
CELEBRATING FLORIDA AS AMERICA'S BEST TRAILS STATE

Trails are the trend ...

Prospective home buyers consider trails to be the most important amenity when choosing a place to live. (National Association of Homebuilders, 2008)

Studies indicate that closer proximity to greenways and conservation corridors increases property values. (National Recreation and Parks Association)

52% of Americans would like to bike more and 46% would bike to work if designated trails were available. (America Bikes; Trails and Greenways Clearing House; Bicycling/Moving America Forward, 2008)

Biking four miles round-trip to work instead of driving keeps 51 pounds of carbon monoxide out of the air each year. (Smart Trips; Bicycling/Moving America Forward, 2008)

An estimated \$76.6 billion could be saved on annual healthcare costs if Americans were more active. (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; Bicycling/Moving America Forward, 2008)

The most requested item by visitors to Florida's Official Welcome Centers is information about where to bicycle. (VISIT FLORIDA)

The number of Americans who ride bicycles is greater than all those who ski, golf and play tennis combined. (National Sporting Goods Association)

And Florida is a trendsetter...

Florida is home to more than 5,000 miles of state-owned trails and also features one of only eleven congressionally designated national scenic trails. The Florida National Scenic Trail will ultimately extend 1,400 miles from the Gulf Islands National Seashore in the Panhandle to the Florida Keys.

More than three million visitors each year take advantage of the 800 miles of free, multi-use trails included in eight state-managed trails and the Marjorie Harris Carr Cross Florida Greenway.

With nearly 26,000 river miles and at least 25,000 miles of streams and canals, Florida is a paradise for paddlers. Forty paddling trails have been designated into the Florida Greenways and Trails System including the 1,500-mile Florida Circumnavigational Saltwater Paddling Trail which extends around Florida's entire peninsula.

Twenty-seven Florida trails have been named as National Recreation Trails. The DEP Office of Greenways & Trails is responsible for the acquisition and/or management of seven of these trails.

Stretching from the Gulf of Mexico to the St. Johns River is the Marjorie Harris Carr Cross Florida Greenway. Here the State of Florida has preserved more than 83,000 acres of recreation and conservation lands that are home to an internationally recognized network of mountain biking and equestrian trails, as well as America's first land bridge which provides safe passage for trail users across I-75.