



# Delaware News



Mispillion River Conservation

## PROJECTS & PARTNERS 2012



1. **September 11th National Memorial Trail**  
**September 11th National Memorial Trail Alliance**

Find out more about this project 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 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

### Northern Delaware Heritage and the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail

During the Revolutionary War, Generals George Washington and Jean Baptiste Donatien de Vimeur, comte de Rochambeau, led their troops on a 600+ mile march from Rhode Island to Virginia. This march resulted in the Franco-American victory over the British General Lord Cornwallis at Yorktown and, essentially, the end of the war. The troops travelled by land or river through 26 miles of Delaware. Their path, known as the Washington Rochambeau Revolutionary Route (W3R), was designated a National Historic Trail (NHT) in 2009 and a part of the East Coast Greenway. The parks and historic sites along the New Castle County, Delaware portion of the Route are connected through the Northern Delaware Heritage Network. RTCA worked with the Northern Delaware Heritage Coalition (NDHC) to help New Castle County and the Wilmington Area Planning Council formally adopt the plan for moving biking, walking, and public transit projects forward that would support improved access to Network resources, including the W3R. More broadly, RTCA assisted the W3R Superintendent in planning and facilitating a series of three strategic visioning sessions with the Washington Rochambeau Revolutionary Route Association, NDHC, and other partners throughout New England and the Mid-Atlantic that will lay the groundwork during the coming years for the Comprehensive Management Plan that is required for all NHTs.



## We're Here For You.

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



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## 2011 Nationwide Partnership Success

1,991	Miles of Trail Developed
1,925	Miles of River Conserved
33,230	Acres of Open Space and Parkland Protected
94%	Percentage of Community Partners Satisfied

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



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# Current Projects

## 1. September 11th National Memorial Trail

Project Partner: September 11th National Memorial Trail Alliance  
RTCA Contact: Peggy Pings  
Location: Seven state triangle including Shanksville, PA (Flight 93 crash site), New York City (World Trade Center), Washington DC (Pentagon).  
Congressional District: At large

### Project Goal

A 1,100-mile hiking, biking and driving trail physically connecting the three national memorials commemorating the tragic events that occurred in 2001.

### RTCA Role

Facilitate determination of trail route through Delaware and assist in the development of an interim Strategic Plan to improve upon organizational capacity and ensure quality trail management.

*“RTCA has helped bring greater visibility to the resources. Residents are excited by the prospect of cleaner water that will support ecotourism like boat trips from the internationally renowned horseshoe crab research center to Milford’s riverwalk and historic district.”*

- Bill Pike, Arborist, City of Milford Parks and Recreation Department



Celebration of the installation of a Delaware historic marker at Robinson House, one of the key stops along the W3R. Photo: Northern Delaware Heritage Coalition