



East Coast Greenway 2008 State of the Trail Report

An annual report on progress in completing a Maine to Florida trail system.



OVERVIEW FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

MAY 2009

Greetings!

This is the 18th year that I have served as the lead person for the East Coast Greenway Alliance, 16 of those years as Executive Director. By the end of 2009 I will step down. It has been a remarkable ride and a wonderfully rewarding experience to see this wisp of an idea become a reality. It could only have been done with the help of thousands – volunteers, public officials, friends from the private sector, members and donors—all of whom grasped the potential and joined the excitement of making the Greenway happen.













During 2008 we made some very significant headway. Our route was fully mapped on Google maps posted on our web site, accompanied by field-checked cue sheets, allowing experienced cyclists to travel the entire route. Our first Trail Guide was also published, for our entire route across New Jersey, thanks to support from the New Jersey Department of Transportation. More ECG markers have been posted along our route including the entire coastal route in New Hampshire (all 23 miles!) and the route down the National Mall in Washington, DC. In October we took a group of our major donors on a weeklong bike tour along the Greenway from Wilmington, DE to New York City, cycling along 23 different trail segments and imbibing the unique culture and wonderful scenery of this portion of the Greenway corridor.

The foundation is set, the momentum is strong, the base of support is broad. The Greenway will grow incrementally from the vision we have all shared—a safe place, free of motorized traffic, where our youngest and our oldest and our most physically challenged can get out and enjoy the outdoors close to home or on a journey of a lifetime.

See you on the Trail!

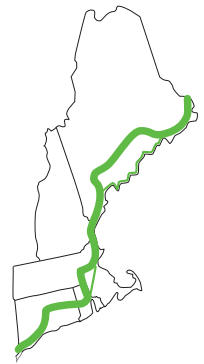
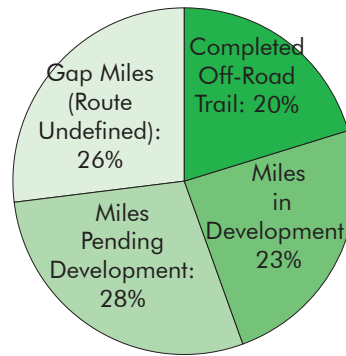
Karen M. Votava Karen M. Votava, Executive Director

Top Ten Accomplishments in 2008

-  Entire 3000-mile route between Calais, Maine and Key West, Florida was fully mapped and posted with field-checked cue sheets at www.greenway.org, enabling experienced cyclists to use the Greenway. Completed trails, 120 in all, are available for people of all abilities.
-  *New Jersey East Coast Greenway Multi-use Trail Guide* published by New Jersey Department of Transportation.
-  In April, the ECGA Trail Council and Board designated 17.7 miles of trail.
-  ECG trail markers posted on National Mall and along Seacoast route in New Hampshire.
-  Second Close the Gaps Club tour conducted for 16 major donors from Wilmington, DE to New York City.
-  Informational kiosks installed along the American Tobacco Trail in Durham, NC, the D&R Canal Trail in Millstone, NJ, and in Johnson Park in Highland Park, NJ, and in Charter Oak Park in Manchester, CT.
-  At the October 2008 Trail Council and Board meetings, 42.5 miles of additional East Coast Greenway trail were designated.
-  *New York City Weekend Trip Planner* content prepared and tested for publication.
-  Fifteen cyclists participated in Bike Florida's Inaugural Tour, St. Johns River to the Sea Loop, November 15-22, Palatka-St. Augustine-Daytona Beach-Titusville-Enterprise-Crescent City-Palatka, a loop of the ECG.
-  *Hike or Bike the East Coast Greenway in Northeast Florida* published.

NEW ENGLAND REGION

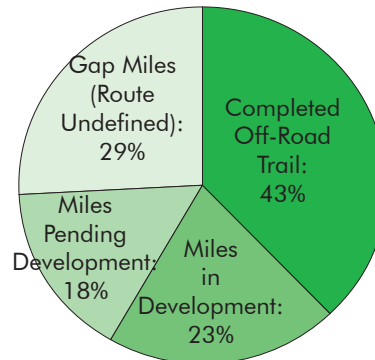
Route Status:	Current Travel Route: 818 Miles Complete Off-Road: 161 Miles Trail in Development: 192 Miles Trail Pending Development: 225.5 Miles Trail Gap: 211 Miles Trail Markers Posted: 96 Miles
Staffing and support:	Members: 1651 State Committees: ME, NH, MA, RI, CT Staffing: Eric Weis, Regional Trail Coordinator
Regional Accomplishments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Interim on-road route in NH marked with signs - ECG included in MA Statewide Bike Plan, which will lead to the route's being signed - Providence City Bike Plan adopted, including signing and bike lane striping for the ECG - 3 miles of Blackstone River Bikeway constructed in RI - Sikorsky Bridge over Housatonic River in CT completed with 1+ mile separated bike-ped path
Kiosk Locations:	ME - South Portland Greenbelt ME - Androscoggin River Bicycle Path RI - Coventry Greenway CT - Charter Oak Greenway
On-road section most in need of improvement:	Between Boston and Everett, MA to the North
Model Section:	Woonsocket, RI to Coventry, RI through Providence; 24 of 36 miles on multi-use trail



Sshhh! The 2008 Annual Member meeting took place at the Boston Public Library. Photo: Tony Barrett

MID ATLANTIC REGION

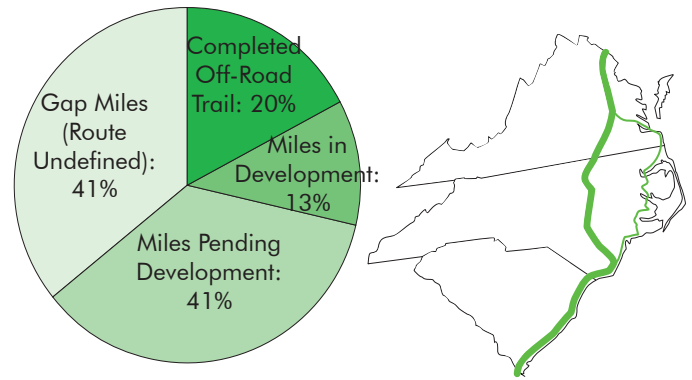
Route Status:	Current Travel Route: 371 Miles Complete Off-Road: 158 Miles Trail in Development: 84 Miles Trail Pending Development: 65 Miles Trail Gap: 106 Miles Trail Markers Posted: 80 Miles
Staffing and support:	Members: 1800 State Committees: NJ - only state with paid staff. NY, PA, DE, MD, DC all active Staffing: Michael Oliva, Regional Trail Coordinator; Dolores Newman, NJ Committee staff
Regional Accomplishments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pennsylvania-Delaware: A Guide to Walking and Biking published - new kiosk in Johnson Park, NJ - National Mall in Washington, DC marked - First ECG tour from Delaware to New York City
Kiosk Locations:	NJ - D&R Canal Towpath NJ - Johnson Park MD - B&A Trail
On-road section most in need of improvement:	Newark to Jersey City connection, including Hackensack River crossing
Model Section:	New York City route: 25 miles, 90% off road



Mike Dannemiller, Mike Oliva and Mike Kruimer rest after their labors in constructing the Johnson Park Trail kiosk in November 2008. Photo: Anne Kruimer

SOUTH ATLANTIC REGION

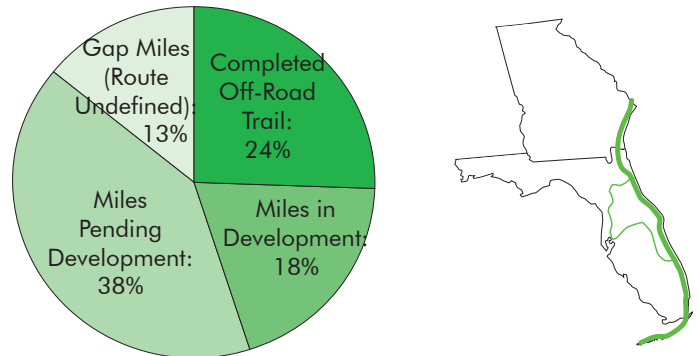
Route Status:	Current Travel Route: 837.2 Miles Complete Off-Road: 167.4 Miles Trail in Development: 107.7 Miles Trail Pending Development: 343 Miles Trail Gap: 343.9 Miles Trail Markers Posted: 29.5 Miles
Staffing and Support:	Members: 679 State Committees: VA, NC and SC all active Staffing: Steve Bevington, Regional Trail Coordinator
Regional Accomplishments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Agreement with Military Ocean Terminal at Sunny Point, NC to allow public access to six-mile off-road Cape Fear River corridor, filling gap between two existing ECG trails and providing safe access to both NC State Aquarium at Kure Beach and South Port free ferry. - Series of six public meetings along ECG corridor in Virginia as part of ECG Virginia Mapping Project - Charrette focusing on improvements to West Ashley Greenway in partnership with Charleston Moves and West Ashley Greenway Neighborhood Association
Kiosk Locations:	NC – American Tobacco Trail
On-road section most in need of improvement:	Portions of U.S. Route 1 in southern Virginia
Model Section:	Mount Pleasant, SC, to Bluffton, SC



ECG users consult the kiosk along the American Tobacco Trail in Durham, North Carolina. Photo: Bill Bussey

SOUTHEAST REGION

Route Status:	Current Travel Route: 782.7 Miles Complete Off-Road: 186.35 Miles Trail in Development: 139.75 Miles Trail Pending Development: 299 Miles Trail Gap: 102.6 Miles Trail Markers Posted: 24.3 Miles
Staffing and Support:	Members: 478 State Committees: GA, FL Staffing: Herb Hiller, Regional Trail Consultant
Regional Accomplishments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Creation of St. Johns River-to-Sea Loop - First St. Johns River-to-Sea Loop promotional tour - First Savannah-Jacksonville promotional tour
Kiosk Locations:	West Palm Beach kiosk location secured.
On-road section most in need of improvement:	Florida City to Key Largo
Model Section:	Overseas Heritage Trail



Cumberland Sound Ferry becomes a part of the East Coast Greenway, connecting St. Mary's, Georgia with Fernandina Beach, Florida, September 2008.

East Coast Greenway

A Trail Connecting Cities

Calais, ME to Key West, FL ≈ 2950 mi

2008 Trail Designations

The trails listed here were designated as segments of the ECG in 2008. There are many more trails along the route which are open for public use and will be designated in the near future.

