

ORGANIZATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS

PARTNERSHIPS

Individuals

The park's paid staff is augmented by the Volunteers in Parks (VIP) program which works with all park divisions. Volunteers are recruited through word of mouth, local partner organizations and publications, and NPS websites. We continue to show steady increases in volunteer support both in hours worked and numbers of individuals with volunteer hours currently exceeding 14,000 per year, over 600 individuals and more than 30 groups.

To maximize the use of the volunteers and develop future partnerships, additional resources are needed to plan, manage, and implement increases in these programs. The potential of several current partnerships and the opportunities for new partnerships have not been fully exploited due to staffing and workload issues. Opportunities for individual volunteers are often limited by the ability to manage large or multiple projects.



Institutions

Catoctin staff works closely with a number of federal, state, and local agencies and many several non-profit entities.

The park has a reimbursable agreement with the **US Secret Service** for personnel services rendered while any protectee is in the park.

Additional cooperative agreements with state and local law enforcement agencies such as **Maryland State Police and Frederick County Sheriffs' Department** are needed to clarify jurisdiction and response issues. Frederick County Sheriff's Department also provides Alternative Sentencing workers who complete many projects within the park.

US Forest Service, Forest Health Unit is a cooperator who provides control measures for gypsy moth and other forest insect and disease outbreaks when needed.

In addition to cooperative agreements with the four local fire companies in our primary response area, we are allowed under the Northeast Compact to provide for mutual aid for forest fires.



Catoctin maintains a joint fisheries protection program for Big Hunting Creek with the **Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Natural Resources Police and the State Park Service**.

Monocacy and Catoctin Creek Watershed Alliance is composed of interested organizations wishing to protect the Monocacy watershed in northern Frederick County.

The **Friends of Big Hunting Creek** are a non-profit group that supports the protection of trout habitat.



The **Potomac Appalachian Trail Club and the South Mountaineers** do trail maintenance and clearing work on the 26 mile Catoctin Trail as it passes through the park.

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Institutions (cont'd.)



Under a national NPS agreement with **Boy Scouts of America**, Catoctin has maintained a 35 year relationship with both the **Appalachian and Catoctin Districts of the National Capital Area Council**. Each spring the Districts complete several major work projects in the park. Numerous Eagle Scouts have also completed their projects in the park.

The **Greater Washington National Parks Fund** is a non-profit fund-raising organization that is affiliated with the National Park Foundation that is seeking to create an endowment for the national parks of the Greater Washington Area.



The park has a long involvement with the **Tourism Council of Frederick County** both in developing and marketing tourism products and working with the **Catoctin Area Tourism Council**.

The **Frederick Historic Sites Consortium** functions as a part of the Tourism Council and acts as clearing house for information for historic sites throughout the county.



The **Catoctin Center for Regional Studies at Frederick Community College** operates under a cooperative agreement with the National Park Service and provides research and symposia support.

District of Columbia Public Schools has operated a computer nature camp each summer for the last 25 years at Camp Round Meadow.



Frederick County Public Schools (FCPS) has a long history of environmental education in the park. From the mid 1960s to the mid 1990s FCPS conducted weeklong residential camps at Greentop. Currently, all 5th and 6th graders receive day use environmental education programs in the park. We would like to work more closely with local schools in their Service Learning Programs and in supporting the Environmental Science Academy at Catoctin High School.

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Partnerships

The League for People with Disabilities continues to operate, one of the oldest (70 years) camps for the disabled in the nation at Camp Greentop each summer.



The Catoctin Mountain Park Employees Association handles the wellness fund for the park and sponsors many employee social functions.

Cooperating Association

Eastern National (EN) has been Catoctin's cooperating association for sales of interpretive publications and educational products since 2003. Sales generated by these EN sales outlets fund an EN donation account that is available to the park for interpretive purposes. Our two major concerns are the development of revenues sufficient to support a sales staff and gain a greater diversity of inventory.



Concessions

There are currently no concessions operating in Catoctin Mountain Park.