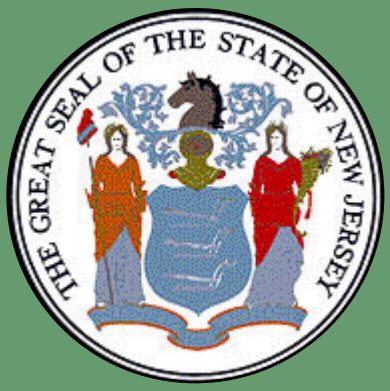
National Park Service
Northeast Region

New Jersey Parks and Partnerships



NJ Motto:
Liberty and Prosperity

National Historic Landmarks (2002): 52

Land and Water Conservation Funding (2002): $3,888,956

Urban Park and Recreation Recovery Projects (2002): $2,112,411

RTCA Projects (2002): 2

Challenge Cost Share grants through NPS (1995-2003): 5

National Park Service Programs in the Northeast Region

Marie Rust
Regional Director

Partnerships in New Jersey

The National Park Service and New Jersey citizens are working together to conserve natural resources, create recreational opportunities and preserve New Jersey's rich heritage. In partnership, we have conserved a network of natural spaces: national parks and recreation areas, state parks and lands, and natural landmarks. We have helped preserve New Jersey heritage with individual National Historic Landmarks, National Register designations, and monuments conservation. The cornerstone of our work is a cooperative planning process that develops public and private partnerships to create outdoor recreational opportunities within an ethic of conservation. We understand how essential public involvement is to making our partnership work for the citizens of New Jersey and integrate it into everything we do.

Stone lanterns at Georgian Court in Lakewood, NJ. Georgian Court is a National Historic Landmark, and is a focal point of Georgian Court College. (Photo: Cathy Sage-Veliz)

Creating Recreational Opportunities

Land and Water Conservation Fund (L&WCF)

The L&WCF program provides matching grants to States and local governments for the acquisition and development of public outdoor recreation areas and facilities. The program is intended to create and maintain a nationwide legacy of high quality recreation areas and facilities and to stimulate non-federal investments in the protection and maintenance of recreation resources across the United States.

In New Jersey, the L&WCF is administered through the NJ Department of Environmental Protection, Green Acres Program. In 2002, the program awarded funds to acquire more than 3,800 acres to preserve open space preservation, to provide outdoor recreation opportunities such as hunting, hiking, and birding, and to preserve Pinelands resources such as Oak Pine forest, and wetlands. The acquisitions added 1,511 acres to Wharton State Forest, 1,264 acres to Belleplain State Forest, 730 acres to the Great Egg Harbor Wildlife Management Area and 307 acres to Atlantic County Park in Egg Harbor Township. Upcoming projects include a boat launch and picnic area on Raritan Bay in Old Bridge Township, the rehabilitation of six parks in Essex County to improve playgrounds and playing fields, and the rehabilita-

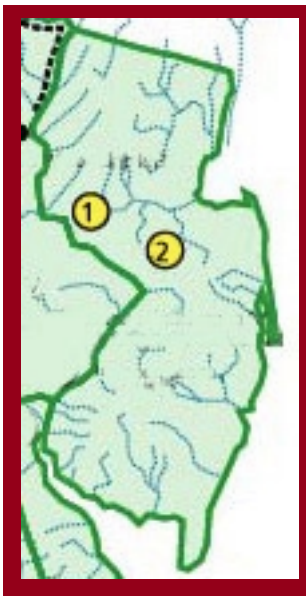
tion of seven parks in Hudson County to improve tennis and handball courts, soccer fields, restrooms and lighting.

Urban Park and Recreation Recovery (UPARR) Program

New Jersey received over $2.1 million in UPARR funding in 2002 for projects in six different municipalities. All six will use their grants to rehabilitate close-to-home recreation facilities. The projects include many age-appropriate updates, such as adding equipment safe for toddlers in a Hoboken playground near a day-care facility with 484 toddlers from low-income households. In Perth Amboy, renovations to Washington Park will add a skateboard facility, as well as several safety renovations. In Bayone, the 28th Street Park will have a handicap accessible jungle gym and swing set, swing sets for toddlers, a resurfaced basketball court and accessible basketball hoop. These three projects are representative of the projects underway at 14 different facilities in New Jersey. Each project is critical to these communities where public recreation facilities give youth a place to play and exercise in a safe environment.

Rivers and Trails Conservation Assistance (RTCA)

Through this program, NPS assists community groups, nonprofits and local and State governments to conserve rivers, preserve open space, and develop trails and greenways. Communities initiate the project and approach the Park Service for help with planning, publicizing and technical assistance to carry out the project. With NPS assistance, communities are able to conserve areas close to home for recreation, exercise and the enjoyment of cultural and historic resources.



1. Delaware River Water Trail

   NPS Contact:
   Charles Barscz
   215-597-6482
   Charles_Barscz@nps.gov

2. New Jersey Project Strategy

   NPS Contact:
   Helen Mahan
   215-597-6483
   Helen_Mahan@nps.gov

For general information on RTCA, visit:

www.ncrc.nps.gov/programs/rtca

Pinelands National Reserve

The New Jersey Pinelands National Reserve, established by Congress in 1978, comprises 1.2 million acres in southern New Jersey and includes 52 municipalities spread through 7 counties. The first National Reserve, the Pinelands is also an international Biosphere Reserve and provides for a cooperative system of conserving a wetland ecosystem that overlies a 17-trillion gallon aquifer, and provides critical habitat for 54 endangered plant and 36 endangered animal species. It includes the most extensive pygmy pine forest in the United States.

The Federal Act that established the Pinelands National Reserve also required a Comprehensive Management Plan to "protect, preserve and enhance the land and water resources of the Pinelands area through a new program which combines the capabilities and resources of the local, State and Federal governments and the private sector." The National Park

For more information on UPARR or L&WCF in NJ contact Roy Cortez at:

(215) 597-5134
Roy_Cortez@nps.gov

For more information on the UPARR programs across the nation go to:

www.nps.gov/uparr

The State Liaison Officer (SLO) represents the governor in managing the L&WCF, the State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) and other recreation grants. New Jersey's SLO is:

Marc A. Matsil, Commissioner
Natural and Historic Resources
Dept. of Environmental Protection
CM 404
Trenton, NJ 08625
609-292-3541

Community Toolbox

Groups interested in community organizing can find ideas, techniques and strategies for building a project in NPS's Community Toolbox. The material is available online at:

www.nps.gov/phso/rtcatoolbox

or contact:
Evelyn Swimmer
215-597-7947.

For more information, on the Pinelands National Reserve, contact the New Jersey Pinelands Commission at:

609-894-7300
www.state.nj.us/pinelands

Service provides funding and assistance to the Pinelands Commission and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection to carry out the plan. A long-term monitoring program is currently underway in the Pinelands to look at how the Comprehensive Management Plan has effected the environment and the economy of the Pinelands.

Pine Barrens Tree Frog, one of the many amazing animals found in the NJ Pinelands, is an endangered species. (NPS photo)

What's Happening in New Jersey's National Parks

Science in the Parks

Several current science projects address water quality issues in the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area. The rapid population growth of the region and the seasonal fluctuation of human activity has influenced the river's water quality. These projects are seeking ways to conserve the vital water resources of the area.

For more information on science projects coordinated from the Northeast Region's Philadelphia office go to:

www.nps.gov/phso/science

Four studies in the park look closely at different pieces of the picture. Scientists are gathering reliable data about the river, 14 tributaries that feed into the river, and ground water. This data will be used to recommend regulations and standards that will help keep this river healthy and vibrant. One of the projects will also develop a dynamic management plan to define how states and local municipalities within the Tri-state Middle Delaware River Region can accommodate anticipated growth while maintaining the river's existing good water quality.

Water quality is the concern of several science projects in the Delaware Water Gap. Pictured here is Crater Lake, NJ, in the park.

The bog turtle population is also being studied at Delaware Water Gap. Following the listing of bog turtles as threatened in 1997, a comprehensive inventory was undertaken in the park to determine its park-wide distribution. Over 100 potentially suitable habitat sites were surveyed, but turtles were found at only one. Purple loosestrife, an invasive weed, was found to infest such habitats, crowding out native species and rendering these sites unsuitable for bog turtles. Efforts to control purple loosestrife are ongoing. This project will assess the long-term viability of the bog turtle population using "The Standard Bog Turtle Site-Quality Analysis" protocol, which defines "population analysis sites" (PAS) as bog turtle occurrences connected by continuous corridors of suitable stream/wetland habitat. Once defined, a PAS can then be targeted for protection.

Purple loosestrife is an invasive plant that threatens to choke out plants native to the Delaware Water Gap. This also damages the habitat of the threatened bog turtle. Eradication plans are underway.

Illegal collection may be the biggest threat to the species. The U.S. Geological Survey and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are currently working on identifying bog turtle genotypes using micro-satellite DNA

techniques. Using genetic markers to identify home localities of confiscated turtles will be useful in directing law-enforcement efforts.

Integrated Pest Management

The National Park Service practices Integrated Pest Management, a process that controls pests through understanding pest biology and applying control methods that are most effective and least toxic. NPS scientists provided valuable advise, for example, about West Nile virus outbreaks, equine encephalitis and the threat of Foot and Mouth disease.

For more information about Integrated Pest Management in New Jersey National Park units contact Wayne Millington at:

(814) 863-8352
Wayne_Millington@nps.gov

For guidance on Integrated Pest Management in the Northeast Region and lots of useful information about specific practices go to:

www.nps.gov/phso/ipm

Air Quality

The National Park Service is very active in the effort to protect air quality in the Northeast Region. The Northeast Region recently added a Regional Air Resources Coordinator to its staff to further its goals of protecting this vital resource. This coordinator provides services to parks in meeting their air resource management needs and responsibilities.

For information on Air Quality issues in the Northeast Region contact Holly Salazer, our new Regional Air Resources Coordinator for the Region, at:

(215) 597-4623
Holly_Salazer@nps.gov

Preservation in the Parks

Parks are provided technical assistance for completing detailed research studies through the **Park History Program**. The New Jersey Coastal Heritage Trail Project conducted a Delaware Bay Maritime History Study, which is now available to the public as a Maritime History Theme Trail. For more details, visit www.nps.gov/neje/maritime.html.

The **Cultural Landscape Program** provides technical assistance in preserving park cultural landscapes. NPS staff are completing a Historic Structure Report for B.B. Van Campen Farmhouse, at Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area, located on the New Jersey side of the Delaware River at the south end of the park close to the Water Gap and to the historic copper mines. This farm, originally part of the Van Campen holdings and built in the early 19th century, is of great value as one of the very few intact farmsteads from that period.

For more information on the Cultural Landscape Program contact Shaun Eyring at:

(215) 597- 8850
Shaun_Eyring@nps.gov

For more about the Park History Program contact Cliff Tobias at:

(215) 597-9970
Cliff_Tobias@nps.gov

For more about the Park Archeology Program contact Allen Cooper at:

(215) 597-1099
Allen_Cooper@nps.gov

The **Archeological Sites Management Information System (ASMIS) program** collects and manages baseline data on the location, significance, and condition of all archeological resources in the Region. NPS has an archeological overview and assessment in its final year at Delaware Water Gap. With a cooperative agreement with the New Jersey State Museum in Trenton, archeologists are using stratified surveys to add to our understanding of prehistoric lives in that area.

Three lighthouses along the Maritime History Trail, left to right: Twin Lights, Cape May and Sandy Hook. This trail is part of the New Jersey Coastal Heritage Trail. See "Park History Program."

Planning in New Jersey Parks

The National Park Service conducts systematic planning efforts to ensure that the decisions it makes are as effective and efficient as possible in carrying out the NPS mission. NPS planners are currently conducting a special resource study and feasibility study for "Crossroads of the American Revolution in New Jersey." If pending leg-

For more on Park Planning contact Terry Moore at:

(215) 597-6412
Terrence_Moore@nps.gov

For more information on the proposed National Heritage Area, visit:

www.nps.gov/crossroads

islation is passed by the U.S. Congress, this area will become a National Heritage Area (NHA). An NHA is a locally controlled strategy that serves to protect natural and cultural resources in partnership with many interested organizations and citizens that share a commitment to protect our heritage. The federal government provides financial and technical assistance to the local management entity for a period of ten years. Three themes that emerged for this NHA are, "A Revolutionary Landscape," "Rendezvous for Rebellion," and "Divided Loyalties."

Battle of Monmouth, one of NJ's American Revolution sites. The fighting there was called the "greatest sound and light show of the war."

For more information about National Natural Landmarks contact Michele Batcheller at:

(814) 863-9414
Michele_Batcheller@nps.gov

For more information on National Historic Landmarks, contact Bill Bolger at:

215-597-1649
Bill_Bolger@nps.gov

Just for fun, check out the Imaging Our National Heritage Photo Contest Winners at:

www.nps.gov/phso/nhlphoto

Preserving New Jersey's Rich Heritage

New Jersey's National Natural Landmarks (NNL)

This program supports voluntary preservation of sites that illustrate the geological and ecological history of the United States. The designation is made after an in-depth study of a potential site; all new designations must have owner permission. The present NNLs include public and private lands with a variety of uses, including nature preserves, agricultural uses, commercial ventures and others. Through this program, NPS staff find technical specialists to advise landowners on how to care for their special sites. While funding for projects is not the norm, in some cases, regional coordinators have been successful in helping NNL owners obtain small grants. There are 11 registered NNLs in New Jersey in 9 different counties.

Great Swamp is an NNL with a unique blend of unspoiled forest, swamp,and marshland and many kinds of wildlife.

This photo from the HABS collection shows the Abel and Mary Nicholson House which was recently designated as an NHL. The geometric brickwork design is visible, as is the date the house was built, 1722.

National Historic Landmarks (NHL)

National Historic Landmarks are sites, buildings and objects that possess exceptional value or quality in illustrating and interpreting the heritage of the United States. NPS offers technical and funding assistance to the private owners of these landmarks, monitors the landmarks' conditions and reports biannually to Congress on threatened NHLs. The most recently designated NHL in New Jersey is the Abel and Mary Nicholson House in Salem. This house is a remarkable example of Delaware Valley patterned brick architecture, an early Mid-Atlantic building tradition which uses bricks laid as headers to create geometric patterns and sometimes the date of construction and/or the owner's initials on a gable wall of the house.

American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP)

This program fosters opportunities for stewardship of historic battlefields through grants and technical assistance that support public and private partners in identifying, evaluating and planning for preservation.

For more information about the American Battlefield Protection program contact Kathy Schlegel at:

215-597-6486
Kathy_Schlegel@nps.gov

Or, visit the ABPP's website at:

www2.cr.nps.gov/abpp

Historic American Buildings Survey/Historic American Engineering Record/Historic American Landscape Survey (HABS/HAER/HALS)

HABS/HAER/HALS is an integral component of the federal government's commitment to historic preservation. Through this program, NPS ensures that a uniform and thorough record (including measured drawings, written histories and large-format photographs) is made of all nationally significant resources that are affected by federal undertakings. These records are then stored in the Library of Congress where they contribute to the memory of our national history.

For more information about the HABS/HAER/HALS program contact Catherine Turton at:

(215) 597-1726
Catherine_Turton @nps.gov

Monument Research & Preservation

This program provides comprehensive assistance in the interpretation and care of public sculpture, commemorative monuments, and historic cemeteries for the benefit of National Park units, other government agencies, and other constituents. NPS staff designs and implements training courses, conferences, and print and web-based publications. Staff also provides direct project assistance to these various groups, ranging from entities with a single statue to historic burial grounds with hundreds or thousands of memorial monuments to preserve.

For more information about the Monuments program contact Dennis Montagna at:

215-597-5824
Dennis_Montagna@nps.gov

Historic Surplus Property

The Historic Surplus Property Program allows state, county and local governments to obtain surplus federal properties at no cost if the property is listed in, or eligible for listing in, the National Register of Historic Places. Historic properties transferred by General Services Administration (GSA) under this program may be used for public facilities, such as museums and government offices; properties can also be leased to not-for-profit organizations and to developers who may be eligible to take advantage of federal preservation tax incentives for historic buildings. NPS assists the GSA with the property transfer and plays an important role in ensuring the building is properly rehabilitated and maintained. Successful transfers in New Jersey include a former Coast Guard Cottage which was rehabilitated by the Town of Barnegat into their offices and public meeting space.

Within the state government, the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) works to preserve valuable resources and interacts with NPS on many projects. New Jersey's SHPO is:

Robert C. Shinn , Jr.
NJ Department Parks & Forestry
P.O. Box 304
Trenton, New Jersey 08625
609-292-2885

Lucy the Margate Elephant is one of the more whimsical NHLs in New Jersey. It is an example of "zoomorphic architecture." The structure has rooms reached via stairways in her hind legs.

National Historic Lighthouse Preservation Act

This new Act allows underutilized historic lighthouses and stations to be put to creative uses. General Services Administration (GSA) trans-

For more information about the Historic Surplus Property Program, visit:

www2.cr.nps.gov/tps/hspp_p.htm

For National Historic Lighthouse Preservation Act, visit:

www.cr.nps.gov/maritime/nhlpa/nhlpa.htm

Or, for either program, contact Lisa McCann at:

215-597-0651
Lisa_McCann@nps.gov

fers these properties at no cost to federal agencies, state and local governments, nonprofit corporations and community development organizations for park and recreation, cultural and historic, and educational uses. NPS reviews all applications, assists the GSA with the property transfer, and plays an important role in ensuring the building is properly rehabilitated and maintained. The first transfers under this Act occurred in June 2002.

Save America's Treasures & Challenge Cost Share Program

NPS provides 50-50 matching grants to partner groups through these two programs. Save America's Treasures funds projects that preserve and conserve nationally significant historic artifacts, structures and sites. Challenge Cost Share Program provides funding for preserving natural, recreational and cultural resources. Projects may be inside or outside park boundaries. An upcoming project involves NPS's collection of materials from Thomas A. Edison, housed at Edison National Historic Site. This collection illustrates the life of Edison as an inventor, innovator, manufacturer, businessman, and private citizen. A grant for $250,000 will be used to stabilize and preserve these materials and to renovate space in the main laboratory building for state-of-the-art collection storage.

The collection at Edison NHS includes this photograph of Thomas Edison at the telegraph key. This collection is getting preservation funds through Save America's Treasures.

More Partnerships in New Jersey

You've read highlights about National Park Service activity in New Jersey. It is not a complete or detailed list. Please contact us if you would like more information about these projects or contact Marie Rust, Director of the Northeast Region if you would like to suggest or explore ideas for future partnership initiatives.

The Cape May Historic District, with more than 600 seashore houses and hotels, provides a showcase of Vistorian-era architecture. Pictured left to right are: Southern Mansion Bed & Breakfast; Chalfont Hotel; a structure with Cape May's famous gingerbread trim.

For more information about Save America's Treasures, including application information, visit:

http://www2.cr.nps.gov/treasures/

For information about Challenge Cost Share Program and Save America's Treasures, contact Bonnie Halda at:

215-597-5028,
Bonnie_Halda@nps.gov

For more information, visit:
www.nps.gov/phso

Or contact:

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All photos NPS unless noted.
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