

# JOHNSBURG – RIVERS, RAILS, TEDDY, TREASURES & TRAILS

Johnsburg lies at the heart of the Adirondacks, where the rails came to an end over a century ago. Teddy Roosevelt rode through the wilderness to catch a train when he learned that the death of McKinley had made him President. Inside Gore Mountain lies a treasure trove of garnet, which visitors can dig for themselves on a Garnet Mine Tour. Trails run everywhere: down the face of Gore Mountain and throughout the Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area.

Every one of the six hamlets in town has its own appeal. Johnsburg came first in 1790. North River grew up around the garnet mining industry. Bakers Mills hosted famous summer visitors like Rudolf Valentino. The scenic railroad stops in Riparius. Wevertown's historic homes cluster about the cemetery where the town's founder, John Thurman, is buried. North Creek has restored the historic Depot as a museum, with interpretive exhibits to tell the local stories.

No matter what the season, there's always a reason to visit the Town of Johnsburg. Winter is a wonderland of downhill and cross-country skiing, snowboarding, tubing, snowshoeing and back country skiing. Gore Mountain makes snow with Hudson River water all winter long. Spring run-off fills the river with whitewater, and the rafting season continues throughout the summer and fall, with trips for all ages and abilities. Recently, Iowa Pacific Holdings became the new scenic train operator with excursions from North Creek to Saratoga connecting to Amtrak and beyond. Themed events, ski packages, gondola rides, artisan exchange and free shuttle system wait your arrival.



Whitewater rafting on the mighty Hudson River, Spring, Summer & Fall.  
*Courtesy of Jim Svedberg*



Scenic Train Rides along the majestic Hudson River.  
*Courtesy of Upper Hudson River Railroad*



Gore Mountain's Hudson River snowmaking system offers skiing in fall, winter, and spring.  
*Courtesy of Shawn Holes*

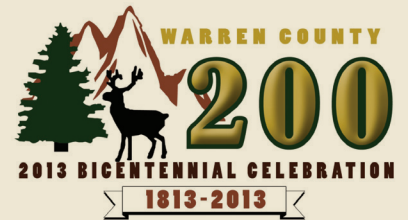
V.P. Theodore Roosevelt learned of his Presidency, in the early hours of September 14, 1901, on the platforms of the North Creek Train Station.

*Courtesy of North Creek Depot Museum*



[johnsburgny.com](http://johnsburgny.com)

As a legacy project the Town of Lake George and the First Wilderness Heritage Corridor have coordinated this educational Warren County poster series. Funding was provided from the Hudson-Fulton-Champlain Quadricentennial Commemoration through NYS Department of Environmental Conservation. Call 518-761-6409 for additional copies.



The Town of Johnsburg was formed April 16, 1805 from the town of Thurman. In 1788 John Thurman, a wealthy New York City merchant, bought from the state government 25,200 acres of Township #12 of the Totten and Crossfield Purchase. The first clearing took place about 1790 on Elm Hill, located one mile south of today's hamlet of Johnsburg. This name was taken from Thurman's given name and was spelled Johnsburgh until 1893. With the arrival of the railroad, which parallels the Hudson River from Tawahus to Saratoga transportation was revolutionized and North Creek developed into the main business center for the township. Garnet mining continues today by the Barton Mines Corp., who supplied the corner stone to the 911 Freedom Tower. On June 10, 2011, Iowa Pacific became the new scenic train operator with hopes of adding the capability of freight. Owners look forward to revitalizing the tracks to Tahawus.

## The Hudson River Watershed

*All Warren County townships have a portion of their land that drains into the Upper Hudson River.*

The geographically largest town in Warren County is entirely in the Hudson River Watershed. An abundance of streams flow to the Hudson River, Mill Creek and North Creek as examples, while form the Siamese Ponds Wilderness, the beginnings of the East Branch of the Sacandaga River form. If you don't know, the Great Sacandaga's waters enter the Hudson River at the boundary of Hadley and Lke Luzerne.

– Warren County Soil & Water