



Kansas News



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Trails are for fun AND transportation

PROJECTS AND PARTNERS 2010

1. Landon & Flint Hills Nature Trails
Project Partner: Kanza Rail-Trails Conservancy, Inc.
2. WAM-SAG-MAN Trail
Project Partner: Wamego Community Foundation

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 Successes

Covered Bridge Opens on the Big Blue Rail Trail

Marshall County Connections, a local volunteer group in the Marysville, recently completed and opened the red roof covered bridge on the 12-mile Big Blue Rail-Trail along with the first two miles of the trail. "I love the covered bridge. I think it adds an incredible amount of interest to the trail," said Marshall County Connections' board member Maureen Crist, Marysville. "It's kind of a fun surprise when you come around the corner and there it is." The group is already planning the design of the next bridge and plan to be working on it this coming year.

The trail was funded through private donations and a grant from the non-profit Sunflower Foundation, an organization that promotes health in Kansas. The trail will follow the Big Blue River to the Nebraska state line where it will connect with the Homestead Corridor Rail Trail, which will extend to Lincoln, Nebraska. The Marysville area is famous for being a major stop-off and river crossing for multiple historical pioneer trails, including the California, Oregon, and Pony Express Trails.

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.."

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. Landon & Flint Hills Nature Trails

Project Partner: Kanza Rail-Trails Conservancy, Inc.

RTCA Contact: Mary Hanson
Location: The Flint Hills of Kansas Congressional District(s): 1, 2, 3

Project Goal:

Complete the Landon section of the Flint Hills Nature Trails.

RTCA Role:

Assist the Kanza Rail-Trails Conservancy with completing the development of the rail banked land through advocacy training, coordination of fundraising, and team building between communities along the future trail.

2. WAM-SAG-MAN Trail

Project Partner: WAM-SAG-MAN Trail Committee (Wamego Comm. Fdn.)

RTCA Contact: Karen Anderson
Location: Pottawatomie County Congressional District(s): 1, 2

Project Goal:

Develop 16 miles of bicycle and pedestrian trail, connecting Wamego, St. George, and Manhattan, KS.

RTCA Role:

Assist the local trail committee with identifying issues, and help to resolve those issues. Identify some funding sources.



...And I, I took the road less traveled by