The abandonment of a little-known railroad track called the Georgetown Spur offers Washington, D.C., and Montgomery County an extraordinary opportunity—to transform this unwanted track into a magnificent linear park, the Capital Crescent Trail. The track winds through Georgetown, the Palisades, Bethesda, Chevy Chase, and Silver Spring. Linking Rock Creek Park north and south, the Crescent Trail will create a continuous 20-mile loop on which you can walk, run, bike, and ski, observe the wildlife, or just enjoy the views.

More than 100 communities nationwide already enjoy such rail-trails. With your help, the nation’s capital will have one, too.
Here's What You Can Do:
- Join the Coalition for the Capital Crescent Trail.
- If you belong to a community organization, arrange for the group to join the Coalition or to express support for its goals.
- Write to the Montgomery County Council letting them know of your support for the trail and asking for their help. Council members are:
  Rose Crenca, Chair
  Isiah Leggett
  Bruce Adams
  Michael Gudis
  Neal Potter
  William Hanna
  Michael Subin

All can be reached at:
Montgomery County Council
100 Maryland Avenue
Rockville, MD 20850
tel: 251-7900

Abandonment Update
The Interstate Commerce Commission has issued a final Environmental Impact Statement for the Georgetown Spur putting no restrictions on its development. It is expected to approve abandonment in December. That starts the clock ticking; during the 180 days following abandonment, Chessie cannot sell to a non-public user. After that, the corridor could be broken up and lost forever.

The two most heavily-used Montgomery County parks inside the beltway, Rosemary Hills and Elm Street Parks, are within one block of the trail.

Acquisition Update
The National Park Service (NPS) hopes to acquire the strip in the District. However, Chessie is asking scalpers’ prices. The NPS has commissioned its own appraisal, due in February. A land exchange seems to be their best option, since purchase would require Congressional appropriation.
Montgomery County intends to acquire the 6 1/2 miles within its borders, but there is a $60-million discrepancy between what the county hopes to spend and what CSX hopes to get. Furthermore, the County Council has not committed to dedicating the land to a park.

Here's the latest survey by the Planning Board shows that "walking in parks is the favorite outdoor recreation activity of Montgomery County residents."

Dates to Remember:
January 27 — Capital Crescent Trail meeting at Bethesda Library, 7:00 p.m.
January (to be announced) — Council hearings on appropriations for study of trail in the county. PLAN TO BE THERE!
April/May — Hearings on Capital Improvement Program priorities for next 6 years.

Yes! I want to help create the Capital Crescent Trail.
Add me to your membership list.
I want to spread the word. Send me __ flyers.
I know of a group that might join the Coalition. The group is: __
I want to help with: __ research __ writing __ telephoning __ artwork __ leafleting __ event organizing
Accept my tax-deductible contribution of $____ to help make the Capital Crescent Trail a reality. (Make check payable to Sierra Club Foundation/CCCT.)

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY STATE ZIP

TELEPHONE (DAY) (EVE)

Coalition for the Capital Crescent Trail
P.O. Box 30703, Bethesda, MD. 20814