Wild & Scenic Designation

Over 78 miles of the Westfield River’s headwater tributaries and three major branches are designated as a National Wild & Scenic River. A “Wild & Scenic” river must have outstanding scenic, recreational, geologic, historical or cultural features.

The federal designation encourages residents and visitors to be stewards of the river by promoting and protecting it. Communities in the watershed are given additional resources for its preservation.

From top left to bottom right: Annual Wildwater Races in Huntington; Mottled leaves of the Silver Maple; Arched bridges along the Westfield River, Windsor, MA; A “Wild & Scenic” river must have outstanding scenic, recreational, geologic, historical or cultural features.

Thanks to the designation, the River remains free-flowing and is protected from potentially harmful projects, such as dams. The Wild & Scenic Westfield River Committee was formed locally to manage the River and maintain the health of the entire watershed for nearby and downstream communities.

THE WESTFIELD RIVER

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