



# New Jersey News



Paddlers on the Passaic River, New Jersey

## PROJECTS AND PARTNERS 2012

- 1. Blue Raritan Water Trail**  
Rutgers University, Middlesex County, Association of NJ Environmental Commissions, Raritan River Collaborative, and Crossroads of the American Revolution National Heritage Area
- 2. Delaware River Resource Protection Strategic Plan**  
Delaware River Greenway Partnership
- 3. Farnham Park Wetlands Restoration**  
Cooper's Ferry Partnership
- 4. Morris Canal Greenway**  
County of Passaic and Paterson Great Falls National Historical Park
- 5. Rutherford Bicycle Ring**  
Rutherford Green Team
- 6. September 11th National Memorial Trail**  
September 11th National Memorial Trail Alliance

Find out more about each project starting on page 2.

## ABOUT US

The Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance (RTCA) Program is the community assistance arm of the National Park Service. RTCA staff provides technical assistance to community groups and local, state, and federal government agencies working to protect natural areas and water resources and enhance close-to-home outdoor recreation opportunities. We help communities plan, organize partnerships, and achieve on-the-ground success on projects they initiate.

## Recent Successes

### Passaic River Blueway

The NJ Department of Environmental Protection and the Federal Highway Administration have awarded a National Recreational Trails Grant to the Passaic Valley Sewerage Commissioners (PVSC) and their local project partner the Lower Passaic Watershed Alliance (LPWA) to implement the next phase of the Passaic River Blueway project. PVSC and LPWA will work with municipalities along the Passaic River to develop signage and a map & guide of the water trail.

The Passaic River Blueway works to establish 25 public access points on the 32-mile lower Passaic River Blueway water trail. Flowing out of the Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge, the upper Passaic River is less developed than the lower portion, and will provide paddlers with a contrast from the urban experience of the lower 32 miles of river.



Passaic River, New Jersey

# Current Projects

## 1. Blue Raritan Water Trail

**Project Partner:** Rutgers University, Middlesex County, Association of NJ Environmental Commissions, Raritan River Collaborative, and Crossroads of the American Revolution National Heritage Area

**RTCA Contact:** Sherry Peck

**Location:** 18 municipalities in Somerset and Middlesex Counties, New Jersey

**Congressional Districts:** NJ-6, 7, 11, 12, 13

### Project Goal

31-mile water trail linking greenways along the Raritan River; educational and outdoor recreation opportunities for families; enhanced appreciation and stewardship of environmental, recreational, and historic resources.

### RTCA Role

Assist with development of public access management plans and river-based recreational programs.

## 2. Delaware River Resource Protection Strategic Plan

**Project Partner:** Delaware River Greenway Partnership

**RTCA Contact:** Sherry Peck

**Location:** Delaware River watershed (Delaware Water Gap to upper Delaware Estuary) in New Jersey and Pennsylvania

**Congressional Districts:** NJ-4, 7, 12

### Project Goal

A 5-year strategic plan for the Delaware River Greenway Partnership, focused on its role in protection and stewardship of the natural, cultural and recreational resources of the Delaware River region in New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

### RTCA Role

Facilitate a strategic planning process and assist with producing an action plan; assist with capacity-building of long-time NPS partner organization.

## 3. Farnham Park Wetlands Restoration

**Project Partner:** Cooper's Ferry Partnership

**RTCA Contact:** Sherry Peck

**Location:** Cooper River, Camden, New Jersey

**Congressional Districts:** NJ-1

### Project Goal

32 acres of restored and enhanced wetland habitat; improved health of adjacent Cooper River; new waterfront access, nature education opportunities, and connections to the regional trail network for urban community members.



John Pralls Jr. House at the Prallsville Mills, Delaware River Mill Society, Stockton, NJ

### RTCA Role

Assist with developing a restoration plan for lower Farnham Park, including public access, trail connections, and educational opportunities.

## 4. Morris Canal Greenway

**Project Partners:** County of Passaic and Paterson Great Falls National Historical Park

**RTCA Contact:** Sherry Peck

**Location:** Municipalities of Pompton Lakes, Wayne, Little Falls, Paterson, Woodland Park, and Clifton in Passaic County, New Jersey

**Congressional Districts:** NJ-8

### Project Goal

A safe, contiguous, 25-mile pedestrian and non-motorized bicycle trail along the route of the original Morris Canal.

### RTCA Role

Assist with developing a greenway implementation plan, including connections to Paterson Great Falls National Historical Park.



Exploring public access to the Raritan River



## We're Here For You.

Could your project benefit from RTCA Staff Assistance? Contact us to find out.



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## 2011 Nationwide Partnership Success

1,991	Miles of Trail Developed
1,925	Miles of River Conserved
33,230	Acres of Open Space and Parkland Protected
94%	Percentage of Community Partners Satisfied

Find more information online at [www.nps.gov/rtca](http://www.nps.gov/rtca)



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# Current Projects

## 5. Rutherford Bicycle Ring

Project Partner: Rutherford Green Team  
RTCA Contact: Jerry Willis  
Location: Bergen County, New Jersey  
Congressional District: NJ-9

### Project Goal

A five mile network that links bicycle routes, bike lanes, and off road bicycle paths with future connections to other southern Bergen County attractions and natural areas such as the Hackensack Meadowlands.

### RTCA Role

Assist with organizing resident focus groups and evaluating the needs and concerns of the community; assist with route planning, constituency building and identifying funding, as well as coordinating efforts with the Passaic River Blueway, The Hackensack Riverkeeper, The NJ Meadowlands Commission and other neighboring organizations and municipalities.

## 6. September 11th National Memorial Trail

Project Partner: September 11th National Memorial Trail Alliance  
RTCA Contact: Peggy Pings  
Location: Seven state triangle including Shanksville PA (Flight 93 crash site), New York City (World Trade Center), Washington DC (Pentagon).  
Congressional District: NJ-1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 9, 10, 13

### Project Goal

A 1,100-mile hiking, biking, and driving trail physically connecting the three national memorials commemorating the tragic events that occurred in 2001.

### RTCA Role

Facilitate determination of trail route through New Jersey and assist in the development of an interim Strategic Plan to improve organizational capacity and ensure quality trail management.



Public access to the Raritan River in Sayresville, NJ