

WHAT'S NEXT FOR THE TIDAL DELAWARE RIVER?

All along the Tidal Delaware, there is a deliberate effort underway to provide additional opportunities for public access and enjoyment of this amazing river. Visionary leaders, such as you, have proposed and implemented numerous investments in recreational trails, historic sites, river access facilities, esplanades, parks, new neighborhoods and commercial areas with much more to come!

More than three years ago the Pennsylvania Environmental Council (PEC) and sixty partner organizations, gathered on the Camden riverfront to discuss our shared interest in celebrating the Tidal Delaware River and making its numerous cultural and natural sites more "visitor-ready." Based on more than a year of research, PEC identified National Recreation Area designation by the National Park Service (NPS) as the way to achieve this objective. After a prolonged process, on September 16, 2013, the NPS delivered a Reconnaissance Survey that recommended **against** National Recreation Area designation of the Tidal Delaware.

PEC has scheduled a "debriefing" with the NPS on December 12, at 3:00 pm at 2 Riverside Dr Camden, NJ 08103 . Representing the NPS will be Allen Cooper, Director of Planning (Northeast Region) who will explain their findings and perspective. I invite you to participate in the discussion ([register here](#)) knowing that you understand the cultural, historical and recreational assets that make the Tidal Delaware River an exciting resource of great national significance. It is our responsibility to ask questions, assess our options, and to advocate for this long neglected River. [Will you join us?](#)

NATIONAL RECREATION AREA DESIGNATION TIMELINE

- 2009-10 Options assessment process conducted by PEC
- June 4, 2010: Review of National Recreation Areas in New York, Minneapolis & San Francisco
- June 4, 2010: Congresspersons Andrews & Schwartz request that NPS perform an assessment of the tidal Delaware resource
- July 26, 2010: NPS promises to undertake the reconnaissance study
- October 18, 2011: NPS announces the start of the assessment
- September 9, 2013: NPS delivers the assessment to requesting Congresspersons

[Click here to register for this event](#) (a free "ticket" is required)