



State of the Trail Report 2009

East Coast Greenway Alliance



NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: MONUMENTAL PROGRESS CONTINUES

MAY 2010

Greetings!

What a remarkable beginning! We passed the baton from our outstanding founding leader, Karen Votava, without slowing down trail progress. Not only has the East Coast Greenway Alliance flourished in our organizational transition, but we are also beginning to emerge from the Great Recession with a new level of commitment and energy.



photo by Steve Rosenbaum

While the economy contracted in 2009, your support made sure the East Coast Greenway continued to grow. The year saw a 14.7% growth in our greenway's spine route (on 72 new miles designated in total). And we began to see an acceleration of resources to the project's completion as stimulus funds have been allocated toward our numerous shovel-ready sections.

The year ahead has even greater promise. We now turn our sights to making our 3,000-mile route safe and accessible to all within a few years for daily commutes and life-changing green travel. We are focusing on key hot spots where our limited resources can make an enormous impact.






For instance, we plan to complete signage throughout New Jersey and Delaware, to establish a safe route connecting the Triangle communities of North Carolina, to make the stretches of ECG in Florida an international touring destination, and to unite the bike and pedestrian advocacy movement throughout New England by hosting the first ever Bike/Walk Summit for the whole region.

Thank you for all of your help to transform the East Coast Greenway from dream into reality!

Dennis Markatos-Soriano
Executive Director

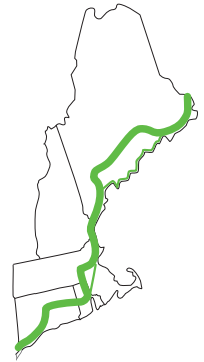
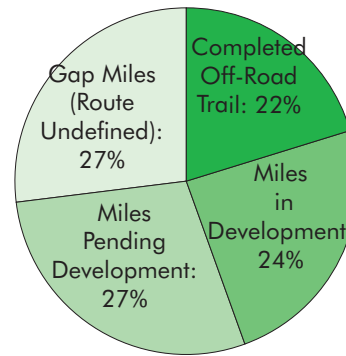
Onwards to a Healthy and Sustainable America,

Top Five Accomplishments of 2009

-  Over 70 miles of trail, in 10 states, were designated as parts of the ECG trail system.
-  Launch of seasonal Bike Florida touring of the St. Johns River-to-Sea Loop, ECGA-inspired, which includes four counties of ECG spine route and another one of alternative route.
-  The first completed portion of Maine's Downeast Sunrise Trail, 30 miles long, is designated as ECG; 57 more miles are currently being developed.
-  New York City and Boston bike maps highlight the East Coast Greenway route through the cities.
-  At least \$40 million in federal stimulus funds dedicated to segments of the East Coast Greenway, creating jobs and green transportation opportunities in nine states, from Florida's Overseas Heritage Trail to Maine's Eastern Trail.

NEW ENGLAND REGION

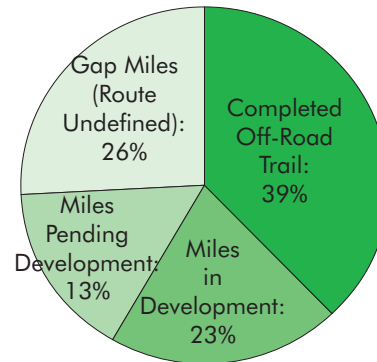
Route Status:	Current Travel Route: 818 Miles Complete Off-Road: 178 Miles Trail in Development: 190 Miles Trail Pending Development: 216 Miles Trail Gap: 213 Miles Trail Markers Posted: 96 Miles
Staffing and support:	Members: 1373 State Committees: ME, NH, MA, RI, CT Staffing: Eric Weis, Trail Program Coordinator
Regional Accomplishments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - First 30 miles of Downeast Sunrise Trail completed; 57 to go - Connecticut DOT confirms support for Merritt Parkway Trail development - First portions of Border-to-Boston Trail completed, in Salisbury, Newburyport and Topsfield - Trail constructed in Topsham and Lisbon, Maine - Peabody Bikeway (MA) constructed
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
Model Section:	Woonsocket, RI to Coventry, RI through Providence; 24 of 36 miles on multi-use trail



Improved section of the Downeast Sunrise Trail, near Machias, ME. Photo: Carl Knoch, RTC

MID ATLANTIC REGION

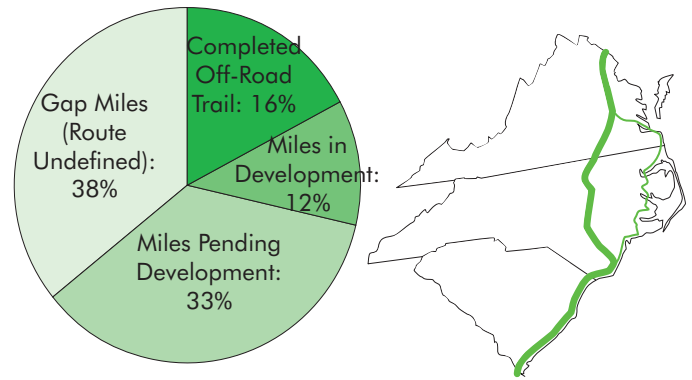
Route Status:	Current Travel Route: 393 Miles Complete Off-Road: 158 Miles Trail in Development: 93 Miles Trail Pending Development: 56 Miles Trail Gap: 106 Miles Trail Markers Posted: 80 Miles
Staffing and support:	Members: 1376 State Committees: NJ, NY, PA, DE, MD, DC all active Staffing: Michael Oliva, Regional Trail Coordinator; Dolores Newman, NJ Committee staff
Regional Accomplishments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ECG signs installed through The Bronx - Stimulus funds awarded to build portion of the ECG in Delaware (New Castle Rail Trail) - NJ route marked from Newark to the Pennsylvania border - Three new kiosks built in NJ
Kiosk Locations:	NJ – D&R Canal Towpath, Nomahegan Park, Merrill Park, Johnson Park MD – B&A Trail, Torrey Brown 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



A combined East Coast Greenway / NYC Greenways sign guides users through 9.5 mi of off-road parkland through the north Bronx. Photo: Michael Oliva

SOUTH ATLANTIC REGION

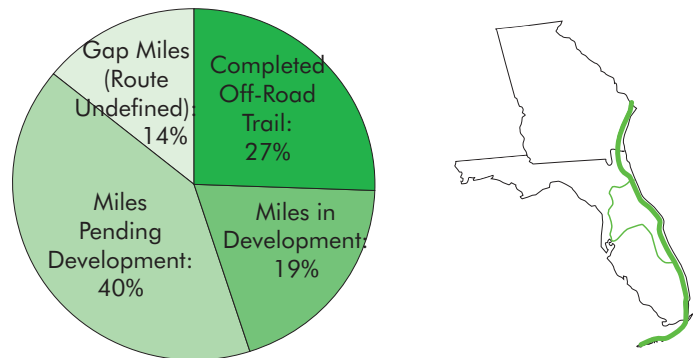
Route Status:	Current Travel Route: 837.2 Miles Complete Off-Road: 152 Miles Trail in Development: 118 Miles Trail Pending Development: 313 Miles Trail Gap: 365 Miles Trail Markers Posted: 29.5 Miles
Staffing and Support:	Members: 505 State Committees: VA, NC and SC all active Staffing: Steve Bevington, Regional Trail Coordinator
Regional Accomplishments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ECG Virginia Mapping Project leads to route refinements statewide - Charles City County section of Virginia Capital Trail completed - Ashland Trolley Line Trail emerges as new opportunity for Richmond area - North Carolina Committee reorganizes under new leadership
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:	Richmond, VA, to Williamsburg, VA (Virginia Capital Trail), 58 miles , 26% complete



Planners pore over maps while discussing ECG route refinements in Virginia, part of the ECGA VA mapping project.

SOUTHEAST REGION

Route Status:	Current Travel Route: 782.7 Miles Complete Off-Road: 195 Miles Trail in Development: 142 Miles Trail Pending Development: 296 Miles Trail Gap: 103 Miles Trail Markers Posted: 24.3 Miles
Staffing and Support:	Members: 345 State Committees: GA, FL Staffing: Herb Hiller, Regional Trail Consultant
Regional Accomplishments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - New Florida Keys construction underway - Bike Florida leads tours along the St. John's River-to-Sea Loop, initiated by the ECGA's Herb Hiller - Cumberland Sound Ferry (ECG route between GA and FL increases schedule from 2 to 4 days/week) - Planning advances for new rail-trail in Camden County, GA
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, 106 miles in the FL Keys, over 50% complete



Georgia Coast Rail-Trail stream crossing near White Oak, Georgia. This trail is part of the Coastal Georgia Greenway and the ECG.

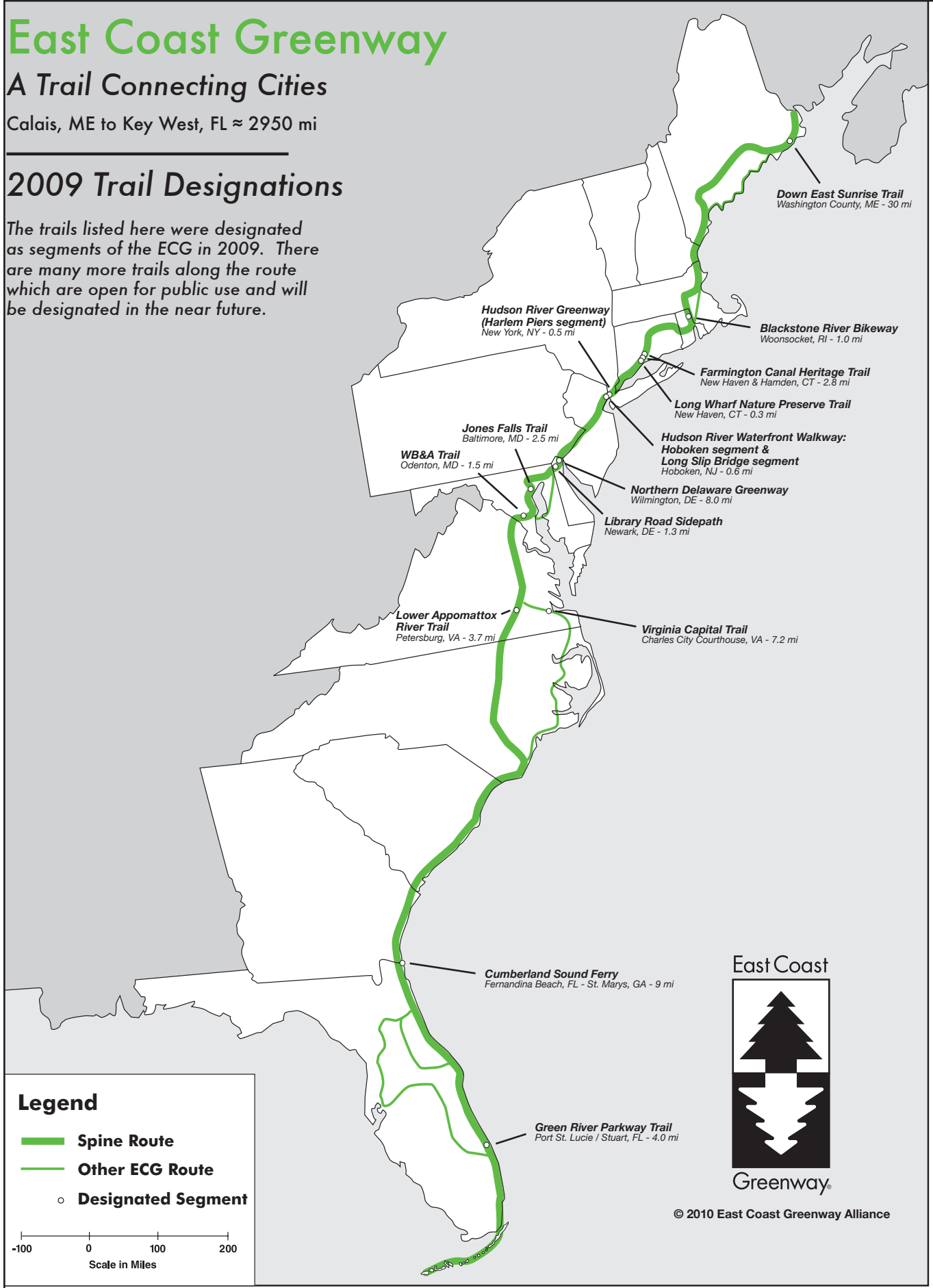
East Coast Greenway

A Trail Connecting Cities

Calais, ME to Key West, FL ≈ 2950 mi

2009 Trail Designations

The trails listed here were designated as segments of the ECG in 2009. There are many more trails along the route which are open for public use and will be designated in the near future.



Legend

- █ Spine Route
- █ Other ECG Route
- Designated Segment



East Coast



Greenway®

© 2010 East Coast Greenway Alliance