

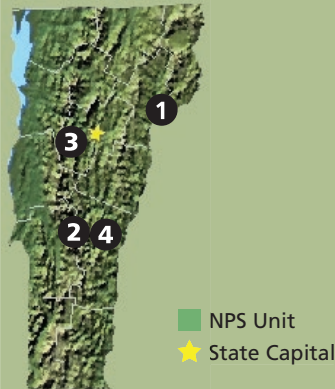


# Vermont News



Woodstock Trails Partnership volunteers and RTCA staff celebrate a job well done. Photo: NPS

## PROJECTS AND PARTNERS 2013



### CURRENT PROJECTS

1. Connecticut River Paddlers Trail  
Vermont Rivers Conservancy
2. Killington Trails  
Town of Killington
3. Mad River Valley Trails Collaborative  
Mad River Valley Trails Collaborative
4. Mount Tom/Historic Faulkner Trail Restoration  
Billings Park Commission

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

### Mad River Valley Trails Collaborative

Thanks to a new trails partnership, the Mad River Valley of Vermont is enjoying a growing network of well-managed trails linking public lands and community parks. In just two short years, this group of recreation, conservation, and business groups has



A hiker enjoys the new pedestrian bridge along the Kingsbury Bridge Greenway. Photo: NPS

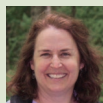
created a trails inventory, collaborated on a new map, held two valley-wide trails summits and worked with the VT Youth Conservation Corps to bring 19 weeks worth of on-the-ground trail work by high school students to the valley. Because of the Collaborative's efforts, the local Chamber of Commerce upgraded the recreation portion of their website to reflect the great trail information generated from the mapping process.

Joshua Schwartz, Mad River Valley Planning District's Executive Director, noted that RTCA's assistance has provided greater credibility and additional momentum to the Collaborative's efforts to enhance and improve conservation of the Mad River Valley's natural resources and outdoor recreation opportunities, as well as the associated economic, public health, and quality of life benefits for Valley residents and visitors.



## We're Here For You.

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



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## 2012 Nationwide Partnership Success

2,154 Miles of Trail Developed

1,074 Miles of River Conserved

70,385 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

## 1. Connecticut River Paddlers' Trail

Project Partner: VT Rivers Conservancy  
NPS Contact: Lelia Mellen  
Location: Connecticut and White Rivers

### Project Goal

Facilitate a network of 20 conservation organizations working towards shared trail stewardship, stretching the entire river, and complementing the CT River AGO National Blueway.

### NPS Role

Help develop a stewardship fund, assist with marketing, funding, community outreach and specific access projects, launch trail map, and organize volunteer steward program.

## 2. Killington Trails

Project Partner: Town of Killington  
NPS Contact: Jennifer Waite  
Location: Killington, VT

### Project Goal

Build, enhance, connect, and add value to a system of land and water trails in the town of Killington.

### NPS Role

Create a strategy for a mountain bike loop trail; continue public involvement, construct a kiosk at the town recreation center; build partner capacity and a long term strategy for maintenance and management.



Bakersfield Town Park Trail construction.  
Photo: NPS



A Vermont Youth Conservation Corps helped to restore the Faulkner Trail.  
Photo: NPS

## 3. Mad River Valley Trails Collaborative

Project Partner: Mad River Trails Collaborative  
NPS Contact: Jennifer Waite  
Location: Waitsfield, Warren & Fayston

### Project Goal

Enhance and expand recreational trail opportunities in the Mad River Valley through a "Trails Collaborative."

### NPS Role

Outreach for planning and publication of updated trails map; partner with Vermont Youth Conservation Corps to create a youth trail crew; work with trail organizations to create a list of collaborative projects.

## 4. Historic Faulkner Trail Restoration

Project Partner: Billings Park Commission  
NPS Contact: Jennifer Waite  
Location: Woodstock, VT

### Project Goal

Restore the historically significant Faulkner Trail to enhance an important gateway to the Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park and improve the 30-mile trail system around Woodstock Vermont.

### NPS Role

Assist in launching a trail restoration campaign based on newly completed trail restoration strategy, including funding strategy, youth work, and an agreement between key partners.