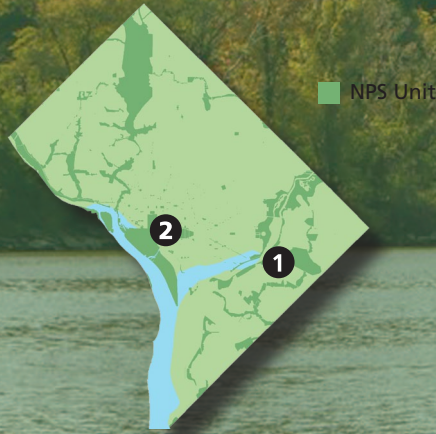




District of Columbia News



Paddlers, from the Campus Outdoor Clubs Initiative, explore the Potomac.
NPS Photo.

PROJECTS, INITIATIVES, AND PARTNERS 2012

CURRENT PROJECTS

1. Interfaith-Intercommunity Nature Gardens
Adat Shalom Reconstructionist Congregation
Groundwork Anacostia River D.C.
National Wildlife Federation
2. September 11th National Memorial Trail
September 11th National Memorial Trail Alliance

REGIONAL INITIATIVES

**Connecting Community Health Centers with
Green Spaces for Improved Wellness**
Bread for the City
Groundwork Anacostia River D.C.
National Association of Community Health Centers

Outdoor Foundation Campus Outdoor Clubs
Georgetown University
Outdoor Foundation

Park Prescriptions
Children's National Medical Center
D.C. Department of Health
D.C. Primary Care Association
National Association of Community Health Centers
National Environmental Education Foundation
Unity Health Care

Find out more about each project starting on page 2.

Regional Initiatives

Connecting Community Health Centers with Green Spaces for Improved Wellness

Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance program staff will collaborate with the National Association of Community Health Centers' (NACHC) Community HealthCorps to pilot the Healthy Communities project. The partners will work closely to develop an orientation and training for new AmeriCorps members, their immediate supervisors, and NPS local partners and staff representatives. This orientation will provide an introduction to national and local park resources and Community Health Center resources, respectively.

RTCA will provide project coordination and guidance to Community Center supervisors and AmeriCorps members for this close to home healthy recreation project linking non-traditional park users with nearby park and trail resources.

NPS RTCA Contact: Anne O'Neill

ABOUT US

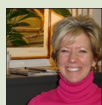
The Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance (RTCA) Program is the community assistance arm of the National Park Service. RTCA staff provides technical assistance to community groups and local, state, and federal government agencies working to protect natural areas and water resources and enhance close-to-home outdoor recreation opportunities. We help communities plan, organize partnerships, and achieve on-the-ground success on projects they initiate.

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



EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA™

Outdoor Foundation Campus Outdoor Clubs

RTCA provides coordination and support to the Outdoor Foundation's Campus Club program. This major initiative in Washington, D.C. strengthens and leverages the existing network of outdoor clubs on college campuses nationwide. Locally, the project transforms the outdoor club at Georgetown University into a more powerful hub. College students will be charged with expanding the outdoor club concept into several D.C. high schools--introducing younger peers to outdoor experiences and opportunities.

NPS RTCA Contact: Christopher Niewold

Park Prescriptions

RTCA is helping National Capital Region parks and the greater Washington, D.C. health community (doctors, community health centers, and non-profits) with the development of a Park Prescriptions program that links green spaces (national and city parks) with doctors, patients, communities, and resources. Through this program, RTCA promotes and emphasizes the interconnectedness of parks with the health and wellness of local communities. RTCA is ideally positioned to respond to the need to increase Americans' levels of physical activity to improve public health.

NPS RTCA Contact: Anne O'Neill

Current Projects

1. Interfaith-Intercommunity Nature Gardens

Project Partner: Adat Shalom Reconstructionist Congregation, Groundwork Anacostia River D.C., National Wildlife Federation
NPS Contact: Christopher Niewold

Project Goal

Work with partners to develop a "toolkit" for greater Washington, D.C. houses of faith that will help create a multi-denomination Sacred "Green Corridor" in the greater Washington, D.C. area. The Green Corridor toolkit will transform manicured and traditionally landscaped lawns of community centers and houses of faith into certified nature areas that will work to encourage congregation members to better honor the natural world and to provide a wider variety of natural habitat for native pollinators, birds, and amphibians.



Georgetown University students take local high schoolers kayaking. NPS Photo

NPS Role

Initiate and facilitate discussion among partner groups and communities of faith to create a concept plan for the development and implementation of a toolkit for transformation.

2. September 11th National Memorial Trail

Project Partner: September 11th National Memorial Trail Alliance
NPS Contact: Peggy Pings

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.

NPS Role

Facilitate determination of trail route through Washington, D.C. and assist in the development of an interim Strategic Plan to improve organizational capacity and ensure quality trail management.