



# TRAIL-GO

## Local Trail Management Grant Program Overview

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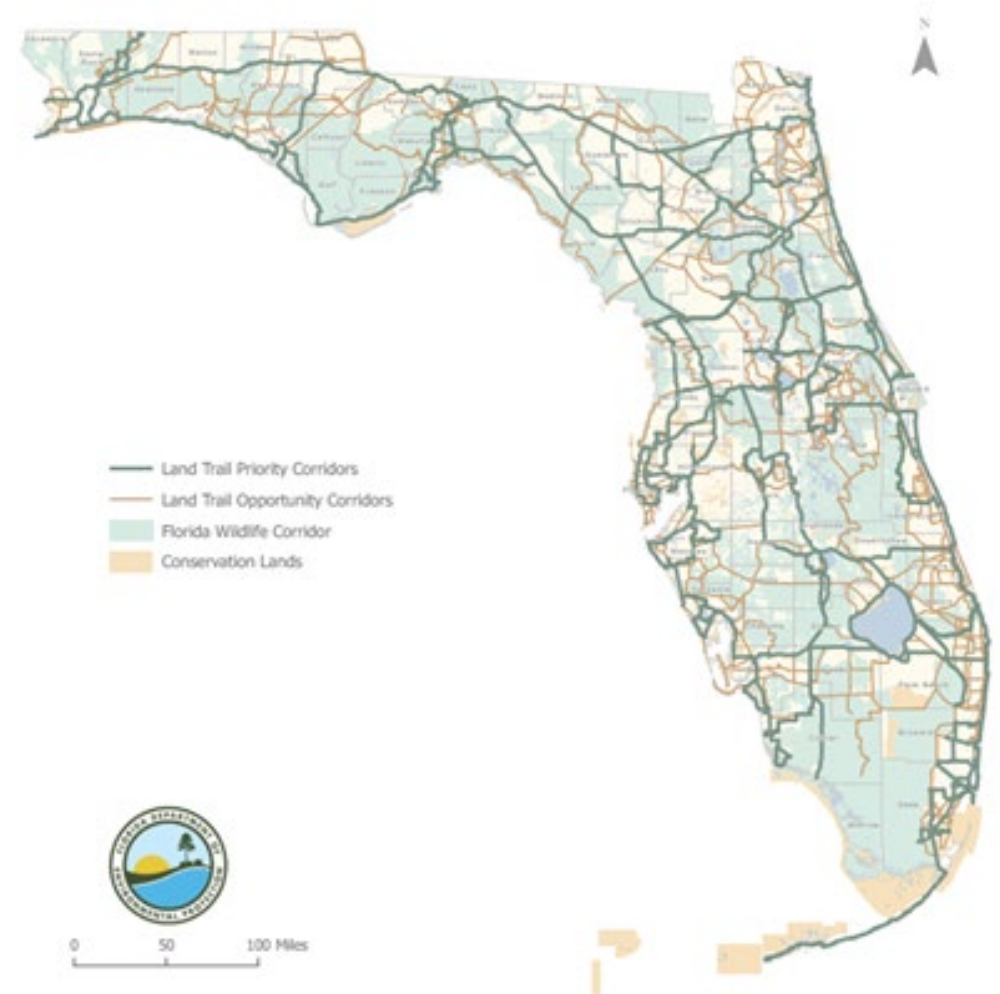
Webinar | July 2024



# TRAIL-GO

## Local Trail Management Grant Program

- The Local Trail Management Grant Program was created pursuant to s. 260.0145, F.S.
- The program, called TRAIL-GO, was established to assist local governments with costs associated with the operation and maintenance of trails within the Florida Greenways and Trails System.





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## Local Trail Management Grant Program

- Grant funds may only be used for the operations and maintenance of trails located within the Florida Greenways and Trails System.
- Eligible expenditures include, but are not limited to:
  - Purchase of equipment and capital assets
  - Repairs to ensure safety
  - Maintenance
- Grant funds may not be used for the planning, design or construction of trails.





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## Examples of Eligible Projects

### Equipment or Contracted Services

- Mowing, sweeping and blowing trails
- Pruning and removal of trees and limbs
- Trash/debris collection
- Cleaning culverts to keep swales clear of debris
- Invasive plant management
- Drainage control
- Planting vegetation along trails to help with habitat and prevent erosion





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## Examples of Eligible Projects

### Safety

- Maintaining wayfinding, informational kiosks and permanent signs
- Inspecting bridges for structural integrity
- Installing and replacing lighting
- Managing vegetation to ensure sight distance
- Removing hazardous tree limbs and other obstructions
- Installing and repairing fencing





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## Examples of Eligible Projects

### Trail Repair and Maintenance

- Trail surface/boardwalk/bridge repair and maintenance
- Fill/seal/patch cracks
- Root cutting/barriers
- Standing water repair
- Pothole/depression repair





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## Examples of Eligible Projects

### Operations and Access

- Concrete pads
- Benches
- Bike racks
- Waste receptacles
- Picnic tables
- Water fountains/water bottle refill stations
- Trail counters





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## Local Trail Management Grant Program

DEP will give priority to each of the following:

- A local government that provides cost share, except for trails within fiscally constrained counties or rural areas of opportunity.
- Trails within fiscally constrained counties or rural areas of opportunity.
- Trails within the Florida Wildlife Corridor as defined in s. 259.1055, F.S.

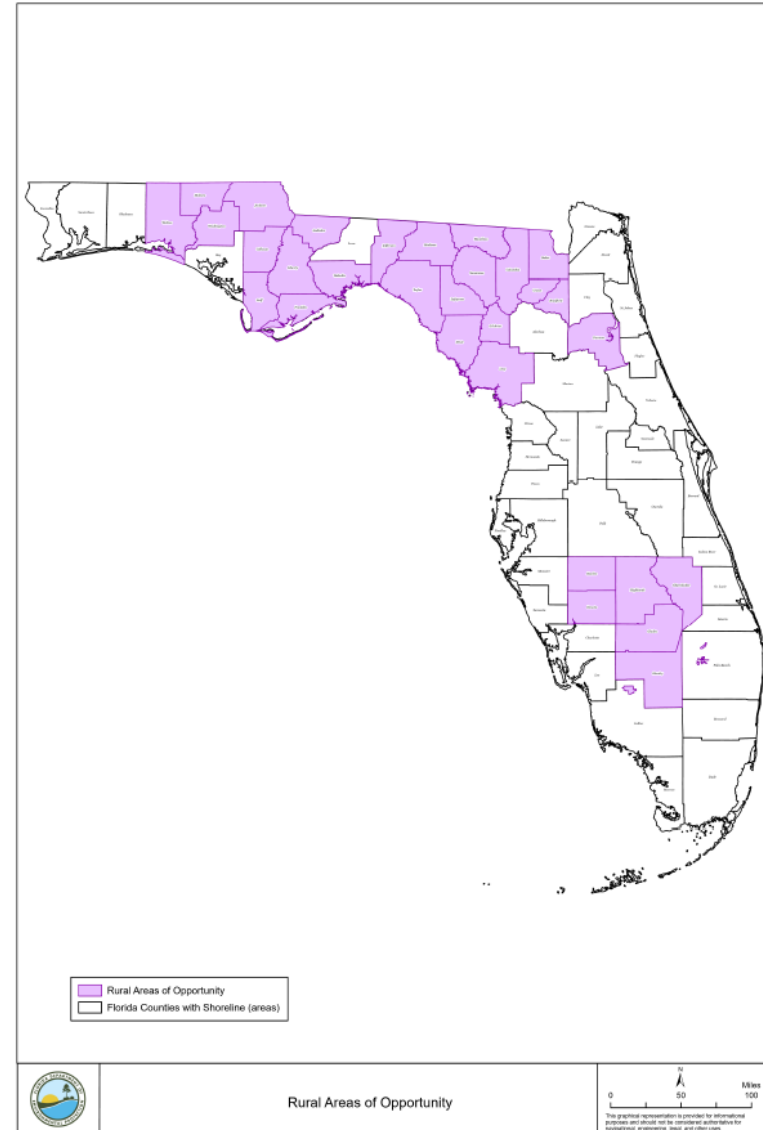






# Designated Rural Areas of Opportunity

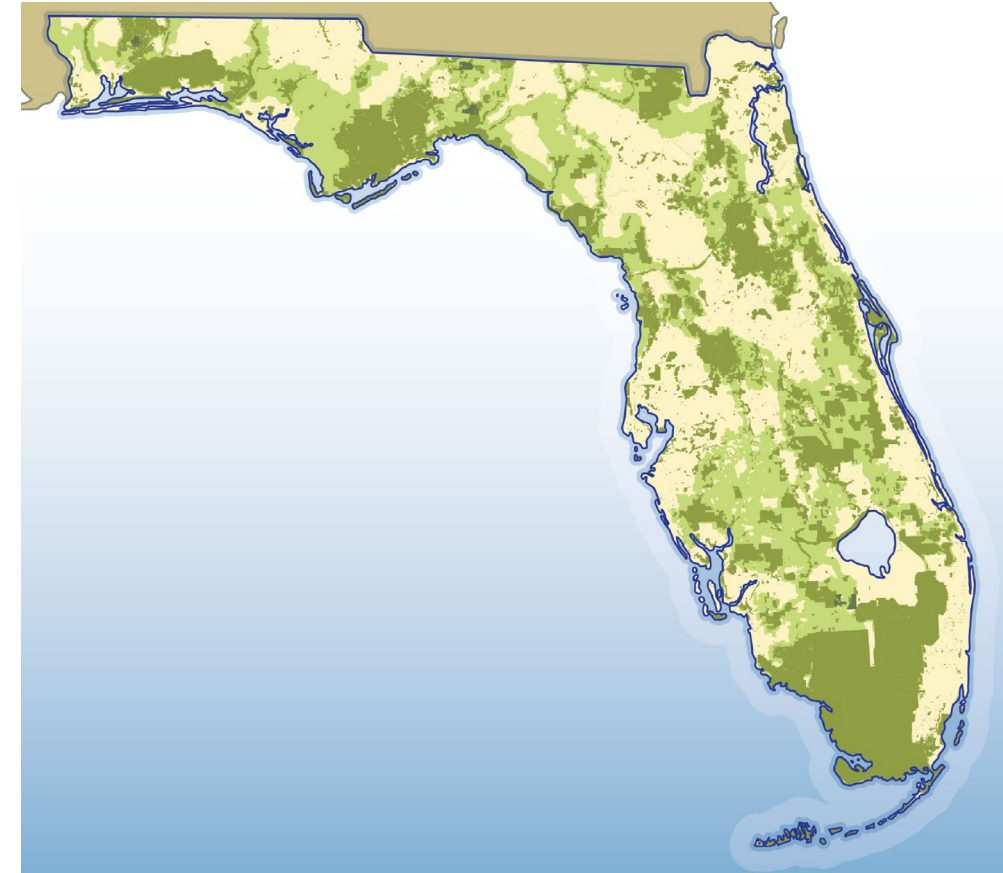
- **Northwest:** Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Liberty, Wakulla and Washington counties; the area within the city limits of Freeport; and Walton County north of the Choctawhatchee Bay and intercoastal waterway.
- **North Central:** Baker, Bradford, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Jefferson, Lafayette, Levy, Madison, Putnam, Suwannee, Taylor and Union counties.
- **South Central:** DeSoto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands and Okeechobee counties; and the cities of Pahokee, Belle Glade, South Bay and Immokalee.





# Florida Wildlife Corridor

- Signed into law by Governor DeSantis in July 2021, the Florida Wildlife Corridor is a designated network of nearly 18 million acres of connected lands that creates critical linkages for wildlife habitat.
- The Florida Wildlife Corridor continues the decades of work that recognizes landscape-scale conservation as a way to address habitat loss and fragmentation across the state.



## FLORIDA PRIZED PROPERTIES AND WILDLIFE CORRIDOR

Already Conserved Lands Wildlife Corridor



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## Local Trail Management Grant Program

- TRAIL-GO receives \$4 million annually contingent upon legislative appropriation.
- Applications will be accepted on a first come, first served basis; however, those applications meeting the priority criteria will be considered first.
- Individual applications are limited to a request amount of \$200,000.
- A local government may receive multiple grant awards per application cycle.





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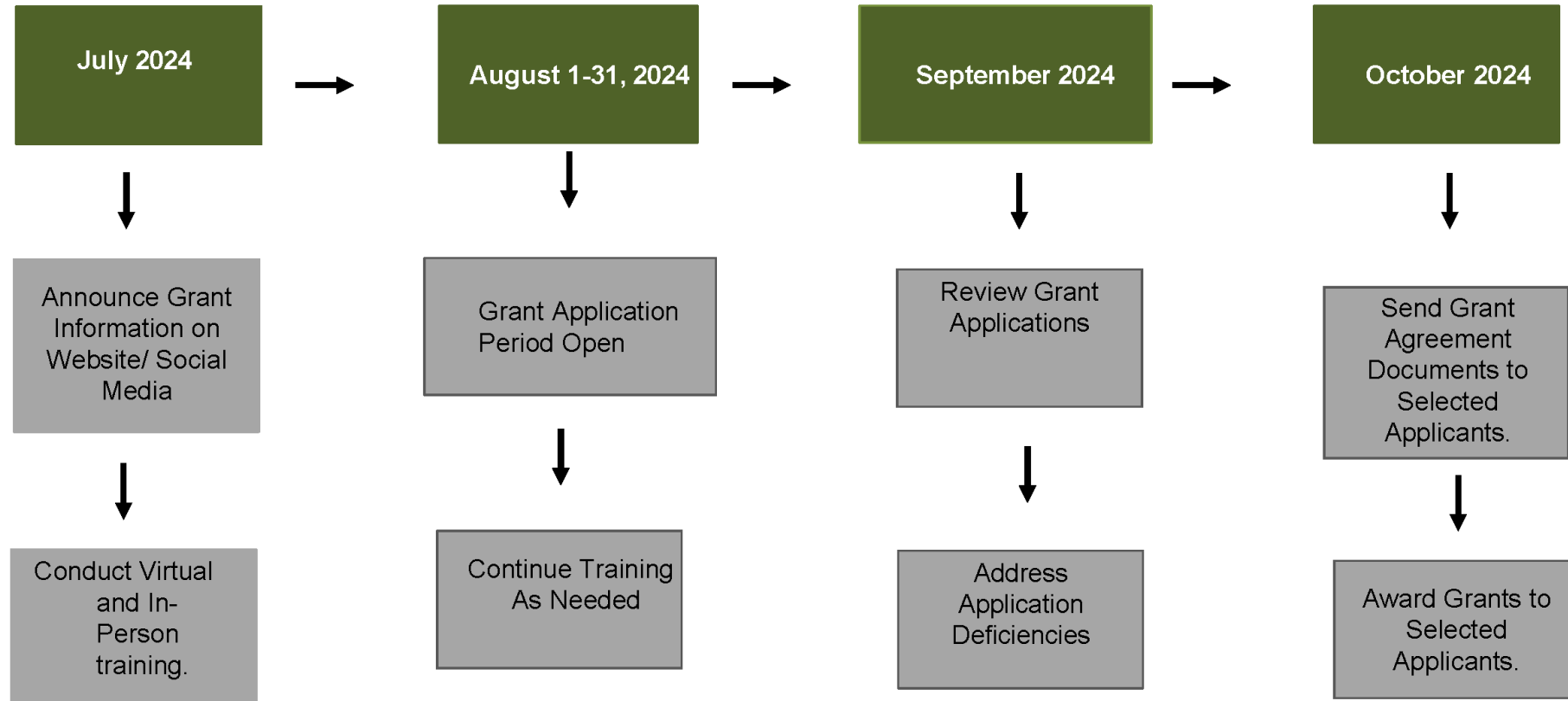
## 2024-25 Grant Cycle

- Beginning on July 15, 2024, you may register through the Department's Grantee Portal at [fdep.force.com/grants/](https://fdep.force.com/grants/)
- The TRAIL-GO application cycle will be open from August 1-31, 2024.
- The TRAIL-GO grant application portal will go live at approximately 8 a.m. EDT on August 1, 2024.
- The TRAIL-GO application portal **will not** accept any applications submitted after 5 p.m. EDT on August 31, 2024.



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## Anticipated Timeline for 2024-25 Grant Cycle





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QUESTIONS?



**Samantha Browne, Chief**  
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