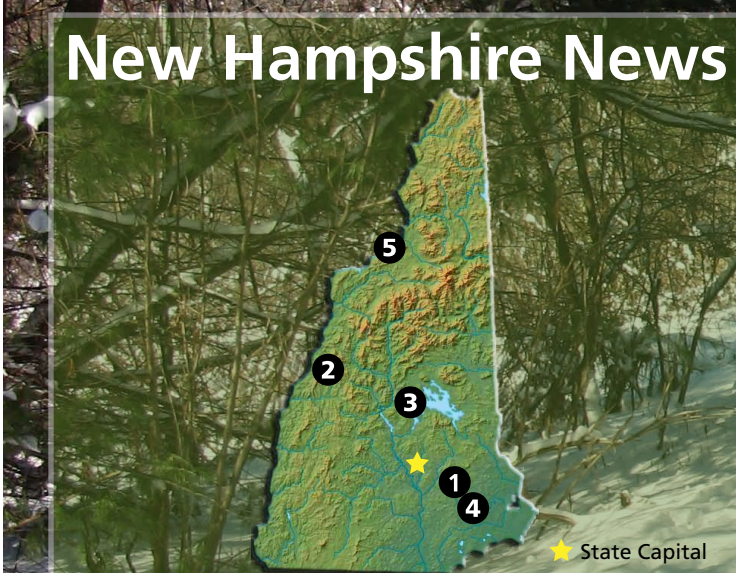




New Hampshire News



Enjoying the Northern Rail Trail. NPS Photos

PROJECTS AND PARTNERS 2010

CURRENT PROJECTS

1. Lamprey River - Extending NH State Protection Upstream
Lamprey River Watershed Association
2. Mascoma River Greenway
City of Lebanon
3. Newfound Lake Pathways
Newfound Lake Pathway Committee
4. New Hampshire Seacoast Greenway
Rockingham Planning Commission
5. Public Art on New England Trails
New England Foundation for the Arts

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 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.

Recent Successes

Mascoma River Greenway

City of Lebanon, New Hampshire

Lebanon, NH has two distinct communities, downtown Lebanon and the village of West Lebanon. A group formed this year to find a non-motorized pathway that can connect their two villages, helping the town feel more unified. The Mascoma River flows through both villages and makes for a natural greenway corridor. The Mascoma River Greenway Coalition has been working with the City to plan where such a greenway could go and then how to make the greenway a reality.

The success this year has been the opening of the westernmost ½-mile stretch of the Northern Rail Trail. It parallels two busy roads and links with the community hospital. A connector trail has also been built that leads from near the hospital to the rail trail, and will get pedestrians and bicyclists closer to downtown Lebanon.

“This is the best thing that has happened for trails in Hanover!”

- Nancy Collier, Board Member-
Hanover Conservation Council

Mink Brook Bridge

Hanover Conservation Council

Along the Mink Brook Preserve, a new amenity connects the two halves of this 113-acre natural area, enabling walkers and nature lovers to easily explore both sides of the brook.

The Hanover Conservation Council’s plan to construct a bridge across the brook

Current Projects

1. Lamprey River: Extending Protection Upstream

Location: The 34-mile upstream portion of the Lamprey River flows through the towns of Northwood, Deerfield, Candia and Raymond in south-central NH, just beyond the seacoast region.

Congressional District: 1

Project Partner: Lamprey River Watershed Association

NPS Contact: Lelia Mellen

Project Goal

State protected river, with 34 new miles added to the current 13.5 miles of state and federally protected downstream portion of the Lamprey River. With designation comes recognition and education of the resource, coupled hopefully with land protection, riverine improvements, recreation access and more.

“The Rivers & Trails Program has been a key partner in developing the East Coast Greenway through New Hampshire. They provide valuable technical assistance on issues of trail design and management, as well as adding the clout of the National Park Service with public and private sector partners.”

-- Scott Bogle

Rockingham Planning Commission

2. Mascoma River Greenway

Location: Lebanon, NH

Congressional District: 2

Project Partner: City of Lebanon, NH

NPS Contact: Lelia Mellen

Project Goal

Improving and opening the 4+ miles of the Northern Rail Trail through

Lebanon. Some of this distance will be a rail-trail, while some might have to be rail with trail.

3. Newfound Lake Pathways

Location: Newfound Lake, in central NH

Congressional District: 2

Project Partner: Newfound Lake Pathway Committee

NPS Contact: Lelia Mellen

Project Goal

An 18-mile multi-use pathway around the perimeter of Newfound Lake, NH's fourth largest lake and one of cleanest/healthiest. The region is a 4-season outdoor recreational area.

4. New Hampshire Seacoast Greenway

Location: The New Hampshire Seacoast Greenway will go through the seven New Hampshire Seacoast towns of: Seabrook, Hampton Falls, Hampton, North Hampton, Rye, Greenland, and Portsmouth

Congressional District: 1

Project Partner: Rockingham Planning Commission

NPS Contact: Lelia Mellen

Project Goal

Completion of the New Hampshire Seacoast Greenway rail trail, linking the East Coast Greenway through New Hampshire.



New Hampshire Seacoast Greenway

Recent Successes cont.

was realized in 2009 through the help of many volunteers and the expert bridge design and leadership of Tahawus Trails, Inc. The Mink Brook Bridge is shown under construction below.



Constructing Mink Brindge

5. Public Art on New England Trails

Location: Great Barrington and Fitchburg MA; Littleton NH; Waterville ME
Congressional Districts: MA -1, NH-1
Project Partner: New England Foundation for the Arts
NPS Contact: Charles Tracy

Project Goal

Public art on community trails and new stewards for conservation.

New Hampshire Seacoast Greenway

East Coast Greenway Alliance

The New Hampshire Seacoast Greenway spent 2009 strengthening the organization and building the case for this 17-mile off-road route that will be New Hampshire's link with the East Coast Greenway. The Advisory Committee completed a Conceptual Design and Implementation Plan, created a Strategic Plan and worked through a Community Benefit Model to show how the greenway will link to many different community resources and be an asset across the sectors of tourism, environmental improvement, safe routes to school, healthy recreation and business location.

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

3411 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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