

A cross-country skier is captured in silhouette, gliding across a vast, sunlit snowy landscape. The skier is positioned in the middle ground, moving from left to right. The snow is bright and glistening under the sun, which is high in the sky, creating a lens flare effect. The background shows a flat, open area with some sparse, dry vegetation and a distant treeline under a clear blue sky.

Happy Holidays!

from NPCA's Mid-Atlantic team

A cross-country skier enjoys crisp, clean air in
Shenandoah National Park. © National Park Service



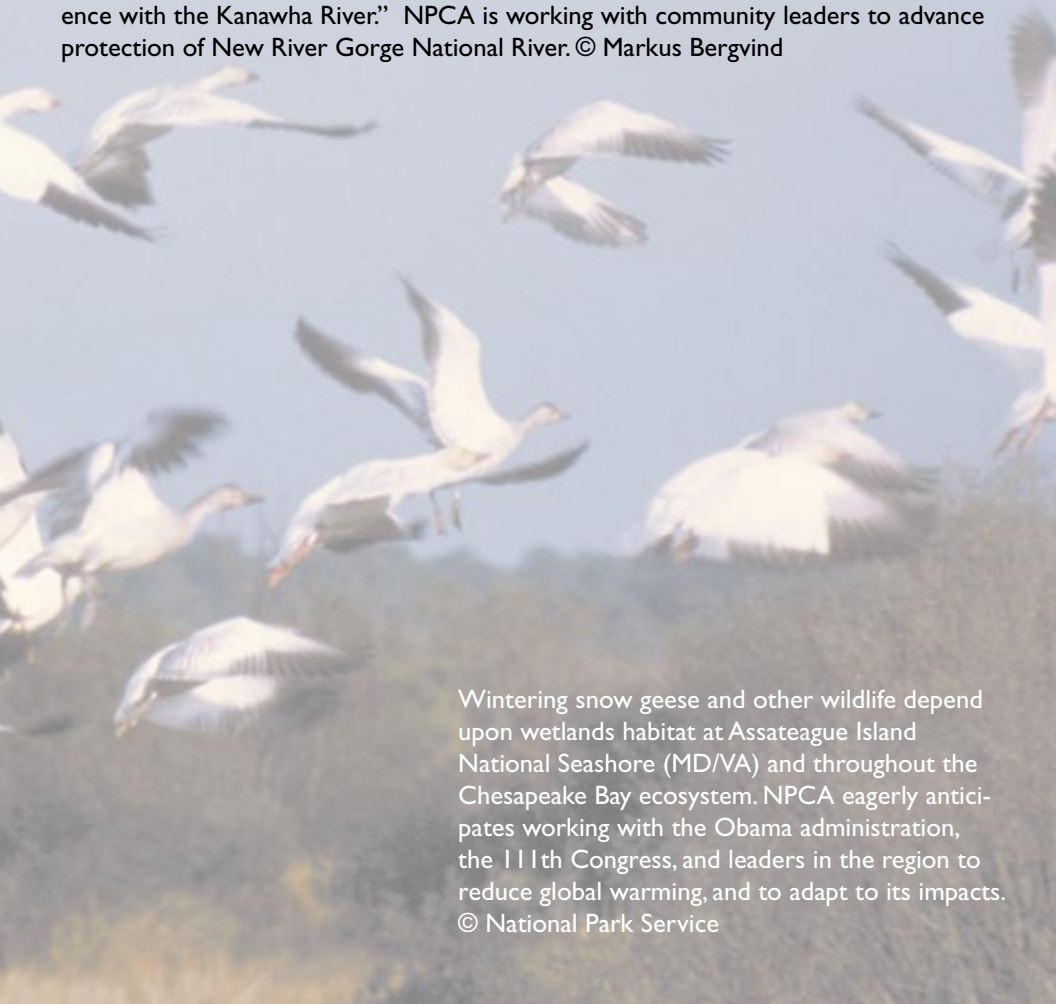
NPCA works to protect Shenandoah's healthy air so people can enjoy time spent surrounded by nature. Catharine Gilliam, Virginia Senior Program Manager, led a successful long-shot grassroots campaign to protect the power of Virginia's citizen boards to improve air and water pollution permits, a key concern relating to Shenandoah and other national parks in Virginia. In September, the Virginia Conservation Network (VCN) recognized her leadership and that of ten other colleagues, presenting them with VCN's coveted "Blue Ridge Award."
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NPCA members and numerous other park friends held a candlelight rally in November in support of Valley Forge National Historical Park. NPCA leads a legal challenge to the private American Revolution Center's controversial plans to build a hotel/conference center and museum on a privately-owned portion of the Continental Army's encampment grounds in the park. © Mara Ticcino



“I am humbled by the sheer magnitude, the power and the glory, of the New River,” declared U.S. Rep. Nick J. Rahall (D-WV-03) at an NPCA event this summer. “I do not believe we are done protecting this river...I believe that serious consideration should be given to extending the park boundaries of the New and Gauley to their confluence with the Kanawha River.” NPCA is working with community leaders to advance protection of New River Gorge National River. © Markus Bergvind



Wintering snow geese and other wildlife depend upon wetlands habitat at Assateague Island National Seashore (MD/VA) and throughout the Chesapeake Bay ecosystem. NPCA eagerly anticipates working with the Obama administration, the 111th Congress, and leaders in the region to reduce global warming, and to adapt to its impacts. © National Park Service

National Park Events in the Mid-Atlantic

March 1-5, 2009. "Navigating the Future," Association of Partners for Public Lands Annual Convention, Baltimore, MD. Join NPCA staff and keynote speakers Ken Burns and Dayton Duncan, whose PBS series on America's national parks airs in autumn 2009. http://www.appl.org/Training_Conventions/2009index.html

March 19-20. The National Parks Second Century Commission, co-chaired by former senators Howard Baker (R-TN) and J. Bennett Johnston (D-LA), meets in Gettysburg, PA. Contact: Joy Oakes, 703.224.8191.

March 19. NPCA and key ally groups sponsor a reception for the National Parks Second Century Commission, Gettysburg, PA. Location TBD. Contact: Cinda Waldbuesser, 215.399.4136.

March 31. Annual park tour for members of NPCA's Board of Trustees, National Council, and area members. Contact: Joy Oakes, 703.224.8191.

April 1. NPCA's Annual "Salute to the Parks" Awards Gala, Washington, D.C. Special Guest: Ken Burns. Contact: Elizabeth Jordan, 202.454.3341.

Thank You!

We thank the following supporters of NPCA's educational and advocacy programs in the Mid-Atlantic region since our last Field Report.

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*Protecting Our National Parks
for Future Generations®*

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As we look forward to 2009, we thank **you** for your leadership for America's national parks. We wish you and your family a blessed, peaceful 2009—may you build beautiful new memories with your family and friends in America's national parks! (Pictured left to right: Christina Needham, Erin Haddix St. John, Cinda Waldbuesser, Libby Fayad/General Counsel, Joy Oakes, Catharine Gilliam)

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