

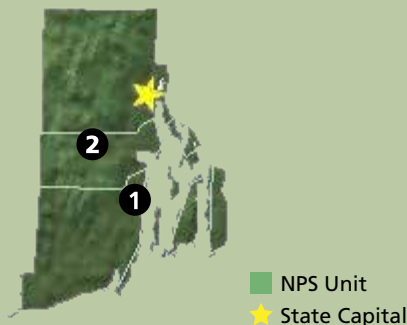


Rhode Island News



Tillinghast Pond Preserve in West Greenwich, Rhode Island. Photo: NPS

PROJECTS AND PARTNERS 2014



CURRENT PROJECTS

1. **Cocumscussoc State Park Trail Development**
North Kingstown YMCA
2. **RI Build the Buzz**
RI Land & Water Partnership

Find out more about each project starting on page 2.

ABOUT US

The Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance program is the community assistance arm of the National Park Service. Program 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

Tillinghast Pond Management Area Trail Development

From 2010 to 2011, NPS staff helped The Nature Conservancy (TNC) to launch sustainable trail development on this 2,000-acre preserve in West Greenwich. In 2013, TNC and Appalachian Mountain Club (AMC) volunteers completed a four-mile connection to Wickaboxet Management Area, thus completing a 10-mile outer loop trail.

Working alongside TNC and AMC volunteers were the Coventry Boy Scouts, students from The Greene School (environmental charter high school), and corporate volunteers from Schneider Electric. A spur trail further connects both properties to the Pratt Conservation Area, protected by the West Greenwich Land Trust.



A bog bridge constructed by volunteers in Tillinghast Pond Preserve.
Photo: Tim Mooney

We're Here For You!

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



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2013 Nationwide Partnership Success

1,357 Miles of Trail Developed

736 Miles of River Conserved

20,270 Acres of Open Space and Parkland Protected

Find more information online at www.nps.gov/rtca



EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA™

Recent Successes cont.

Veterans Memorial Park Trail Improvements

Building on the results and momentum from two years of NPS assistance, the Town of Barrington received \$100,000 from Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management for further trail improvements in this 100-acre park. A landscape architect and wetlands biologist are designing a new trail connection to the East Bay Bike Path and from the YMCA to an adjacent shopping center. Both will be constructed in 2014.

Current Projects

1. Cocumscussoc State Park Trail Development

Project Partner: North Kingstown YMCA

NPS Contact: John Monroe
Location: North Kingstown
Congressional District: RI - 2

Project Goal

Create an initial 3-mile loop trail in a 300-acre undeveloped state park situated in a suburban area. Establish the park as a community resource for non-motorized transportation and recreation.

NPS Role

Advise fledgling trail committee members on sustainable trail routing and construction techniques, signage, public engagement, volunteer work events, and celebrations.

2. Rhode Island Build the Buzz

Project Partner: Rhode Island Land and Water Partnership

NPS Contact: John Monroe
Location: Statewide
Congressional Districts: RI - 1, 2



Proud volunteers from Schneider Electric, working on the Tillinghast Pond Management Area Trail. Photo: Tim Mooney

Project Goal

Promote Rhode Island land and water trails through events, more interactive online presence, and partnerships.

NPS Role

Assist with campaign to build knowledge and excitement around Rhode Island land and water trails; help to expand the network of trails on www.ExploreRI.org.

“The Conservancy had a basic vision for the Tillinghast Pond trail system early on, but it was the NPS that helped us write the playbook. Working with partners, engaging volunteers, taking the time to get the trail corridors right – it’s all in there.”

-Tim Mooney, Preserves Manager, The Nature Conservancy-Rhode Island