



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 6, 2026

***RiverFare 2026* Returns to Celebrate Food, Drink, and Community Along the Connecticut River**

ESSEX, CT — The unofficial start of summer has never tasted so good. The Connecticut River Museum invites the community to gather on its picturesque riverside lawn for *RiverFare 2026*, an evening of exceptional food, craft beverages, live jazz, and meaningful connection, all in support of the Museum's mission.

Set against the scenic backdrop of the Connecticut River, *RiverFare 2026* promises a vibrant, festive atmosphere where guests can sample a wide array of culinary delights from local restaurants and caterers, paired with tastings from wineries and breweries across the Connecticut River Valley. Whether you're a foodie, a wine enthusiast, or simply looking for a memorable night out, this event offers something for everyone.

Guests will also have the chance to browse and bid on an impressive silent auction featuring beautiful works of art, unique gifts, and exclusive experiences. For those feeling lucky, the popular "River of Wine" raffle offers the chance to take home a cart brimming with carefully curated bottles.

More than just a celebration, *RiverFare* plays a vital role in sustaining the Museum's leadership in preserving and sharing the cultural and natural heritage of the region. Proceeds directly support new exhibits and educational programming that engage more than 31,000 visitors annually.

Event Details:

Date: May 28, 2026

Time: 6 p.m.

Location: Connecticut River Museum riverside lawn, Essex, CT

Ticket Options:

- River Ticket: \$85
- At-the-Door Ticket: \$100
- Patron Ticket: \$175

For more information or to purchase tickets, visit the Connecticut River Museum's website at <https://ctrivermuseum.org/riverfare-2025/>

River Tickets include one complimentary drink voucher, while Patron Tickets offer added perks including two drink vouchers, access to a private check-out line, and a commemorative keepsake.



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Reconnect with friends, meet neighbors, and raise a glass to the start of summer, all while supporting a treasured local institution.

The Connecticut River Museum gratefully acknowledges the generous support of our sponsors:

Presenting: Connecticut River Dock & Dredge

Benefactor: Bluewater Millwork & Construction, eweather, and Tower Laboratories, Ltd.

Sustainer: Sound Rigging Services, Inc.

Supporter: Constanza & Company, MAI Capital Management, New England Marine Fiberglass, Reynolds' Subaru, and Teri Lewis, Realtor

Friend: Bee's Knees Pottery, CCA Services, Essex Lions Club, Masonicare at Chester Village, Middlesex Health, Philip and Clio Coles, Rattling Ridge, ServiceMaster Restore, Sullivan Financial Advisors, and Underwater Construction Corporation

About us

The Connecticut River Museum is a private, not-for-profit, education institution fully accredited by the American Alliance of Museums and a member of the Council of American Maritime Museums and the International Congress of Maritime Museums. The mission of the Connecticut River Museum is to deepen the appreciation of the Connecticut River's history and to inspire its stewardship by providing unique educational and recreational experiences to diverse audiences. Our vision is that generations of environmental stewards will appreciate and care for our river.