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PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

November 14, 2006

Luly Massaro
Commission Clerk
Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission
89 Jefferson Blvd.
Warwick, RI 02888

Re: Blackstone Valley Tourism Council MC-W-1165

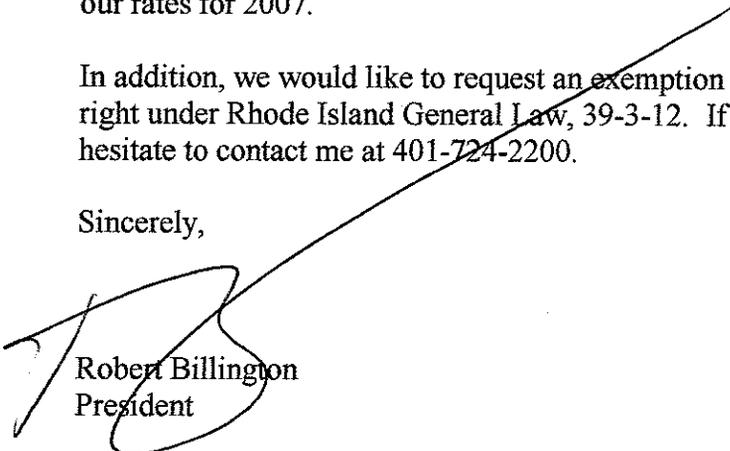
Dear Ms. Massaro:

The Blackstone Valley Tourism Council is requesting an increase in our public tour rates for the 2007-operating season beginning May 2007. Enclosed is a copy of our current rate schedule for the Blackstone Valley Explorer public boat tours. We are proposing to raise our adult rate from \$8.00 to \$10.00 and the senior/child rate from \$6.00 to \$8.00.

Last year was the first time in ten years that we have requested a rate increase to adult fare, and we made no increase to our senior/child rate. However, in order to keep up with escalating operational costs, we find it is necessary to once again request an increase in our rates for 2007.

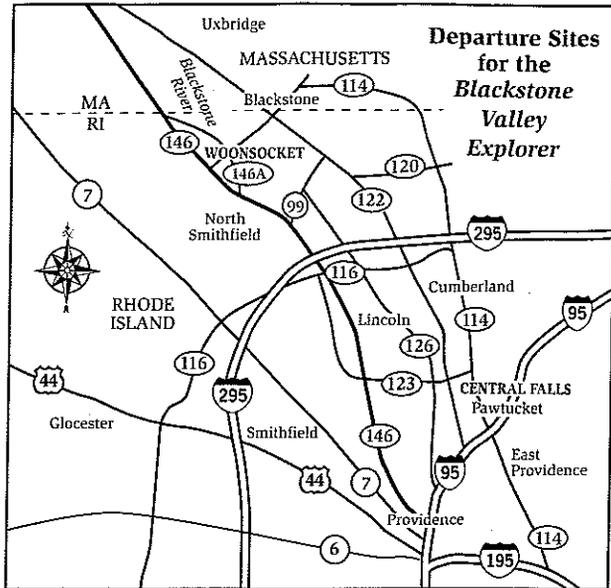
In addition, we would like to request an exemption of the public hearing pursuant to our right under Rhode Island General Law, 39-3-12. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 401-724-2200.

Sincerely,



Robert Billington
President

Blackstone Valley Visitor Center
On the Blackstone River
175 Main Street • Pawtucket, Rhode Island 02860
Telephone: (401) 724-2200 • Fax: (401) 724-1342 • e-mail: bvtourism@aol.com



• DIRECTIONS •

CENTRAL FALLS

From Route 146, turn onto Route 123 east to Valley Falls, take right onto Broad Street, right onto Madeira Ave.

**WOONSOCKET
Market Square**

From Route 146A, turn onto Rt. 104N (Providence St.) at the Beef Barn. Follow signs to Visitors Center. Boat landing located on River Street across from Market Square.

TOUR RATES

\$8.00 adults, \$6.00 children & seniors

Tours are 45 minutes and depart on the hour.
Advance reservations will assure boarding at desired time.

CHARTER RATES

2 Hours - \$300.00
\$100.00 each additional hour

For more information about **SATURDAY SPECIAL EVENTS & ACTIVITIES**, a Calendar is available at www.eventblackstone.com
For charters, reservations and more information, contact:



Blackstone Valley Visitor Center
175 Main Street • Pawtucket, Rhode Island 02860
(401) 724-2200 • (800) 454-2882
e-mail: info@tourblackstone.com
website: TourBlackstone.com

⚠Tours operate rain or shine, schedule is subject to change.

Cover photo by Jim McElholm

rivertourblackstone.com

Experience the
**Blackstone
River
Valley
National
Heritage
Corridor**

aboard the
Blackstone Valley Explorer

**RHODE
ISLAND**

Presenting Environmental &
Heritage Education Programs
on the Blackstone River since 1989

2006 SCHEDULE

The *Blackstone Valley Explorer* is a 49-passenger riverboat, the only one on the Blackstone River. Explore the river that was once called *America's Hardest Working River* and discover the river's ecosystem as you learn about the river's industrialized past and its present restoration.

• CENTRAL FALLS •

WILDERNESS TOUR

June 3 - August 20

Public Tours Sundays, 1, 2, 3, 4 pm

• WOONSOCKET •

THUNDERMIST TOUR

August 27 - October 29

Public Tours Sundays, 1, 2, 3, 4 pm

The *Explorer* is available for School Programs, Groups and Charters.

For reservations and more information contact:

Blackstone Valley Tourism Council
Blackstone Valley Visitor Center
175 Main Street

Pawtucket, Rhode Island 02860

(401) 724-2200 • (800) 454-2882

Fax: (401) 724-1342

e-mail: info@tourblackstone.com

website: RivertourBlackstone.com



Tours operate rain or shine, schedule is subject to change.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

SPRING/SUMMER PROGRAMS, CENTRAL FALLS, RI

• Breakfast on the Blackstone River • Presented by Audubon Society of RI

Saturday, May 27, 2006, 8:30 - 9:30 am

ASRI members: Adult \$17, Child \$10

Non-members: Adult \$22, Child \$12

Contact RI Audubon 401-949-5454

• River's Day •

Saturday, June 17, 2006

FREE ranger guided boat tours from 1-4pm

RiverSing at Slater Mill, Pawtucket, RI, 9:00 am-4:00 pm • FREE

• Bring Your Own Lunch Tours •

Every Thursday from June 22-August 10, 12:00 pm

45 minute tour • \$8.00 All seats

• Chowder & Clamcakes Cruise •

Fridays, July 14, 18 and August 11, 5:30 pm • \$15.00 per person

• Twilight Cruises •

Saturdays July 22 and August 19, 2006, 6:30-7:45 pm

75 Minute Guided Tour • Adult-\$12.00, Children/Seniors-\$10.00

• River in Song and Story - Family Program •

Saturdays, June 24, July 22, and August 12, 2:00 pm and 3:00 pm

Adult-\$10.00, Children/Seniors-\$8.00

FALL PROGRAMS, WOONSOCKET, RI

• Autumnfest Weekend •

October 7, 8, & 9 • Thundermist Tours @ 1, 2, 3 & 4 pm

• The Changing Face of The Blackstone •

Presented by Audubon Society of RI

Saturday, October 7 - 12:00 pm; 60 minute tour

RI Audubon member: Adult-\$15, Child-\$8

Non member: Adult-\$20, Child-\$10

Contact RI Audubon 401-949-5454

• River Tales & Spooky Legends •

Saturdays, October 7, 14, 21 & 28, 5:00, 6:00 and 7:00 pm

Adult-\$10.00, Children/Seniors-\$8.00

• Children's Birthday Parties on the Explorer •

Available Monday-Saturday, \$15.00 per person

Minimum 10 children. One free chaperone per five children

RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED

A minimum of 25 to run special programs

Call for a complete description or visit our website at

www.rivertourblackstone.com.

