



Kentucky News



National Trails Day, Kentucky. Photo: NPS

PROJECTS AND PARTNERS 2015



■ NPS Unit
★ State Capital

CURRENT PROJECTS

- 1. Rough River Blue Water Trail**
Ohio County Trail Town Taskforce Committee
- 2. Tradewater River Blueway System**
Pennyriple Area Development District
- 3. Green River Blueway Trail Plan**
Barren River Area Development District
- 4. West Louisville Nature-Based Outdoor Recreation Plan**
City of Louisville Metro Parks
- 5. Devil John's Moonshine Run Trail**
City of Jenkins

Find out more about each project starting on this page.

Current Projects

1. Rough River Blue Water Trail

Project Partner: Ohio County Trail Town Taskforce Committee
NPS Contact: Russ Clark
Location: Hartford
Congressional Districts: KY - 1, KY - 2

Project Goal

Create a water trail master plan for the Rough River Corridor which is approximately 100 miles in length. The Rough River Blue Water Trail is intended to be both a local recreation feature and a regional recreational linkage that will connect Rough River Resort State Park, Dundee, the City of Hartford, and the City of Livermore. The water trail will be an important recreation asset for the City of Hartford to become a Certified Trail Town.

NPS Role

Assist partners to coordinate and guide river-oriented development and tourism efforts throughout the river corridor. Assist with partnership building, inventory and analysis, master planning, public education, project coordination, and identification of potential funding sources.

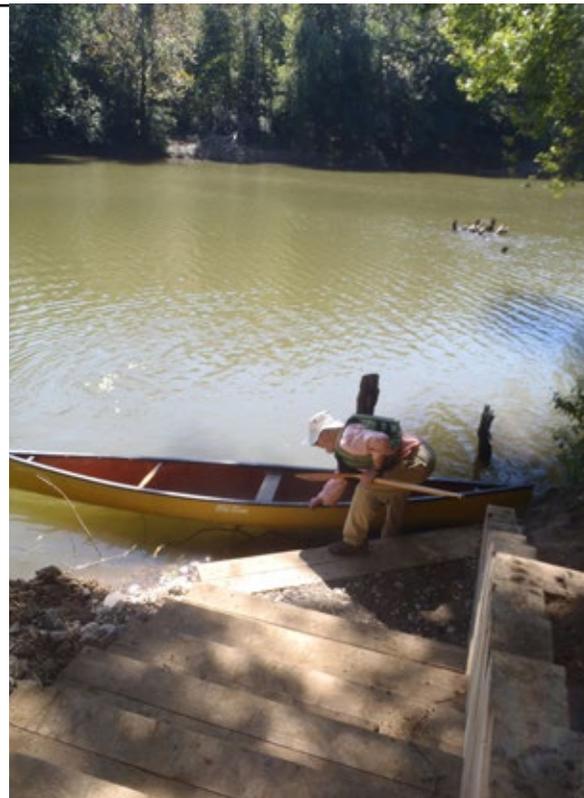
ABOUT US

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.

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“The Pennyryle Area Development District, along with the Tradewater River Community, understands the importance of preserving, improving and expanding access to the Tradewater River for canoeists, kayakers, anglers, and other outdoor recreational enthusiasts. The National Park Service, through its Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance program is providing the residents of the region with needed technical assistance that will greatly aid in providing the Tradewater region with a positive long-term plan for development and preservation of the Tradewater River.”

- Jamie R. Lawrence, Projects Coordinator, Pennyryle Area Development District



First one in at the new Estill County boat launch.
Photo: NPS

Current Projects cont.

2. Tradewater River Blueway System

Project Partner: Pennyryle Area Development District
NPS Contact: Russ Clark
Location: Hopkinsville
Congressional District: KY - 1

Project Goal

Begin the master planning process for a water trail on the Tradewater River in western Kentucky. The proposed 86-mile water trail will be located in Christian, Hopkins, Webster, Crittenden, and Union Counties. The water trail will be a new outdoor recreation opportunity for users to enjoy the existing natural resources of the area and connect the communities along the river corridor. The proposed water trail will be an additional trail system for the local community and tourists visiting Dawson Springs, which is Kentucky's first Certified Trail Town.

NPS Role

With the Pennyryle Area Development District, coordinate and guide river-oriented tourism efforts throughout the river corridor, assisting with partnership building, inventory and analysis, master planning, public education, project coordination, and identification of potential funding sources.

3. Green River Blueway Trail Plan

Partner: Barren River Area Development District
NPS Contact: Russ Clark
Location: Green River in South Central Kentucky including Lincoln, Casey, Taylor, Adair, Green, Hart, Edmonson, Warren, Butler, Ohio, Muhlenberg, McLean, Hopkins, Daviess, Webster, and Henderson Counties
Congressional Districts: KY - 1, KY - 2

Project Goal

Develop and implement the master plan for the 325-mile water trail on the Green River in south central Kentucky.

The initial mapping and public access opportunities have been presented to local stakeholders for input and review. The public access inventory analysis, water trail master planning, public review, and final mapping are the primary tasks for 2015. The water corridor traverses 16 counties, 10 communities, and Mammoth Cave National Park. The Green River drains into the Ohio River and is considered to be the most biologically diverse branch of the Ohio River watershed.

NPS Role

Work with Barren River Area Development District to coordinate and guide river-oriented development and tourism efforts throughout the river corridor. Assist with partnership building, access inventory and assessment, water trail master planning, public education, project coordination, and identification of potential funding sources.

Current Projects cont.

4. West Louisville Nature-Based Outdoor Recreation Plan

Project Partner: City of Louisville Metro Parks

NPS Contact: Russ Clark

Location: Louisville

Congressional District: KY - 3

Project Goal

Develop a strategic outreach and planning process to provide nature-based outdoor recreation programming for minority youth in the west Louisville area. Identify needed local recreation amenities and develop a master plan that will connect neighborhoods to community-enhanced outdoor recreation facilities. The master plan will expand basic recreation skills programming, environmental education,

and volunteer-led stewardship opportunities across west Louisville.

NPS Role

Assist with the community outreach strategy, the conceptual master planning based on community input, and coordination of the National Park Service Challenge Cost Share Grant awarded to Louisville to provide nature-based outdoor programming and five field trips to Mammoth Cave National Park for minority youth in west Louisville.

5. Devil John's Moonshine Run Trail

Project Partner: City of Jenkins

NPS Contact: Russ Clark

Location: Pound Gap, Jenkins

Congressional District: KY - 5

Project Goal

Finalize the 7-mile Devil John's Moonshine Run Trail linkage to the Pine Mountain Regional Trail into the city of Jenkins in Letcher County. The trail is intended to provide the hikers on the Pine Mountain Regional Trail a place to stop and rest, resupply, and learn about the local culture. The proposed trail linkage will be one of the many local recreation features that will help the city of Jenkins to become a Kentucky Certified Trail Town by the Kentucky Office of Adventure Tourism.

NPS Role

Provide technical planning assistance with surface trail treatments, guidance for volunteer group efforts, and coordination for future trail expansion into the adjoining region.

“Support from the National Park Service is very important as Louisville seeks to enhance outdoor recreation opportunities for residents in some of our more densely populated urban areas. We welcome this partnership to provide expanded out-of-school time opportunities for at risk youth and do so by taking advantage of the magnificent Mammoth Cave National Park as well as wonderful untapped natural areas along the majestic Ohio River in west Louisville.”

- Mayor Greg Fischer, City of Louisville



Canoers enjoy National Trails Day on the Kentucky River. Photo: NPS

We're Here For You.

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

Russ Clark

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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



EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA™

“We are so inspired to be accepted for the National Park Service Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program; it will greatly improve our vision to meet goals in expanding trails throughout Ohio County. With their experience we will be better equipped to find community resources, recognizing opportunities, involving cooperative partners, set precedence and shape compromise, determine concept plans for trails or parks, discern funding opportunities and develop a supportable administrative structure to sustainance the plan for future generations.

We look forward to the future and our partnership with the National Parks Service Rivers, Trails and Conservation Program.”

- Treg Ward, Trail Town Task Force Committee Chairman



Work begins on what will be a new Estill County boat launch. Photo: NPS