



New York News



After years of disuse, Dix Bridge in Schuylerville will be restored

PROJECTS AND PARTNERS 2010

CURRENT PROJECTS

1. Champlain Canalway Trail
Lakes to Locks Passage
2. East Hudson Community Trails
New York-New Jersey Trail Conference
3. Hyde Park Healthy Trails
Town of Hyde Park
4. Carr's Creek Watershed
Sidney Center Improvement Group
5. Susquehanna Headwaters River Trail
Headwaters River Trail Partnership
6. Lindenwald Connector Trail
Columbia Land Conservancy
7. Harlem River Greenway
Harlem River Working Group
8. Common Waters
Pinchot Institute for Conservation
9. Delaware River Water Trail Implementation
Delaware River Greenway Partnership

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 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

Transportation Enhancement Grant Funds Bridge Repair

The Champlain Canal extends 58 miles between Whitehall and Waterford. Many groups had an interest in making a Canalway Trail, but the project never got off the ground. RTCA staff helped assemble the Champlain Canal Trail Working Group of municipal representatives, community groups, public agencies, and regional non-profits, to help coordinate local efforts. It is beginning to pay off. During the last year, Saratoga County was awarded a Transportation Enhancement grant to restore the Dix Bridge over the Hudson River as a multi-use trail and river overlook. The Town of Halfmoon secured a Recreation Trails Program grant to extend their existing trail 1.75 miles. Over 10 miles of local Canalway Trail sections in Glens Falls and Halfmoon were designated National Recreation Trails.

“The effects of the RTCA program will be felt long after [they] move on to other assignments. [NPS] leadership was indispensable to creating the development plan for the Champlain Canal Trail and establishing the strong working relationships necessary to accomplish the task”

- Nelson Ronsonvalle, Grant Coordinator, Town of Halfmoon.

Current Projects

1. Champlain Canalway Trail

Location: Saratoga, Washington and Warren Counties, NY
Congressional District(s): 20
Project Partner: Lakes to Locks Passage
NPS Contact: Karl Beard

Project Goal

Completion of the 60-mile Champlain Canalway Trail between Waterford and Whitehall, NY.

2. East Hudson Community Trails

Location: Columbia, Dutchess, Putnam and Westchester Counties, NY
Congressional District(s): 17,18,19,20,22
Project Partner: NY-NJ Trail Conference
NPS Contact: Karl Beard

Project Goal

Connect East Hudson communities with parks and open space. Increase stewardship and recreational use of local trails and greenways.

3. Hyde Park Healthy Trails

Location: Town of Hyde Park, NY
Congressional District(s): 20
Project Partner: Town of Hyde Park
NPS Contact: Karl Beard

Project Goal

Increase use of the existing Hyde Park Trails, create new park-to-community linkages, and develop a town-wide plan for future trails and recreational facilities.

4. Carr's Creek Watershed

Location: Upper Susquehanna River basin, Delaware County, NY
Congressional District(s): 20
Project Partner: Sydney Center Improvement Group
NPS Contact: Wink Hastings

Project Goal

Prepare and implement a watershed

plan including a flood management action strategy for the Carr's Creek watershed. Plan and Action Strategy goals are to restore and protect water quality, conserve fish and wildlife habitats, restore the natural channel following devastating floods of 2006, and implementation of an action strategy for flood management through an enduring partnership.

5. Susquehanna Headwaters River Trail

Location: Broome County, NY
Congressional District(s): 22,24
Project Partner: Upper Susquehanna Coalition
NPS Contact: David Lange

Project Goal

Establish a water trail system on the upper Susquehanna River and its main tributaries.



City Parks Commissioner Adrian Benepe opens the New York City Water Trail

Current Projects

6. Lindenwald Connector Trail

Location: Town and Village of Kinderhook and Towns of Stuyvesant and Stockport, NY
Congressional District(s): 20
Project Partner: Columbia Land Conservancy, Inc.
NPS Contact: Karl Beard

Project Goal

Develop a five-mile, multi-use trail linking the Martin Van Buren National Historic Site to the communities of Kinderhook, Stuyvesant and Stockport.

7. Harlem River Greenway

Location: Bronx, NY
Congressional District(s): 15,16,17
Project Partner: Harlem River Working Group
NPS Contact: Jerry Willis

Project Goal

Create a continuous greenway along both sides of Harlem River and implement river restoration projects aimed at improving the ecological functions of the river.

8. Common Waters

Location: Counties surrounding Delaware Water Gap NRA and Upper Delaware Scenic River in PA, NY, and NJ
Congressional District(s): NJ-5; NY-

19,22; PA-10
Project Partner: Pinchot Institute for Conservation
NPS Contact: David Lange

Project Goal

Long-term conservation of the Delaware River Highlands region in New York, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey communities that surround Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area and Upper Delaware National Scenic River.

9. Delaware River Water Trail Implementation

Location: Delaware River in Bucks, Monroe, Northampton, Pike, Wayne counties (PA); Burlington, Mercer, Hunterdon, Warren, Sussex counties (NJ); Sullivan, Orange & Delaware counties (NY)
Congressional District(s): NJ-4,5,7,12; NY-19, 22; PA-8,10,11,15
Project Partner: Delaware River Greenway Partnership
NPS Contact: Julie Bell

Project Goal

Develop comprehensive signage for the Delaware River Water Trail and improved river stewardship by area youth and communities.

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

Recent Successes cont.

Local Monitoring Efforts Help in Watershed Planning

The Hamlet of Sidney Center is nestled in a picturesque valley of New York's Catskill Mountains. In recent years, residents along Carr's Creek have experienced devastating floods and discovered harmful bacteria in local drinking water wells. Under RTCA's guidance, the Sidney Center Improvement Group has responded by acquiring skills for monitoring stream health and is working towards a watershed management plan to guide restoration and preservation of important natural environments. The Izaak Walton League of America trained over 30 volunteers who assessed the condition of approximately 15 miles of streams. The data acquired will be used to prepare the watershed plan.

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



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