



# Maine News



Fun Run on the Sebago to the Sea Trail. NPS photo.

## PROJECTS AND PARTNERS 2010

### CURRENT PROJECTS

- 1. Sebago to the Sea**  
Sebago to the Sea Coalition
- 2. Bath Trails**  
City of Bath
- 3. Biddeford River Walk**  
Biddeford Walk Coalition
- 4. Highland Farm**  
York Land Trust
- 5. Robert's Farm**  
Western Foothills Land Trust
- 6. Trenton Village Connector Trails**  
Friends of Acadia
- 7. Androscoggin Greenway**  
Androscoggin Land Trust
- 8. Boothbay Region Community Trail**  
Boothbay Region Community Trail

Find out more about each project starting on page 2.

## Recent Successes

### Residents Launch Trails Master Plan in Bath

The small city of Bath, which lies along the banks of the Kennebec River, has big ideas for a system of trails that will knit the town together. Bath Trails, a committee of the City and Kennebec Estuary Land Trust, will connect historic walking tours, mountain biking routes, forest paths, a new riverwalk, and other trails. At a public meeting, residents mapped out the existing and dreamed of trails

*RTCA carries out the natural resource conservation and outdoor recreation mission of the National Park Service in communities across America.*

to launch a trails master plan. Bath Trails' first priority is the construction of Whiskeag Trail, connecting the YMCA to the Kennebec River. Besides connecting to the "Y", the trail also links athletic fields, the middle school, two cemeteries, Whiskeag Creek, two land trust preserves, and neighborhoods.

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### 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. Sebago to the Sea

Location: Standish, Windham, Gorham, Westbrook, Portland and Falmouth, Maine

Congressional District(s): 1

Project Partner: Sebago to the Sea Coalition

NPS Contact: Julie Isbill

### Project Goal

Create a contiguous 30-mile recreational trail from Sebago Lake to Casco Bay connecting trails in Standish, Windham, Gorham, Westbrook, Portland and Falmouth. This project will entail connecting existing trails with new trails to establish a route for hiking, and in some areas biking, for residents and visitors. The trail will follow the Presumpscot River in many sections and will incorporate the Mountain Division rail with trail as well as the historic Cumberland and Oxford Canal Towpath.

## 2. Bath Trails

Location: Bath, Maine

Congressional District(s): 1

Project Partner: City of Bath

NPS Contact: Julie Isbill

### Project Goal

Inventory, create, maintain, and promote 20 to 30 miles of multi-use trails through the city connecting parks, neighborhoods, downtown, schools, the YMCA and the Kennebec River.

## 3. Biddeford River Walk

Location: Biddeford, Maine

Congressional District(s): 1

Project Partner: Biddeford River Walk Coalition

NPS Contact: Burnham Martin

### Project Goal

Create the Biddeford River Walk, an urban trail along the Saco River in Biddeford's mill district. In the future the trail will link across the river to Saco, to green spaces along the river, and to the East Coast Greenway.



Whiskeag Creek

## 4. Highland Farm

Location: York, Maine

Congressional District(s): 1

Project Partner: York Land Trust

NPS Contact: Burnham Martin

### Project Goal

Create a system of conservation areas and appropriately-located and sensitively-designed trails on the Highland Farm property.

## 5. Robert's Farm

Location: Norway, Maine

Congressional District(s): 2

Project Partner: Western Foothills Land Trust

NPS Contact: Burnham Martin

### Project Goal

Organize and facilitate the Western Foothills Land Trust's Trail committee,

develop a trail stewardship program, assist with permitting for trail construction, and help with management planning for the system.

## 6. Trenton Village Connector Trails

Location: Trenton, Maine, 12 miles from the entrance to Acadia National Park

Congressional District(s): 2

Project Partner: Friends of Acadia

NPS Contact: Burnham Martin

### Project Goal

Develop a trail system connecting the Acadia Gateway Center to 217 acres of conservation lands and other locations in Trenton.

# Current Projects

## 7. Androscoggin Greenway

Location: Trails and land conservation along the Androscoggin River in Jay and Livermore Falls, Maine  
Congressional District(s): 2  
Project Partner: Androscoggin Land Trust  
NPS Contact: Julie Isbill

### Project Goal

Plan and build five miles of multi-use trail along the river; conserve two parcels of land totalling 471 acres; and develop and install interpretive signs at key points.

## 8. Boothbay Region Community Trail

Location: Boothbay and Boothbay Harbor, Maine  
Congressional District(s): 1  
Project Partner: Boothbay Region Community Trail Project  
NPS Contact: Burnham Martin

### Project Goal

Develop a 9.55-mile system of trails and on-road routes to provide car-free travel through the communities of the Boothbay peninsula.

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

- Charlie Stockman, RTCA Program Manager

# Recent Successes cont.

## Trail Linkages will Connect Portland-Area Communities!

The idea had been discussed many times—let’s create a trail that connects Sebago Lake to Casco Bay! In 2008 a coalition of land trusts, towns, trail groups and others began meeting to make this idea come true. By linking together many existing trails, the Sebago to the Sea Coalition envisions a 28-mile continuous trail connecting six communities in the greater Portland area. Some sections of the trail, like former RTCA project the Mountain Division Trail, will be available for bicycle commuting, while others will be primarily for walking and mountain biking.



The Born Learning Trail

## 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](http://www.nps.gov/rtca)



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