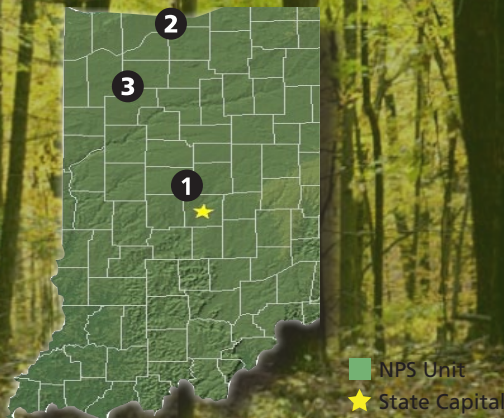




Indiana News



Greening the Crossroads Project, central Indiana, Green Infrastructure and trails!

PROJECTS AND PARTNERS 2012

CURRENT PROJECTS

1. Greening the Crossroads: Central Indiana
Central Indiana Land Trust
2. Lake Michigan Watertrail Organizational Development
Lake Michigan Water Trail Association
3. Rensselaer/Jasper County Trails System
Jasper County Economic Development Organization

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 Success

National Recreation Trail Designation for Indiana!

At a press conference held in Chicago on June 2nd, Department of Interior, Deputy Secretary, David J. Hayes announced the designation of 41 trails added to the National Recreation Trails System. The Lake Michigan Water Trail was highlighted for the implementation of a 75-mile section of shoreline spanning Chicago, Illinois to New Buffalo, Michigan.

On June 4th, by lake and by land, officials and the public came out to celebrate National Trails Day and the dedication of the Lake Michigan Water Trail at Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore's Portage Lakefront and Riverwalk.

Organized by the northwest Indiana Paddling Association, the event featured a 4-mile Sea Kayak Lake paddle and a 36-mile regional bike ride. The dedication recognized the work of partnerships between the public, private, and non-profit organizations that supported the development of the trail. The unveiling of the latest South Shore Poster, sponsored by NIPSCO, depicting the Lake Michigan Water Trail, was a perfect way for everyone to enjoy the implementation of this trail.

"I am excited to work with RTCA and the Land Trust as Morgan County explores ways to improve its access to the White River."

Joe Tutterrow, President, Morgan County Park Board

We're Here For You.

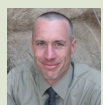
Could your project benefit from RTCA Staff Assistance? Contact us to find out.



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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™

Current Projects

1. Greening the Crossroads: Central Indiana

Project Partner: Central Indiana Land Trust

RTCA Contact: Rory Robinson

Location: Nine County area

Congressional Districts: IN - 4, 5, 6, 7

Project Goal

Completion of 15 miles of trail on the White Lick Creek Greenway, 30 miles of trail on the Brandywine Greenway/Riparian Restoration Project, and about 19 miles of a water trail and riparian project on White River Blueway. These projects will define a process that can be used on other projects within the Greening the Crossroads plan.

NPS Role

Work with the Central Indiana Land Trust and local stakeholders to complete three specific projects that will serve as a template for future implementation of the Greening the Crossroads plan developed by the Central Indiana Land Trust and The Nature Conservancy.

2. Lake Michigan Water Trail Organizational Development

Project Partner: Lake Michigan Water Trail Association

RTCA Contact: Diane Banta

Location: IL, IN, MI, WI

Congressional Districts: IN - 1, 2

Project Goal

Build a partnership organization to work on the Lake Michigan Water Trail which will provide access to Lake Michigan in four states through numerous landings and access points while marketing the trail for increased tourism and economic development opportunities.

NPS Role

Convene quad state paddler organizations, local governments, and state governments to set vision, mission, and goals that will lead to the designation of the 200-mile Lake Michigan Water Trail as a National Recreational Trail.

3. Rensselaer/Jasper County Trails System

Project Partner: Jasper County Economic Development Organization

RTCA Contact: Rory Robinson

Location: Rensselaer, Jasper County, Indiana

Congressional District: IN - 1

Project Goal

The number one goal of our project is to create connectivity to local attractions and amenities and to create connections throughout the entire city of Rensselaer enabling a more pedestrian friendly city - one with less dependence on vehicular travel. A new focus is being placed on the Iroquois River as a spine for the trail system connecting the downtown to outer areas of the city and county.

NPS Role

Help the community and county develop a county-wide connectivity plan with strategies for implementation. RTCA will define and facilitate public outreach, work with city, county, and other primary stakeholders including Saint Joseph's College, Jasper County Hospital, private industry (Donalson's, Con Agra), local businesses, and community members.



GREENING
the crossroads

A GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE VISION FOR CENTRAL INDIANA



CENTRAL
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LAND TRUST
Preserving the Heartland

THE CONSERVATION FUND
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