



New Hampshire News



Newfound Lake

PROJECTS AND PARTNERS 2012

CURRENT PROJECTS

- 1. Newfound Lake Pathway**
Newfound Pathway Team
- 2. New Hampshire Rivers Workshop**
New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services
- 3. Granite State Rail Trail**
New Hampshire Rail Trail Coalition
- 4. Quabbin to Cardigan Trail Study**
Society for the Protection of NH Forests,
Appalachian Mountain Club, NH Bureau of Trails,
White Mountain National Forest

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

New Hampshire Gem Taking Shape

The Granite State Rail Trail will connect individual rail trails to form a 110-mile connected path from Lebanon near the Connecticut River to Salem in Southern NH. This greenway will support bicyclists, hikers, snowmobilers, and dog-walkers.

The individual rail trails have made considerable strides this year. The Mascoma River Greenway completed one mile of trail and obtained Lebanon City Council approval of the conceptual plan. The Northern Rail Trail in Merrimack County completed an 8-mile stretch from Danbury to Potter Place, and 2.5 miles of trail was improved from W. Franklin to Webster Farm. There are now 50 miles of completed Northern Rail Trail/Mascoma River Greenway trail!

Manchester and Londonderry are working on their sections while Derry completed 1.5 miles of their paved trail to join the Windham Rail Trail. Windham also paved trail, opening around 7 miles of new trail in these towns.

Two important connector projects began this year. Concord's Merrimack River Greenway has begun a scenic river trail to connect with the Northern Rail Trail, and they won City Council's approval of their bicycle master plan. A new committee supported by the Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program is examining a route through Pembroke, Allenstown, and Hooksett to connect with Manchester's trails.

Hence, nearly half of the Granite State Rail Trail has been constructed—a substantial feat towards making the trail a reality!

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



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Current Projects

1. Newfound Lake Pathway

Project Partner: Newfound Pathway Team

RTCA Contact: Lelia Mellen
Location: Newfound Lake, NH
Congressional District: NH - 2

Project Goal

A 17-mile multi-use pathway around the perimeter of Newfound Lake.

RTCA Role

Support the Newfound Pathway Team with building a sustainable organization. In 2012, the Team will focus on outreach and fundraising, especially for the matching funds for their LWCF grant.

2. New Hampshire Rivers Workshop

Project Partners: New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services
RTCA Contact: Lelia Mellen
Location: Statewide
Congressional Districts: NH - 1, 2

Project Goal

Convene the 18 Local Advisory Committees for a one day workshop to confer, learn from one another, improve the program, and generally assist river conservation among these premier New Hampshire rivers.

RTCA Role

Organize and facilitate the river conservation workshop.

3. Granite State Rail Trail

Project Partners: New Hampshire Rail Trail Coalition
RTCA Contact: Lelia Mellen
Location: Merrimack, Hillsborough and Rockingham Counties
Congressional Districts: NH - 1, 2

Project Goal

A 110-mile rail trail from Massachusetts to Vermont that links existing trails from Salem through Londonderry; and a new trail from Hooksett to Concord that connects with the 60-mile Northern Rail Trail to Lebanon and the Connecticut River.



Newfound Pathway Team exploring nearby Northern Rail Trail

RTCA Role

Further develop the Granite State Rail Trail by assisting with the expansion of missing trail links between Concord and Manchester and develop a marketing strategy to publicize the overall trail concept.

4. Quabbin to Cardigan Trail

Project Partners: Society for the Protection of NH Forests, Appalachian Mountain Club, NH Bureau of Trails, White Mountain NF
RTCA Contact: Lelia Mellen
Location: Cheshire, Grafton, Hillsborough, Merrimack and Sullivan Counties, NH
Congressional Districts: NH - 1, 2

Project Goal

A completed trail study for a long-distance trail traversing approximately eighty miles in the New Hampshire portion of the Quabbin to Cardigan region.

RTCA Role

Assist with developing a vision and plan for this long-distance trail by providing leadership and coordination, building capacity among local groups, and crafting an action plan.



Mt. Cardigan