



Louisiana News



Kayakers paddle down Bayou St. John

Current Projects

PROJECTS AND PARTNERS 2011

CURRENT PROJECTS

- 1. Bayou Teche Trail Plan**
Center for Cultural and Ecotourism
- 2. City of Monroe Comprehensive Trail Plan**
City of Monroe
- 3. Louisiana State Wide Trail Plan**
Louisiana Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism
- 4. Bayous to Use**
City of Shreveport

ABOUT US

The Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance (RTCA) Program is the community assistance arm of the National Park Service. RTCA 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.

1. Bayou Teche Paddling Trail

Location: Port Barre to Berwick, LA. St. Landry, St. Martin, St. Mary and Iberia Parishes
Congressional District: 3,7
Project Partner: Center for Cultural and Ecotourism
NPS Contact: Stacye Palmer-McBride

Project Goal

RTCA will help partners establish a paddle trail in the Bayou Tech watershed (approximately 44,000 acres in size). The trail would extend from the mouth of Bayou Teche at Port Barre to its terminus in Berwick, Louisiana, a 130 mile waterway that crosses four parishes. The creation of the trail will enhance outdoor recreation possibilities and economic development opportunities. The trail will also provide education regarding the traditional uses of the bayou, such as transportation and food source.

RTCA Role

RTCA will provide assistance with fostering partnerships between communities, engaging active public participation, developing a resource and concept plan, and mapping of the paddling area.

We're Here For You.

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

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2010 Nationwide Partnership Success

1,251 Miles of Trail Developed

1,694 Miles of River Conserved

25,370 Acres of Open Space and Parkland Protected

94% Percentage of Community Partners Satisfied

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



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Current Projects cont.

2. City of Monroe Comprehensive Trail Plan

Location: Monroe; Ouachita Parish
Congressional District: 3
Project Partner: City of Monroe, Planning and Urban Development
NPS Contact: Stacye Palmer-McBride

Project Goal

Link areas throughout Monroe including connections to the Monroe transit system. All routes will be on-street bike and pedestrian paths.

RTCA Role

RTCA will assist in public education workshops, as well as the update of the 1988 Comprehensive Trails Plans. Additionally, staff will also help in the recommendation of those trails that should be added, removed, or amended.

3. Louisiana Statewide Trails

Location: Statewide
Congressional Districts: Statewide
Project Partner: Louisiana Department of Culture, Recreation, and Tourism
NPS Contact: Stacye Palmer-McBride

Project Goal

Louisiana Department of Culture, Recreation, and Tourism (DCRT) and FHWA Recreational Trails Program for Louisiana, will develop a digital database system of all existing trails in Louisiana. Once completed, this database will serve as a tool to preserve, protect, maintain, present, and further develop all natural trails and other natural environments throughout Louisiana.

RTCA Role

RTCA will assist in the facilitation of the planning process; the development and facilitation of education workshops throughout the state; marketing and outreach (information brochures, pamphlets, news articles); research for trail amenity funding, establishment of partnerships; and capacity building.

4. Bayous to Use

Location: City of Shreveport, LA
Congressional District: 4
Project Partner: A Better Shreveport
NPS Contact: Stacye Palmer-McBride

Project Goal

Develop a city-wide network of trails located along Shreveport's canals and levees and convert them to greenways, open spaces, and pedestrian paths along these areas.

RTCA Role

RTCA will assist the existing partnership of local non-profits in developing public participation strategies, funding techniques, and design recommendations for the creation of a city-wide trail system.



RTCA staff Stacye Palmer-McBride and members of A Better Shreveport discuss issues on the Bayous to Use project