

## Trail Town Information

### Trail

**Is your town connected to (or near) a regional trail?**

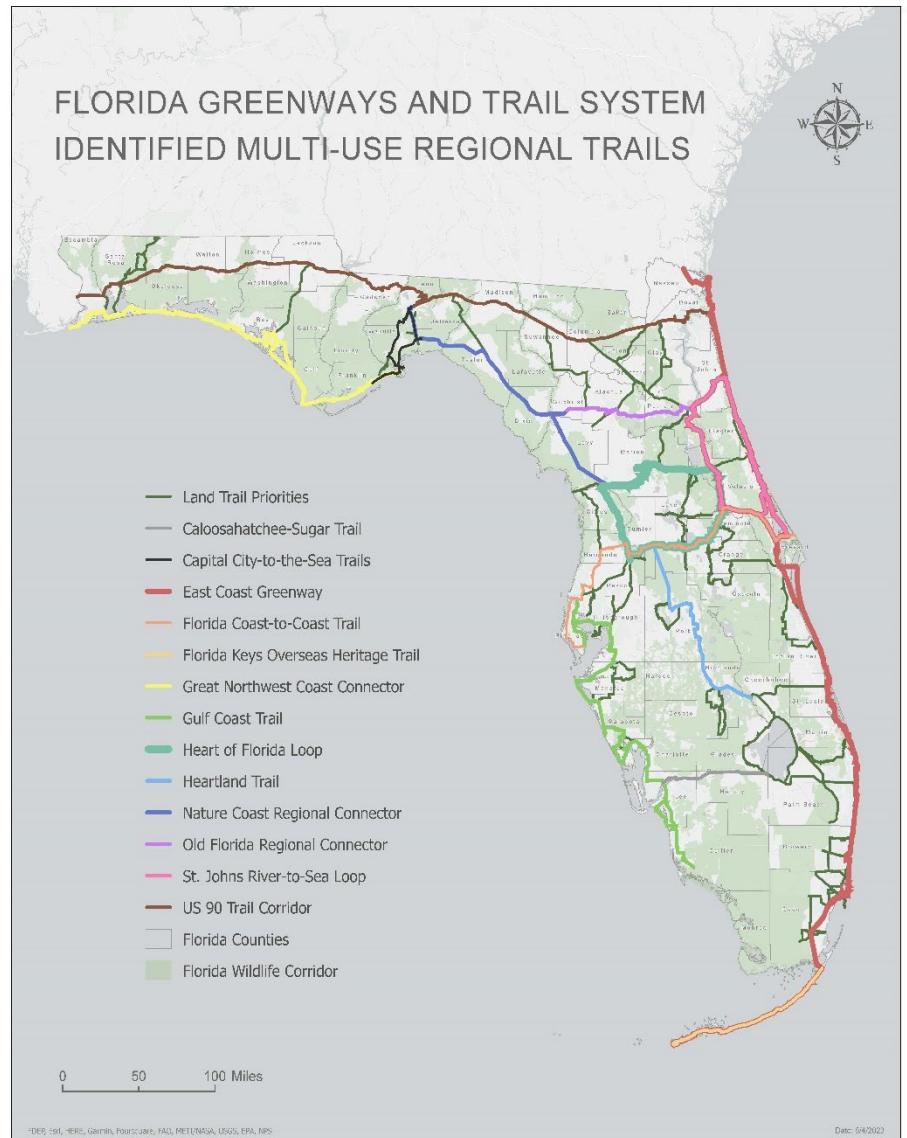
- Identify the Regional Trail(s) that connect to or are near your town. Use the map attached to the end of the application or here (to the right). These Regional Trails represent identified connections within the Florida Greenways and Trails System (FGTS) Priority Network.

**List other neighboring trails and their proximity to your town (in miles)**

- Identify what other trails are in or near your town. This is important for promoting your Trail Town and the recreational opportunities that are available, as well as partnering with neighboring trail communities.

**What types of trails exist in/near your town (hiking, biking, paddling, multi-use, equestrian, etc.)?**

- Is your trail a hiking, biking, paddling, shared use or non-motorized, multi-use, or equestrian trail? How many trails connect to your town?
- Defining this will help you further identify what types of trial users will be entering your town and what amenities will be necessary to provide for their needs.
- Ex: Will the trail users need bike shops? Will the trail users need paddling equipment and/or an outfitter? Will the trail users need campgrounds or cabins? Will there be multiple types of trail users entering your town?



## Trail Town Information

### Who maintains your trail(s)? Please identify each trail and the manager:

- Please list any and all managers for the trail(s) in your town. Do you have a good working relationship with the manager(s)?
- The trail should be easy to use, safe, and well-maintained. Trail users' first impression of your town will likely be from the status of the trail. A trail user's visit should be enjoyable, safe, and scenic. Maintenance is crucial to ensuring the safety of trail users, attracting tourists, and encouraging return visitors.

### Accessibility

#### What is the location of the trail, compared to the business district? Does your trail go right through the heart of downtown? Or is it more towards the edge of town?

- In order to be a successful Trail Town, you must have a trail near enough to your central business district (within two miles) to be accessible to trail users.
- Consider the type of trail user that will need to access your town. If it is primarily a biking trail, a two-mile journey to your town may not be too difficult. However, if it is a hiking or paddling trail, two miles can be taxing. Think about your town's trail connectivity, proximity to amenities, and types of trail users when planning for visitors.

#### Do you have signage on the trails that clearly identifies the direction/distance to your town? Can trail users easily recognize that your town is near the trail? Please describe.

- Trail users should be able to clearly identify information indicating that your town is located nearby. The farther removed that the trail is from your downtown, the more important direct signage will be. These signs should list how far the town is, give directions, and list what amenities are available in town.
- There should be signs on the trail and on any connecting paths pointing trail users to your town (think of this like a highway exit sign). Examples below:





# Trail Town Information

## Town Participation

**Are your business owners and citizens aware that there is a trail near your town? Are they well-informed about the trail? If not, what steps will you take to accomplish these goals?**

- Town participation through local businesses is an important step to creating a welcoming community and Trail Town environment. Local businesses should be able to provide visitors with information about the recreational opportunities, resources, and amenities offered within your town.
- Do you have a Main Street organization or something similar that can ensure businesses are well-informed? What efforts have you taken towards accomplishing this?

**What events take place on or near your trail? Please specify the purpose of the event, degree of local participation, who hosts it, how often it occurs, and recent attendance numbers (if available):**

- At least one event per year must be held that is either for the trail or draws attention to the trail. This can be an event that takes place on or near a trail (race, fundraiser, etc.). The goal is to draw attention to the trail(s) and attract people that may not normally be trail users. In doing so, you will boost the Trail Town's visibility and economy.

**Do you have a Trail Town plan or local development plan that includes trails? Please describe:**

- A written plan with attainable goals is necessary for a Trail Town to maintain its designation and continue improving the Trail Town experience. A specific "Trail Town Plan" is not necessary, although it is encouraged. Trails must at least be included in a local development plan in order for the town to receive a Trail Town designation.

**Describe the citizen initiatives in your own town that foster and maintain trail growth and traffic:**

- The goal of the Trail Town program is to engage citizens with Florida's trail system through active community participation. This will:
  - o Enhance the quality of the trail experience.
  - o Create a connection between citizens and trail users.
  - o Integrate the trail into the community's culture.
- It is necessary that the motivation to become a Trail Town comes from the citizens of that community with support from the local government. It would be beneficial to have a central group that coordinates and organizes all Trail Town information.
  - o This is critical to the longevity of a Trail Town and the commitment to Trail Town program goals.

## Trail Town Information

### **Describe any efforts that have been made to coordinate with neighboring communities on trail related events/activities and trail connectivity:**

- In order to engage as many citizens as possible with Florida's trails it is important to encourage community involvement and recruitment to the program. The best way to do this is by example and cooperation between neighboring communities. Consider contacting your neighboring communities to help organize events and promotion efforts. (Many hands make light work).

### **Amenities** (select all that apply)

- ☐ **Public Restrooms**
- ☐ **Trailheads**
- ☐ **Trash cans/Recycle bins**
- ☐ **Water Fountains**
- ☐ **Bike Racks**
- ☐ **Bicycle Repair Stations**
- ☐ **Boat Docks & Launches**
- ☐ **Hitching Posts, Mounting Stations, Water Troughs, etc.**
- ☐ **Welcome Center**
- ☐ **Pavilions**
- ☐ **Picnic Tables**
- ☐ **Free Parking**
- ☐ **Other**

- Your town should provide areas for storage for trail users' equipment while they are in your town. This will make their stay much easier and more enjoyable.
- Local restaurants will give trail users a taste of your town. Reasonably priced food is necessary and having local influences makes it all the better. It is recommended that these restaurants provide parking for any trail equipment.
- Accessible water stations are crucial to a trail user's health and safety. Water should be available on and near the trail. If there are not water fountains on/near the trail, consider having water jugs, free water bottles, or free water filling within businesses. This is a friendly way to invite trail users into the town and businesses.

# Trail Town Information

## Information

### **When visitors come to your town, how do they get information?**

- Is directional signage clearly visible? Are there maps throughout the town detailing where to find local businesses? Are there informational pamphlets in a Welcome Center or central location?

### **Physical location to get information:**

- Do you have a Welcome Center or central location where visitors can find information?
- It is advisable to have a pamphlet about what your town has to offer within the central downtown area that trail users will be visiting. This is a great way to inform them about the attractions and events in your town that they may not have previously known about.

### **Website location:**

- All relevant Trail Town information should also be easily accessible on your town's website.

### **Is there wayfinding signage and information about the town on the trail?**

- There should be signage on the trail and on any connecting paths pointing trail users to your town. Signage should list how far the to the town, give direction, and list what amenities/businesses are available in the town.

### **What type of information is provided on the wayfinding signage on the trail?**

(select all that apply)

- ☐ Mileage
- ☐ Direction
- ☐ Other trails
- ☐ Towns
- ☐ Attractions
- ☐ Restrooms
- ☐ Local Businesses
- ☐ Overnight Accommodations
- ☐ Emergency Information

### **In town, is there wayfinding signage and information about the amenities?**



## Trail Town Information

- Once the trail user is in your town, are they able to find their way around to access amenities? Is there signage that directs visitors to businesses or information centers?
- It is important to make navigation of your town easy for trail users. Provide as much information as possible as quickly as you can via signage.

**What type of information is provided on the wayfinding signage in town? (select all that apply)**

- ☐ Mileage
- ☐ Direction
- ☐ Other trails
- ☐ Towns
- ☐ Attractions
- ☐ Restrooms
- ☐ Local Businesses
- ☐ Overnight Accommodations
- ☐ Emergency Information

## Health

**Is your town engaged in any healthy community initiatives? Please describe:**

- Healthy community initiatives are another great tool to engage citizens with the trail(s) and other recreational opportunities while also promoting healthy lifestyles. These kinds of programs help foster engagement and partnerships with local health organizations to cross-promote beneficial programs.

## Safety

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | Does your town have wide sidewalks (10-12')?       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | Does your town have protected bike lanes?          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | Does your town have crosswalks?                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | Is your downtown business district well-lit?       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | Is your downtown safely navigable by foot/bicycle? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | Does your trail/town have emergency wayfinding?    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | Does your trail/town have emergency call boxes?    |

## Trail Town Information

☐ Yes ☐ No

**Is your community engaged in any safety initiatives?**

☐ Yes ☐ No

**Have first responders received training for trail emergencies?**

**Has local law enforcement taken any initiatives to address pedestrian and bicycle safety? Please describe:**

- Is your town part of the Vision Zero initiative? Do you distribute any bicycle or pedestrian safety materials? What kind of communication efforts have been taken to promote safety?

**Are your law enforcement officers and first responders familiar with the trail location, terrain, and length? Please describe the extent of their knowledge and any training they have received on this:**

- This is crucial to the safety of your trail users. If an emergency situation occurs on the trail, first responders should be familiar with it in order to get to the location quickly. First responders and law enforcement should know where trail users will be coming from (access points), if there are connecting trails, and what types of trail users and equipment will be in and around the town.
- A working relationship between local government and first responders is necessary for open communication and cooperation for the safety of trail users, visitors, and citizens.
- Emergency signage on the trail makes communication about location much easier. This can be through mile markers and/or coded location points that emergency responders are familiar with the locations.

**For each of the following, please list the contact person and their telephone number:**

**Fire Department**

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**Police Department**

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**Medical Services**

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**List all medical services available to trail users, including specialized equipment, training, and facilities:**

- Depending on what type of trail is near your town, trail users might need more specific kinds of medical equipment. It would be best if your town was able to offer medical services to trail users in order to make visitors feel safe.

## Trail Town Information

- For example, if you have a mountain biking trail, you might need emergency services with off-road vehicle to reach injured bikers. If you have a paddling trail, you might need a rescue boat to reach injured or stranded paddlers. If you have a biking trail, you might need a small vehicle able to access and pick-up injured or stranded bikers.

### Businesses

#### Overnight Accommodations: (please select all that apply)

- ☐ Hotel
- ☐ Motel
- ☐ Bed & Breakfast
- ☐ Vacation Rentals
- ☐ Hostel
- ☐ Cabins
- ☐ Camping
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Restaurants & Food Options: (please select all that apply)

- ☐ Fast Food
- ☐ Locally-Owned Restaurants
- ☐ Coffee Shop
- ☐ Brewery
- ☐ Tavern
- ☐ Pub
- ☐ Bakery
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Retail & Services: (please select all that apply)

- ☐ Grocery Store
- ☐ Convenience Store
- ☐ Pharmacy



## Trail Town Information

- ☐ General Store
- ☐ Laundromat
- ☐ Bank/ATM
- ☐ Gas Station
- ☐ Emergency Services
- ☐ Post Office
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### Outdoor Recreation Outfitters: (please select all that apply)

- ☐ Rentals
- ☐ Sales
- ☐ Equipment & Repairs
- ☐ Apparel
- ☐ Supply Re-stock
- ☐ Equine Supplies
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

For each of the following, please list the contact person and their telephone number:

**Chamber of Commerce**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Visitor, Tourism or Economic Development Council**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Mayor or City Council or City Commissioner's Office**

\_\_\_\_\_

## Trail Town Information

### Office of Greenways & Trails Coordinators

Office of Greenways & Trails  
Carr Building Room 125  
3800 Commonwealth Blvd., MS 795  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000  
(850) 245-2052

#### Land Trail Coordinators:

-  Justin Baldwin (Justin.Baldwin@floridadep.gov)
-  Allison Beaty (Allison.Beaty@floridadep.gov)
-  Katie White (Katie.White@floridadep.gov)



Region 1: Northwest (green)

**Justin Baldwin**

[Justin.Baldwin@floridadep.gov](mailto:Justin.Baldwin@floridadep.gov)

(850) 245-2063

Region 2: North/Central (yellow)

**Allison Beaty**

[Allison.Beaty@floridadep.gov](mailto:Allison.Beaty@floridadep.gov)

(850) 245-2054

Region 3: South (purple)

**Katie White**

[Katie.White@floridadep.gov](mailto:Katie.White@floridadep.gov)

(863) 314-8439

Office of Greenways and Trail  
Department of Environmental Protection  
3800 Commonwealth Blvd, MS 795  
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# Trail Town Information

## Florida Greenways and Trail System: Identified Multi-Use Regional Trails

