



New York News



■ NPS Unit
★ State Capital



Bronx youth paddle Harlem River at the Harlem River Festival. Photo: NPS

PROJECTS AND PARTNERS 2013

CURRENT PROJECTS

- 1. Bronx Harlem Urban Waters Federal Partnership**
Harlem River Working Group, Bronx River Alliance
- 2. Finger Lakes and Erie Canal Regional Water Trails**
Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor, Womens Rights National Historical Park, Finger Lakes Land Trust and community partners
- 3. Harlem River Greenway**
Harlem River Working Group
- 4. Hyde Park Healthy Trails**
Town of Hyde Park, Roosevelt Vanderbilt National Historic Site
- 5. Jamaica Bay Greenway**
Regional Plan Association, Gateway National Recreation Area, NYC Department of Parks and Recreation & Department of Transportation, and the Jamaica Bay Greenway Coalition
- 6. Kinderhook - Stuyvesant - Stockport Trail**
Columbia Land Conservancy, Martin Van Buren National Historic Site
- 7. Kingston Rail Trail Connections**
Kingston Land Trust
- 8. September 11th National Memorial Trail**
September 11th National Memorial Trail Alliance

Find out more about each project starting on page 2.

Recent Successes

Kinderhook-Stockport-Stuyvesant Link Trail Opens

Volunteers opened the 1.5-mile Dutch Farming Heritage Trail linking Martin Van Buren NHS with the Columbia County Historical Society's 1737 Luykas Van Alen House. The ribbon-cutting drew over 75, including the scout troop who will help the Kinderhook Trail Committee maintain the trail. The trail traverses 3 Dutch farms; one from the 1700s, one from the 1800s, and Roxbury Farm, a 1000-member, world-class community supported agriculture network (CSA) operated by Dutch-born Jean-Paul Courtens and his wife, Jody. Roxbury Farm occupies parts of Van Buren's historic farmlands, and Jean-Paul notes important similarities between Roxbury's "modern" biodynamic farming and Van Buren's documented farming practices in the 1850s - anchoring today's working landscape even more richly in history and tradition. New history was also made: at the end of the inaugural hike, NPS Ranger Jim McKay was able to welcome the very first park visitors to arrive at Martin Van Buren NHS by trail.

"RTCA's help with everything from design questions to planning strategy is moving the project forward, and we know we're learning from good on-the-ground experience."

- Mike Kipp, Kinderhook Trail Committee chair and Town Councilman

Current Projects

1. Bronx-Harlem Urban Waters Federal Partnership

Project Partners: Harlem River Working Group, Bronx River Alliance
RTCA Contact: Jerry Willis
Location: Bronx and Harlem Rivers, New York City
Congressional Districts: NY - 13, 15, 16, 17

Project Goal

A continuous greenway along both sides of Bronx and Harlem Rivers; implementation of river restoration projects aimed at improving the ecological functions of the rivers.

RTCA Role

Lead the Urban Waters Federal Partnership in determining and directing federal resources to address locally identified needs and priorities.

2. Finger Lakes and Erie Canalway Regional Water Trails

Project Partners: Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor, Womens Rights National Historic Park, Finger Lakes Land Trust and community partners
RTCA Contact: Karl Beard
Location: Primarily Seneca, Cayuga and Tompkins Counties, NY
Congressional District: NY - 23, 24, 27

Project Goal

Improve public access to waterways in the Finger Lakes region, enhance community access as well as enabling an end-to-end paddling experience in each of the 11 Finger Lakes - - and eventually extending statewide via the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor.

RTCA Role

Organize a regional water trail working group; develop shared vision and design standards; help organize outreach events; implement model launch site designs.



Paddling on Honeoye Lake, in New York's Finger Lakes. Photo: Jim Kersting

3. Harlem River Greenway

Project Partner: Harlem River Working Group
RTCA Contact: Jerry Willis
Location: Bronx/Manhattan
Congressional Districts: NY - 10, 13, 15

Project Goal

Creation of a continuous greenway along both sides of Harlem River, the implementation of restoration projects aimed at improving the ecological functions of the river and new public access points for recreational boaters.

RTCA Role

Facilitate community outreach/ involvement, assist leveraging funds, organizational development and capacity building.



Bronx residents dance to Zumba for "Picture Yourself Healthy in a Park Day" at Roberto Clemente State Park, a key destination on the Harlem River Greenway. Photo: Bronx Health REACH

4. Hyde Park Healthy Trails

Project Partners: Town of Hyde Park, Roosevelt Vanderbilt National Historic Site
RTCA Contact: Karl Beard
Location: Town of Hyde Park, NY
Congressional District: NY - 19

Project Goal

Increased use of the existing Hyde Park Trails, creation of new park-to-community linkages, and a town-wide plan for future trails and recreational facilities.

RTCA Role

Assist with three community trail program / events; help to implement first phases of park trails master plan



Hyde Park Trails maintenance day. Photo: NPS

Current Projects



Jamaica Bay Greenway partners assess the feasibility of a bike & pedestrian underpass connecting city and national park land. Photo: Regional Plan Association

5. Jamaica Bay Greenway

Project Partners: Regional Plan Association, Gateway National Recreation Area, NYC Department of Parks & Recreation & Department of Transportation, and the Jamaica Bay Greenway Coalition
RTCA Contact: Le'alani Schaumburg
Location: Brooklyn & Queens
Congressional Districts: NY - 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12

Project Goal

A safe, cohesive, accessible, and user-friendly route that attracts and transports visitors and nearby residents to city and national park land, the waterfront, and the unique resources at Jamaica Bay, and connects to the broader bicycle and pedestrian networks.

RTCA Role

Assist in designing and conducting a public involvement and outreach process. Continue to develop strong community and interagency partnerships and pursue avenues of funding for continued outreach and project implementation.

6. Kinderhook - Stuyvesant - Stockport Trail

Project Partners: Columbia Land Conservancy, Martin Van Buren National Historic Site
RTCA Contact: Karl Beard
Location: Columbia County, NY
Congressional District: NY - 19

Project Goal

A five-mile, multi-use trail system linking the Martin Van Buren National Historic Site to the communities of Kinderhook, Stuyvesant, and Stockport.

RTCA Role

Help partners with community outreach and volunteer-led improvements to key sections of the trail.

7. Kingston Rail Trail Connections

Project Partner: Kingston Land Trust
RTCA Contact: Karl Beard
Location: Kingston, NY
Congressional District: NY - 19

Project Goal

A network of up to 6 miles of urban rail trails and complete streets linking neighborhoods to community gardens, public parks, waterways, and schools.

RTCA Role

Help expand public engagement through a community planning workshop and trail improvement projects; help engage youth groups and other partners to undertake ongoing trail maintenance.

8. 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), and Washington, DC (Pentagon)
Congressional District: NY - 10

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.

RTCA Role

Facilitate determination of trail route through New York City and assist in the development of an interim Strategic Plan to improve organizational capacity and ensure quality trail management.



The Dutch Farming Heritage Trail linking Martin Van Buren NHS with Columbia County Historical Society's 1737 Luykas Van Alen House. Photo: NPS

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



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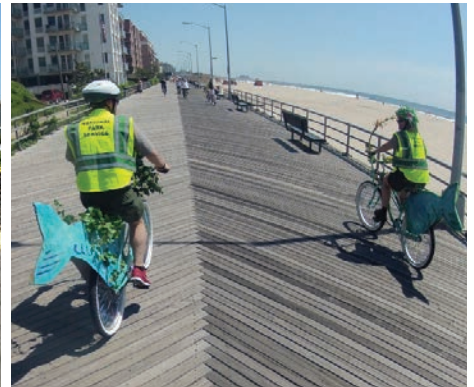
Recent Successes cont.

Jamaica Bay Greenway Partners Prioritize Resiliency in the Wake of Hurricane Sandy

It was a promising start to 2012 for partners of the Jamaica Bay Greenway (JBG), who received two grants from the Federal Transit Administration Paul S. Sarbanes Transit in Parks Program - one to conduct community outreach in the Brooklyn & Queens neighborhoods north of the Belt Parkway, and the other to enhance bike and pedestrian access and safety to several National Park Service and New York City park sites at Jamaica Bay. This momentous start has become critical to responding to the devastation that Hurricane Sandy brought to the Greenway and its neighboring communities in late October.

The Greenway's greatest loss from Sandy was in its route through the Rockaway Peninsula, where 4 miles of the historic Rockaway Beach Boardwalk was torn to pieces. The Boardwalk has been a source of community pride for decades, providing a nostalgic corridor for visitors and residents alike to enjoy the vistas and activities of Rockaway Beach.

As the National Park Service and City of New York progress towards the recovery of their impacted lands at Jamaica Bay, JBG Partners will continue to work toward completing and improving the Greenway route, with a greater emphasis on aligning with neighboring communities' plans for recovery and resiliency.



Rockaway Beach Boardwalk before and after Hurricane Sandy. Top left & right: the Rockaway Waterfront Alliance 1st Annual Rockaway Bike Parade, May 2012. Photo: NPS
Bottom: the Boardwalk at Beach 102nd Street, November 2012. Photo: Regional Plan Association