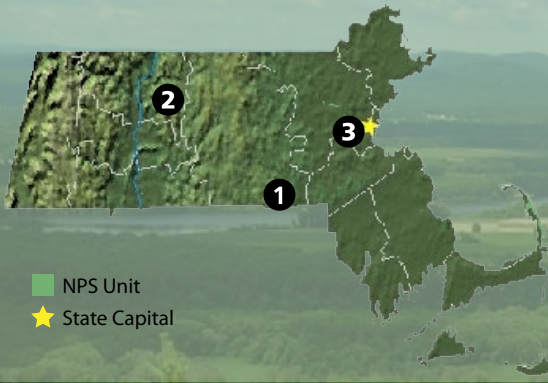




Massachusetts News



New England Trail

PROJECTS AND PARTNERS 2011

CURRENT PROJECTS

1. Last Green Valley Water Trails
The Last Green Valley, Inc.
2. New England National Scenic Trail
Connecticut Forest & Park Association
3. Destination River Bank
City of Cambridge Arts Council

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

Public Art on New England Trails

The dedication of the Concord River Greenway Park in downtown Lowell, MA, is the culmination of more than five years of community-based planning and collaboration with local and national artists. Public art was integrated into community trails in partnership with the New England Foundation for the Arts and the Lowell Parks & Conservation Trust. The Greenway project was

“While we have actively engaged the neighborhood groups...we have also found unexpected partners, including the NPS RTCA Program, who have been helpful in coordinating the artists’ work on the public art plan for the greenway.”

- Jane Calvin, Executive Director

envisioned as a way to rebuild civic connections and to the place and its history while revitalizing and reclaiming an urban green space that was for many years overgrown, fenced off, or paved over. Art elements inspired by the natural aesthetics of the river including sculptures, benches, bridges, and displays were installed along a 1.7 mile section of trail.

We're Here For You.

Could your project could 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



EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA™

Current Projects

1. Last Green Valley Water Trails

Project Partner: The Last Green Valley, Inc.

RTCA Contact: John Monroe

Location: Quinebaug-Shetucket Rivers National Heritage Corridor in north-eastern Connecticut and adjacent towns in Massachusetts.

Congressional District: MA-2

Project Goal

Create a network of water trails in the upper Thames Basin. Hold at least six additional ribbon-cuttings and National Recreation Trail designations for segments on the Quinebaug and the Willimantic Rivers, with provisional Paddle Guides for each.

2. New England National Scenic Trail

Project Partner: Connecticut Forest & Park Association

RTCA Contact: Charles Tracy

Location: A 220-mile hiking trail route traveling through 39 communities in central Connecticut and Massachusetts. Congressional District: MA-1,2

Project Goal

Implementation of scenic trail activities including launching GIS, holding public trail events, creating brochure for visitors, and strengthening Trail Stewardship Committee.

3. Destination River Bank

Project Partner: City of Cambridge Arts Council

RTCA Contact: Charles Tracy

Location: Cambridge, Massachusetts
Congressional District: MA-7, 8, 9

Project Goal

Integrate public art with the development of enhanced recreation facilities and public access along the Charles River.

Recent Successes cont.

Seaconcke Area Trails

The Seekonk Area Trails group made great strides to realize their vision for an interstate network of land and water multi-use trails connected to key community hubs. Spearheaded by the Y of Providence - Seekonk Branch, the missing links on a 2.5 mile trail circling Turner Reservoir Loop have been constructed, the planning and permitting for a 0.5 mile fully accessible trail connecting the Y rehabilitation facility in Seekonk to the Town Hall and a proposed Senior Citizen Center have been completed, and improvements have been made to nearby rail trails including the East Bay Rail Trail.



Seaconcke Area Trails