

ECGA Releases 2001 State of the Trail Report

The East Coast Greenway Alliance (ECGA) today released its 2001 State of the Trail Report, a 68-page status report on the East Coast Greenway.

Stretching from Calais, Maine to Key West, Florida this multi-use trail network travels through the eastern seaboard's largest cities, providing an off-road, firm-surfaced trail for walkers, cyclists, skaters, wheelchairs and skiers. The ECG will be an urban alternative to the wilderness experience offered by the Appalachian Trail, not a place to get away from civilization but rather to be with people and to experience our rich built environment and the history of this coastal region.

The ECG will serve users of all abilities and ages. It will provide children with a safe route to school, adults with a healthy, non-polluting way to commute by bicycle or foot, nearby residents with an easily accessible place for physical activity. And it will enable all of us to explore this region so closely associated with our history and culture, up close and at a slow pace.

The Report provides a "scorecard" on the development status of the entire 2600-mile spine route, as well as detailed information about the dozens of local trail segments that comprise this long distance travel corridor, such as the Farmington Canal Rail-Trail in Connecticut and the Metropolitan Branch Trail in Washington, D.C. Included are 16 full-color route maps, one for each state (plus Washington, D.C.) through which the ECG passes, dozens of color photos of the trail in varying stages of development, and information on the condition, status, length, and contact information on each segment.

"Enormous progress has been made since we first launched the ECG vision in 1991" said ECGA Executive Director, Karen Votava. "Projected for completion in 2010, already 8% (over 30 segments in eight states) of the Greenway is open to use and designated as part of this national trail system. Hundreds more miles are moving to designation in the coming year."

David Dionne, Chair of the ECGA Board of Trustees, is confident that the Alliance will reach its goal of completing the trail by the target date. "The ECGA is being built locally and in increments. A bite at a time is our approach. And the excitement and momentum are definitely picking up."

"The Report will be a great resource for assessing where we are on the project, for managing progress on individual segments, and for soliciting the support and involvement of our many partners. It will lend credibility to our effort, demonstrating that the ECG is no longer just a vision, but is indeed becoming a reality," said Karen Votava.

Copies of the 2001 State of the Trail Report can be secured from the ECGA at 135 Main Street, Wakefield, RI 02879, by telephone at 401-789-4625, or by clicking [here](#).

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