



Maryland News



Lower Shore Land Conservation: Partners "supporting" the Lower Shore Land Trust.

PROJECTS AND PARTNERS 2011

CURRENT PROJECTS

1. Cheverly Green Plan
Town of Cheverly Green Infrastructure Steering Committee
2. Frederick County Green Infrastructure Plan
Frederick County Department of Public Works
3. Indian Head Rail to Trail
Town of Indian Head
4. Lower Susquehanna Trails Strategic Action Plan
Lower Susquehanna Heritage Greenway
5. Patuxent Tidewater Conservation Plan
Patuxent Tidewater Land Trust
6. Potomac Island Gateways - Sharpshin and Tenfoot Islands
Potomac Conservancy
7. Star-Spangled Banner NHT: Building the North Point Trail
North Point Peninsula Community Council
8. Trail Towns along the C&O Towpath
Progress Fund, C&O Canal Trust

Find out more about each project starting on page 2.

Recent Successes

Lower Shore Land Conservation

A collaborative technical assistance workshop was recently designed and conducted by the Defenders of Wildlife; National Park Service, RTCA; and the Environmental Finance Center at the University of Maryland for the Board of Directors and staff of the Lower Shore Land Trust. The workshop guided the Land

RTCA staff has brought knowledge, confidence, and patience to a citizen's committee with no trail building experience."

- Francis Taylor,
North Point Peninsula Community Council
Vice President and Chair, North Point Heritage
Greenway Trail Committee

Trust to develop financing strategies for building organizational capacity and expanding conservation efforts in its three county service area. This financing session followed an earlier three-day workshop conducted by the same collaborative

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.

Current Projects

1. Cheverly Green Plan

Project Partner: Town of Cheverly
Green Infrastructure Steering Committee

RTCA Contact: Wink Hastings

Location: Town of Cheverly, Prince George's County, Maryland
Congressional District: MD-1

Project Goal

Develop a green infrastructure plan and strategy for Cheverly and surrounding areas while guiding future sustainable redevelopment.

RTCA Role

Assist the steering committee with organizational development, facilitate a community collaborative process modeling positive citizen participation, guide the design and planning of a green infrastructure network, and aid in leveraging funds to plan and implement the network.

2. Frederick County Green Infrastructure Plan

Project Partner: Frederick County Department of Public Works

RTCA Contact: Wink Hastings

Location: Frederick County, Maryland

Congressional District: MD-6

NPS Areas: Catocin Mountain Park, Monocacy National Battlefield, Chesapeake and Ohio Canal NHP, Appalachian NST

Project Goal

Develop a green infrastructure plan and map delineating high priority network of lands to protect. Develop an implementation strategy, including actions for conservation and management of natural resources and provide design and best management practices for stormwater runoff.

RTCA Role

Facilitate collaborative partnerships, assist process development, build community support, leverage funds.

3. Indian Head Rail to Trail

Project Partner: Town of Indian Head

RTCA Contact: Beth Porter

Location: Charles County, Maryland
Congressional District: MD-5

Project Goal

Develop a stakeholder engagement strategy for 13 miles of paved trail running from White Plains to Indian



War of 1812 Reinactor

Head along Mattawoman Creek. The creek is an important tributary of the Potomac River and Chesapeake Bay Watershed and it is hoped that the trail corridor can be developed to provide recreational benefit while protecting the watershed.

RTCA Role

Identify stakeholder groups and create a visioning process to help the community of Indian Head, Maryland develop a strategic plan for the Indian Head Rail Trail project.



Cheverly GreenPlan: Citizens identifying "Special Places."

4. Lower Susquehanna Trails Strategic Action Plan

Project Partner: Lower Susquehanna Heritage Greenway

RTCA Contact: Wink Hastings

Location: Lower Susquehanna River in Maryland

Congressional District: MD-1, 2, 6

Project Goal

Assess existing trails, identify missing links in the network, prepare an action/financing strategy to complete the network of trails throughout the Heritage Area.

RTCA Role

Guide and facilitate the process for a strategic trail plan, aid in leveraging funding, and build community support for trails.

Current Projects cont.

5. Patuxent Tidewater Conservation Plan

Project Partner: Patuxent Tidewater Land Trust
RTCA Contact: Wink Hastings
Location: Anne Arundel, Charles, Calvert, Prince George's and St Mary's Counties, MD
Congressional District: MD-3, 4, 5

Project Goal

Prepare landscape-level strategic conservation plan integrated with existing local plans, develop collaborative partnerships for effective conservation.

RTCA Role

Guide the land prioritization process, facilitate preparation of a strategic conservation plan, aid in leveraging funding, and build community support for the project.

6. Potomac Island Gateways - Sharpshin and Tenfoot Islands

Project Partner: Potomac Conservancy
RTCA Contact: Anne O'Neill
Location: Two of Potomac Conservancy's islands located in the Potomac River above Seneca Breaks
Congressional District: MD-8

Project Goal

Develop an implementation plan for primitive campsites and recreational use on two islands in the Potomac River.

RTCA Role

Inventory existing assets, develop a feasibility study including an implementation strategy and a fundraising and development plan for the project.

7. Star-Spangled Banner NHT: Building the North Point Trail

Project Partner: North Point Peninsula Community Council
RTCA Contact: Wink Hastings
Location: North Point Peninsula in southern Baltimore County, Maryland

“With the knowledge, patience and persistence provided by RTCA staff, we have developed a draft plan, incorporated citizen participation and solidified the steering committee in order to proceed with plan implementation.”

- Michael Callahan, Mayor, Town of Cheverly

Congressional District: MD-2
NPS Areas: Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail, Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail

Project Goal

Prepare management plan for Trail, pursue designation of Trail as segment of Star Spangled Banner NST, and support phase one of Trail construction.

RTCA Role

Guide/facilitate process for trail plan, leverage funds, build community support, initial implementation.



State Senator Stone Reviews a Map for the North Point Trail

Canal Towpath including: Hancock, Maryland; Williamsport, Maryland; Point of Rocks, Maryland; Brunswick, Maryland; Shepherdstown, West Virginia and Harpers Ferry, West Virginia

Congressional District: MD-6, PA-18, WV-2

NPS Areas: Chesapeake and Ohio Canal NHP

Project Goal

Prepare management plan for Trail, pursue designation of Trail as segment of Star Spangled Banner NST, and support phase one of Trail construction.

RTCA Role

Guide and facilitate a process for the trail plan. Leverage funds, build community support, and begin initial implementation of the trail.

8. Trail Towns along the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Towpath

Project Partners: Progress Fund, C&O Canal Trust
RTCA Contact: Beth Porter
Location: Communities along the C&O

We're Here For You.

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



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2010 Nationwide Partnership Success

1,251	Miles of Trail Developed
1,694	Miles of River Conserved
25,370	Acres of Open Space and Parkland Protected
94%	Percentage of Community Partners Satisfied

Find more information online at
www.nps.gov/rtca



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Recent Successes cont.

partners to develop a conservation plan focusing future protection efforts. Building on an assessment of existing organizational capacity and revenues, workshop participants determined how the Land Trust might best expand capacity and generate additional revenue to implement its conservation priorities. Recommendations centered on building organizational capacity for more effective land conservation, implementing new tools, strengthening current partnerships, and forging new relationships.

North Point Peninsula Heritage Greenway Trail

When completed, this walkable trail will link neighborhoods, schools, historic sites, and Chesapeake tidal wetlands and forests while providing the healthy benefits of active recreation. As a future portion of the Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail, users will retrace the steps of invading British troops during the War of 1812's Battle of Baltimore. With linkages to area schools, students will have direct access to the natural wonders of North Point State Park and Black Water Marsh. The Trail Committee led by the North Point Peninsula Community Council has recently completed the concept plan to guide future development. The Maryland Department of Natural Resources and Baltimore County Department of Community Conservation have been highly supportive partners during the planning process.

Cheverly Green Plan

Nearing completion of a green infrastructure plan for the Town of Cheverly, the highly motivated members of the Town-appointed steering committee are compiling a series of recommendations into a "community-wide green plan." This effort strives to balance community needs, healthy environment and future land use decisions through restoration and protection of Cheverly's natural assets. In addition to establishing an interconnected network of natural lands, the plan will recommend the Town adopt a "green infrastructure approach" for managing future day-to-day administration. This approach would encourage an increase in tree canopy, a reduction of impervious surfaces (that increase storm water runoff), the possible development of "green streets," and restoration actions to improve the health of Cheverly's natural areas and streams. In an effort to demonstrate the many benefits associated with the Plan, officials of Cheverly and the adjoining Baltimore-Washington Parkway are presently exploring a collaborative partnership to restore the headwaters of Quincy Run in the Town's 1st Ward.



Cheverly GreenPlan: Citizens identifying "Special Places"