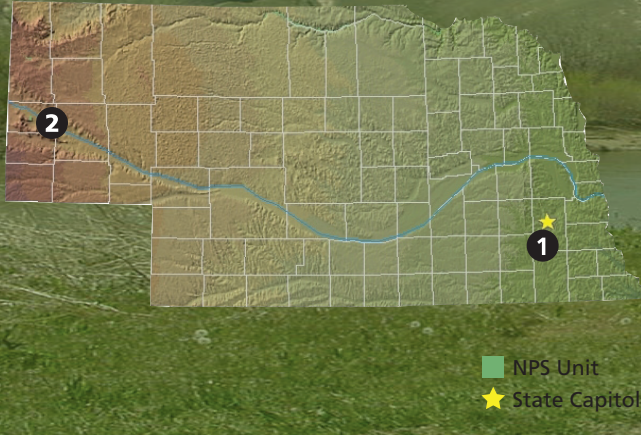




# Nebraska News



A relaxing view along the river.

## PROJECTS AND PARTNERS 2010

1. Crete Youth in Governance Bikeway  
Project Partner: University of Nebraska Extension
2. Scottsbluff Community Trails  
Project Partners: City of Scottsbluff

## 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

### Putting the Blue Back Into the Big Blue River

The vision for the Beatrice Riverfront Development was to make the Big Blue River blue again. The goal was not only to clean up the river, but to also build economic development and increased recreation for

*“The goal of NPS involvement is to bring tangible change to communities.”*

*- Charlie Stockman,*

*NPS RTCA Program Manager*

the city of Beatrice. Partners included Homestead National Monument of America, the Chamber of Commerce, Main Street Beatrice, the Public Works Department, Keep Beatrice Beautiful, and private citizens worked with RTCA to develop an initial plan for redevelopment.

A planning Charrette was held in July 2009 with the AIA Team providing engineers and architects who assessed ideas and provided professional expertise specifically for Beatrice and the Big Blue River. The report refined the community’s vision and proposed a plan of action for improving the city on multiple issues. Next was a river cleanup where volunteers got very dirty removing garbage and car tires from the river, but made it a fun event!

## We're Here For You.

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



**Karen Anderson**  
402-661-1542  
karen\_anderson@nps.gov



**Mary Hanson**  
402-661-1554  
mary\_hanson@nps.gov



**Dave Thomson**  
402-661-1570  
dave\_thomson@nps.gov

## 2009 Nationwide Partnership Success

3,367 Miles of Trail Developed

2095 Miles of River Conserved

57,951 Acres of Open Space and Parkland Protected

97% Percentage of Community Partners Satisfied

Find more information online at  
[www.nps.gov/rtca](http://www.nps.gov/rtca)



EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA™

# Current Projects

1. Crete Youth in Governance Bikeway  
Project Partner: University of Nebraska Extension  
RTCA Contact: Mary Hanson  
Location: Crete  
Congressional District(s): 1

### Project Goal:

Students will work to develop a new recreation trail. Students will gain experience on government procedures and how to successfully complete a planning process and be exposed to potential career opportunities in recreation, government, and planning.

### RTCA Role:

To assist high school student as they learn how to plan a trail project. Assist them to understand the process governing bodies and citizens use to accomplish community projects.

2. Scottsbluff Community Trails Project  
Project Partner: City of Scottsbluff  
RTCA Contact: Mary Hanson  
Location: City of Scottsbluff  
Congressional District(s): 3

### Project Goal:

Develop up to ten miles of new trails that will provide alternative transportation in Scottsbluff and to link these trails with the existing Monument Valley Pathway Trail and existing trails in Gering and Terrytown.

### RTCA Role:

Advise the Scottsbluff parks department and local residents on how create a comprehensive community trail plan. Determine the best paths that will link Monument Valley Pathway with trails throughout the city and to link with trails in Gering and Terrytown. Provide information on how to include trails in existing retail and residential areas. Coordinate plans and funding with the Monument Valley Riverfront Projects.

### Nebraska Adopt-a-Stream

The RTCA program is also working with the Nebraska Wildlife Federation on Nebraska Adopt-a-stream programs.



Children playing at new Trails of Fun Playground at Riverside Park, Scottsbluff