



RON DESANTIS
GOVERNOR

FLORIDA GREENWAYS AND TRAILS MONTH

WHEREAS, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection is committed to providing quality, resource-based outdoor recreation for the citizens of Florida and visitors to our state; and

WHEREAS, greenways and trails provide Florida residents and visitors of all ages and abilities with year-round access to a wide variety of health and fitness opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Office of Greenways and Trails is coordinating a statewide system of greenways and trails that consists of more than 9,600 miles of hiking, bicycling, equestrian and shared-use trails and more than 4,100 miles of designated paddling trails; and

WHEREAS, over 10 million residents and visitors enjoyed healthy outdoor activities on Florida's Greenways and Trails System, including the 10 state-managed multi-use trails, supporting tens of thousands of jobs; and

WHEREAS, Florida's long-distance trails include the Florida National Scenic Trail, the Florida Coast-to-Coast Trail, the Florida Circumnavigational Saltwater Paddling Trail, the Florida Keys Overseas Heritage Trail, the St. Johns River-to-Sea Loop and the longest segment of the East Coast Greenway, an ambitious national trail project extending from Calais, Maine, to Key West; and

WHEREAS, community-based partnerships are essential to the success of the Florida Greenways and Trails System and many public and private organizations are actively involved with projects that are connecting Florida's communities with greenways and trails; and


WHEREAS, on April 11, 2023, Governor Ron DeSantis signed Senate Bill 106 which acknowledges and officially authorizes DEP to establish a program to recognize local communities along or in proximity to one or more long-distance non-motorized recreational trails as Trail Towns; and

WHEREAS, Florida has an active trail town program to recognize communities that embrace trail users of all kinds, leading to the Florida Greenways and Trails Council's designation of 18 Trail Towns.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ron DeSantis, Governor of the State of Florida, do hereby extend greetings and best wishes to all observing October 2023 as *Florida Greenways and Trails Month*.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Florida to be affixed at Tallahassee, the Capital, this 1st day of October, in the year two thousand twenty-three.



Governor