The 90th US Congress passed the National Trail Systems Act in 1968. This Act authorized the creation of a national system of trails “to promote the preservation of, public access to, travel within, and enjoyment and appreciation of the open-air, outdoor areas and historic resources of the Nation.” It initially established the Appalachian Trail and Pacific Crest Trails.

Today the National Trails System designates 11 National Scenic Trails, including the entirely unique Florida Trail. The Florida Trail is a National Scenic Trail spanning 1,500* miles from the Panhandle to the Everglades, offering year-round hiking for residents and visitors. The Florida Trail is more than a path through the woods—it’s an outdoor experience that connects Florida’s unique natural, cultural and historic resources.

The Florida Trail is a product of the successful collaboration between the USDA Forest Service, land-managing partners and dedicated volunteers and staff from the Florida Trail Association, who recognize the need for long-distance hiking opportunities in Florida and come together to manage, promote, and steward the trail.

Approximately 360,000 People Set Foot on the Florida Trail Every Year

CONNECTING FLORIDA’S PUBLIC LANDS

3 National Forests
8 State Forests
8 State Parks
9 Florida Fish & Wildlife Commission Properties
1 Air Force Base
2 National Park Service Properties
4 DEP, Division of Recreation & Parks Properties
1 National Wildlife Refuge
22 Water Management District Properties
10 County & Local Properties

*Miles calculation is based on all designated trail, official side trail and connecting roadwalks.
### 2019 Accomplishments at a Glance:

- **Volunteer Hours Contributed to the Florida Trail in 2019:** 23,379
- **Value of 2019 Volunteer Hours:** $589,848.85

### Trail Maintained:
- **1,121 MILES**

### Structure Maintained:
- **5,869 FEET**

### Trail Built:
- **14 MILES**

### Structure Built:
- **546 FEET**

### Protection/Denomination
- **79% Protected/Designated**

### Acquisitions or Easements are Needed to Protect the Remaining
- **21%**

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**Partner Groups Who Helped Maintain the Florida Trail in 2019:**

- [REI Co-op](https://www.rei.com)
- [AAWD American Association of Women Dentists](https://www.aawd.org)
- [University of Central Florida](https://www.ucf.edu)
- [Groundwork Jacksonville](https://www.groundworknj.org)
- [Girls Who Hike FL](https://www.girlswhohikefl.org)
- [Old Trail](https://www.old-trail.org)
- [Sierra Club](https://www.sierraclub.org)
- [Florida Trail Association](https://www.floridatrail.org)