



District of Columbia News



Civil War-era cannon overlooks the Potomac River. NPS Photo.

PROJECTS AND PARTNERS 2011

CURRENT PROJECTS

1. Fort Circle Parks - Community Connections
Groundwork Anacostia, Inc.

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.

Regional Initiatives

Chesapeake Bay Watershed

Executive Order 13508, “Protecting and Restoring the Chesapeake Bay Watershed,” describes a series of interrelated goals to guide the future work of a wide variety of government agencies, stakeholders, and partner groups, including using community technical assistance tools such as the NPS RTCA program. Within the framework put forth in the Executive Order describing the strategy for land conservation, public access, and expanding citizen stewardship, RTCA staff will assist initiatives that protect priority resource lands, help better inform local land use decisions, and build capacity for resource stewardship and access.

Healthy and Active Outdoor Recreation

RTCA helps local groups plan and develop new trails, greenways, and open spaces that are close-to-home and encourage regular physical activity. The National Capital Region’s RTCA program promotes and emphasizes the interconnectedness of parks and the health and wellness of local communities and visitors to the area by developing a diverse outdoor recreation network accessible by all. Close-to-home recreation on neighborhood trails and greenways, in communities, and National Parks, is vital for improving America’s public health. RTCA is ideally positioned to respond to this urgent need to increase Americans’ levels of physical activity.

We're Here For You.

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



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2010 Nationwide Partnership Success

1,251 Miles of Trail Developed
1,694 Miles of River Conserved
25,370 Acres of Open Space and Parkland Protected
94% Percentage of Community Partners Satisfied

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



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Current Projects

1. Fort Circle Parks - Community Connections

Project Partner: Groundwork Anacostia, Inc.
NPS Contact: Christopher Niewold
Location: Northeast Washington, DC in Wards 7 and 8
Congressional District: DC - At Large

Project Goal

Explore community engagement strategies designed to link local communities to the Fort Circle Park Hiker-Biker Trail in Ward 7 and Ward 8.

NPS Role

Create a concept plan for community engagement and assist with components of Groundwork Anacostia River DC organizational development that relates to community engagement.



Young adults participating in Groundwork Anacostia's Green Team. Photos: Groundwork Anacostia DC

"The goal of NPS involvement is to bring tangible change to communities."

-Charlie Stockman, RTCA Program Manager