



New Jersey News



PROJECTS AND PARTNERS 2011

CURRENT PROJECTS

1. Delaware River Resource Protection Strategic Plan (NJ/PA)
Delaware River Greenway Partnership
2. Newark Riverfront Trail
City of Newark
3. New Jersey Coastal Heritage Trail
NJ Coastal Heritage Trail Route
4. Rutherford Bicycle Ring
Rutherford Green Team
5. Twin Lights Trail
Twin Lights Historical Society

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

The Hamilton-Trenton-Bordentown Marsh

The northernmost tidal freshwater wetland on the Delaware River, located 2.5 miles from the NJ State Capitol building in Trenton, is known for its significant biodiversity and rich cultural history. This important open space resource, consisting of 1250 acres of wetlands and 1700 acres of adjacent uplands, much of it in state and county parkland, is an oasis of natural wildness in a densely populated urban area. A partnership of public and private landowners and citizen volunteers met for two years and in 2010 completed a “Cooperative Stewardship Plan” for the marsh, along with short and long-term action plans and a draft Cooperating Stewardship Agreement to formalize the partnership. Their goal is to protect the valuable resources of the Marsh, while enhancing public appreciation through education and recreation.

“The Rivers and Trails program and your facilitation have brought the Marsh Stewardship Plan update a LONG way that wouldn’t have happened otherwise. It was a considerable challenge getting the process under way and dealing with an array of partners and personalities.”

- Dr. Mary Leck, Emeritus Professor of Biology, Rider University, and convener of the Friends for the Marsh Executive Committee

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



EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA™

Current Projects

1. Delaware River Resource Protection Strategic Plan (NJ/PA)

Project Partner: Delaware River Greenway Partnership
RTCA Contact: Sherry Peck
Location: Delaware River from the Delaware Water Gap to the upper Delaware Estuary
Congressional Districts: NJ-4, 7, 12

Project Goal

A 5- or 10-year strategic plan for the Delaware River Greenway Partnership, focused on its role in protection and stewardship of the natural, cultural and recreational resources of the Delaware River region in New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

2. Newark Riverfront Trail

Project Partner: City of Newark
RTCA Contact: Jerry Willis
Location: Newark, NJ along the Passaic River waterfront
Congressional Districts: NJ-10, 13

Project Goal

Create an interim alignment connecting the 1.7 miles of existing riverfront public easements to create a 4-mile riverfront trail and create 25 acres of riverfront open space by 2025.

3. New Jersey Coastal Heritage Trail

Project Partner: NJ Coastal Heritage Trail Route
RTCA Contact: Sherry Peck
Location: 300-mile auto-trail along New Jersey's Atlantic shore and bays
Congressional Districts: NJ-1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 12, 13

Project Goal

Complete strategic plan that addresses opportunities to increase participation by national and local private and public interests in the planning, development, and administration of the New Jersey Coastal Heritage Trail (NJCHT) and identifies organizational options for sustaining the NJCHT.

4. Rutherford Bicycle Ring

Project Partner: Rutherford Green Team
RTCA Contact: Jerry Willis
Location: Rutherford between the Hackensack and Passaic Rivers in the Meadowlands area of Northern New Jersey
Congressional Districts: NJ-9

Project Goal

Define an initial route for Rutherford Bicycle Ring with five miles of on-road bicycle routes and lanes and using existing off-road bicycle path that encircles local recreation fields, with future connections to other southern Bergen County attractions and natural areas, including Hackensack Meadowlands.

5. Twin Lights Trail

Project Partner: Twin Lights Historical Society
RTCA Contact: Jerry Willis
Location: State, county, local, and national park units in coastal North Central New Jersey
Congressional Districts: NJ-6, 12

Project Goal

Develop a 2-mile trail connecting park sites to a network of 37-miles of existing trails.

