# **MAINE'S RIVER VALLEY**



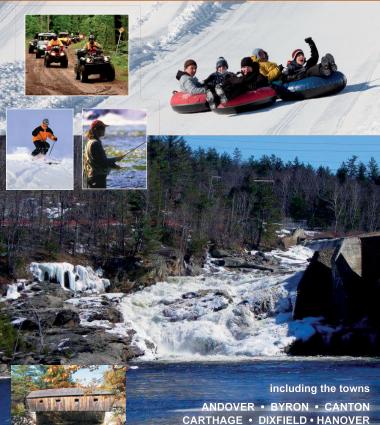
2024-25 Four Season Visitor's Guide RIVER VALLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



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Our information center overlooks the Pennacook Falls. The information center was built in the spring of 2000 and opened for business on July 1st of 2000. The 26' x 26' building was constructed by community volunteers.

The Chamber manages the information center for the Town of Rumford, making

information on the River Valley Area available for all that stop and visit. The information center is open with the following schedule:

May 10 am - 2 pm June - September: 9 am - 5 pm October: 9 am - 4 pm



#### Welcome to our River Valley Area!

We are nestled in the mountains of Western Maine where we pride ourselves in being a four-season destination. Within our ten-town community area, you will find many interesting shops, places of interest as well as historic sites, beautiful lakes and mountains and small town country charm and hospitality. The River Valley area is a great place to live, work and play. Enjoy your stay in our area. We hope that you will make us your future vacation destination.

#### Welcome!

Cheryl A. G. Dickson

Executive Director, River Valley Chamber of Commerce

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The Hotel Rumford is conveniently located downtown on Canal Street, minutes away from the finest outdoor recreation Maine has to offer.

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Maine's River Valley

The area features four seasons of recreation, including skiing, snowboarding, snowmobile clubs, swimming, hiking, camping, kayaking, canoeing and ATV clubs. In addition to the benefits for our local residents, the activities attract a steady stream of tourists.

The River Valley has its own ski area. Black Mountain of Maine is a small non-profit area, with moderate alpine and world-class Nordic skiing trails. The area has a lodge which has been called one of the most beautiful anywhere. With two fireplaces, expansive views of the slopes, a large deck, exposed beam, the lodge feels rustic, but has all the modern conveniences, including full food service and a pub.

In the summer, there is increasing use of the Androscoggin River, ideal for non-motorized craft such as kayaks and canoes. Since the river is too shallow in places for motors, paddlers can have an undisturbed and tranquil float. An Androscoggin River Trail has been established, with several well-maintained boat launches. The River, once one of the most polluted in the country, has been restored to such a clean state that fishing and swimming are allowed.

For those who prefer motorized sports, the area is home to one of the largest networks of groomed snowmobile trails, perfect off-season for hiking or mountain biking. ATV clubs are establishing limited networks as well.

For hikers, the area has numerous choices. The Appalachian Trail passes within a few miles of the River Valley, and within the River Valley are numerous popular day hike trails. Most notable perhaps is Whitecap, now a preserve under the protection of the Mahoosuc Land Trust, where the blueberry picking is unexcelled in late July and early August. Another popular day hike is to the fire tower on Mt. Zircon. A local "Peak a Week" club organizes regular excursions to the top of local hills and mountains. Golfers will find Oakdale Country Club a popular course in Mexico.

We hope you enjoy your visit...and come back soon!

Andover Olde Home Days C. &

Surrounded by the Western Maine mountains, Andover is a short scenic drive from Rumford, Bethel, Errol, NH and only 4 miles from Roxbury Pond. Andover is home to the Lovejoy Covered Bridge, one of five in the State. Motorists feel they've discovered Oxford County's best kept secret when they arrive in this quintessential New England village.

Andover is a popular recreational destination. With so many secret waterfalls, swimming and fishing holes, you don't have to be an Appalachian trail hiker to enjoy exploring area woodlands. An extensive trail system and Ellis River Rider's events has made

Andover popular with horse riders nationwide. Road bikers find Andover to be perfectly located for great rides. The Snow Valley Sno-goers groom miles on ITS 82 network. Cross country skiers and snowshoers are invited to experience the expansive mountain views from Grimaldi Field located below the village. In the summer, Grimaldi Field offers a canoe boat launch.

# Andover 04216

#### Town Office:

PO Box 219

Phone: 392-3302 • Fax: 392-1205

#### OPEN:

Monday, Tuesday & Thursday: 8am - 1pm Wednesdays: 12pm - 5pm

#### Andover Public Library:

46 Church Street Phone: 392-4841

Tues, Wed, Thurs & Sat: 1pm - 4:30pm Thursdays: 6pm - 8 pm

Settlers were brought to these Ellis River intervals by Indians. Testament to these relationships can be found by visiting Molly Ockett's gravesite. The Historical Society is open many summer weekends. Andover Public Library features an excellent collection, wifi, and is architecturally worth a visit. As an IEEE historic site, Andover's Telstar satellite transmitted the first transatlantic TV signal.

Olde Home Days is the first weekend every August. A 5k road race, parade, car show, craft fair, flea market, fireman's muster, "better get there early" chicken barbecue, live music, photo contest, events for kids & adults: fly casting, arm wrestling, mower races & more! (FMI call 392-4311)

Once you discover Andover, you'll want to visit again & again.



The Town of Byron was organized on July 6, 1821 as Plantation #8. The ancient Indian name for Byron was Skillertown. In 1833 it was voted to become the Town of Byron, named after the poet of the century, Lord Byron.

In its early years, Byron was a town of farms scattered among the mountains of its perimeter. Beginning in the 1850's, the timber industry became important to the economy. Tracks were laid and the train would haul timber to the mills. In the early 1900's, growing hops (for making beer) also became important to the economy.

# Byron

04275

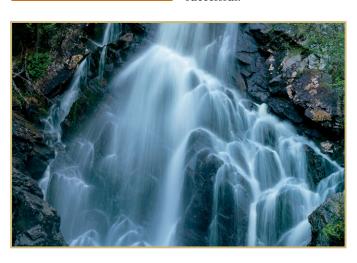
#### Town Office:

1 Byron Village Road Phone: 364-3194

#### OPEN:

Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri 9am-12pm

Byron is also rich in history of gold prospecting. Gold was first discovered here in the 1830's. It is found in the Swift River and the East and West Branches. People today still enjoy the sport of panning for gold and many are successful.



# ANGEL FALLS - TOWNSHIP D NORTH OF BYRON

With surrounding cliffs of up to 115 feet, Angel Falls is remarkably scenic. The 25-foot gap positioned on the top of the cliff wall can be explained by two theories, the first being erosion. Through the years it appears as if the water sliced its way through the cliff walls, causing the sediments to flow downstream. The other theory suggests that the perfectly sized boulder at the base of the waterfall used to sit in the gap above. Perhaps it was knocked out during the Ice Age or even by a great storm. It is unknown if either theory is correct, but the gap on the cliff wall through which the water flows certainly distinguishes Angel Falls from all others in the region.



the north east corner of Oxford County, in the foothills of Maine's mountain region, and covers 32.5 square miles. The 568-acre Lake Anasagunticook is shared with the town of Hartford and is the water supply for the town.

The Town of Canton is in

The Androscoggin River flows through the area, bisecting Canton from the Canton Point area. The interval land along the river has long been used for farming and much has been written about the Native Americans growing corn here.

# Canton 04221

#### Town Office:

94 Turner Street Phone: 597-2920 • Fax: 597-2940 office@townofcantonmaine.org

#### OPEN:

Mon. 8am-4pm Tues. 8am-6pm Weds. 8am-4pm Thurs. 8am-7pm Fri. 8am-12pm







207-364-3766



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# Carthage 04224

#### Town Office:

703A Carthage Road Phone: 562-8874

#### OPEN:

Monday and Tuesday: 8am-1pm 1st Tuesday of every month 4pm-8pm Thursday: 8am-5pm

The Town of Carthage was incorporated on February 20, 1826 and encompasses approximately 20,000 acres. Webb Lake and Mt. Blue State Park are only minutes away.

The area offers snowmobiling, canoeing, hiking, ATV, hunting, and fishing as Webb River, Poodunk, and Half Moon Pond are also located here.

The town has a local historical society which holds public suppers and outdoor excursions in the summer and other activities year round.



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WWW.KKORP.COM

The Town of Dixfield was incorporated in 1803. It is set in the foothills of the western mountains of Maine and located near Mt. Blue State Park, several lakes and rivers, and within minutes of major ski resorts.

The area offers hiking, bicycling, snowmobiling, canoeing, swimming and camping facilities, restaurants, retail shops, a wildlife museum, and the historical society - which houses the John L. Towle



# Dixfield 04224

#### Town Office:

46 Main Street P.O. Box 808

Phone: 562-8151 • Fax: 562-4311

www.dixfield.org

#### OPEN:

Monday - Friday: 8am - 4pm

#### LUDDEN MEMORIAL PUBLIC LIBRARY:

40 Main Street Phone: 562-8838

Monday - Friday: 9:30am - 5:30pm

Antique Tool Museum. The town also offers a medical clinic, several churches and a quality public school system.

The Dixfield Moose is one of the many attractions Dixfield has to offer. "Bullrock" (the moose) is a life-sized carving of a Maine moose - created from a 150 year old white pine log - by local artist, Ted Walker, using only a chainsaw.



The Town of Hanover is located on U.S. Route 2 next to the Androscoggin River, midway between Rumford and Bethel. Hanover is primarily a residential community with most residents working in the surrounding towns of Rumford, Bethel, and Newry. Hanover children attend school in Rumford and Bethel.

Local businesses include a general store and restaurant, heavy equipment and logging company, three antique shops, a hair care shop, a real estate office, a sign shop, a campground, carpenters and loggers.

Nathaniel Segar first settled Hanover in 1774. Hanover was a mill town using waterpower from the Howard Pond Stream. Mountaintop and valley farms supported families. On February 14,

# Hanover 04237

#### Town Office:

21 Ferry Road P.O. Box 70 Phone: 364-8200 Fax: 364-8222

#### OPEN:

Monday: 5pm - 7pm Tuesday: 8am - 12pm Wednesday: 2pm - 5pm Thursday: 5pm - 7pm Friday: 8am - 4pm 1843 Hanover was incorporated from Howard's Gore Plantation and a portion of Bethel on the north side of the Androscoggin River.

Beautiful mountaintop Howard Pond is 109 acres and over 100 feet deep. Trout and salmon are caught in the spring fed waters. Boat ramps built by Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Department provide recreational access to the Androscoggin River.



The Town of Mexico was incorporated in 1818 and is located in Western Maine at the junction of Route 2 and 17. The location on these two important routes is vital to Mexico's well-being.

Route 2 links central Maine to northern New Hampshire and Route 17 connects to the Rangeley Lakes Region. Motorists using both routes frequently stop in Mexico to Mexico

04257

#### Town Office:

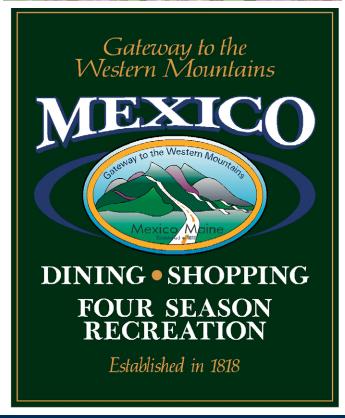
134 Main Street • PO Box 251 Phone: 364-7971 Fax: 364-5685 www.mexicomaine.net

OPEN:

Tues. 10am-2pm Weds. 10am-5pm Thurs. 10am-4pm Fri. 9am-3pm

shop at local business establishments and enjoy the number of restaurants available.

Mexico's best kept secret is the Mexico Recreation Park located just about one mile north on Route 17. Enjoy the children's playground, soccer fields, softball and baseball fields, along with an entertainment stage.



#### Town Office:

26 Main Street PO Box 429 Phone: 562-4627 Fax: 562-8653 Email: townperu@roadrunner.com

#### OPEN:

Mon. 9am-12pm 1pm-4pm Tues. 9am-12pm 1pm-4pm Thurs. 9am-12pm 1pm-4pm Fri. 9am-12pm 1pm-4pm Located on the banks of the Androscoggin River and home of Worthley Pond, the Town of Peru is a nice place to live, work, and play. A community oriented town, its motto is "Neighbors helping Neighbors."

Peru has an active volunteer fire department, snowmobile club, ATV club, Historical Society, and many other organizations. Enjoy hiking, bicycling, crosscountry skiing, or snowmobiling across the miles of trails.





The Town of Roxbury was incorporated March 7, 1835 and was once called Township #7. Roxbury is a residential town with many people working in neighboring Mexico, Rumford, and Dixfield.

Roxbury Pond or Ellis Pond, as it is also known, is a beautiful attraction to this mountainous area. It is 1.4 square miles and

its maximum depth is 43 feet. Many people from different states come every year to fish, swim or just enjoy the views.

Silver Lake Campground is located here in Roxbury. Residents and nonresidents alike enjoy this four season area for all types of recreation.

# Roxbury 04275

**Town Office:** <u>PO Bo</u>x 24

Phone: 364-3982 • Fax: 364-2145

OPEN:

Monday & Tuesday: Closed Wed. , Thurs, Friday: 8:00am - 4:00pm

#### GREATER RUMFORD COMMUNITY CENTER.

The Rumford Mechanics Institute was founded in 1911 by Hugh J. Chisholm, founder of the Oxford Paper Company. It was built to "provide a place for learning in the sciences, mechanics, arts, and whatever social and athletic activities would help the people of Rumford and the surrounding area." In 1972 the name was changed to the Greater Rumford Community Center. The GRCC, as a nonprofit organization, strives to provide affordable quality recreational programs and services for residents of the River Valley Area. The Center houses a gymnasium with walking track, a 24 hour fitness facility, racquetball court, numerous program rooms, a sauna, locker rooms and a game room. It is the home of an excellent gymnastics program offering instruction for toddlers through proven athletes involved in the

successful year-round competition team. In addition to gymnastics, fall programs include; ju-jitsu, karate, aerobics, soccer and flag football. In the winter, when basketball bounces into full swing, parents, grandparents and friends fill the building with cheering and excitement.



Greater Rumford Community Center

Martial arts, fitness classes and basketball for an extensive list of indoor winter activities. In late spring the baseball and softball teams hit the fields to practice for hours of summer games. Youth and adult floor hockey is

also offered. When the school year ends, more warm weather outdoor activities begin. The Black Mountain Pool is opened and supervised for refreshing swims and daily swim lessons. Summer soccer and swim lessons at Worthley Pond round out the exciting list of active things to do. If you are interested in joining the Greater Rumford Community Center, volunteering or making a tax deductible contribution please call 307-369-9906 or email grcc@gwi.net

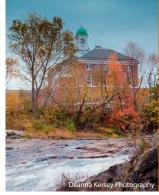
The present town of Rumford was settled as New Pennacook in 1774 as a farming community and became incorporated as Rumford in 1800. Since that time it has become the business center of the region with the Catalyst Paper Company as its largest employer.

Rumford is a beautiful area filled with trees, streams and mountains. The Androscoggin River flows through the town and features a series of spectacular waterfalls. Together they have a total drop of 176 feet making it the highest drop east of the Niagara Falls.

The Reflection Pool at the foot of the Falls is a peaceful place for relaxation and solitude. As visitors gaze over the pool they are transported back to a time when the Anasagunticook Indians visited the area to hunt and fish. The business district of the town is located on "The Island" located between the Androscoggin River and the canals that were constructed many years ago to supply water to the mill. The Island features restaurants and retail stores along with the local government offices.

Rumford is home to Black Mountain of Maine ski area, where competitors from far away have competed in national and world championship events.

Paul Bunyan and his ox, Babe, have been a popular attraction and great photo opportunity for many visiting the Town of Rumford. These larger-thanlife statues are located near the Information Center at the foot of the Falls. From there it is only a short walk over the bridge to "Shopper's Island," where you will find shops, restaurants and historic buildings.



# Rumford 04276

#### TOWN OFFICE:

145 Congress Street Phone: 207-364-4576 Fax: 207-364-5642 www.rumfordme.org

OPEN: Monday - Friday: 8am - 4pm

RUMFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY: 58 Rumford Avenue Phone: 364-3661

Monday & Saturday: 9am - 2pm Tuesday & Thursday: 9am-8pm Wednesday & Friday: 9am - 5pm

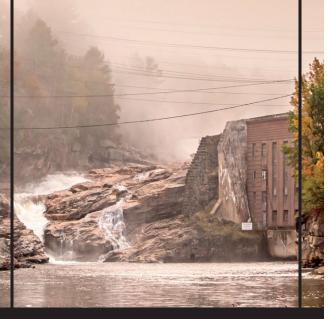






Renewable U.S.

The River Valley:
A critical part of
Maine's clean
energy future.



Rumford Falls Hydroelectric Project, Rumford, ME BrookfieldRenewableUS.com

# March

**Maine Maple Sunday**- annual celebration with farm tours, hayrides, pancake breakfasts with maple syrup and much more held on the last Sunday in March.

Sabina Farm Inn on 177 Ellis River Road in Rumford Maine has an open house from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Come and experience maple candy making and learn about maple syrup. Call 207-364-2345 for additional information.

#### Winterfest at Black Mountain of Maine-

Fourth Weekend in March. Come enjoy our fun family events including sleigh rides and scenic chairlift rides. 50/50 raffle, special dinners, live entertainment, group ski lessons. Call 207-364-8977 for more information.

# **April**

Annual River Valley Easter Egg Hunt held the Saturday before Easter hosted by the River Valley Chamber and the Mexico Fire Dept. Eggs are hidden in four towns of the River Valley area for children between 7 to 12 years of age and clues are given over the local radio station from 6-9 a.m. Sparky the Fire Dog and the Easter Bunny will host the Easter Egg Hunt for children ages 2-6 starting at 9:00 a.m. behind the Mexico Fire House on Main St. in Mexico. Information call: 207-364-3241.

**River Valley Community Clean Up** - held the Saturday nearest Earth Day in April. See Facebook for details.

River Valley Chamber of Commerce Annual Dinner and Awards Banquet-held the last Thursday of April.

For current dates, times and locations of Chamber Events check out our website at:

# May

#### Annual Lee Hodgkins Memorial Poker Run

Registration on the last Saturday of the month from 8:00 am – 10:00 am at the Roxbury ATV Riders Park & Ride on Roxbury Notch Road Route 120W in Roxbury. \$500 of proceeds to Make-A-Wish Foundation, 50-50 drawing, for info call Mike at 207-545-2715 or visit roxburyridersclub.com

**Rumford Falls Annual Spring Fair** – third Saturday of the month.

**Memorial Day Event** – on the Green, at the Memorial Park on Route 108 at Congress St., Rumford. Contact 207-364-4576



#### June

Carthage Historical Society Children's Summer Art Program — contact Jan 207-562-8876.

**River Valley Riders ATV Club Summer Rides**Rides, events, and fun planned throughout
the summer. Call 207-364-7373 for dates,
times, and details.

# July

Franklin Savings Bank/ River Valley Rotary and the River Valley Chamber Annual Golf Tournament - At Oakdale Country Club on the second Tuesday of July. Contact information call 207-364-3241.

**Annual Christmas in July Roxbury ATV Toy** Run & Blessing of the ATV's – this multi club event and guaranteed good time will be held in July. Registration for the Poker Run will be from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. at Grimaldi Field in Andover. Blessing of the ATV's will be at 10 a.m. and then on to the Toy Run to Black Mountain of Maine Ski Resort. All that is required is to bring an unwrapped toy in a clear plastic bag or a cash donation for the toys. There will be a 50-50 drawing, Chinese Auction, food for sale, and vendors available at Black Mountain of Maine. You do not need to ride to be involved and can join us at Black Mountain. The toys will go to area groups for distribution to less fortunate children in December.

# **August**

Andover Olde Home Days in Andover, Maine always the first weekend in August. Event includes music on the Common, Main Street parade, the new barrel train, children's peddle tractor pull, antique car show, horse show, firemen's muster and much, much more. The Ancient Ones conduct a living history of life from 1740 through 1840. Contact information call: 207-392-4311 or 207-392-2131.

**The Ellis River Riders Horse Show** the first weekend in August on Saturday evening starting at 3 p.m. & Sunday starting at 9 a.m. rain or shine, spectators are free. Food and seating for many.

#### Annual Donald E. Ryerson Poker Run

 August 30<sup>th</sup> from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. at the Roxbury ATV Riders Park & Ride on Roxbury Notch Road in Roxbury. The proceeds from this ride go to the Donald E. Ryerson Children's Welfare Fund. Contact info Mike at 207-545-2715.



# September

The Ellis River Riders Horse Show Saturday & Sunday starting at 9 a.m. rain or shipe spectators are free. Food and seating

shine, spectators are free. Food and seating for many.

**Canoe & Kayak Run** -- On the Androscoggin River. For further information contact Jim Rinaldo @ 207-364-2983.

# October

**The Ellis River Riders Horse Show** Sunday starting at 9 a.m. rain or shine, spectators are free. Food and seating for many.

**Roxbury ATV Fall Foliage Ride** — for specifics visit their website: www.roxburyatvridersclub.com

**RES Craft Fair** -- held the last Saturday in October at the Rumford Elementary School. Contact information call: 207-364-8155.

Pumpkin Fest -- Third Saturday in October. The Pumpkin Fest is a day of fun activities for the whole family in downtown Rumford. Activities include a hospital bed race on Congress Street, gymnastics demonstrations at the Greater Rumford Community Center, a climbing wall, seed spitting contests for adults and children, pumpkin dessert contests, pumpkin painting and carving and more.



#### October

**Oktoberfest**-Annual River Valley Rotary Craft Fair held at the HOPE Association on the second Saturday in October. FMI call: 207-364-4561; Catherine Johnson.

## December

**Christmas in the Valley**-A month long celebration in the River Valley area. Many events planned to celebrate the Christmas season.

Christmas in the Valley Craft Fair-held the 1st Saturday in December at the Mountain Valley High School in Rumford, Maine. Juried craft fairs features handmade or homemade items only; annual cookie walk, kids corner, pictures taken with a Christmas character, lunch served by the Relay For Life committee with mouth-watering Turkey pie and all the fixin's. Call: 207-364-3241.

Festival of Trees -- Second Saturday in December. The Festival of Trees is an evening event in the Rumford Town Hall Auditorium that celebrates the magic of the holiday season with trees that are decorated by local businesses and organizations and special choral music and readings.

#### RAAPA Annual Holiday Production -

first weekend in December at Mountain Valley High School performed by the Rumford Association for the Advancement of Performing Arts. Contact information call: Anita Murphy @ 207-369-0205 or Judy Kuhn @ 207-364-7242.

**Christmas in Carthage** – Friday & Saturday the second weekend in December begins with a program and light refreshments at the Carthage Union Church, a Gingerbread House Competition, the lighting of the Town Christmas Tree, Carolers, a potluck supper at the Historical Society, followed by a party upstairs with door prizes refreshments, and music and dancing. Contact: Jan 207-562-8876.

## January

The Jon Sassi Memorial Nordic Race—held the last Saturday in January, this 5K is now the largest high school level Nordic race in Maine and one of the largest in New England drawing around 400 entries from throughout the state to Black Mountain of Maine internationally-recognized Nordic trails. FMI 207-364-8977.

# **February**

Ice Fishing Derby— held the first week of February at Worthley Pond in Peru by the Peru ATV Club.

Blessing of the Sleds -held at Mt. Valley Middle School in Mexico from 10:30am to 12:00pm with the blessing at noon. Hosted by the Dixfield and Mexico snowmobile clubs the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday in February from 11am-5pm. Contact information call: 207-562-4690; Jon Holmes.

**HOPE Association Annual Snowmobile Ride In** -held the second Sunday of February from 11am-2pm. Contact information call: 207-364-4561.

**Ice Fishing Derby**— Larry Mercier Memorial Fishing Derby held the third week of February at Roxbury Pond. For more information contact: 207-364-3241

**Family Field Day in Rumford** -hosted by the Rumford Polar Bears Snowmobile Club the last weekend in February. Contact information call: 207-364-3848; Louise.

For current dates, times and locations of Chamber Events check out our website at:

rivervalleychamber.com

# THE GUIDE TO PAUL BUNYAN'S GIANT CHAIRS

IN THE RIVER VALLEY

endless scenic trails. Now you can explore all our towns by visiting our 10 giant chairs The River Valley Chamber of Commerce invites you to explore the River Valley. We are biking and camping in the lush green forests to skiing, snowmobiling or ATVing on ou season destination. The River Valley has everything you are looking for. From hiking nestled in the mountains of Western Maine where we pride ourselves in being a four-







# Welcome to the Town of Rumford

145 Congress Street Rumford, ME 04276

rumfordme.org

Oakdale Country Club was founded in 1923 and is open to the public. Oakdale is open 7 days a week and is located off Route 2 in Mexico across from Wal-Mart. Oakdale is a very challenging 9-hole par 72 golf course that spans 6,198 yards. Oakdale is considered one of the finest 9-hole courses in the State of Maine. Our experienced superintendent of greens, Dan Libby, keeps the course in top condition.

Please contact us at 364-3951 and we will be more than happy to schedule a tee-time or a lesson that accommodates your schedule.

We sincerely hope you will take advantage of this great golf course this season. Our season runs approximately May 1st through November 1st. For more information call us at 364-3951 or write to Oakdale Country Club, Country Club Rd., Mexico, ME 04257.

www.oakdalecc.net



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@rv\_rising

Education and raising awareness about Substance Use Disorder Inspiring our community and youth to make healthy choices in the River Valley region

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We are committed to providing safe, reliable, high-quality care to

every patient, every day.









# RUMFORD COMMUNITY FOREST

Inland Woods + Trails (IWT) is a non-profit organization



that maintains over 85 miles of trails in five towns in Oxford County for hiking, mountain biking, cross-country skiing, fat biking, and snowshoeing with a mission of connecting people to communities in Western Maine through the sustainable management of high quality, durable trails and woods for all seasons. IWT has been an active partner in outdoor recreation in Rumford since

2018 through the development of the Pennacook Area Community Trails (PACT), a 6-mile trail system located behind Mountain Valley High School providing four miles of single-track mountain bike trails and two miles of double-track woods roads. The project was a collaborative effort between IWT, RSU 10, community members, the Town of Rumford, and the Rumford Water District. With the first trails constructed in 2019 and the project completed in 2022, the system is popular with mountain bikers and hikers alike and has been the motivation for developing a larger network of high-quality trails in the River Valley.

This collaborative, community-focused vision for outdoor recreation in the area was strengthened by IWT's acquisition of the Rumford Community Forest in February 2024 in

partnership with the Town of Rumford, the Trust for Public Land, and the Northern Forest Center. The property, 446-acres located on Isthmus Road across from Black Mountain of Maine and fondly called by residents as Porcupine Ridge, will provide important future connectivity between PACT, downtown Rumford, Black Mountain, and Rumford Whitecap. The forest will be open to the public for multiple recreational uses and will be managed for forestry





and wildlife habitat and ecological conservation. With the completion of a year-long public planning process in May 2024, the forest will have its grand opening in late Summer 2024.

For news and updates on the project, visit woodsandtrails. org/community-forests/or like Inland Woods + Trails on social media.

#### Things To Do

Visit www.rivervalleychamber.com and click on "Explore" to find more things to do in the River Valley.

#### ATV/SNOWMOBILE TRAILS

River Valley Riders ATV Club- Over 200 miles of access trails from the River Valley. Bill Morse (207)364-7373 or Dan Mitchell (207)562-8873. There's a network of trails throughout the area. For more info about local snowmobile clubs, call the Information Center @ 207.364.0925

# CANOEING • KAYAKING FISHING • SWIMMING

Webb River-Beautiful canoe rides up and down the Webb River from the access at ountain View Campground on Weld St. (Rt. 142)

Mountain View Campground on Weld St. (Rt. 142) in Dixfield.

Androscoggin River- Miles of beautiful scenery

from Hanover to Canton; Worldclass Bass Fishing and small town charm along the route.

**Boat Launches**- Rt. 2 Hanover, Rt. 2 Rumford, Rt. 140 Dixfield, Canton

Worthley Pond- Peru, Maine Roxbury Pond-Roxbury, Maine Howard Pond- Hanover, Maine Garland Pond-Byron, Maine Swift River- Rumford/Mexico, Maine Canton Lake- Canton, Maine

#### **GOLD PANNING**

Swift River-The Swift River, in Byron, Maine has supplied prospectors from the beginner to the professional with gold found within its beds. The history of gold mining goes back to the early eighteenth century when gold was first discovered here. Youngsters to old timers still enjoy searching for gold. All it takes is patience and a little luck. See campground operators at Coos Canyon Campground, Byron (207)364-3880 or contact guide Francis Arsenault at (207)364-2469 for more information.

#### **GOLFING**

Oakdale Country Club - 6,198 yard, par 72. Season: April 23<sup>rd</sup> to November 1<sup>st</sup>. Country Club Rd. off Rt. 2 in Mexico. (207)364-3951

#### **HIKES/WALKING TRAILs**

Appalachian Trail- Three access sites:

- 1. Grafton Notch State Park-watch for signs in parking lot.
- 2. Off the South Arm Road in Andover.
- 3. East B Hill Road, 8 miles from the intersection in Andover. Check with the rangers or South Arm Campground for exact location.

Black & White - This newly-constructed trail branches off he main trail on Rumford Whitecap, circles below the summit, and continues on Land Trustproperty overtothe summit of Black Mountain and then down to the parking lot of the ski lodge.

Falls Hill Hike-Take abandoned road east side of the bridge across from the Androscoggin River on Rt. 108 in Rumford. Walk to the top of the falls across the High Bridge above the Brookfield Power Plant and down the sidewalk to Falls Hill to Information Center parking lot.

**Little Jackson Mountain**-Pleasant climb to views of the Weld area. From Dixfield, take Rt. 142 to Weld Corner, left onto Byron Rd. Dirt road on right about 2 miles.

**Mexico Ledge-**Easy walk off Swett Avenue in Mexico.

**Old Spec/Grafton Notch State Park-**Rt. 2 West onto Rt. 26 in Newry. More info at the Park.

**Rumford Whitecap** - A network of trails reaches the bald summit of Rumford Whitecap, popular with hikers, snowshoers, and even backcountry skiers as a four- season destination. Famous for its blueberries, Whitecap also attracts picnickers and wildlife observers. Two geocaches can be found on Rumford Whitecap.





Step Fall, Screw Augra Falls, Mother Walker Falls, Trails to Moose Cave & Jail- Grafton Notch State Park, 20 miles north on Rt. 26, off Rt. 2 in Newry. Scenic drive, hiking, picnicking and swimming. Hike to Table Rock- Infor signs in the Park.

Swift River Walking Trail- Picnic tables and trail along the Swift River in Rumford. Take Rt. 2 to traffic light at the intersection of Lincoln Ave. and Hancock St. Travel about .5 miles on Hancock St. and turn right into the recreation area to parking lot.

**Tumbledown Mountain**-In Weld with hiking trails, inquire at the Ranger Station.

Mines- May not be opened if being worked.

Tamminen & Harvard Quarries- Near Rt. 219 in Greenwood.

Mount Mica- South Paris

**Dunton Quarry-** Rt. 5 in Newry

Black Mountain of Maine-Rt. 120

Mount Zircon- Off the South Rumford Rd.

#### **MOUNTAIN BIKING/SKI TRAILS**

**Weld-** In Weld at Center Hill. Ask for directions at one of the stores in the center of Weld.

Sunday River-Newry, Maine

Carter's X-Country Ski Centers and Shop-Intervale Rd., Bethel, Maine (207)539-4848 or (207)824-3880

Black Mountain Ski Resort- Located on the Glover Rd. in Rumford, this family-oriented ski area features day and night downhill and Olympic quality cross-country course and snow tubing. An active summer program for the kids is available, including a swimming pool and day camp. Mountain bike and hiking trails are also available. FMI call (207)364-8977

#### MUSEUMS

**Dixfield Historical Society and Tool Museum** Located at 63 Main St. Dixfield, whose purpose

is to collect and preserve artifacts and data from Dixfield's past, protect current historical materials and promote through education, the desire for future generations to honor and respect their heritage. Featuring, the John L. Towle Antique Tool Museum with over 1200 rare antique tools and Stanley Planes. Open from mid-June through mid- September, on Saturdays 1-3pm or by appointment. Contact Donna Towle, President (207)562-7595

**Lufkin Museum**-Rumford Historical Society, Rumford Ctr. Displays artifacts from Rumford and surrounding areas. Contact (207)364-2540

#### **PARKS**

Mexico Recreation Park-Picnic Tables, playground equipment, tennis, volleyball, basketball,baseball and softball fields, fireplace, snack bar, & performance stage. On the Swift River for swimming or fishing.

Mount Blue State Park-Camping, beaches and boat launch in Weld.

**Grafton Notch State Park**-Rt. 2 West onto Rt. 26 in Newry.

#### **RECREATION**

Mexico Recreation Center-Offers many activities for children & adults. Friday nights offer rollerskating. Fall and winter dancing lessons. Youth and adult volleyball in the fall & winter. Contact Wayne @ (207)357-6708 or (207) 364-4912

#### **SHOPPING**

**Rumford Shoppers Island**-Shop on "The Island" created by the Androscoggin River and a canal. With easy return to Rt. 2 and Rt. 108, you will find restaurants, gift shops, financial services and retail stores, as well as sourvenirs.

**River Valley Crossing** - Rt. 2 Rumford, Olympia Sports, Marden's, Tractor Supply and other Retail Outlets.



#### **RUMFORD FALLS - RUMFORD**

Originally referred to as Pennacook Falls or New Pennacook Falls, Rumford Falls is chain of massive drops of the Androscoggin River. Although the waterfall drops a total of 176 feet, dams have split the once continuous cascading waters into several distinct sections.

The beauty of the scenic upper falls is worthy of drawing the attention of any form of artist, Rumford Falls is quite spectacular in strength and setting. The adjacent dam is slowly being concealed by the continuous growth of the trees in front of the structure. The artificial lake below offers popular fishing for three species of trout and landlocked salmon. The best view of this area is after snowmelt as the water flow often slowly reduces during the summer months.



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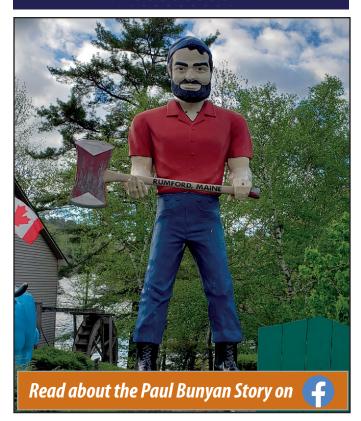




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#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Area Code 207

#### Bed & Breakfasts/Inn

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www.comfortinn.com/me056 nfarrington@lafrancehospitlity.com

#### Hotel/Motel/Resort

Best Western Plus-Rumford Falls 50 Prospect Ave, Rumford Sales.bwrumford@qmail.com

#### Blue Iris Motor Inn

1405 US Rte. 2, Rumford Center 364-4495 www.blueiris.50meg.com blueirismotorinn@yahoo.com

#### **Hotel Rumford**

65 Canal St., Rumford 364-3621 hotelrumford@gmail.com

#### **FOOD & DINING**

Area Code 207

#### Restaurants

#### Gatch's Food, Spirit & Catering

137 Rumford Ave., Rumford 364-2050 gatchsfoodandspirits@gmail.com

#### **Hotel Rumford**

65 Canal St., Rumford 364-3621

#### McDonald's

1029 US Route 2, Rumford 369-9025

#### Ralph's Market & Deli

341 Cumberland St, Rumford 364-2062

#### Caterers

#### 49 Franklin

49 Franklin St., Rumford 369-0129 info@49franklin.com

#### Gatch's Food, Spirit & Catering

137 Rumford Ave., Rumford 364-2050 gatchsfoodandspirits@gmail.com

#### Volkernick's Sausage

20 Swift Ave., Rumford 364-4109 Jvolkernick1@roadrunner.com

#### **Food Trucks**

#### Volkernick's Sausage

20 Swift Ave., Rumford 364-4109 Jvolkernick1@roadrunner.com

#### Groceries

Naples Packing Co. 654 River Rd., Mexico 364-3725

#### Ralph's Market 7 Deli

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#### The Essential Store

142 Congress St., Rumford 507-1501

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Area Code 207

#### Fitness

Greater Rumford Community Center 50 Congress St. Rumford 369-9906 www.greaterrumfordcommunitycenter.org

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#### **Organizations**

#### **American Legion Post 24**

184 Congress Št., Rumford 369-9053 adjutant@post24americanlegion.com

#### Friends of the River Valley

P.O. Box 75, Rumford info@friendsofrivervalley.org www.friendsofrivervalley.org

#### Inland Woods and Trails

21 Broad St., Bethel 200-8240 gabe@woodsandtrails.org

#### **River Valley Rotary Club**

P.O. Box 192, Mexico Meetings-Mon. at 7:30am www.rumfordrotary.com

#### **Gold Panning**

#### Coos Canyon Rock & Gift

472 Swift River Rd. Rte. 17, Byron 364-4900 www.cooscanyonrockandgift.com roseysusbury@gmail.com

#### **Golf Courses**

#### **Oakdale Country Club**

13 Country Club Ln., Mexico 364-3951 www.oakdalecc.net

#### Recreation

#### **Greater Rumford Community Center**

50 Congress St. Rumford 369-9906 www.greaterrumfordcommunitycenter.org

#### **Inland Woods and Trails**

21 Broad St., Bethel 200-8240 gabe@woodsandtrails.org

#### Ski-Alpine/Snowboard/Tubing

#### Black Mountain of Maine

39 Glover Rd., Rumford 364-8977 www.skiblackmountain.com

#### Shopping

Area Code 207

#### Art Clothing/Crafts/Gifts

# Carlisle's, Inc.

92 Congress St., Rumford 364-2581

carlislesinc@roadrunner.com

#### Coos Canyon Rock & Gift

472 Swift River Rd., Byron 364-4900

www.cooscanyonrockandgift.com roseysusbury@gmail.com

#### Davis Florist, Inc.

138 Congress St., Rumford 364-7851 davisflorist@gmail.com

#### Todd's Gift Shop

9 Roxbury Rd, Mexico 364-4206

#### What Not Shop Thrift Store

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138 Congress St., Rumford 364-7851 davisflorist@gmail.com

#### Furniture / Appliances

#### Stanley's Furniture

77 Congress St., Rumford 364-3160 inquiry@stanleysfurnituremart.net

#### **Hardware Stores**

#### **Aubuchon Hardware**

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#### Ware Butler-Ace Hardware

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kelly@newkirkcpa.com

#### Adult Education

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#### Sun Journal

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#### Western Valley Access Channel TV (Ch 7)

377 River Rd Mexico 364-3764 Ext 208 www.wvactv7.com wvactv7@gmail.com

#### Ambulance Sales/Service

#### MedCare Ambulance

290 Highland Terrace, Mexico 364-8748

www.medcare-careambulance.com laurieann.milligan@med-careambulance.com

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#### **Russell Appraisal Services**

278 Isthmus Rd., Rumford

364-2726

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#### Adley's Auto Sales & Services, Inc.

486 Prospect Ave., Rumford 364-3700

www.adlevs.com

#### Dan's Automotive Repair & Sales

625 Crescent Ave., Rumford 369-9302

djrauto@gwi.net

#### Lore Motorcycle Education

3 Easy St., Sabattus 391-0094 info@loremotorcycleeducaton.com

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#### Cell Phone Service

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Littlepumpkinpatchdaycare22@gmail.com

#### YMCA Auburn/Lewiston

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#### Chiropractor

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33 Rolling Ridge, Jay 619-3242

doc@calldrcory.com www.claadrcory.com

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#### Conference Centers/Banquet Halls

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adjutant@post24americanlegion.com

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info@49frankin.com

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507-1691

Littlepumpkinpatchdaycare22@gmail.com

#### Economic Development

#### Androscoggin Valley Council of Government

125 Manley Rd., Auburn 783-9186 www.avcoq.org

avcog@avcog.org

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739-6543

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www.fitchcompany.com pdaigle@fitchcompany.com

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#### River Valley Healthy Communities Coalition

www.rivervalleyrising.org

rvhccburke@gmail.com

49 Congress St., Rumford 364-7408

#### SmartCare Physical Therapy

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#### Healthcare/Hospitals/Hospice

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#### Maine Med Man

Medical Marijuana Caregiver 138 River Rd., Mexico 507-1652

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369-9053

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#### Friends of the River Valley

P.O. Box 175, Rumford info@friendsofrivervalley.org www.friendsofrivervalley.org

#### **Hope Association**

85 Lincoln Ave., Rumford 364-4561 www.hopeassociation.org

#### Oxford County Mental Health Services

150 Congress St., Rumford 364-3549 pam.miller@ocmhs.org www.ocmhs.org

#### **River Valley Healthy Communities Coalition**

49 Congress St. Rumford 364-7408 www.rvhcc.org rvhccburke@gmail.com

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codystgermainpt@gmail.com

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#### **Publications**

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www.discovermainemagazine.com info@discovermainemagazine.com

#### **Rumford Falls Times**

60 Lowell St., Rumford 364-8728 www.rumfordfallstimes.com

#### Sun Journal

60 Lowell St., Rumford 364-8728 www.sunjournal.com

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243 Main St., Norway 743-5911 stan@bennettradiogroup.com

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#### **Recreation Centers**

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#### Recreation/Entertainment

#### **Oakdale Country Club**

13 Country Club Ln., Mexico 364-3951

#### Roofina

#### Cliff Harding Roofing, LLC

15 Beliveau Rd. Rumford 357-3901 Cliff.tfr@gmail.com

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angela@main-landdci.com www.main-landdci.com

#### Signs/Banners/Vehicle Lettering

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369-9008 www.erikdesigns.com info@erikdesigns.com

#### Sna

#### Island Indulgence

23 Hartford St., Rumford 364-7720

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918 Walkers Mills Rd., Bethel 875-2401 kelly@newkirkcpa.com

#### Towing

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486 Prospect Ave., Rumford 364-3700 www.adleys.com

#### **Transportation**

Community Concepts, Inc. 17 Market Square, So. Paris 739-6543 www.community-concepts.org

#### Universities/Colleges

UMA- Rumford Center 60 Lowell St., Rumford 364-7882

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