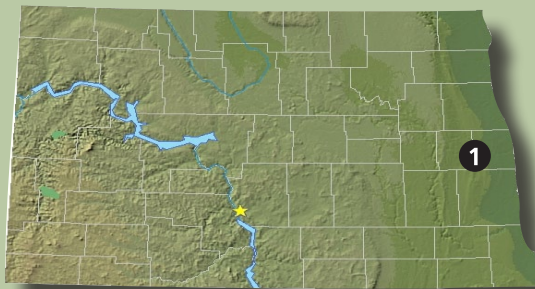




Taking a healthy stroll in the hills.

North Dakota News



- NPS Unit
- ★ State Capital

PROJECTS AND PARTNERS 2012

1. Arthur to Hunter Rail-Trail
City of Arthur

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

RTCA Expands Project Area

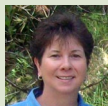
Last summer, Ace Crawford worked for RTCA in the Black Hills, South Dakota region. Her detail was an effort to create awareness of the RTCA program and to research outdoor recreation groups and projects. Crawford met with officials from several Black Hills communities and the surrounding area to discuss the RTCA program and learn about their trail projects and plans. Information about the program was also shared with Congressional staff; South Dakota Tourism Secretary; South Dakota Game, Fish & Parks; Forest Service; City Parks Departments; Chambers of Commerce; Mayors; Tribal officials; Black Hills Council of Local Governments; and Economic Development officials. The outreach resulted in the City of Whitewood applying for RTCA assistance and being selected as a 2012 project. The project is a proposed expansion of the trail around their city park.

Whitewood's Historic Oak Park is well-maintained and has been an integral part of the community for over 100 years. There is currently a $\frac{3}{4}$ mile walking/biking trail around the park that provides some great views of the surrounding hills. The existing trail is frequently used by the local grade school for class nature walks, in addition to other user groups. The proposed trail expansion is $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile, and officials envision it being handicapped accessible to allow more people to enjoy the trail. An expansion would provide additional healthy outdoor recreation opportunities at Oak Park.

If you would like to learn more about the RTCA program and how we can help you accomplish projects in North Dakota just give Ace a call!

We're Here For You.

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



Ace Crawford
605-574-3185
Aileen_crawford@nps.gov



David Thomson
402-661-1570
dave_thomson@nps.gov

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



EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA™

Current North Dakota Projects

1. Arthur to Hunter Rail-Trail

Project Partner: City of Arthur
RTCA Contact: Ace Crawford
Location: Cass County
Congressional District: North Dakota at large

Project Goal

The towns of Arthur and Hunter, and Cass County, will acquire a seven-mile rail corridor for the purposes of developing it into a multi-purpose trail.

NPS Role

RTCA staff will advise on the acquisition and development of this trail.

Other Midwest Region Projects

1. Murdo Park Dam Recreational Trail

Project Partner: South Central Resource, Conservation, & Development and the Town of Murdo
RTCA Contact: Karen Anderson
Location: Murdo, South Dakota
Congressional District: 1

Project Goal

A one mile trail will be constructed around the perimeter of a lake on the outskirts of town.

NPS Role

Funds will be sought for the construction of an exercise trail. Assistance will be provided in the designing of the trail.

2. Oak Park Nature Trail Expansion

Project Partner: City of Whitewood
RTCA Contact: Ace Crawford
Location: Whitewood, South Dakota
Congressional District: 1

Project Goal

The City has a goal to expand the existing trail in Oak Park to include a 1/2 to 3/4 mile handicapped accessible trail.

NPS Role

RTCA will assist with project guidance and identifying funding strategies for the trail expansion.



Missouri River in North Dakota