

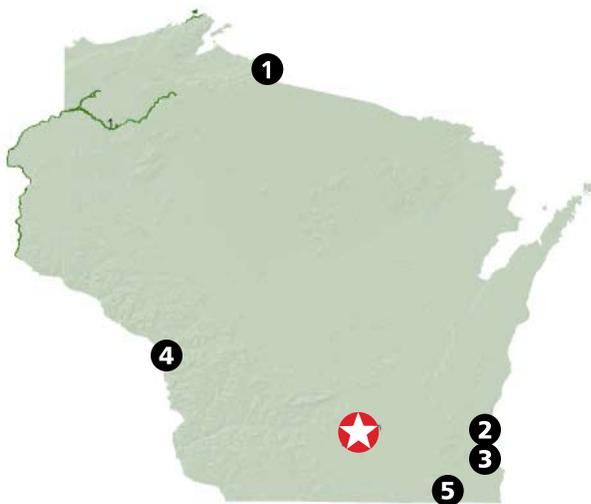


# Wisconsin News



Milwaukee Urban Water Trail. Photo courtesy Eddee Daniel (inset)/ NPS Photo (background)

## PROJECTS AND PARTNERS 2009



### CURRENT PROJECTS

- 1. Lake Superior Water Trail, Wisconsin Segment**  
Northwest Regional Planning Commission
- 2. Milwaukee Southeast Side Open Space Protection**  
City of Milwaukee
- 3. Milwaukee Urban River Corridor Protection**  
Friends of Milwaukee's Rivers
- 4. Mississippi River Trail, Phase II**  
Mississippi River Trail, Inc.
- 5. Nippersink Trails**  
Friends of Bigfoot Beach State Park

Find out more about each project on page 2.

## Recent Successes

### Water Trails Make a Splash in Milwaukee!

Water trails typically are created as a result of public interest in water based recreation, stewardship, or both and the Milwaukee Urban Water Trail is no exception. A canoe and kayak route through urban portions of the Milwaukee, Menomonee, and Kinnickinnic Rivers, the trail provides 35 miles of access and paddling. It includes 33 access sites and portages passing through portions of five cities and two counties, and connects the three rivers to paddling opportunities on Lake Michigan. Access sites have been greatly improved, new access sites provided, and access signage installed

The coalition for the trail includes the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, the City of Milwaukee, Milwaukee County Parks, Wisconsin Sea Grant Program, several local and national boating groups, private landowners, environmental groups, and concerned citizens to organized to create a water trail on Milwaukee's rivers. The RTCA Program provided technical assistance in water trail development, partnership building, and finding funding for the project.

### Kinnickinnic River Rediscovered

The area where Milwaukee's Kinnickinnic River Trail will be constructed is a densely populated and diverse community. The trail will parallel the Kinnickinnic River, an industrial river that has been channelized for most of its length and primarily surrounded by a highly-developed urban landscape, is now being rediscovered by nearby communities.

The project's goals include integrating a new two-mile "rail with trail" into the community with connections to area recreational

## We're Here For You.

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

### Angie Tornes

414.297.3605  
angie\_tornes@nps.gov

### Diane Banta

312.863.6287  
diane\_banta@nps.gov

## THE RTCA PROGRAM

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.

Find more information online at  
[www.nps.gov/rtca](http://www.nps.gov/rtca)



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# Current Projects

## 1. Lake Superior Water Trail, Wisconsin Segment

Location: Entire Lake Superior shoreline in Wisconsin  
Congressional District: 7  
Project Partner: Northwest Regional Planning Commission  
NPS Contact: Angie Tornes

### Project Goal:

A 160+ mile water trail for paddling along Wisconsin's entire Lake Superior coastline.

## 2. Milwaukee Southeast Side Open Space Protection

Location: City of Milwaukee  
Congressional District: 4  
Project Partner: City of Milwaukee  
NPS Contact: Angie Tornes

### Project Goal:

Protection and enhancement of natural areas along seven miles of waterfront, and five miles of new recreational trails in three southeast Milwaukee neighborhoods. The project includes design and construction of riparian pedestrian trails adjacent to the trail, design of trail head amenities, and potential development of a map and brochure.

## 3. Milwaukee Urban River Corridor Protection

Location: City of Milwaukee  
Congressional District: 4  
Project Partner: Friends of Milwaukee's Rivers  
NPS Contact: Angie Tornes

### Project Goal:

An action agenda for achieving river protection and initiating first steps in developing mile trail management plan for 3.8 miles of riparian area

## 4. Mississippi River Trail, Phase II

Location: Headwaters of Mississippi River in Minnesota to Gulf of Mexico, New Orleans  
Congressional Districts: AR - 1,4, IA - 2,4, IL - 4,12,16,17,19, KY - 1, LA - 1,2,3,5,6, MN - 2,3,4,5,6,8, MO - 1,2,3,8,9, MS - 1,2,3, TN - 7,8,9, WI - 3  
Project Partner: Mississippi River Trail, Inc.  
NPS Contact: Diana Allen, Liz Smith-Incer, Stacey Palmer

### Project Goal:

3000 miles of trail system and 30,000 acres of open space along the Mississippi River in ten states, and an organization to support conservation, recreation, public health, tourism.

## 5. Nippersink Trails

Location: Genoa City to Lake Geneva and Springfield  
Congressional District: 1  
Project Partner: Friends of Bigfoot Beach State Park  
NPS Contact: Diane Banta

### Project Goal:

A 10- to 15-mile trail linking Genoa City to Lake Geneva, then an additional trail linking Lake Geneva to the White River State Trail.

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resources. The planning process will include public involvement in designing trail head amenities and ways to enhance river stewardship, help understand the area's history and culture, stimulate community connectivity, and inspire increased physical activity.

The trail is being developed by a range of partners including the Sixteenth Street Community Health Center, Groundwork Milwaukee, the City of Milwaukee, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. The RTCA program has provided technical assistance to the partner organizations in developing a community vision for the project via a well attended community charrette, and provided assistance in finding consultants and funding.