



Indiana News



PROJECTS AND PARTNERS 2010

1. Fort Wayne, Allen County Trails
City of Fort Wayne, Department of Public Works
2. Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore Connector Trail
Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore
3. IPRA Natural Resource, Trails & Greenways Section
IN Parks and Rec Assoc.
4. Little Calumet Water Trail
Northwest Indiana Paddling Association (NWIPA)
5. NW IN Green & Blueways Vision Implementation
NW IN Regional Planning Commission

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 Success

29 Trail Corridors Over 500 Miles – Connecting NW Indiana!

The Northwest Indiana Regional Planning Commission (NIRPC) developed and released the 2005 NW IN Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. The plan prioritized 29 potential trail and greenway corridors in the three NW Indiana Counties totaling over 500 miles. Building this network, mostly off-road, will result in hundreds of miles of trails and new public space as linear parks are developed. RTCA played a lead role in the formation of the Calumet Citizens for Connecting Communities, a support group that is working with NIRPC and local governments in the implementation of a regional bike/ped network.

Many routes have now been put together to create the Tri-State Trail plan connecting Chicago with SW Michigan by way of northwest Indiana. Two of the corridors identified are recognized as State Visionary Trails in the 2006 Indiana Trails Plan, part of a 2000 inter-state network of trails. One of these corridors is the route of the northern leg of the American Discovery Trail. More than 15 miles of trail has been added to this network over the past 2 years with an additional 18 miles planned for opening in 2010.

“RTCA has been very responsive to NIRPC and our member municipalities ...providing guidance and advice on technical matters...”

- Mitch Barlogas, Planner, Northwest Indiana Regional Planning Commission

We're Here For You.

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



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2009 Nationwide Partnership Success

3,411 Miles of Trail Developed

2,664 Miles of River Conserved

87,385 Acres of Open Space and Parkland Protected

97% Percentage of Community Partners Satisfied

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



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Current Projects

1. Fort Wayne, Allen County Trails

Project Partner: City of Fort Wayne, Department of Public Works
RTCA Contact: Rory Robinson
Location: Fort Wayne

Project Goal:

RTCA is participating in this project as a consultation.

2. Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore Connector Trail

Project Partner: Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore
RTCA Contact: Rory Robinson
Location: Portage

Project Goal:

RTCA is participating in this project as a consultation.

3. IPRA Natural Resource, Trails & Greenways Section

Project Partner: IN Parks and Rec Assoc.
RTCA Contact: Rory Robinson
Location: Statewide

Project Goal:

RTCA is participating in this project as a consultation.

4. Little Calumet Water Trail

Project Partner: Northwest Indiana Paddling Association (NWIPA)
RTCA Contact: Jeff Obirek
Location: Northwestern Indiana
Congressional District(s): 1, 2

Project Goal:

Connect the water trail beginning at the Portage Lakefront & Riverwalk location at the mouth of the Little Calumet River to the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore Heron Rookery located in rural Porter County, approximately 16 miles in distance.

5. NW IN Green & Blueways Vision Implementation

Project Partner: NW IN Regional Planning Commission
RTCA Contact: Rory Robinson
Location: Northwestern Indiana

Project Goal:

RTCA is participating in this project as a consultation.

