



Chesapeake Gateways Technical Assistance

CHESAPEAKE GATEWAYS

About Us

We help partners put into practice the Chesapeake Bay Initiative Act of 1998 by providing technical assistance to create the Chesapeake Bay Gateways and Watertrails Network (Chesapeake Gateways). The National Park Service offers an annual technical assistance opportunity to effectively support partners, leverage the full resources of the NPS for the benefit of the partnership network, and better understand the needs throughout the watershed. We offer this technical assistance on an annual basis with extensions based on mutual agreement. *No monetary grants are made through this process.*

Our Focus Areas

Our projects typically fall within five focus areas, although we consider other projects that fall outside of these categories:

- Identify and conserve special places for inclusion in Chesapeake Gateways.
 - Develop, enhance, or connect trails, tour roads, scenic byways, or watertrails for inclusion in Chesapeake Gateways.
 - Interpretation or educational programming at Chesapeake Gateways.
 - Restore Chesapeake Gateways or enhance public access
 - Support Chesapeake Gateways Communities
 - Connect Chesapeake Gateways Places and Partners
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Our Services

Our assistance is tailored to your needs. Examples of the types of assistance we provide are listed below. While NPS Chesapeake Gateways cannot independently take on or lead projects for partners, we can support, assist, facilitate, or coach partners with National Park Service or other subject matter experts. Visit our website to learn more: <https://go.nps.gov/ChesapeakeTechAssist>

Planning:

- Defining project vision and goals
- Identifying and analyzing key issues and opportunities
- Setting priorities and build consensus

Communications:

- Crafting communications products including plans, releases, and advisories
- Identifying and reaching audiences
- Matching media to audience

Convening and Networking:

- Engage collaborative partners and stakeholders
- Development of community outreach and participation strategies
- Coach teams, groups, and partnership networks
- Convene places and partners for workshops, training sessions, and other gatherings to foster sharing of expertise

Branding and Marketing:

- Utilizing the Chesapeake Gateways brand
- Leveraging the great resources of the NPS brand
- Designing and developing websites, mobile apps, and more
- Connecting partner digital resources with the NPS digital assets

Interpretation:

- Developing interpretive plans or content reports
- Interpretive media project management
- Front line interpretation training and program development
- Integrating Chesapeake Gateways themes into place specific programming

Conservation:

- Foster conservation and restoration of the Chesapeake watershed
- Develop a sustainable organizational framework
- Create strategic action plans

Access:

- Develop concept plans to address multimodal transportation
- Assessing urban access issues and needs
- Addressing accessibility issues and needs
- Assessments of, and designs for, potential access sites

Stewardship:

- Natural and cultural resource management planning and execution
- Convene subject matter experts in landscape conservation
- Develop and employ strategies and programs for stimulating engagement in Chesapeake stewardship.

Application Process and Timeline

The application deadline is May 1. Please include the following in your Application Package:

- Completed application form
- Site location map
- Optional supplemental information that can help us learn more about your project (for example, background documents, media coverage, additional maps, list of links to resources, project photos, etc.)

Project start times will be coordinated with applicants who have been selected for assistance.

Project Selection Criteria

Applications for technical assistance from NPS Chesapeake Gateways are competitively evaluated based on the following criteria:

- The project is expected to accomplish noticeable results that promote Chesapeake Gateways in the near future
 - Roles and contributions of project partners are significant and well-defined
 - There is evidence of broad community support for the project
 - The project fits with our focus areas (although proposals falling outside these areas are considered)
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Application Form

Date:

Project Name:

City and State:

Congressional District(s) Number(s):

Primary Applicant Organization(s):

Primary Contact:

Title:

Street Address:

City:

State/Territory:

Zip Code:

Email:

Daytime Phone:

Website (if applicable):

Please review focus area descriptions (on page 1) and project selection criteria (on page 2) for guidance on addressing the following questions. If additional space is needed for your responses, please use the extra pages at the end of this document.

1. Project Summary

a) Tell us about your project idea and the specific outcomes you would like to achieve:

1. Project Summary (continued)

b) Describe any specific results anticipated within 5 years of project start-up:

c) Describe any major project accomplishments to date:

d) Describe anticipated benefits to the community (for example, recreational, social, environmental, economic, health, etc.):

2. Chesapeake Bay Initiative Act Alignment

Please select the section of the act with which your project most closely aligns.

- a) identify, conserve, restore and interpret natural, recreational, historical and cultural resources within the Chesapeake Bay Watershed;
- b) identify and utilize the collective resources as Chesapeake Bay Gateways sites for enhancing public education of and access to the Chesapeake Bay;
- c) link the Chesapeake Bay Gateways sites with trails, tour roads, scenic byways and other connections as determined by the Secretary;
- d) develop and establish Chesapeake Bay Watertrails comprising water routes and connections to Chesapeake Bay Gateways sites and other land resources within the Chesapeake Bay Watershed; and
- e) create a network of Chesapeake Bay Gateways sites and Chesapeake Bay Watertrails.

Describe the alignment: (You may reference additional sections if appropriate)

3. Roles

a) Describe your organization, its role in the project, and the time/resources that will be contributed:

b) Describe each partner's role, responsibility, and contribution to the project:

4. Community Support & Engagement

a) Describe project support to date, including support from the general public, organizations, coalitions, government agencies, and elected officials. Share any relevant news media articles, sections of plans that propose the project, and/or government resolutions that illustrate this support:

b) Describe plans for future public outreach and engagement:

5. NPS Chesapeake Gateways Support Requested:

a) What are the major project challenges your organization faces?

b) Describe the types of assistance and specific deliverables you are seeking from the NPS staff that would complement your team. For examples, see the description of “Our Services” on page 2.

6. Attachments

Please email the following optional attachments with this completed application to Chesapeake_Info@nps.gov. Include the project title in the subject line.

1. Site location map
2. Background documents
3. Examples of media coverage
4. Additional maps
5. List of links to resources
6. Project photos