

WEST VIRGINIA

RIVERS, TRAILS & CONSERVATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM



Northeast Region



Projects and Partners 2009

- ① **Cacapon Voices**
Cacapon and Lost Rivers Land Trust, Inc.
- ② **National Coal Heritage Regional Trails**
National Coal Heritage Area Authority
- ③ **Groundwork Wyoming County**
Rural Appalachian Improvement League
- ④ **Meadow River Rail Trail**
Fayette & Greenbrier County Commissions
- ⑤ **New River Gorge Areawide Planning**
National Parks Conservation Association

About Us

The Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance (RTCA) Program provides staff time and technical assistance for 1-2 years to projects that need an extra hand to take the next leap forward to success. We work with citizen groups and non-profits, helping them realize their visions of how to improve their communities, whether it's through a rail-trail, an urban park, or a restored river. The National Park Service helps make it happen.

www.nps.gov/rtca





2008 Highlights

National Coal Heritage Trail Plan

Over 1,000 People Contribute

With RTCA assistance and leadership, a motivated steering committee is developing a 13-county regional trail plan for motorized and non-motorized land and water trails for the National Coal Heritage Area. The committee is using online surveys and phone surveys of trail managers, trail users and elected officials to gather community input. Six regional public input workshops in 2007 and 2008 revealed trail-related issues and solutions; over 1,000 people provided input in the plan. Under RTCA guidance, West Virginia University's Division of Forestry and Natural Resources provided two students to help with GIS mapping, surveys and workshops. The final plan is expected to be complete by January 2009.



We want to help!

Could your project benefit from RTCA staff assistance?



Peggy Pings

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Groundwork Wyoming County

Making Strides in Strategic Planning

In 2006, Wyoming County received an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Brownfields Assessment Grant for mine-scarred lands. This made the county eligible to apply to become a Groundwork USA® Pilot Community. Currently working on a feasibility study and strategic plan, the steering committee is identifying several landscape oriented projects for youth and elders. The Rural Appalachian Improvement League is leading the project and providing a VISTA volunteer to conduct the community-based plan. A decision whether to establish a new Groundwork Trust in Wyoming County will be made by December 2008. If launched, RTCA and EPA will provide ongoing financial and technical assistance to implement the organizational development and priority project work.



2008 Success

Northeast Region

Miles of new trails (land)	75
Miles of new trails (water)	333
Miles of trail restored/improved	150
Acres conserved and protected	9,864
Acres of communities assisted	200
Organizations established/ enhanced	75
Money leveraged for our projects	22 million