

SUSSEX OUTDOORS

“A public awareness campaign focused on increasing outdoor activities, by making families aware of opportunities for outdoor activities and by increasing those opportunities.”



Extensive Partnering with State & Local Communities

What is Sussex Outdoors?

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A Campaign to Create Active Healthy Lifestyles in Sussex County

Essentially, **Sussex Outdoors** started with a Summit that took place on Thursday, October 13, 2011, and has become an extensive campaign involving a series of other events to encourage families and children to be physically active in the Sussex outdoors. Sussex County offers opportunities to enjoy our environment in a way that promotes a healthy lifestyle.

Delaware children spend an average of just minutes a day outdoors while an average of 43 hours per week in front of a screen (*i.e.* TV, computer).

Sussex County has been recognized by the Center for Disease Control as one of 40 communities nationally that will focus on the lifestyle changes that will be healthier both physically and emotionally.

Sussex Outdoors seeks to put into action the concepts embraced by our Governor and General Assembly (Walkable, Bikeable Delaware, No Child Left Inside). Under our Governor's leadership, the Bond Bill appropriation of the 146th General Assembly will increase biking and walking opportunities throughout the state including in our wonderful state parks.

Sussex Outdoors is in partnership with the Governor's Office, Delaware State Parks, Sussex County Council, Sussex Child Health Promotion Coalition, Nemours Health and Prevention Services and the majority of the Executive Branch of Delaware State Government.

Governor Markell's Endorsement

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Gov. Markell announces vision for DE Trails & Pathways, kicks off "Sussex Outdoors"

Gov. Jack Markell spoke at the kickoff of "Sussex Outdoors," a campaign to get more children and families active outside.

Gov. Markell also announced that he's charged DNREC and DeIDOT with making his vision of having one of the best networks of walking and biking trails in the country a reality. The secretaries of the two departments have signed a memorandum of agreement that outlines what each department's responsibilities will be in making those upgrades to the trail network. Markell highlighted a few projects that have been proposed, including a bike trail along railroad tracks between Georgetown and Cape Henlopen State Park; another bike trail Ocean View, Bethany and South Bethany, along the Assawoman Canal, and building more trail links at the north and south ends of the Junction and Breakwater Trail in Lewes and Rehoboth Beach.

•Steele, K. (2011, October 13) Gov. Markell announces vision for DE Trails & Pathways kicks off "Sussex Outdoors" , from [www. WGMD.com](http://www.WGMD.com)

The Governor's Goals

Sussex Outdoors

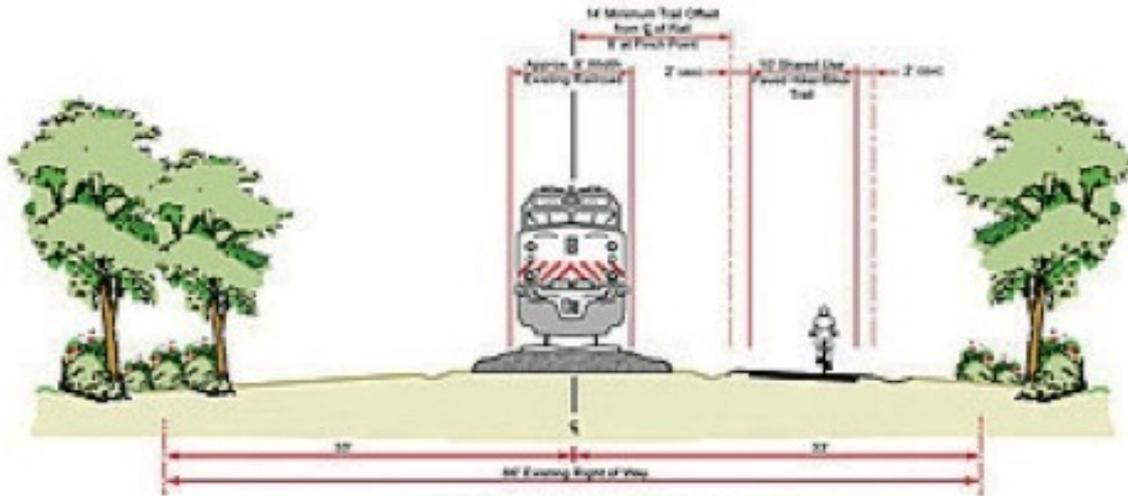
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The Governor's goals for the proposed *Statewide Trails and Pathways* program are to:

- Build a world class interconnected pathway network
- Support creation of local jobs
- Link communities internally to support local sustainable economies, and externally to grow connections between neighborhoods, towns and cities
- Develop sustainable practices in the creation of the network, such as supporting native landscaping and natural habitats
- Support health communities by providing affordable, active transportation choices
- Re-establish Delaware in the Top Ten of Bicycle Friendly states (we're at #17 right now)
- And, develop strategies for the ongoing maintenance and upgrades of existing facilities.

Proposed Georgetown-Lewes Walking & Biking Trails

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Typical Section -RWT Option



Existing Conditions



Artists Rendering of Proposed RTT Option

More Sussex Proposed Walking & Biking Trails

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Sussex County Proposed Projects

- **Georgetown to Lewes to Cape Henlopen State Park** – Construct a regional rail-to-trail project with an initial trail segment in Lewes.
- **Junction and Breakwater Trail** – Extend trail from Gills Neck Road toward Lewes and make trail upgrades along Gills Neck Road to Route 9.
- **Cape Henlopen State Park** – Extend the Gordons Pond Trail from the observation platform north to Herring Point. This will link the northern and southern portions of Park.
- **Assawoman Canal Trail** – Design and construct approximately 1 mile of recreational trail along the Assawoman Canal in partnership with the towns of Ocean View, Bethany Beach and South Bethany Beach.
- **Fred Hudson Road** – Create a link between area business and fresh pond area of Delaware Seashore State Park
- **Trap Pond State Parks** – Complete the Loblolly Trail along Wootten Road filling a trail gap.

Sussex Outdoors

The 2012 Campaign

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- General Assembly
- DHSS
- Div of Parks
- DNREC
- Media
- DDA
- Sussex Communities (5)
- NFFSN
- DOE “Children in Nature”
- Delaware Tech
- Key School Districts
- Rodel Voices for Education
- Delaware Greenways
- Stockley Project
- Dept of Ag./Farm to School
- Bike Delaware
- Business Leaders
- Governor’s Council on Health Promotion and Disease Prevention
- DeIDOT
- Health Care Nanticoke/Beebe
- Community Benefit Focus of Sussex Hospitals
- UD Cooperative Ext.
- SCHPC
- Santofi Type 2
- Sen. Tom Carper
- Faith-based
- Rep. John Carney
- 4-H
- Governor’s Office
- Delaware Community Foundation
- CDC Tourism & Economic Development
- County Government
- Cape Gazette
- Delaware State Fair
- Boys & Girls Clubs
- The YMCA
- Morning Star Publications