North Dakota News

Wakopa Trail (NPS Photo)

NPS Unit
State Capital

PROJECTS AND PARTNERS 2011

1. Manvel Matters
City of Manvel

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

Manyel Matters

Manvel, North Dakota is a community of less than 500 people. It is located 15 miles northwest of Grand Forks. The community submitted an application to the Midwest Region RTCA office and requested assistance in the siting and development of a trail alongside the Turtle River.

It was thought that the trail could have a terminus in Veteran's Park in the center of town and follow the river northeast for approximately seven miles to the golf course. RTCA staff, Karen Anderson, visited with city officials and completed a tour of the area. She saw that the banks of the Turtle are sloughing badly, so much so that the foundation of the town's maintenance building is becoming damaged. This location would not the ideal site for a trail.

While conducting the tour, other opportunities for RTCA assistance presented. Karen Anderson saw that the town is in dire need of repairing and improving the routes that children take to school. The sidewalks, where they exist, are broken and uneven. In many places they don't exist at all, forcing the children to walk in the ditches.

Karen discussed the idea of Manvel submitting an application for funding from the North Dakota Safe Routes to School program. The town will submit an application to this program and if they are successful, they will work with RTCA in planning for a safe pedestrian and bike route in town. Once this is accomplished, their attention will turn to developing a trail.

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



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Current North Dakota Projects

1. Manvel Matters

Project Partners: City of Manvel RTCA Contact: Karen Anderson Location: Grand Forks, ND Congressional District(s): ND-1

Project Goal

Construct a 2-mile trail along the Turtle River. Also, assit the town with Safe Routes to Schools projects, if funding is available.

NPS Role

Convene and facilitate public meetings to determine community needs and preferences.

Other Midwest Region Projects

Parker Vermillion River Beautification Project

Project Partner: City of Parker RTCA Contact: Karen Anderson

Location: Parker, SD

Congressional District(s): SD-1

Project Goal

Provide access to the Vermillion River for residents and visitors to Parker, South Dakota. Connect missing links in the local hike/bike trail.

RTCA Role

Assist the city administration with a plan for a two-mile walking/biking path alongside the Vermillion River.

City of Avoca River & Trail

Project Partner: City of Avoca, IA RTCA Contact: David Thomson Location: Along two forks of the West Nishnabotna River Congressional District(s): IA-5

Project Goal

Develop 5 miles of land-based multiuse trails, 15 miles of river enhancement/water trail development, and 4 acres of wetland/park area development.

RTCA Role

Develop a dialogue between the various project partners and input into a conceptual plan for each part of this outdoor recreation project.



Turtle River awaits a new trail from the Manvel Matters Project.