

Snapshot of NPCA Accomplishments in the Mid-Atlantic Region

National Parks Established/Expanded

- **Park Expansion** – Through the National Defense Authorization Act, Congress approves the most significant expansion of the National Park System in decades. The bill expanded Gettysburg National Military Park in Pennsylvania to include the Gettysburg Train Station and 45 acres at Big Round Top; expanded and re-named First State National Historical Park in Delaware and Pennsylvania; expanded and renamed Harriett Tubman Underground Railroad National Historical Park in Maryland; and established the National World War I Memorial in DC.
- **Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad**– President Obama uses his Antiquities Act powers to establish the site in Maryland along with First State national monuments in Delaware.
- **Fort Monroe** – President Obama designates this historic site in Hampton, Virginia as a national monument, his first use of his executive powers under the Antiquities Act. The former Army post had been proposed for extensive development.
- **Harpers Ferry National Historical Park** – President George W. Bush signs a bill to protect key lands connected to America’s Civil War and civil rights history by expanding the boundary of the park in West Virginia. Congress appropriated \$7.9 million to protect almost all the lands included in the expanded boundary.
- **Cedar Creek & Belle Grove National Historical Park** – Congress approves legislation to establish the park in Virginia as an NPS anchor in the new Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Heritage Area.

Incompatible Developments Defeated

- **Monocacy National Battlefield** - Frederick County, MD, voted to cancel its contracts and permits for a trash-burning incinerator next to the park.
- **Manassas National Battlefield** – Obama administration officials decline to sign off on a flawed Programmatic Agreement for a new highway that would have harmed this northern Virginia battlefield.
- **Harpers Ferry National Historical Park** - Thanks to an anonymous NPCA donor, preservationists purchased four acres to incorporate into, saving hallowed ground from threatened inappropriate development. Charles Town and Jefferson County, West Virginia officials denied multiple proposed commercial re-zonings of more than 400 acres rich in history and natural beauty virtually surrounded by the park, and prior to that, NPS added historic Murphy Farm – land rich with Civil War and civil rights history - to the park, protecting it from a proposed 200-unit housing development.
- **Gettysburg National Military Park** – Twice, the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board denies an application to operate a casino within cannon range of the park.
- **Wilderness Battlefield** – Walmart abandons its plans to build a Superstore on a privately-owned portion of the Civil War battlefield in Virginia.
- **Valley Forge National Historical Park** – The NPS and the American Revolution Center complete a land swap, resolving an extended controversy over locating the Center’s proposed museum/conference center complex on part of historic Pawlings Farm on private land inside in the park. Previously, NPS adds the historic Waggon seller Farm to the park which had been proposed by Toll Brothers for a luxury housing development. Congress appropriates \$7.5 million to purchase the land at risk.

- **Independence Square** - The National Park Service abandons a plan to construct a permanent 7-foot security fence around this historic square in Philadelphia.
- **Fredericksburg & Spotsylvania National Military Park** – Spotsylvania County (Virginia) Board of Supervisors votes to deny a rezoning application necessary to construct 2,000 houses and commercial development on the 800-acre Mullins Farm, site of Day One in the 1863 Battle of Chancellorsville, and adjacent to the battlefield.

Legislation/Administrative Actions/Litigation

- **Shenandoah National Park** – After 10 years, Wellington suspends plans to build a coal-waste-burning power plant in Greene County, Pennsylvania that would have degraded air quality in the park.
- **Chesapeake Access** - Maryland Gov. Martin O'Malley signs HB 797 to promote safe recreational access to waterways along state bridges and roads. Prior to that, an amendment to a funding bill that would have eliminated federal funding for key clean water programs in the Chesapeake watershed fails.
- **Gettysburg National Military Park** – NPS and partners restore Cemetery Ridge at, including demolition of the outdated Cyclorama Building.
- **Colonial National Historical Park** – Old Dominion Electric Cooperative indefinitely suspends a proposal to build a 1500MW coal-fired power plant less than 20 miles from the park in Virginia.
- **Delaware River** – NPCA files suit against the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Delaware River Basin Commission over draft fracking regulations that threaten national parks on the river in New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania. The case was ruled unripe, pending release of final regulations.
- **Clean Air** - The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality approves an air pollution permit in 2011 for the Dominion Virginia Wise County coal-fired power plant in southwestern Virginia with significantly lower pollution limits than originally proposed. In 2006, Maryland Gov. Robert Ehrlich signs the Healthy Air Act, the nation's strongest state legislation to reduce key pollutants including carbon dioxide from existing coal-fired power plants. U.S. Senator John Warner acts to preserve Clean Air Act protections in 2005 for national park air quality. His actions derail a campaign to weaken the federal law. In 2004, the Virginia Air Pollution Control Board requires the proposed CPV-Warren gas-fired power plant near Shenandoah National Park to reduce emissions.
- **Frederick Douglass National Historic Site** – Congress approves almost \$1 million for repairs at this unit in DC. In conjunction, NPCA released a report outlining \$2 million in maintenance projects needed to preserve Mr. Douglass's last home.
- **Valley Forge National Historical Park** - President George W. Bush signs a bill to establish a national veterans' cemetery in southeastern Pennsylvania after the Veterans Administration identifies an appropriate site. An NPCA member and WWII veteran led the successful campaign to defeat another bill to take 200 acres of established parkland inside Valley Forge for a new cemetery.
- **Washington Monument** – A U.S. Senate committee zeroes out funding for the NPS's proposed underground 20,000- square-foot visitors center for the in Washington, D.C., including a 500-foot-long tunnel and security screening facility. NPCA generated more than 10,000 comments against the proposed plan.