

# NEW YORK

RIVERS, TRAILS & CONSERVATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM



Northeast Region



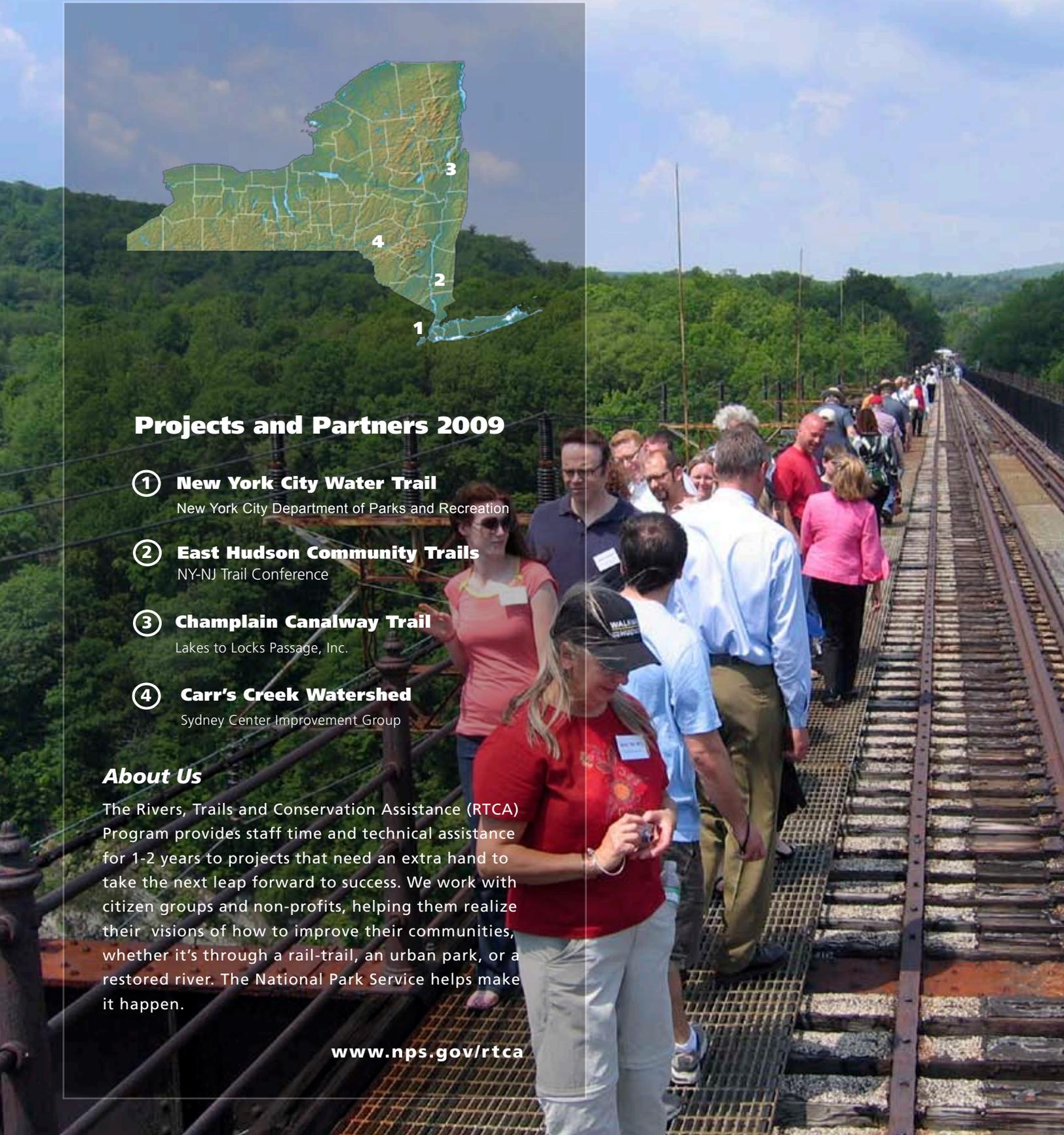
## Projects and Partners 2009

- ① **New York City Water Trail**  
New York City Department of Parks and Recreation
- ② **East Hudson Community Trails**  
NY-NJ Trail Conference
- ③ **Champlain Canalway Trail**  
Lakes to Locks Passage, Inc.
- ④ **Carr's Creek Watershed**  
Sydney Center Improvement Group

### 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](http://www.nps.gov/rtca)





## Walkway Over the Hudson

A Big Project Gaining Huge Support

**Walkway Over the Hudson is one of three legacy projects** for New York State's 2009 Hudson-Fulton-Champlain quadricentennial celebration. Nearly a mile and a quarter in length, it will be the longest walkway bridge in the world. The nonprofit Dyson Foundation, adopted the project, recruiting NYS Office of Parks as a partner and eventual operator of the Walkway as a park. Dyson also committed \$1.5 million toward engineering and design, supporting an executive director, and helping leverage more than \$14 million of the project's anticipated \$35 million cost. RTCA helped redesign the group's outreach brochure and took part in the preliminary design phase. This past year, the main thrust of RTCA assistance was to draft a funding proposal to build a 21-story elevator linking the shoreline of the Hudson River, including its parks, trails and the Poughkeepsie Railroad station, with the deck of the Walkway.

## Middletown Orange Heritage Trail

**The City of Middletown and Orange Pathways asked RTCA to help** extend the popular 11.5-mile Heritage Trail 6.5 miles. RTCA worked with the City of Middletown, Orange County and the nonprofit Orange Pathways to obtain \$590,000 in transportation funding, and also resurrect \$806,000 in transportation funding obtained over a decade ago, but never spent. City, DPW, and youth volunteers removed truckloads of concrete and debris from a mile of trail that is now used informally by local residents, and the Orange County Land Trust and the City together began exploring a trail easement with a local business. To expedite progress, Orange Pathways made a major funding and fundraising commitment to create a comprehensive Design Report to complete this and two other major trails.



*Walkway Over the Hudson*

### We want to help!

Could your project benefit from RTCA Staff Assistance?



**Karl Beard**  
*New York State Director*  
 karl\_beard@nps.gov  
 (845) 229-9115 ext.34



## 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