



# Tennessee News



Family outing on a section of the Chattanooga Riverwalk. Photo: TPL

## PROJECTS AND PARTNERS 2012

### CURRENT PROJECT

1. **Beaman Park to Bells Bend Project**  
Beaman Park to Bells Bend Conservation Community
2. **Forked Deer River Water Trail**  
Mississippi River Corridor
3. **Tennessee Riverwalk Southside Extension**  
Hamilton County and the City of Chattanooga

### 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.

## Current Projects

### 1. Beaman Park to Bells Bend Conservation Community Project

Project Partner: Beaman Park to Bells Bend Conservation Community

NPS Contact: Alison Bullock

Location: Northwest of Nashville, Tennessee within Metropolitan Nashville/Davidson County in Scottsboro Congressional District: 5

#### Project Goal

In 2012, RTCA will continue to work with the Beaman Park to Bells Bend Conservation Community. A strategic plan was recently developed for the project, which seeks to preserve the archeological resources, historic structures, and forested acres in and around Scottsboro and Bells Bend, as well as to preserve riparian areas along the Cumberland River. Project outcomes include river conservation, open space preservation, and trail connections from Beaman Park to Bells Bend Metro Parks.

#### RTCA Role

For 2012, RTCA will continue to provide technical assistance to help implement the goals put forth in the strategic plan, and facilitate and conduct public outreach meetings.

*“RTCA has played a critical role in helping our community to strategically plan its preservation future and how to begin implementing it now.”*

Joe Ingle  
Beaman Park to Bells Bend Conservancy.

## We're Here For You.

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

**Alison Bullock**  
423.987.6128  
alison\_bullock@nps.gov

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



EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA™

# Current Projects cont.

## 2. Forked Deer River Water Trail

Project Partner: Mississippi River Corridor  
NPS Contact: Alison Bullock  
Location: Forked Deer River east of Dyersburg in the Tigrett Wildlife Management Area to the Chickasaw National Wildlife Refuge on the Mississippi River.  
Congressional District: 8

### Project Goal

The Mississippi River Corridor organization in West Tennessee is developing a blueway/water trail project that will connect the North Forked Deer River to the Mississippi River. The blueway will promote new tourism based businesses and increase recreation and education opportunities along the river. In 2011, the first new launch site began construction. RTCA will continue to work with regional partners in 2012 to establish additional access sites on the river.

### RTCA Role

RTCA is providing assistance to establish proper launch sites and open space along the river, as well as continuing to work with partners on managing and marketing the water trail.

## 3. Tennessee Riverwalk Southside Extension

Project Partner: Hamilton County and the City of Chattanooga  
NPS Contact: Alison Bullock  
Location: Chattanooga, Tennessee  
Congressional District: 3

### Project Goal

Planning for a 3-mile Riverwalk Extension is underway to connect downtown Chattanooga with the St. Elmo Community. The Lookout Mountain Conservancy anticipates that this project will facilitate connections to the Chickamauga & Chattanooga National Military Park on Lookout Mountain through the John C. Wilson Park, the Guild Trail, and Old Wauhatchee Pike. In addition to the land-based trail, a boat launch is planned for this section of the Riverwalk to provide access on the south shore of the Tennessee River Blueway, a National Recreation Trail.

### RTCA Role

RTCA will be providing planning and technical assistance to Hamilton County and the City of Chattanooga in partnership with the Trust for Public Land.



Diane Threadgill paddling along the Forked Deer River.