

Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail

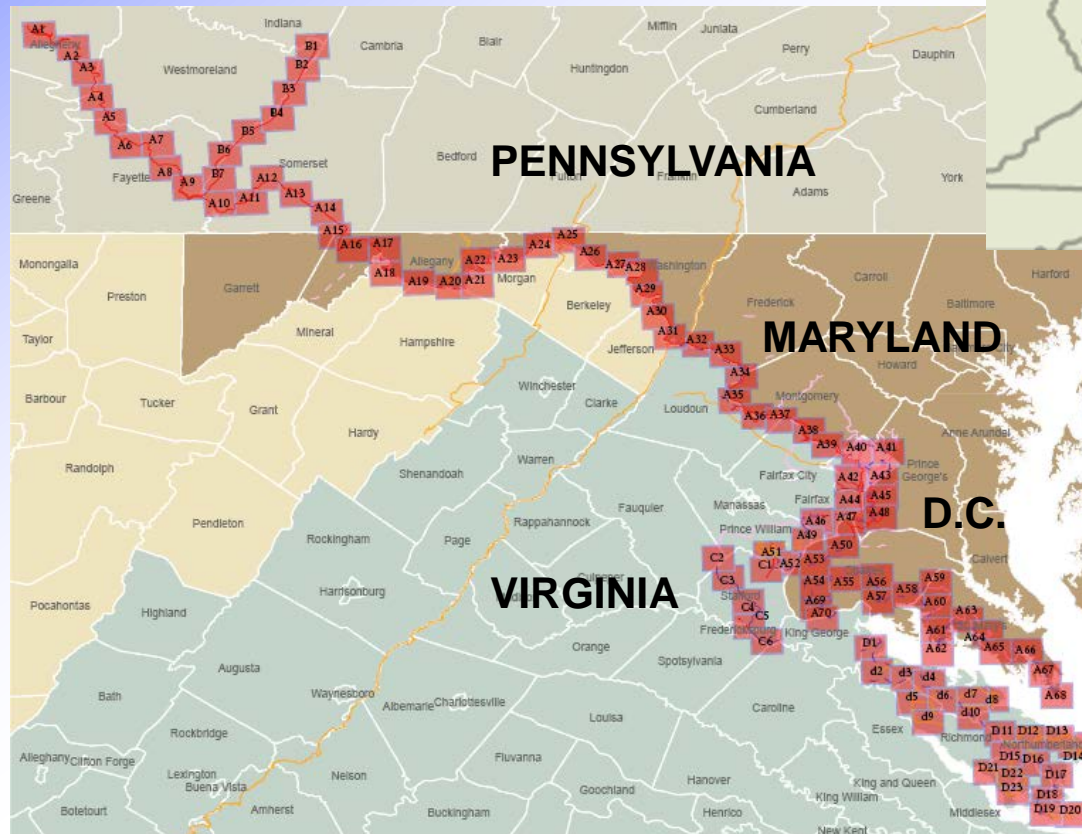


Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail

Experience the corridor of commerce first imagined by George Washington

A growing network of trails and waterways:

- 425-mile mile corridor
- 24 designated “segments” / 830 miles
- 230 +/- miles of planned/potential segments



Termini at:

- Point Lookout State Park, Md.
- Smith Point / Reedville, Vir.
- Point State Park (Pittsburgh), Penn.
- Seward, Penn.

Legislation and Administration:

- feasibility study authorized in National Trails System Act of 1968
 - 1983 Trail corridor authorized as amendment to NTSA
 - Secretary of the Interior → National Park Service
 - 2002 *Federal Register* Notice: guidelines for local and state agencies
 - trails on federal lands recognized in management plans
-
- operations funding FY2000
 - one FTE
 - FY08 budget: \$273,600
 - Challenge Cost-Share Program



The Trail is a partnership...

...to develop and maintain a network of locally-managed trails for recreation, transportation, health, and education between the mouth of the Potomac River and the Allegheny Highlands.

With the C & O Canal Towpath as the spine, the Trail is a meeting ground of ideas and practices, reflecting a desire for the conservation of lands and waters, for educational opportunities combined with outdoor recreation, and for a celebration of regional diversity and distinctiveness.



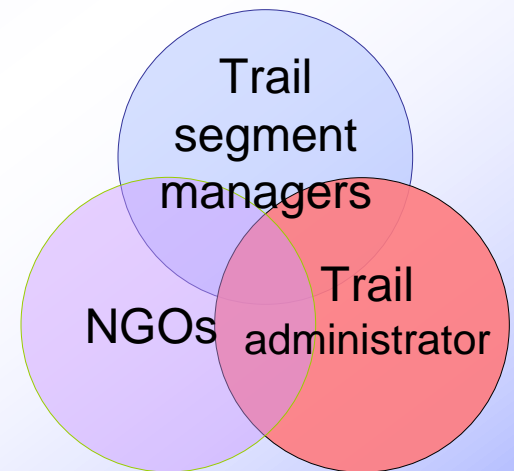


Challenges:

coordination among different kinds of stakeholders

graphic identity

developing “continuity of experience” through five physiographic provinces



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The Trail network:



“designated” Trail segments	miles
Laurel Highlands Hiking Trail (Laurel Ridge SP, Penn. DCNR)	70.0
Great Allegheny Passage (partners in the Allegheny Trail Alliance)	150.0
C & O Canal Towpath (C & O Canal NHP, NPS)	184.5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fort Circle Parks Trail (D.C.) Capital Monuments Route (D.C.) 	21 10
Linear Park System in eastern Loudoun County (Loudoun County; NVRPA)	15
Potomac Heritage Trail segments in Seneca Tract (NVRPA), Great Falls Park (NPS) & Riverbend Park and Scott’s Run Nature Preserve (Fairfax County Park Authority)	13
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potomac Heritage Trail (George Washington Memorial Parkway, NPS) Mount Vernon Trail (George Washington Memorial Parkway, NPS) 	10 18.5
Alexandria Heritage Trail (City of Alexandria, Vir.)	23.0
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potomac Heritage NST routes, Prince William Forest Park (NPS) Potomac Heritage Trail Phase I (Prince William County) 	4.5 8
Government Island Trail; Aquia Creek Trail; Historic Falmouth-Ferry Farm Trail (Stafford County, Vir.)	7.0
Northern Neck Heritage Trail Bicycling Route Network (Northumberland, Westmoreland, Lancaster & Richmond counties)	96
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prince Georges County Potomac Heritage Trail On-Road Bicycling Route Potomac Heritage NST segment (hiking), Piscataway Park (NPS) 	27.0 1.0
Potomac Heritage NST, Nanjemoy Natural Resource Management Area (BLM)	2.0
Southern Maryland PHT On-Road Bicycling Route	154
TOTAL MILES	830

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Trail Segments in Virginia:

Loudoun County:

- Linear Park System (Goose Creek – Seneca)

Northern Fairfax County:

- Potomac Heritage Trail in Upper Potomac Properties (NVRPA), Riverbend Park (FCPA), Great Falls Park (NPS) & Scotts Run Nature Preserve (FCPA)

George Washington Memorial Parkway:

- Potomac Heritage Trail
- Mount Vernon Trail

Southern Fairfax County/City of Alexandria:

- Potomac Heritage Trail (Mount Vernon – Occoquan Regional Park)
- Alexandria Heritage Trail

Prince William County:

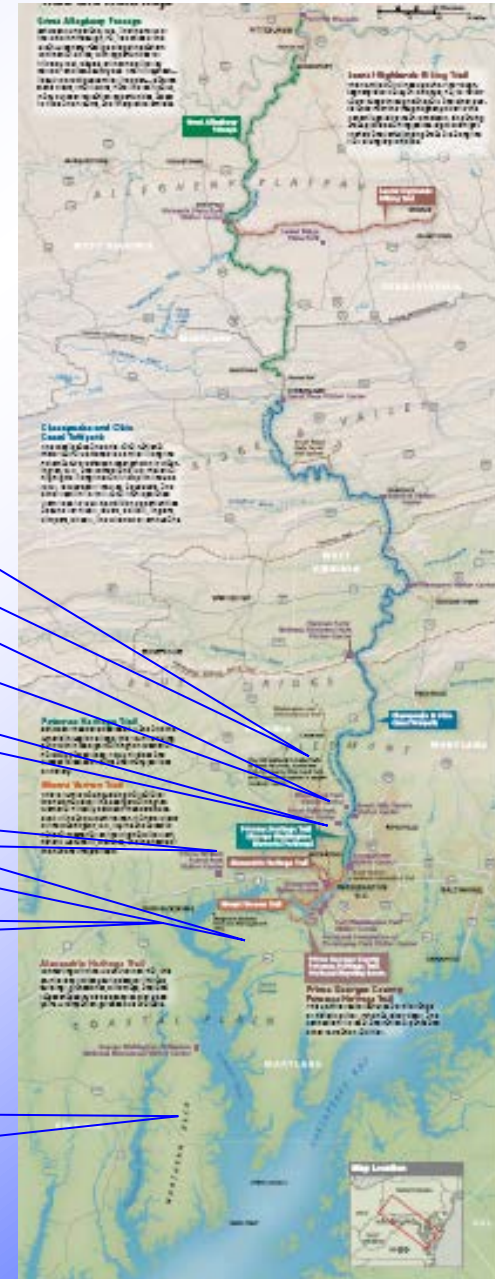
- Potomac Heritage Trail (Belmont Bay - Leesylvania State Park)
- routes within Prince William Forest Park

Stafford County:

- Government Island Trail
- Historic Falmouth-Ferry Farm Trail
- Aquia Creek Water Trail (planned)

Northumberland, Westmoreland, Lancaster & Richmond counties:

- Northern Neck Heritage Trail Bicycling Route Network
- water trail Westmoreland S.P.-Colonial Beach-James Monroe Birthplace



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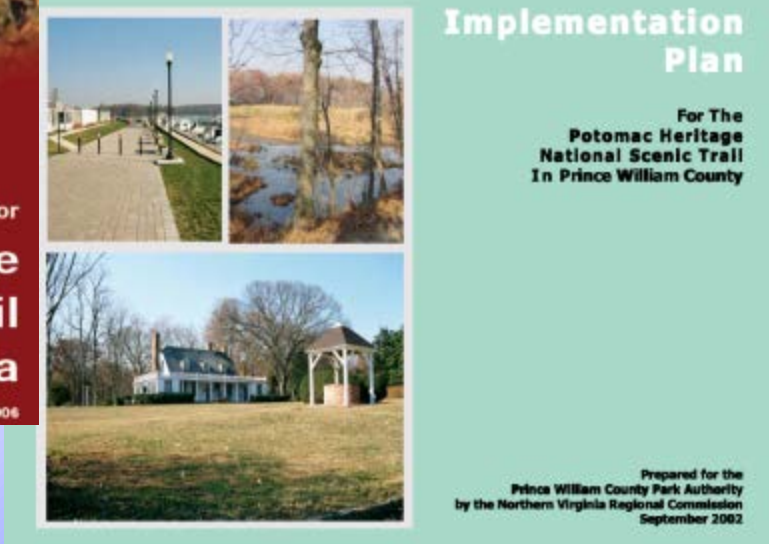
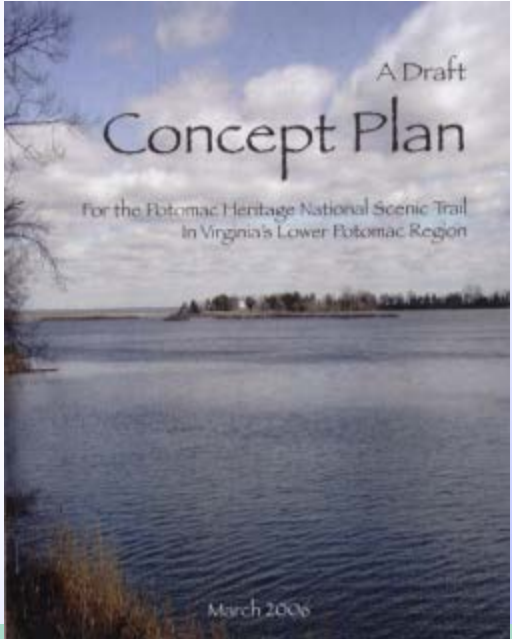
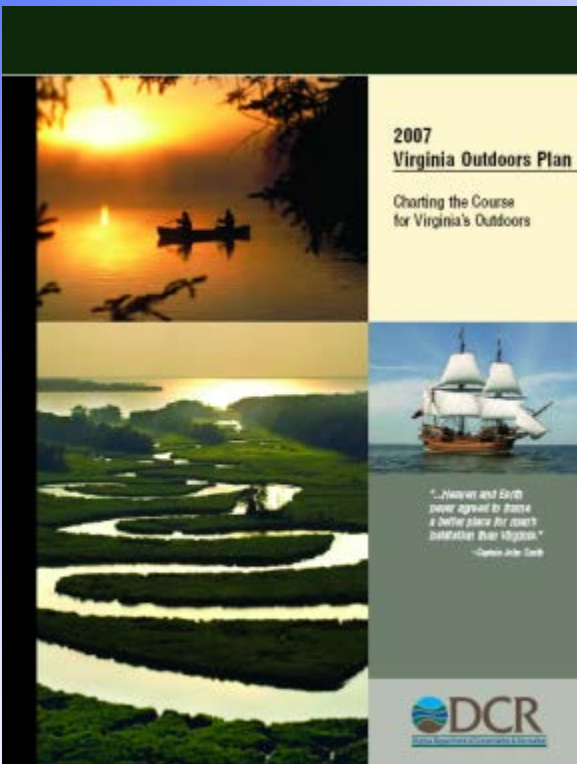
Multiple meanings...

- combine outdoor recreation opportunities & corridor conservation
- endorsement for non-motorized transportation
- understand local resources in the context of national themes
- regional heritage tourism marketing
- some technical & financial assistance



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Planning for the PHNST in Virginia:



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Harpers Ferry Center

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Virginia's Northern Neck Region

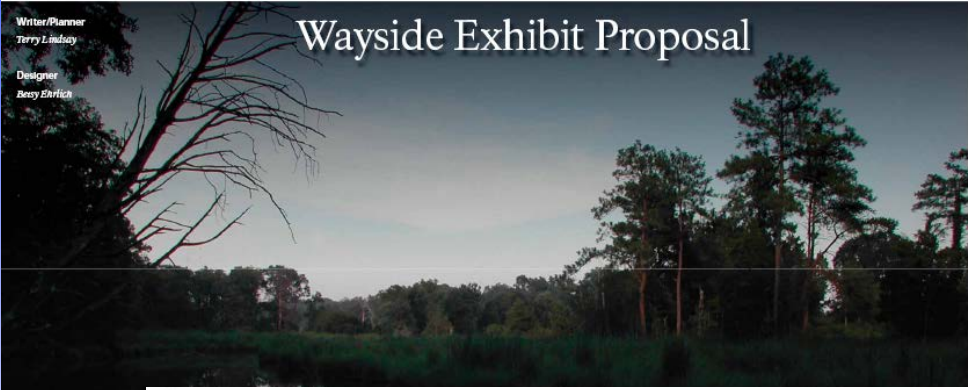
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



Writer/Planner
Terry Lindsay

Designer
Betty Ehrlich

Wayside Exhibit Proposal





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Wayside Exhibit Proposal



Northern Virginia's Piedmont Region



Prepared by
National Park Service

Planner
Terry Lindsay

Designer
Betty Ehrlich

	Site Orientation	Regional Orientation	Paddling/Hiking trail	Site-specific Interpretation	Trail marker
Theodore Roosevelt Island					
Live Oak Drive					
Scott's Run					
Great Falls VC					
Riverbend Park					
Seneca Park					
Algonkian Regional Park					
Ries Park					
Elizabeth Mills Riverfront Park					
Kephardt Bridge Landing					
Keep Loudoun Beautiful Park					
Red Rock Overlook Regional Park					
Ball's Bluff					
White's Ferry (Maryland)					

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Potomac Connections

PIEDMONT REGION

George Washington walked, rode his horse, and boated through this region pursuing his dream of westward expansion—connecting the Atlantic Seaboard to the Blue Ridge West. His efforts to reunification, then, themselves and straighten the Potomac River influenced industrialization of the 19th century and beyond. But the river resisted. Today wild tangles with urban. Huge oaks, sycamores, and tulip trees guard the river and welcome all seeking refuge there.

The Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail network is a portal into the region's history, culture, and ecology. Here, in Northern Virginia, a network of hiking and water trails allows you an intimate connection with the river and the distinctive Piedmont landscape. The trails beckon exploration and offer adventure.

Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail

This segment traces the Potomac and Loudoun river valleys from the Blue Ridge Mountains to the Chesapeake Bay. The trail network passes through the scenic Potomac River valley and the rolling hills of the Piedmont region. It is a network of hiking and water trails that connect the river to the surrounding landscape.

Water Trail

Water trails are a unique way to experience the Potomac River. They are a network of trails that follow the river and its tributaries, providing a unique perspective on the river and its surroundings. The Potomac River is a vital part of the region's history and culture, and the water trails offer a unique way to experience it.

Hiking Trail

Hiking trails are a great way to explore the Potomac River and its surroundings. They are a network of trails that follow the river and its tributaries, providing a unique perspective on the river and its surroundings. The Potomac River is a vital part of the region's history and culture, and the hiking trails offer a unique way to experience it.

Hiking and Paddling Connections

Here is your portal to the region's history, culture, and ecology. The Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail is a network of many trails that connect people with the rich stories of George Washington, western expansion, and 19th-century industrialization. Here in Fairfax and Loudoun counties a 50-mile long trail corridor leads hikers through rich Piedmont forests. Miles of paddling waters are here too, creating chances to embrace our local and national heritage. This map will help you make your connection and offers a window on present-day efforts to conserve lands and waters of this region.

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Scotts Run Nature Preserve

The peaceful scenes you can see here are stories of past war and conflict. Members of the Neapolitan tribe traveled the slopes of the region. Archaeologists find evidence that Indians used what is now Scotts Run to trap and hunt following their trade route between the Blue Ridge Mountains and the Chesapeake Bay.

By the 18th century, the region was being cleared for timber and agriculture. In 1930 Edward Rilling, a prominent Washington lawyer, bought the 136-acre site and built a cabin here for use as a weekend retreat. After his death in the late 1940s, the land was sold and used for housing development. Conservationists, community groups, and high school students stepped in to develop and preserve government officials to create Scotts Run Nature Preserve for everyone's enjoyment.

A Diverse Landscape

Scotts Run Nature Preserve is a unique landscape. It is a network of trails that follow the river and its tributaries, providing a unique perspective on the river and its surroundings. The Potomac River is a vital part of the region's history and culture, and the water trails offer a unique way to experience it.

A Place for You

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Burling Defenders

On July 16, 1970, over 100 people gathered to protest the proposed development of the Scotts Run Nature Preserve. The protesters held signs and sang songs, and the event was a success. The Scotts Run Nature Preserve is now a protected area, and the development has been stopped.

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Photo of the Scotts Run Nature Preserve

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More information:



Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail Office
National Park Service
www.nps.gov/pohe

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