What's Happening Right Now...

Projects and Partners 2008

1. **Berkshire Bike Path**
   Berkshire Bike Path Council

2. **Great Barrington Trails**
   Alliance for a Healthier Great Barrington
   Great Barrington Land Conservancy

3. **Groundwork Springfield**
   Spanish American Union, Inc.

4. **Metacomet-Monadnock-Mattabesett Trail**
   Appalachian Mountain Club

5. **French River Connections**
   French River Connection Partnership

6. **Attleboro Trails System**
   Attleboro YMCA

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 citizens' groups and non-profits, helping them realize their vision of how to improve their communities, whether it's through a rail-trail, urban park, or a restored river. The National Park Service helps make it happen.

Trail volunteers hard at work!

Recent Success

Border to Boston Trail Unites and Excites Eight Towns

The Border to Boston Trail, a 28 mile rail trail connecting eight communities between Danvers and New Hampshire has inspired strong support. An eight-town committee prepared an Implementation Plan and is benefiting from a Task Force created by the MA Highway Department. The Essex National Heritage Commission credits RTCA with facilitating the formation of the eight-town committee of supporters and helping them work together. The decade-old vision of the Border to Boston trail is becoming reality as communities have protected 7.3 miles of trail and are in negotiation for the remainder. The first-ever eight-town relay was completed in October 2007.

> "RTCA helped us complete an Implementation Plan that laid out a critical path of where to go as a coalition."
> -Bill Steelman, Essex National Heritage Commission

Border to Boston beginnings

National Trails Day 2007 in Attleboro

Concord River Greenway Uses Art to Rally Support

Lowell Parks & Conservation Trust is using art to inspire Concord River Greenway planning. RTCA helped facilitate an artist-led public art plan and leverage NEA funding. Bridges and gateways along the greenway will be aesthetically designed to incorporate the neighborhood's character and environment. The Concord River Greenway will be part of a four mile greenway connecting Lowell's biggest parks. Construction begins in spring 2008.

Attleboro Trails System to Build a Healthier Community

The Attleboro Trails System is being designed to provide a healthy way to travel to Attleboro's downtown business district, train station, schools, and YMCA. On National Trails Day, the Balfour Riverwalk Trail was designated a National Recreation Trail as a first symbolic step. RTCA's key partners include the Attleboro YMCA and Friends of Attleboro Interested in Revitalization. The proposed Greenway and Riverwalk along the Ten Mile River have become a cornerstone of the recently approved Downtown Revitalization Plan.

Ten-Mile River Cleanup Day in Attleboro

We want to help you.

Could Your Project Benefit from RTCA Staff Assistance?

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Massachusetts Director

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2007 Success
Northeast Region

Miles of new trail (land): 25
Miles of new trail (water): 10
Miles of river restored or improved: 40
Acres conserved and protected: 500
Number of communities assisted: 125
Number of organizatons established or enhanced: 150
Dollars leveraged for our projects: $75 million

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

www.nps.gov/rtca