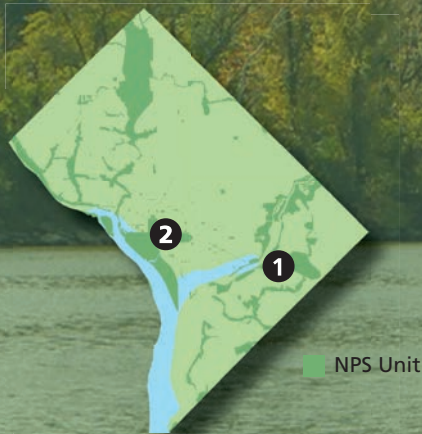




District of Columbia News



Paddlers, from the Campus Outdoor Clubs Initiative, explore the Potomac.
Photo: NPS

PROJECTS, INITIATIVES, AND PARTNERS 2013

CURRENT PROJECTS

1. "Sacred Grounds"
National Wildlife Federation, Greater Washington DC Interfaith Power and Light
2. September 11th National Memorial Trail
September 11th National Memorial Trail Alliance

REGIONAL INITIATIVES

1. Anacostia River Watershed
National Capital Parks East (NACE), Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail, Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail, Environmental Protection Agency, USDA, District Department of the Environment, United States Fish and Wildlife Service
2. Healthy Parks Healthy People Greater Washington Area: Park Prescriptions
NACE, George Washington Memorial Parkway, Chesapeake & Ohio Canal National Historical Park, Rock Creek Park, National Mall & Memorial Parks, President's Park, Children's National Medical Center, D.C. Department of Health, D.C. Primary Care Association, National Association of Community Health Centers, National Environmental Education Foundation, Unity Health Care

Find out more about each project starting on page 2.

Regional Initiatives

Healthy Parks, Healthy People Greater Washington Area

On September 23, 2012, the National Park Service (NPS), National Capital Region kicked off the Healthy Parks Healthy People Greater Washington Area Initiative in front of the Lincoln Memorial. Dr. Robert Zarr, past President of the DC Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, wrote the first DC Park Prescription to third graders from Neval Thomas Elementary School in DC. They were the first to walk the National Mall and Memorial Parks' TRACK Trail which is the first of 13 planned TRACK Trails in the Greater Washington National Parks. National Mall and Memorial Parks Superintendent Robert Vogel and Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park Superintendent Kevin Brandt joined Dr. Zarr to celebrate NPS and local health providers' efforts to implement the Healthy Parks Healthy People Greater Washington Area Initiative.

ABOUT US

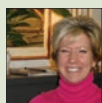
The Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance (RTCA) Program is the community assistance arm of the National Park Service. RTCA staff provides technical assistance to community groups and local, state, and federal government agencies working to protect natural areas and water resources and enhance close-to-home outdoor recreation opportunities. We help communities plan, organize partnerships, and achieve on-the-ground success on projects they initiate.

We're Here For You.

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



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2012 Nationwide Partnership Success

2,154	Miles of Trail Developed
1,074	Miles of River Conserved
70,385	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™

Recent Successes cont.

Healthy Parks Healthy People Greater Washington Area is a NPS initiative working with partners to encourage people to enjoy parks and public lands for their physical and mental well-being. Since 2004, the NPS, National Capital Region (NCR) has been working on health related projects to connect healthcare providers and their patients with parks and public lands to expand and strengthen the fight against obesity and reconnect youth and families with their natural environment.



Dr. Robert Zarr presents an official prescription for outdoor activity to third graders from Neval Thomas Elementary School. Photo: NPS

Current Projects

1. "Sacred Grounds"

Project Partners: National Wildlife Federation, Greater Washington DC Interfaith Power and Light
NPS Contact: Christopher Niewold
Wards: 6, 7, 8

Project Goal

Work with partners to develop a "toolkit" for greater Washington, D.C. houses of faith that will help create a multi-denomination Sacred "Green Corridor" in the greater Washington, D.C. area. The Green Corridor toolkit will help community centers and houses of faith transform their lawns into certified nature areas, local habitats, and places of honor and worship.

NPS Role

Initiate and facilitate discussion among partner groups and communities of faith to create a concept plan for the development and implementation of a toolkit for transformation.

2. September 11th National Memorial Trail

Project Partner: September 11th National Memorial Trail Alliance
RTCA Contact: Peggy Pings
Location: Seven state triangle including Shanksville, PA (Flight 93 crash site), New York City (World Trade Center), Washington DC (Pentagon)
Wards: DC - 2, 3, 5, 6

Project Goal

A 1,100-mile hiking, biking and driving trail physically connecting the three national memorials commemorating the tragic events that occurred in 2001.

NPS Role

Assist with implementing strategies for board development and public awareness.