

Florida State Parks Foundation

The Florida State Park Family Needs Your Help

Hurricane Michael slammed into the Panhandle on October 10 with unprecedented force causing catastrophic damage to the area. Many of our beautiful state parks in the region suffered massive damage, but disasters like this take their toll on more than just buildings and habitats.

Let us not forget the park staff, and other DEP employees and their families who were impacted by this storm. Many have experienced total loss--homes and possessions. They have been displaced and are sleeping in temporary accommodations. They have lost vehicles and untold other practical and precious possessions. Will you help us help them as they begin to rebuild their lives?



**DONATE TO HELP
FLORIDA STATE PARKS**



Please Give Today

DEP Celebrates October as Florida Greenways and Trails Month

It was appropriate that PLAM took place in October which is also Florida Greenways and Trails Month. People often forget that the Florida State Park system consists of 175 parks and trails and the latter have considerable economic impact on Florida's well-being.

The Department of Environmental Protection invites all residents and visitors to explore the unique paths and trails found throughout the Sunshine State. Florida has more than 10,000 miles of land-based trails and 4,000 miles of paddling trails that attract millions of visitors, promote healthy lifestyles, and support Florida's economy.

"October is a great time of the year to explore Florida's outdoors," said Florida State Parks Director Eric Draper. "I encourage all residents and visitors to celebrate Florida Greenways and Trails Month. Whether hiking, biking or paddling, the natural beauty found along our trails is transformative."

Is Your Town a Trail Town?

As part of Florida's trail network there is now a program to promote trail towns – which act as the gateways to our parks and trails. Florida's emerging [Trail Town program](#) continues to expand with the addition of three new towns that were recently designated by the [Florida Greenways and Trails Council](#). Several other towns are currently working with the Office of Greenways and Trails on... [Read more here](#)

Take a Trail into Florida's Diverse History

Nearly every acre of Florida has been trodden on by explorers, Native Americans, settlers, soldiers, traders and entrepreneurs. Although our state has a rich history, sometimes it can be difficult to find a connection between our lives and experiences, and the people who lived decades or centuries ago. There are ways to cross the barrier of time and make history

Meeting of the Environmental Minds

Earlier this month I attended the 2018 Public Land Acquisition and Management Partnership Conference (PLAM) in Sarasota, hosted by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Division of State Lands. The various panels of speakers were excellent but, as always at these meetings, it was the networking between sessions that was most valuable... [Read more here](#)



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are limited!](#)**



Florida State Parks Foundation

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