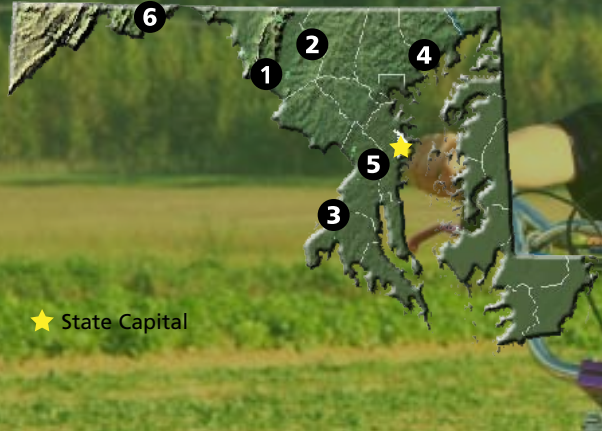




Maryland News



★ State Capital



Boys ride along the future route of the North Point Heritage Greenway Trail in southern Baltimore County. NPS Photo.

PROJECTS AND PARTNERS 2010

CURRENT PROJECTS

- 1. Antietam Creek Water Trail**
Antietam Creek Watershed Alliance
- 2. Frederick County Green Infrastructure**
Frederick County Division of Public Works
- 3. Indian Head Rail-Trail and Ecotourism**
Town of Indian Head
- 4. North Point Heritage Greenway Trail**
North Point Community Coordinating Council
- 5. Town of Cheverly Green Plan**
Town of Cheverly Green Infrastructure Steering Committee
- 6. Trail Towns along the C&O Canal Towpath**
Progress Fund Trail Towns Program
Chesapeake & Ohio Canal National Historical Park

Find out more about each project starting on page 2.

ABOUT US

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

Cheverly Green Infrastructure Plan

Town of Cheverly, Maryland

The Washington, DC suburban community of Cheverly teamed up with RTCA staff to develop and implement a green infrastructure map and plan for the town. This plan will guide restoration, preservation, and sustenance of the community's natural environment through a community participatory process, balancing the fulfillment of human needs with the preservation of environmental functions and values. The Town Council has appointed a steering committee of key civic and neighborhood groups to prepare the "Green Plan". Committee members are considering a range of actions to address storm water management, reduce impervious surfaces, create a community-wide network of trails, and sustain natural habitat.

Advancing Land Conservation

Frederick County and the Lower Eastern Shore

Two local workshops have successfully focused the efforts and advanced the effectiveness of conservation organizations in Frederick County and the Lower Eastern Shore. The Defenders of Wildlife and Chesapeake RTCA staff conducted a biodiversity land conservation workshop for the Lower Shore Land Trust.

The workshop, designed specifically for the Land Trust's staff, guided participants through a process to prioritize the most important lands for protection based on the organization's mission and the shared regional vision articulated by key stakeholders.

Recent Successes cont.

In the second workshop, the Potomac Conservancy and RTCA staff convened more than 20 conservation organizations working in Frederick County. Focused discussions explored conservation goals, assessed organizational capacity, found shared common goals, and identified key areas for collaboration.

Current Projects

1. Antietam Creek Water Trail

Location: The Antietam Creek Water Trail would create approximately 44 water trail miles from the confluence of the East & West Branches of Antietam Creek to connect with the Potomac River Water Trail at its mouth.

Congressional District: 6

Project Partner: Antietam Creek Watershed Alliance

NPS Contact: Christopher Niewold

Project Goal

Establish a water trail that provides new recreational opportunities and sparks watershed restoration actions.

2. Frederick County Green Infrastructure

Location: Frederick County, Maryland

Congressional District: 6

Project Partner: Frederick County

Department of Public Works

NPS Contact: Wink Hastings

Project Goal

A green infrastructure plan and map delineating a network of lands important to protect natural resources and a strategy to guide both near-term and long-term implementation. The Plan is intended to inform and guide Frederick County decisions regarding conservation and management of natural resources and to more effectively address stormwater runoff.

3. Indian Head Rail-Trail Community Outreach and Strategic Plan

Location: Charles County, MD. The Indian Head Rail Trail is approximately 13 miles of paved trail traversing from White Plains to Indian Head and running along the Mattawoman Creek, a valuable watershed of the Chesapeake Bay.

Congressional District: 5

Project Partner: Town of Indian Head-

NPS Contact: Elizabeth Porter

Project Goal

Enhancements and popular use of a 13-mile rail-trail leading to increased protection for Mattawoman Creek and Potomac River viewsheds.



Current Projects cont.

4. North Point Heritage Greenway Trail

Location: North Point Peninsula in southeastern Baltimore County
Congressional District: 1
Project Partner: North Point Peninsula Community Coordinating Council
NPS Contact: Wink Hastings

Project Goal

The North Point Heritage Greenway Trail is envisioned as a multi-use trail enabling residents and visitors alike to explore the rich character of the North Point peninsula. The Trail will provide a safe, walkable route linking neighborhoods, schools and other community facilities, historic sites, and Chesapeake tidal wetlands while offering the healthy benefits of active recreation.

As a portion of the Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail, the Heritage Trail will enable users to retrace the steps of invading British troops during the Battle of Baltimore. The Trail will also connect area school children with the natural wonders of North Point State Park and Black Water Marsh.

6. Town of Cheverly Green Plan

Location: Town of Cheverly, Prince Georges County, Maryland
Congressional District: 1
Project Partner: Town of Cheverly Green Infrastructure Steering Com
NPS Contact: Wink Hastings

Project Goal (Town of Cheverly)

Develop a green infrastructure plan and strategy that preserves, conserves, restores and sustains the natural environment of Cheverly and surrounding areas as an intact and healthy ecosystems while guiding future redevelopment in a proactive and sustainable manner.

6. Trail Towns along the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Towpath

Location: Communities along the Chesapeake & Ohio Canal Towpath
Communities include: Hancock, Maryland; Williamsport, Maryland; Point of Rocks, Maryland; Brunswick, Maryland; Shepherdstown, West Virginia and Harpers Ferry, West Virginia
Congressional Districts: MD -6; PA-18; WV-2
Project Partner: Progress Fund - Trail Town Program
NPS Contact: Elizabeth Porter

Project Goal

Convene, lead and direct the communities to follow up with implementation plans and assignments. Once project leaders are established to help launch the regional initiative, funding needs to be identified to help carry out the program into the future.

We're Here For You.

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



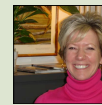
Wink Hastings

410.260.2481
WHastings@chesapeakebay.net



Chris Niewold

202.690.5153
christopher_niewold@nps.gov



Beth Porter

202.690.5169
beth_porter@nps.gov



Anne O'Neill

202.360.9715
anne_o'neill@nps.gov

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

“Our organization has been fortunate to participate in the Defenders-RTCA conservation workshop. Building our capacity as a land trust, the workshop provided an opportunity for our board, staff, and stakeholders to strengthen relationships while renewing the Board’s commitment to land conservation.”

- - Kate Patton, Executive Director, Lower Shore Land Trust.

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



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