



# East Coast Greenway 2006 State of the Trail Report

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



## OVERVIEW FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

DECEMBER 2006

2005 marked the launch of our "Close the Gaps" Campaign to substantially complete the Greenway by 2010. Our goals are to establish a continuous Maine to Florida route (both off and on road) that walkers and experienced cyclists can travel now; and to expedite moving the on-road portions of that route off-road for a safer and more pleasant travel experience by people of all abilities. We've adopted a streamlined procedure for ushering the interim on-road route into our system that does not entail the complexities of a full designation by our board. Each year we will track our progress and issue a brief **State of the Trail Report**.



With only one year of the Campaign under our belt, our progress as measured by trail development has been fairly modest. We added 49 miles of trail to our spine route and posted trail markers on 28 miles of trail. But our real success during 2006 lies in the planning, strategizing, and development of partnerships that sets us up for getting more trail on the ground in the next few years.

We increased our capacity to tackle this ambitious agenda by adding Herb Hiller as our Regional Trail Liaison for the Southeast Region (Florida and Georgia). Liaisons for the two remaining regions, South Atlantic and Mid-Atlantic, will be appointed in early 2007. Our Trail Council was functioning in full gear during 2006, with three day-long meetings at which policy was hammered out, trail designated, and progress tracked. At our November meeting we devoted time to assessing what is impeding trail progress, and will be working on these issues over the coming year.

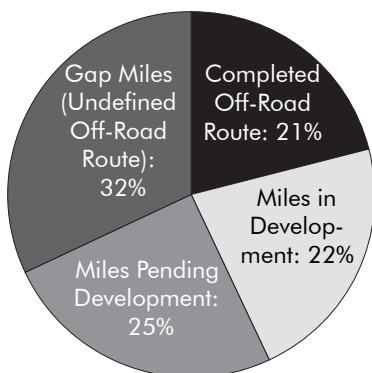
*Karen M. Votava* Karen M. Votava, Executive Director

### Top 10 Accomplishments in 2006

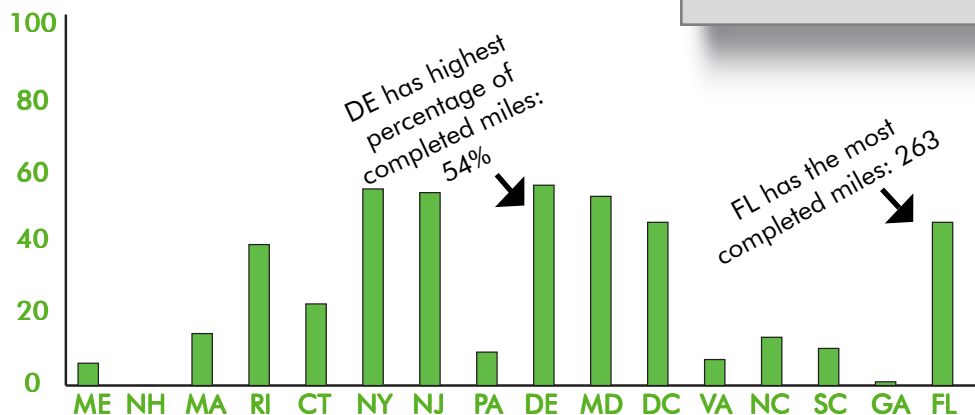
- We added 49 miles of trail in four states to the ECG
- ECG signs were placed on 28 miles of trail. Another 183 miles of trail are ready to be signed.
- A tentative route from ME to VA was electronically mapped on Google Earth and is accessible by request.
- 11 State Blueprints for Action have been completed, setting out segment by segment steps needed to complete the ECG.
- Staff completed a Reconnaissance Tour from Trenton to Baltimore to evaluate this section of the ECG. First-hand experience of the trail will be plowed back into their work.
- The Trail Council met three times to review trail progress and assess problems impeding progress.
- The procedure for establishing the on-road interim routing was refined and adopted. We aim to have this route in place by the end of 2007.
- Over \$200,000 of support for our Close the Gaps Campaign was received from individual donors.
- Four new staffers came on board this year, increasing our capacity to advance our agenda.
- A feature article by Wil Hyton on his 2005 through ride was published in *GQ Magazine*, bringing national media attention to the ECG.

### The Close the Gaps Campaign aims to meet these goals by 2010:

- Complete 100% of the Trail as a continuous on and off road route
- Produce cue sheets for the entire route and user maps from New York to Washington, DC
- Mark at least 50% of the route with ECG signage
- Move 80% of the trail off road in the areas where 80% of the people live
- Undertake routing studies for all "gap" areas of five or more miles and move them toward development as trail
- Create a fully-completed, model section of trail at least 100 miles long with signs, maps, kiosks, and amenities for long distance users
- Upgrade on-road sections by adding sidewalks, shoulders, and bike lanes



Off-Road Route Status

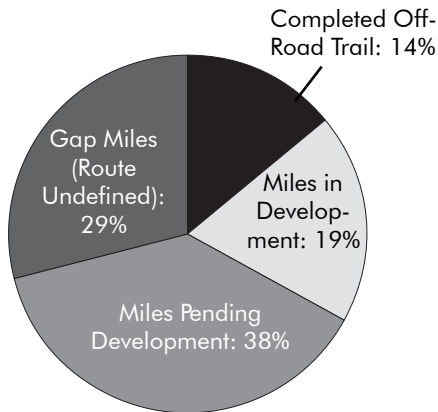


The percentage of miles in each state that are completed off-road spine route trail.

## NEW ENGLAND REGION

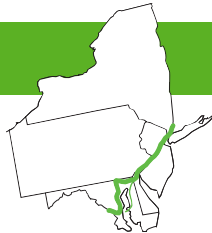


**Continuous Route:** 796 Miles  
**Complete Off-Road:** 113 Miles  
**Signed:** 87.3 Miles  
**Model Section:** The Downeast Sunrise Trail in ME and the route in CT from New Haven to Putnam are candidates for the first 100-mile ECG model segment.  
**Most frequently requested:** Info about the segment from Hartford to Providence  
**State Committees:** NH Committee Revived  
**ECGA Staffing:** 3/5 time Regional Trail Liaison in place

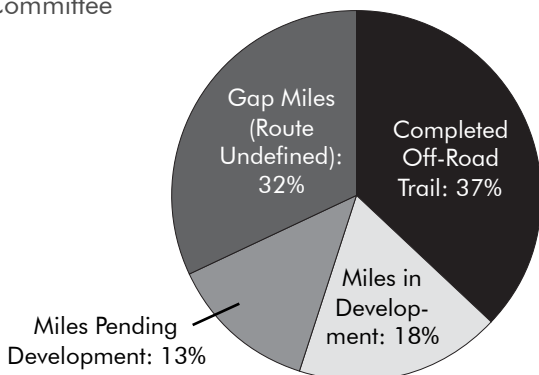


Regional Accomplishments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- RTCA support granted for the Sunrise Trail in ME and for the NH ECGA Committee</li> <li>- ECG markers posted on the Charles River Bikeway</li> <li>- 3-mile phase of the Blackstone River Bikeway in RI nearing completion</li> <li>- Sikorsky Bridge bike/pedway complete</li> <li>- Simsbury section of the Farmington Canal Heritage Trail complete (1.7 miles)</li> </ul>
Blueprints for Action:	Completed for: ME, NH, MA, RI, CT
Informational Kiosk Locations:	South Portland Greenbelt (Broadway & Wainwright), Androskoggin River Bicycle Path, Coventry Greenway
Cue Sheets available:	The entire route in ME, NH, and RI (email <a href="mailto:eric@greenway.org">eric@greenway.org</a> for cue sheets)
Longest completed segment:	Charles River Bike Path, Boston to Waltham; 12 miles
Most important on-road section needing improvement:	Everett to the Boston Museum of Science - 3 miles

## MID ATLANTIC REGION

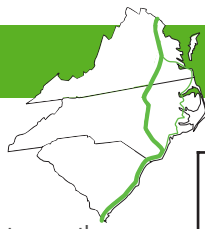


**Continuous Route:** 454 Miles  
**Complete Off-Road:** 167 Miles  
**Signed:** 67.8 Miles  
**Model Section:** Memorial Bridge across the Potomac River to the Jones Falls Trail in Baltimore is a candidate for the first 100-mile model ECG model segment.  
**Most frequently requested:** Info about the segment between Philadelphia and Baltimore  
**State Committees:** The New Jersey committee continues to be the strongest state committee, but there are also active committees in MD, PA & NY  
**ECGA Staffing:** Part time office support for NJ Committee



Regional Accomplishments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- NJDOT organized the first statewide ECG summit, bringing together stakeholders and planners for strategizing and information-sharing</li> <li>- NJDOT commits to create a user map of the route through NJ</li> <li>- PA Bike Route E fully-signed as the continuous, on-road, interim ECG route</li> <li>- 21.2 miles of trail added to ECG system</li> <li>- 3 meetings held in NY to determine best routing</li> </ul>
Blueprints for Action:	Completed for: NY, NJ, PA, DE, MD, DC
Informational Kiosk Locations:	Philadelphia - Penn Treaty Park; Maryland - B&A Trail
Cue Sheets available:	75.4 miles in NJ; 52.6 miles in PA, 58 miles from Annapolis to DC (email <a href="mailto:eric@greenway.org">eric@greenway.org</a> for cue sheets)
Longest completed segment:	D&R Canal Trail; Trenton to Brunswick, NJ; 34.2 miles
Most important on-road section needing improvement:	Route through Meadowlands, Jersey City to Newark - currently, we recommend that users take the light rail!

## SOUTH ATLANTIC REGION



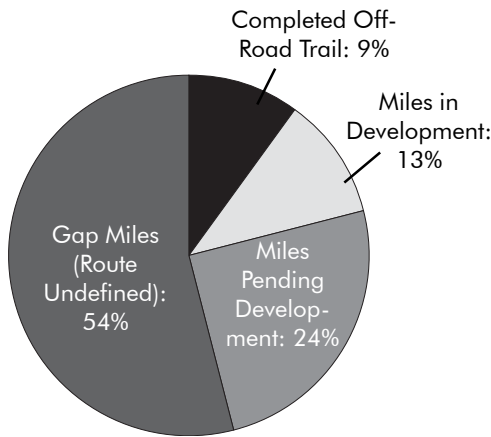
Continuous Route: 966 Miles  
 Complete Off-Road: 86 Miles  
 Signed: 15.9 Miles

Model Section: North Myrtle Beach to south end of West Ashley Greenway is a candidate for the first 100-mile ECG model segment.

Most frequently requested: Info about the segment between Richmond and Raleigh

State Committees: All state committees are active and represented on the Trail Council

ECGA Staffing: None at this time



Regional Accomplishments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Improved interim on-road routing mapped through southern Fairfax Co, VA</li> <li>- 6.8 miles of trail in NC and 10.65 miles of trail in SC added to the ECG</li> <li>- Charleston Co. bond referendum passed to protect open space</li> <li>- 22-miles rail corridor from Yamasee to Beaufort, SC being studied for trail use</li> <li>- First section of West Ashley Greenway paved</li> </ul>
Blueprints for Action:	Complete for VA, NC, SC
Informational Kiosk Locations:	None
Cue Sheets available:	394 miles - the entire route in NC and portions of SC and VA (email <a href="mailto:eric@greenway.org">eric@greenway.org</a> for cue sheets)
Longest completed segment:	Mount Vernon Trail/Arlington Memorial Bridge; 17 miles
Most important on-road section needing improvement:	Route 17 between Georgetown and Mt. Pleasant, SC

## SOUTHEAST REGION



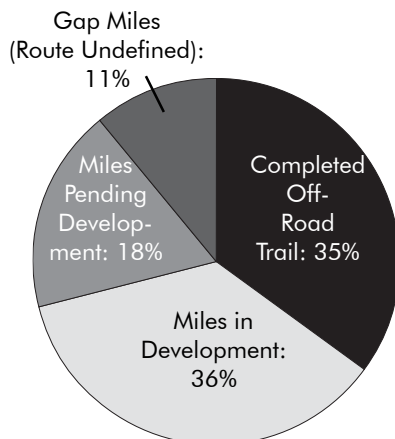
Continuous Route: 757 Miles  
 Complete Off-Road: 265 Miles  
 Signed: 8.2 Miles

Model Section: The Overseas Heritage Trail is a candidate for the first 100-mile ECG model segment.

Most frequently requested: Info about the Overseas Heritage Trail

State Committee: Georgia is the only state without at least a volunteer state coordinator

ECGA Staffing: Regional Trail Liaison in place



Regional Accomplishments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Herb Hiller joined ECGA as Southeast Program Consultant</li> <li>- Amendment passed to include bicycle facilities on Back River Bridge, a crucial connection between GA and SC.</li> </ul>
Blueprints for Action:	Blueprints for both states are currently being drafted
Informational Kiosk Locations:	None
Cue Sheets available:	610 miles - the entire FL route from the GA border to Key West (Southbound only) (Email <a href="mailto:eric@greenway.org">eric@greenway.org</a> for cue sheets)
Longest completed segment:	58 miles of the Overseas Heritage Trail
Most important on-road section needing improvement:	Route 17 in northern Georgia

# East Coast Greenway

## Designated Trails

as of December 2005

The trails listed here have been officially designated as part of the ECG. There are many more completed trails along the route which are open to public use and will be designated in the near future.

East Coast



Greenway.

### Maine

- Calais Riverwalk
- Moosehorn National Wildlife Refuge Trail
- Rotary Centennial Trail
- Androscoggin River Bicycle Path
- Beth Condon Pathway
- Eastern Promenade Trail/Connector/Back Cove Trail
- South Portland Greenbelt
- Eastern Trail

### Massachusetts

- Everett Bike Path
- Charles River Bike Path
- Blackstone River Bikeway

### Rhode Island

- Blackstone River Bikeway
- East Bay Bike Path
- Cranston Bike Path
- Warwick Greenway
- West Warwick Greenway
- Coventry Greenway

### Connecticut

- Moosup Valley Trail
- Trolley Trail
- Quinebaug River Trail
- Tracy Road Smart Parks Trail
- Airline Trail
- Veterans Memorial Greenway
- Hop River Trail
- Charter Oak Greenway
- Riverfront Recapture
- Farmington Canal Greenway

### New York

- Mosholu-Pelham Greenway
- Randalls Island Greenway
- Randalls Island Pedestrian Bridge
- East River Esplanade
- Hudson River Greenway, 106th St - 59th St
- Rt 9A Bike-Ped Pathway
- Staten Island Ferry

### New Jersey

- Hudson River Waterfront Walkway
- D&R Canal Trail

### North Carolina

- Ellerbe Creek and South Ellerbe Creek Trails
- American Tobacco Trail
- Dunn-Erwin Trail
- Cape Fear River Trail
- Greenfield Lake Path
- The Wilmington Riverwalk
- Dismal Swamp Canal Path

### South Carolina

- North Myrtle Beach Greenway
- Harrelson Boulevard Trail
- Grissom Parkway Trail
- Waccamaw Neck Bikeway
- Wonder's Way
- New River Trail

### Florida

- River to Sea Trail
- Flagler Drive Trail
- Overseas Heritage Trail
- Key West Bicycle Path

### Maryland

- Northern Central Railroad Trail
- Jones Falls Trail
- Gwynn's Falls Trail
- BWI Trail
- B&A Trail
- Cross Island Trail
- Colonial Annapolis Maritime Trail System
- Odenton Road Bicycle Path
- WB&A Trail
- Prince George's County Trail System

### Washington, DC

- The National Mall

### Virginia

- Arlington Memorial Bridge
- Mount Vernon Trail

### Legend

- Spine Route
- Alternate Route
- Designated Section

0 100 200  
Scale in Miles

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Map by: EM Design, Providence, RI  
ECGA, Wakefield, RI