



National Park Service, Northeast Region

Rivers, Trails & Conservation Assistance Program Maryland

What's Happening Right Now...

Projects and Partners 2008

1. **Potomac Heritage NST Assistance**
Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail
2. **North Point Heritage Greenway Trail**
North Point Peninsula Community Coordinating Council



Launching boats during a community paddling event

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.

Recent Success



Enjoying a beautiful day for paddling



Hardened cattle drive protects an unnamed Deer Creek tributary from polluted stormwater run-off

Deer Creek WRAS Implementation Protects and Restores

Harford County also completed a Watershed Restoration Action Strategy (WRAS) for the Deer Creek watershed, guided by a broadly representative and active stakeholder committee. The watershed is a mix of farmland and forests with strong development pressure in the southern portion near Bel Air. In order to maintain the agricultural economy and protect and/or restore natural areas, Harford County and the committee assessed needs in the 23 sub watersheds within the Deer Creek watershed and then developed a range of activities and programs to address the needs. RTCA facilitated stakeholder meetings and assisted with public outreach. Currently, the Harford County Department of Planning and the Harford Soil Conservation District, supported by the stakeholder committee, are implementing many of the Strategy's recommendations.

Upper Monocacy WRAS Rallies Citizens and Stakeholders

RTCA assisted Frederick County and its partners in the preparation and implementation of a Watershed Restoration Action Strategy (WRAS) for the Upper Monocacy. The Action Strategy addresses local resource needs, including water quality and land use issues, and seeks to increase the effectiveness and capabilities

"RTCA staff brought a maturity, respect for diverse ideas, and amazing skill in facilitating meetings to our effort. They also helped make the process fun and rewarding for all!"

-Kay Schultz, Community Restoration Coordinator, Frederick County Division of Public Works

of local citizens and organizations. RTCA staff facilitated public workshops, WRAS Committee meetings and other forums to get feedback from area stakeholders. The key outcome was the formation of the Monocacy-Catoctin Watershed Alliance, a public-private partnership to implement WRAS recommendations.

We want to help you.

Could Your Project Benefit from RTCA Staff Assistance?



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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 organizations established or enhanced: 150

Dollars leveraged for our projects: \$75 million



www.nps.gov/rtca