



New Jersey News



Camden Canoemobile participants discover a beautiful view of Philadelphia from the Delaware River. Photo: NPS/Sophie Sarkar

PROJECTS AND PARTNERS 2015

- NPS Unit
- ★ State Capital



CURRENT PROJECTS

1. Delaware River Urban Waters Federal Partnership
US Forest Service
2. Phillipsburg Riverfront Heritage Trail (NJ)
Town of Phillipsburg

Find out more about each project on page 2

Recent Successes

Camden Green Ambassadors Program Participants Learn About Greenway Design

During the summer of 2014, 10 high school students from Camden and Pennsauken participated in the first annual Camden Green Ambassadors Program. The program was developed by the Camden Environmental Education Working Group (EEWG) as a way to expose high school students to different careers within the environmental sector. Over six weeks, the paid interns rotated through 13 different organizations, learning about everything from gardening to sewage treatment. During their three days with the National Park Service Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance program, the Green Ambassadors learned about the wide array of NPS jobs by observing employees at Independence National Historic Park, participating in a community greenway planning process, and exploring the Schuylkill River Water Trail. The summer was such a success that the EEWG is planning to expand the program to include twice as many interns in 2015. The partners are also hoping that some of the 2014 Ambassadors can return to be mentors for the 2015 group.

ABOUT US

The Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance program is the community assistance arm of the National Park Service. Program staff provide technical assistance to community groups and local, state, and federal government agencies working to protect natural areas and water resources and enhance close-to-home outdoor recreation opportunities. We help communities plan, organize partnerships, and achieve on-the-ground success on projects they initiate.

We're Here For You.

Could your project benefit from NPS Staff Assistance? Contact us to find out.



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2014 Nationwide Partnership Success

3,278.74 Miles of Trail Developed

2,046.25 Miles of River Conserved

9,411.06 Acres of Open Space and Parkland Protected

Find more information online at
www.nps.gov/rtca



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Current Projects

1. Delaware River Urban Waters Federal Partnership

Project Partner: US Forest Service
NPS Contacts: Dave Lange, Sophie Sarkar
Location: Philadelphia and Chester, PA; Camden, NJ; Wilmington, DE
Congressional Districts: NJ - 1; PA - 1, PA - 2, PA - 8, PA - 13; DE - 1

Project Goal

Reconnect urban communities with their waterways by improving coordination among federal agencies and collaborating with community-led revitalization efforts to improve waterways and promote their economic, environmental, and social benefits.

NPS Role

Act as a co-lead with the US Forest Service; assist the partnership with cataloging and directing federal resources to address locally-identified needs and priorities; coordinate the Lower Delaware Canoemobile program to provide an opportunity for thousands of youth to experience their local urban rivers.

2. Phillipsburg Riverfront Heritage Trail (NJ)

Project partner: Town of Phillipsburg
NPS Contact: Sherry Peck
Location: Northwest New Jersey
Congressional District: NJ - 7

Project Goal

Develop a trail implementation plan that integrates riverfront trail, rail-trail, Morris Canal Greenway, the town's railroad and canal heritage, and five loop trails.

NPS Role

Assist with developing a steering committee; facilitate public engagement, consensus-building, and work planning; and assist with identifying funding sources.



The Camden Green Ambassadors learn about Ranger Renee's role at Independence National Park. Photo: NPS/Sophie Sarkar



The Camden Green Ambassadors explore Fairmount Water Works using the Schuylkill River Water Trail. Photo: NPS/Sophie Sarkar