	Worcester	35:34
20	Robert Vetal	Grafton	35:47
21	James Chabot	Webster	36:07
22	Kurt Spring	Somerville	36:08
23	Tricia Brennan	Newton	36:09
24	Tom Killeen	Sutton	36:13
25	Bob Magner	Shrewsbury	36:16
26	Joseph Drugan	Hopedale	36:20
27	Jerry Grove	Grafton	36:26
28	Andrew Salmu	Grafton	36:33
29	Ken Mueller	Bellingham	36:45
30	Cindy Glavin	Grafton	37:06

Grafton Gazebo 5M
 Grafton, MA, May 1, 2004
 Overall Results

PLACE	NAME	CITY	TIME
31	Neil Hayward	Grafton	37:08
32	Jim Coughlin	Grafton	37:13
33	William Chase	Millbury	37:19
34	Michael Dunphy	Westboro	37:54
35	Evan Shukan		37:56
36	Ron Senosk	Millbury	37:58
37	Art French	Shrewsbury	38:09
38	David Granato	Upton	38:19
39	Richard Paulsen	Woburn	38:23
40	Stephen McDonough	Grafton	38:27
41	Michael Cherry	South Grafton	38:28
42	James Moro	North Grafton	38:29
43	Bill Oparowski	Grafton	38:33
44	John Gill	North Grafton	38:47
45	Steve Lipka	Clinton	38:54
46	Jim Maloney	Woonsocket, RI	39:01
47	Carl Hultgren	Charlton	39:07
48	Kevin Hunter	Milford	39:10
49	David Vanasse	Clinton	39:20
50	Jerry Morris	Teaticket	39:28
51	Michael Gallagher	Grafton	39:44
52	Heather Waterman	Sutton	39:48
53	Michael Ethier	Grafton	39:51
54	Dee Sewdrewski	Sterling	40:03
55	Steven Borg	Blackstone	40:05
56	Joan Munroe	Newington, CT	40:16
57	Rob Oliver	North Grafton	40:33
58	Dave Wheat	Grafton	40:42
59	Rebecca Aubin	Millbury	40:49
60	Rae Maloney	Douglas	40:51
61	Eva Van Stratum	Avon, CT	41:01
62	Madeline Haynes	Grafton	41:02
63	John Maguire	Grafton	41:03
64	Mike Brennan	South Grafton	41:09
65	Jody Brennan	South Grafton	41:09
66	Bill Keeler	Grafton	41:10
67	Kent Welch	North Grafton	41:18
68	Don French	Upton	41:19
69	Kim Morrison	Whitinsville	41:23
70	James Phillips	Medway	41:35

Grafton Gazebo 5M
 Grafton, MA, May 1, 2004
 Overall Results

PLACE	NAME	CITY	TIME
71	John Goldrosen	Whitman	41:39
72	Steve Lloyd		41:41
73	David Lloyd		41:41
74	Jerry Patraitis	Worcester	41:46
75	Diane Micalizzi	Grafton	41:52
76	Brent Morgan	Grafton	41:59
77	Shaina Dadah	North Grafton	42:07
78	Anton Prenneis	Grafton	42:11
79	Steven Sapunka	Worcester	42:12
80	Gregory Granato	Upton	42:19
81	Cyndi Patraitis	Canfield, OH	42:26
82	Jill Schreiber	Uxbridge	42:35
83	John Schreiber	Uxbridge	42:37
84	Joe Atchue	North Grafton	42:45
85	Kevin Silva	New Bedford	42:51
86	Joseph O'Connor	Sterling	42:53
87	Janet Fortin	Upton	43:02
88	Jim Stirewalt	Princeton	43:02
89	Wendy Newsham	Northbridge	43:16
90	Keith Regan	Grafton	43:20
91	Jean Avery	North Grafton	43:37
92	Jennifer Shapiro	North Grafton	43:37
93	Chris Belliveau	Andover, CT	43:38
94	Tracy Howell	Grafton	43:52
95	Joyce Trapasso	Grafton	43:53
96	David Burns	Clinton	43:54
97	Peter Dennis	Grafton	44:02
98	Tom Gorsuch	Watertown	44:04
99	Jen Gorsuch	Watertown	44:04
100	Ken Halpin	Grafton	44:05
101	Alexandra Smith	Dudley	44:08
102	Phil Ryan	Millis	44:12
103	A Paul Keeley	Grafton	44:14
104	Lynn Muner	Grafton	44:18
105	Michael Vanasse	Clinton	44:32
106	Lynn Skinner	Northboro	44:36
107	Stuart Burdsall	Grafton	44:38
108	Mike Wynne	North Grafton	44:39
109	John Brockway	Grafton	44:41
110	Mary Ouellette	Grafton	44:53

Grafton Gazebo 5M
 Grafton, MA, May 1, 2004
 Overall Results

PLACE	NAME	CITY	TIME
=====			
111	Greg Halloran	Waltham	44:57
112	Anne Baskowski	Grafton	45:16
113	Susan Oftring	Grafton	45:25
114	Christina Barton	Grafton	45:40
115	Catherine Ream	Grafton	45:40
116	Brenda Donahue	Grafton	45:42
117	Thomas N Onacki	Grafton	45:47
118	Matthew Kennedy	Sterling	45:53
119	Robert Klein	Grafton	45:55
120	Jonathan Johnston	Grafton	46:00
121	Danielle Ward	Millbury	46:05
122	Kathy Dunphy	Westborough	46:23
123	Steve Borbee	Roslindale	46:29
124	Cookie Aubin	Sutton	46:39
125	Keith Dennis	Newton Centre	46:40
126	Sue Hansen	Webster	46:44
127	Nicholas McCarthy	Grafton	47:13
128	Joc Caldwell	Grafton	47:25
129	Kellie Welsh	Grafton	47:27
130	Ray Lussier	Grafton	47:29
131	Rick Bailey	Tyngsborough	48:01
132	Thomas J Onacki	Grafton	48:04
133	John Matuzek	Shrewsbury	48:08
134	Jennifer Svendsen	Hopedale	48:13
135	Deborah Fiore	Grafton	48:14
136	Susan Granato	Upton	48:23
137	Ellen Killeen	Sutton	48:33
138	Brian Ware	Northbridge	48:55
139	Jennifer Ware	Northbridge	48:56
140	Kerry Connolly	Shrewsbury	48:58
141	Jody-Lee Moro	Brighton	49:01
142	Jill Curry	Watertown	49:02
143	Heather O'Sullivan	Northbridge	49:03
144	Robert Caldwell	Grafton	49:04
145	Craig Dauphinais	Grafton	49:05
146	Julie Trapasso	Grafton	49:15
147	Michelle Parker	Whitinsville	49:37
148	Moira Sheehan	Grafton	49:38
149	Elizabeth Hickey	Sunderland	49:39

Grafton Gazebo 5M
 Grafton, MA, May 1, 2004
 Overall Results

PLACE	NAME	CITY	TIME
=====			
150	Lori Buszkiewicz	Grafton	49:45
151	Sherry Barry	Shrewsbury	49:48
152	Christine Biron	Worcester	49:48
153	Keri Gullicksen	North Grafton	50:07
154	Kara Collette	North Grafton	50:17
155	Danielle Robertson	Southbridge	50:37
156	Sarah Mongeau	Grafton	50:43
157	Brooke Gullicksen	Waltham	50:45
158	Samantha Sheehan	Grafton	50:48
159	Debbie Vail	Framingham	51:00
160	Jennifer Vander Wiede	South Grafton	51:10
161	Hilary Wynne	North Grafton	51:29
162	Nancy Athanas	Whitinsville	51:30
163	Christopher Staszak	North Grafton	51:38
164	Jim Thomas	Grafton	51:46
165	Jennifer Thomas	Grafton	51:47
166	Michelle Donovan	Sutton	51:52
167	Lyn Cosseboom	Grafton	52:04
168	Jason Sciarappa	Charlton	52:08
169	Courtney Sudmyer	Watertown	52:25
170	Thomas Lambert	Marlborough	52:28
171	Mary Taintor	Natick	52:35
172	Carly Reardon	Grafton	52:37
173	Ashley Valanzola	Grafton	52:37
174	Kirsten Glavin	Grafton	52:45
175	Douglas Robertson	Southbridge	52:45
176	Elizabeth Vittum	Grafton	52:46
177	Ann Boisvert	Grafton	52:57
178	Alayna Coakley	Grafton	53:34
179	Bob Howell	Grafton	53:35
180	Chris Athanas	Whitinsville	53:44
181	Joanne Welsh	Grafton	54:12
182	Lorraine Guyer	North Grafton	54:18
183	Jill Noro		54:47
184	Maureen Campbell	Wakefield	55:37
185	Namiko Tomoda	Grafton	55:54
186	Christine Taylor	Webster	56:11
187	Michael Kujawski	Southbridge	56:28
188	Vanessa Osborn	Grafton	57:04
189	Amy Leazes	Grafton	57:05

Grafton Gazebo 5M
 Grafton, MA, May 1, 2004
 Overall Results

PLACE	NAME	CITY	TIME
=====			
190	Lauren Jasukonis	Watertown	57:08
191	Sarah Lennon	Grafton	57:42
192	Tony Lennon	Grafton	57:44
193	John Moro	Grafton	58:04
194	Noreen Gillen	Linwood	58:39
195	Chris Tamborra	Upton	59:31
196	Kaitlyn DiBuono	Auburn	60:01
197	Michael DiBuono	Marlborough	60:02
198	Lori Lewis	Grafton	61:10
199	Deborah Trapasso	Grafton	63:28
200	Kristen Minio	Oxford	63:44
201	Marsha Hudson	Grafton	64:25
202	Sandra Arning	Lunenburg	64:47
203	Kristina Samar	Grafton	65:28
204	Alison Boisvert	Rochdale	67:44
205	Aubree Waddell	North Grafton	1:12:57
206	Peter Woskie	Grafton	1:12:58
207	Samantha Toscano	Grafton	1:13:07
208	Ashley Gardell	Grafton	1:13:16
209	Kevin Samar	Grafton	1:13:59

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Restaurants - The Grafton Common

The Grafton Inn

25 Central Square

Grafton

508-839-5931

Fax-508-839-1592

John & Laurie Pardee

Thegraftoninn@aol.com

Friday & Saturday 11:30 AM to 10:00 PM

Lakeview Country Market

Worcester Street @ The Common

Grafton, MA 01519

508-839-9546

Fax: 508- 839-1363

<http://www.graftoncommon.com/lakeview/index.htm>

Friday 6AM to 3PM

Saturday 7AM to 2PM

Cafe on the Common

Lunch, Tea & Provisions

1 Grafton Common

Grafton, MA 01519

508-839-7447

Monday to Saturday 11AM to 2:30 PM

Latte A' More

Grafton Country Store

2 Central Square

Grafton

Liz Humphries

store@graftoncountrystore.com

508-839-4898

9:30 AM to 5:00 PM

Wong's Restaurant

62 Upton Road (Rt. 140)

Grafton, MA 01519

508-839-3020

Cumberland Farms Convenience Store

16 Upton Street - Route 140

Grafton, MA.

5AM to 12:00 PM Midnight

508 - 887-9521

Restaurants - Worcester Street Area - Near The Starting Line

Dunkin Donuts

72 Worcester Street
North Grafton
508-839-8907
Open 24 hours

Swirls & Scoops

68 Worcester Street (Rt. 122)
North Grafton
508-839-9036
Open Until 9PM

The Beanery Cafe

79 Worcester Road
North Grafton
508-839-0600
Friday 7AM to 2PM
Saturday 7AM to 12:00 Noon

Pepperoni Express Pizza

72 Worcester Road (Rt. 122A)
North Grafton
508-839-6040
Saturday 11AM to 11PM

RazzBerries Breakfast and Bakery

78 Worcester Street (Rt. 122)
North Grafton
508-839-7040

Tas'T Pizza

89 Worcester Street
North Grafton
508-839-5300
Monday to Saturday 10Am to 11 PM

Burger King

92 Worcester Street
Grafton
508-839-4426
6AM to (PM, Drive Thru until 11PM)

Subway Sandwiches

100 Worcester Street
Stop & Shop Plaza
North Grafton
508-839-9595
8AM to 11PM

XTRA Mart Convenience Store

Route 122
North Grafton
508-839-4937
24 Hours

Restaurants - Near Tufts University School of Veterinary Medicine

Willie's Pasta Grill

135 Westboro Road (Rt. 30)
N. Grafton, MA 01519
508-839-5888

Loaves and Fishes

Tufts Vet School Campus
Grafton, MA 01519
508-839-1911

Restaurants In North Grafton and on Route 122 Near Massachusetts Turnpike- Exit 11 (Millbury/Grafton)

Campanale's Backroom Tavern

215 Worcester Street
North Grafton
508-839-2812

Danielle's Pub

215 Worcester Street
North Grafton
508-836-1585

Donut Star

204 Worcester Street (Rt. 122)
Grafton,
508-839-9870
Open at %AM

Peking Garden

204 Worcester Street (Rt. 122)
North Grafton, MA
508-839-9521

Grafton Pizza

204 Worcester Street (Rt. 122)
North Grafton
508-839-5821

Wonder Restaurant

10 Bridge Street
N. Grafton
508-839-2882

The Olde Post Office Pub Restaurant

Route 140 & Ray Street
North Grafton
508-839-6106

China Pearl

198 Worcester Street
N. Grafton
508-839-3899

The Historic Grafton Common Grafton, Massachusetts

Courtesy of Blackstonedaily.com

Perhaps the most quintessential New England Common in the Blackstone Valley, Grafton Common is surrounded by sixteen historic buildings, including the traditional Congregational Church. The well maintained four acre parcel hosts a bandstand (gazebo) built in 1935 to film Eugene O'Neil's "Ah, Wilderness". Photo sessions for prom nights or weddings, summer concerts, the annual Antique Fair or the Christams Season Chain of Lights merely underscore the continued significance of the Grafton Common in Grafton's daily life. Grafton volunteers worked to designate the area an Historic District to maintain the appearance with strict standards preserving the connection to the past.

Charming shops, such as the Grafton Country Store, Peggy's Place, Tuscan Rose, or Antiques on the Common grace the area along with three churches, the typical Congregational Church as well as the First Baptist Church and the Unitarian Universalist. Several eateries line the Common, including Cafe on the Common, Latte A' More and the historic centuries old Grafton Inn, home to a lovely double fireplace restaurant still offering overnight rooms to stay. Modest and grand residences, the library and two prominent Grafton builder offices also border this 120 x 135' Common with historic architecture seen also along Church, Oak, South and Millbury streets all converging, along with Rte 140, at the historic Common.

Rte 140 was the old roadway for stagecoaches often stopping at the historic Grafton Inn. However, according to very old maps in 1831 and another in 1832, Rte 140 and Worcester Street did not yet exist, so the bulk of the earlier stagecoach traffic probably came up South Street or along North Street before Rte 140 was built. Church Street also did not exist until later. Rte 122 lies about half a mile away minimizing the growing traffic through the Common, but these two old routes join further north where Grafton's small, but growing commercial district is located. A new car wash, larger regional family run building supplies store and a variety of small restaurants, gas stations and shops line the heavily trafficked road with easy access to the Mass Turnpike, Rte 495, Rte 20, Rte 30, Rte 146 are within minutes or the nearby Grafton station for the MBTA traveling to Boston.

Though two grocery markets, Hodes and Glass King's, used to be located in Grafton, more than a decade passed before Stop & Shop filled the grocery store void left after their demise. But that has all changed in recent years as Grafton faces the benefits and the challenges of high growth, with over 1000 new residential permits adding to 5800 homes spread throughout the three different zip codes for South, North and central Grafton. Grafton has been working to provide affordable housing for its residents with several ongoing projects in varying stages. These three main sections, each retaining its very own neighborhood library, are comprised of many former old mill villages, cottage industries or rural farmlands with names such as Farnumsville, Saundersville, Kittsville, or Fisherville where the large, old mill burnt to the ground only a few years ago, but along the River where the Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor and Army Corps of Engineers heralds as a special waterfowl habitat.

Scenic roads, wetlands and the farmlands are currently challenged with the heavy growth, but both Grafton townspeople and the non-profit Land Trust have collectively preserved some key parcels for future generations to enjoy. Grafton volunteers and Town Meeting voters have worked diligently to balance the fiscal needs of the community with preservation, open space and recently, the permits under the State 40B law to begin building denser affordable housing as only affluent homes had been built recently throughout Town. Controversies have abounded over the density that overrides local bylaws necessitated by skyrocketing land costs to produce modest homes, but the commitment for diverse housing has always been integral to Grafton as seen its its inclusive zoning.

Economic development has been triggered by several committed residents working to develop the Centech Industrial Park and the Tufts Biomedical Park for startups while reversing the State's intention decades back to transform the former Grafton State Hospital to a prison. Instead, the former Hospital is home to the lovely Tufts Veterinary School campus along Rte 30 with scenic vistas and nearby historic Willard Clock House and Museum. Tax Incentive Financing is no longer necessary to induce location in Centech Park, but the Town will continue to benefit from the Cherry Street connector road soon coming to fruition along with the increased industrial tax base for the community.

The Grafton Common Area - Historic Treasures Abound

Courtesy of Blackstonedaily.Com

Grafton is filled with historical homes and buildings, some of which are described below:

The Common

The **Wheeler Block** was originally constructed in 1806 by Jonathan Wheeler. It was used as a general store and still is the home of Liz Humphries' wonderful Grafton Country Store with the recent addition of Latte & More. Its roof style is the French Mansard roof which was added in 1865 although it has lost its slate. The Country Store is a must-see for its quaintness, appealing diversity of products and penny candy!

Across Worcester Street and also facing the Grafton Common is the **Warren Building** built in the early 1850s by Jonathan Wheeler. Destroyed by fire in 1862, it was immediately rebuilt by Mr. Wheeler and became home to a tailor, jeweler and other businesses prior to its use as the old Town Hall. Presently, it is home to several unique and charming shops: women's clothing Peggy's Place, a European gift store, a Tea House and the Historical Society.

The **Evangelical Congregational Church** was completed in 1833 and its steeple and gallery clock are works of the famous Willard Family. The Greek Revival church architecture is a notable example of an early New England village. The roots of the Congregational church in Grafton go back to Solomon Prentice in 1731.

The Grafton Inn, 25 Central Square is the oldest building on Grafton common. It is pre-Industrial and still intact as the well-respected Grafton Inn restaurant and offers 8 rooms for lodging. It sits at the corner of Rte 140 and many a stagecoach stopped at the Inn.

The **Unitarian Church** at 3 Central Square was built at the site of the second public meeting house before the Warren Building was constructed. This former meeting house, however, was burnt in the great fire of 1862. In the interim of the fire and the Warren Building, town meetings were held in the basement of the Church.

The Jerome Wheelock Statue was built in the late 1800s to honor a noted mechanical engineer, Jerome Wheelock, who had been born in Grafton in 1834. Wheelock bestowed a large gift of money to the town.

The monuments memorialize the **Civil War and World War I** soldiers lost in these two wars that were from Grafton. These monuments are graced with flowering trees in the Spring adding to the picturesque beauty.

The Baptist Church at 1 South Street was built in 1830 when membership grew after meeting throughout Grafton homes for many years.

The Bandstand gazebo was built for the filming of a 1935 movie, "Ah Wilderness"

featuring a quaint NE village. However, a gazebo stood at the Common in the 1800s for public affairs and gatherings during town celebrations.

OAK STREET

The Old Burial Ground, off of Oak Street, is the town's oldest burial ground which was laid out in 1737 when the town was acreage was being divided. It started as an acre but has since grown to four acres and contains the graves of seven of Grafton's first 40 proprietors. It also is the burial ground of the Reverend Solomon Prentice.

12 Oak Street is a Greek Revival styled home almost identical to a home across the street. This house was built in the early 1830s by Phillip Wing whose son, Henry inherited it upon Phillip's death. It was used as a stopover for the mail coach during these years.

18 Oak Street was the farmhouse of the Redding family which held onto it for over 50 years. This property once held a large portion of land in this Oak Street area, but was reduced to a smaller lot in 1898 and sold to Joseph Adams. It might have been used as a rental unit.

20 Oak Street is known as the Solomon Prentice House and is one of the remaining 2 1/2 story five bay central chimney farmhouses to remain from the eighteenth century. It was home to Rev Solomon Prentice, who was relieved of his position in 1747 for his radical views, following the English minister and radical, Whitefield.

Millbury Street

16 Millbury Street is a 1 1/2 story 5 bay Cape Cod cottage, of which there are not many in Grafton. Still intact as the oldest standing house built in 1822, Captain Samuel Hall had worked as a blacksmith and an undertaker. The shop to build and store caskets was attached to his home.

26 Millbury Street is a prime example of the Queen Anne's architecture. The original owner, Edward Beauregard, built the home in 1890 and by 1900, Mrs. Louise Beauregard established it as a boarding house.

South Street

6 South Street, another example of Greek revival architecture, offers important features such as a central pavilion and double leaf arched door. The influential owner was Samuel Wood who fought in the Civil War.

17 South Street is one of only two three-story Federal style houses in Grafton. It was owned by two deacons of the Baptist Church at different times. The first was Jeremiah Bond in the 1830s and then surgeon and deacon George Hastings ran a shop in the home. Hastings worked as a surgeon in the Grand Army of the Republic after the Civil War although it seems he held no medical degree.

Worcester Street

6 Worcester Street, now home of the LakeView Deli, was built in the 1850s and became the home of Grafton's high school and grammar school in 1867. Grammar school classes were held on the first floor and high school classes were held on the second floor.

7 Worcester Street was built in 1875 for Dr. George K. Nichols, who had been raised in Saundersville (south Grafton) when his Father died. He was educated at private schools and the University of Pennsylvania. He became president of Grafton Savings Bank and married Samuel Harrington's daughter. This Italianate style home has been updated with more modern shingles and picture windows.

20 Worcester Street a gable end Greek Revival home owned for many years by George Estabrook, president of the Grafton Farmer's Club and selectman 1860-1.

39 Worcester Street is an 18th century gambled roof cottage, the oldest home in Grafton that was built around 1720. This home was moved from its original northwest location in Central Square.

North Street

1 North Street is a 5 bay Greek Revival home originally owned by shoemaker Samuel Flagg. It was later owned by shoemaker Silas Warren who brought the shoe manufacturing business to the site. In the 1840s, the building was used as a high school.

3 North Street was used as a tanning and currying shop during the 1850s after being built by Joseph Rice in the 1830s. Lewis Dodge was a major employer in Grafton at the Dodge Shop which was made into a dwelling in the 1880s.

15 North Street is an example of a mail order home assembled by locals after it was received from a Sears Roebuck catalog order. The site had earlier been the location for the Warren Family manufacturing structure.

28 North Street is a lovely and very well-preserved Federal House and is presently a Bed & Breakfast. It was built in 1790 for A.J. Hall and was a rooming house, often for teachers in the Worcester area.

30 North Street was the home of two generations of the Wood family. Isaac Wood was a School Committee official in the early 1800s. In the 1890s, undertaker Benjamin Gibson owned the home.

44 North Street is on the National Register of Historic Homes as the only example of a high style Greek Revival with a two story colonnade at the front and side. This house was built by owner George Clapp circa 1831 and was owned in the late 1890s by Grafton's treasurer, George McClellan.

***Grafton Heritage Week
May 7th to May 15th, 2005
In Celebration Of National Tourism Week
Grafton, Massachusetts***

For Release Upon Receipt
Tuesday, April 19, 2005

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Grafton Heritage Week Official List of Events - May 7th to May 15th

GRAFTON: The Grafton Historical Commission is pleased to announce that eight unique events will be part of the celebration of Grafton Heritage Week from Saturday, May 7th to Sunday, May 15th. The celebration events include a series of special historic, recreational cultural, and civic activities for families of all ages which collectively celebrate Grafton History Day and the 351st Anniversary of the authorization by the Colonial Legislature of the Indian Praying Village at Hassanamesit. The events also celebrate National Tourism Week.

The following is the official listing of events for Grafton Heritage Week:

Grafton Heritage Week
May 7th to May 15th
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Schedule of Events

Saturday, May 7th

8:00 AM & 9:00 AM

18th Annual Grafton Gazebo Road Race & Children's Fun Run

Grafton Municipal Center

Contact: Betty Wright, Grafton Recreation Department

wrightb@town.grafton.ma.us

508-839-5335 X 156

http://www.town.grafton.ma.us/Public_Documents/GraftonMA_Recreation/index

Sunday, May 8th

1:00 PM to 4:00 PM

Mother's Day at Willard House and Clock Museum

Willard House & Clock Museum

Contact: John Stephen's

john@willardhouse.org

508-839-3500

<http://www.willardhouse.org/>

Monday, May 9th

7:30 PM

Grafton Annual Town Meeting

Appearance by Rev. John Eliot

Contact: Heritage Week Committee

hw350@graftonland.org

Thursday, May 12th -

7:00 PM

Night at the Theatre

Apple Tree Arts Presents

The Youth Musical Theatre Performance of "Rats"

Grafton Municipal Center

Contact: Donna Blanchard, Apple Tree Arts

appletree75@yahoo.com

508-839-4286

<http://www.appletreearts.org/>

Grafton Heritage Week
May 7th to May 15th
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Schedule of Events

Saturday, May 14th

9:00 AM to 12:00 Noon

Grafton Garden Club Annual Plant Sale & Raffle

Grafton Common

Contact: Grafton Garden Club

Contact: Deborah Graham

debgraham@net1plus.com

508-839-2755

<http://users.net1plus.com/debgraham/Grafton/GGC.html>

Saturday, May 14th

Time 11:00AM to 3:00PM

Blackstone Engine Company #3

Farnumsville Fire House - Open House

3A Main Street, South Grafton

CONTACT: Dan Finn

MAADFINN@aol.com

508-839-9345

Saturday, May 14th

6:00 PM

Special Showing of Grafton's Own Movie "Ah Wilderness"

Brigham Hill Community Farm

37 Wheeler Road, North Grafton

Contact: Heritage Week Committee

hw350@graftonland.org

Sunday, May 15th

9:00 AM-1:00 PM

Grafton Historical Society Flea Market

Historical Society Little House - Upton Road - Route 140

Contact: John Stephens, Grafton Historical Society

john@willardhouse.org

508-839-3500

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