

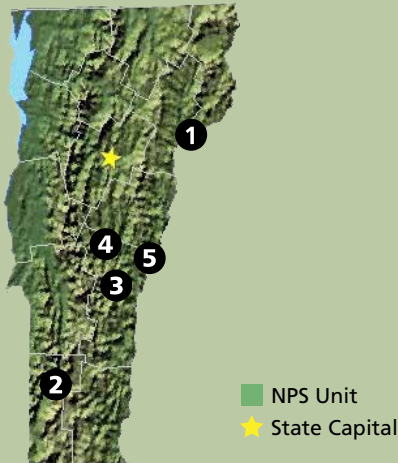


Vermont News



Peak to Peak celebration of Woodstock's trails. Photo: NPS

PROJECTS AND PARTNERS 2014



CURRENT PROJECTS

1. Connecticut River Paddlers' Trail
Vermont River Conservancy
2. Manchester Riverwalk
Manchester Riverwalk Association
3. Mount Tom Gateway Project
Billings Park Commission
4. Upper Valley High School Trail Corps
Upper Valley Trail Alliance
5. White River FEMA Buyout Connectivity Project
White River Partnership

Find out more about each project starting on page 2.

Recent Successes

High School Crews Take on a Tough Task

This past year, the fearless Vermont youth crews wrestled huge rocks into perfect position to hold up new tread for the 75-year old Faulkner Trail. Along with trail restoration specialists from Peter Jensen and Associates, youth crews worked to restore the



VYCC crew rebuilding the Faulkner Trail Photo: Erin Amadon

Faulkner Trail and its unique, gently-graded switchbacks to their former glory, while also enhancing the original design to meet new national standards for outdoor universal accessibility.

The Faulkner Trail, created in 1936, was modeled on cardiac rehabilitation trails in the spa-town of Baden-Baden, Germany. Woodstock resident, Marianne Gaillard

Faulkner, donated the trail and a public park in memory of her husband, Edward, who suffered from arthritis and sought respite in Baden-Baden. Today, the trail is a major gateway to the Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park, but its popularity has led to significant degradation. The NPS has assisted the Woodstock Trails Partnership to create a strategy and bring together resources to launch the restoration.

The trail restoration will involve a lot of hard work on the part of the Vermont Youth Conservation Corps (VYCC) crews and project partners over the next few years, but all agree it is worthy of preservation.

We're Here For You!

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



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2013 Nationwide Partnership Success

1,357 Miles of Trail Developed

736 Miles of River Conserved

20,270 Acres of Open Space and Parkland Protected

ABOUT US

The Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance program is the community assistance arm of the National Park Service. Program staff provide 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.

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



EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA™

Current Projects

1. Connecticut River Paddlers' Trail

Project Partners: Vermont River Conservancy, St. Gaudens NHP, Conte National Wildlife Refuge, Connecticut River National Blueway
NPS Contact: Lelia Mellen
Location: Connecticut River through New York and Vermont
Congressional Districts: NH - 2; VT - 1

Project Goal

Strengthen the Connecticut River Paddlers' Trail and provide assistance to those community groups and organizations working on the trail.

NPS Role

Assist with improving stewardship of existing and potential access points, developing shared stewardship and a network of site adopters, outreach, trail expansion, and strategic planning.

2. Manchester Riverwalk

Project Partner: Manchester Riverwalk Association
NPS Contact: Jennifer Waite
Location: Manchester
Congressional District: VT - 1

Project Goal

Develop a collaborative partnership to expand the Manchester Riverwalk along the Battenkill River.

NPS Role

Assist with developing a vision for the riverwalk and a larger concept for a system of trails and greenways throughout the community of Manchester.

3. Mount Tom Gateway Project

Project Partner: Billings Park Commission
NPS Contact: Jennifer Waite
Location: Woodstock
Congressional District: VT - 1

Project Goal

Restore the Faulkner Trail, a gateway to Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National

Historical Park, and showcase application of the new universally accessible trail standards.

NPS Role

Assist with updating the trail's restoration plan and coordinating the Federal Lands Access Program project.

4. Upper Valley High School Trail Corps

Project Partner: Upper Valley Trails Alliance
NPS Contact: Lelia Mellen
Location: Hartford and Norwich, VT; Lebanon and Hanover, NH
Congressional Districts: VT - 1; NH - 2

Project Goal

Inspire kids to get outside, give back to their communities, and learn outdoor skills; help local trail efforts.

NPS Role

Continue assistance with the Upper Valley High School Trail Corps by broadening and strengthening the program, including connecting with the Dartmouth Outing Club.

5. White River FEMA Buyout Connectivity Project

Project Partner: White River Partnership
NPS Contact: Jennifer Waite
Location: 11 White River Watershed Towns
Congressional District: VT - 1

Project Goal

Create connectivity between approximately 50 Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Hurricane Irene buyout properties in 11 towns along the White River watershed.

NPS Role

Work with partners and towns to inventory and assess FEMA buyout properties; develop an action plan with the towns, public, and partner organizations.