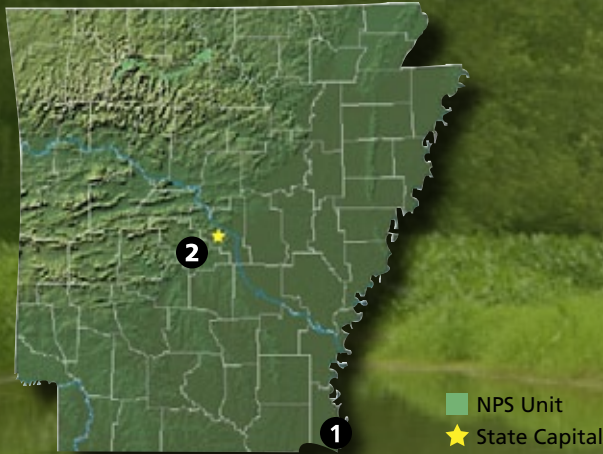




Arkansas News



Mississippi River Connections and Collaborative Corridor

PROJECTS AND PARTNERS 2011

1. Mississippi River Trail & Collaborative Support
Mississippi River Trail, Inc.
2. North Little Rock Active Living
Active Transportation Trail System
City of North Little Rock

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.

Current Projects

1. Mississippi River Trail & Collaborative Support

Project Partner: Mississippi River Trail, Inc.

RTCA Contacts: David Thompson

Location: Headwaters of Mississippi River in Minnesota to Gulf of Mexico, New Orleans

Congressional District(s): AR-1, 4; IA-2, 4; IL-4, 12, 16, 17, 19; KY-1; LA-1, 2, 3, 5, 6; MN-2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8; MO-1, 2, 3, 8, 9; MS-1, 2, 3; TN-7, 8, 9; WI-3

Project Goal

Through connections with 18 National Parks and Trails, build a collaborative partnership that highlights and enhances 3,000 miles of land and water trail and 30,000 acres of open space along the entire Mississippi River corridor.

RTCA Role

Provide support and services, including facilitation, research and coordination to the Mississippi River Parks and Trails Collaboration to help partners showcase the Mississippi River as a valuable national natural resource and recreation corridor. RTCA services will enhance local, state, regional, and national efforts to: first, protect and preserve the Mississippi River and the Mississippi River Trail as a national landscape; and second, demonstrate the impact of partnership development by and between National Park Service superintendents and other public and private partners, including the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service refuge managers, Departments of Natural Resources in the ten-state region, as well as organizations such as the Mississippi River Network Biodiversity Project, The Conservation Fund, and Confluence Greenway.

We're Here For You.

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



David Thomson
402-661-1570
dave_thomson@nps.gov

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 Projects cont.

2. North Little Rock Active Living/Active Transportation Trail System

Project Partner: City of North Little Rock
RTCA Contact: David Thomson
Location: Community-wide trail system for North Little Rock
Congressional District(s): AR-2

Project Goal:

Develop 40 miles of interconnected trail system and protect or enhance 2,000 acres of parks and open space.

RTCA Role:

Assist the City of North Little Rock's Bicycle Friendly Community Committee with community outreach to produce a master plan that addresses active living and active transportation.

Focus on assistance with the following key tasks: 1) document and catalog existing efforts, facilities, and resources; 2) identify gaps in trail systems and routes to increase access across the community; 3) identify, quantify, and prioritize projects for future development; 4) provide a road map for organizational development to support ongoing management of programs and resources; and 5) engage a broad group of partners in this process, including city departments, the League of American Bicyclists, the Arkansas Highway Department, and the Regional Health System.

“The Rivers & Trails program keeps vibrant by adapting and refocusing efforts in response to the needs of the communities served.”

- Terry Eastin, Executive Director, Mississippi River Trail, Inc.

