



**CHARLIE CRIST**  
GOVERNOR

**GREENWAYS AND TRAILS MONTH**

**WHEREAS**, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Office of Greenways & Trails is establishing a statewide Florida Greenways and Trails System and has designated 855,349 acres of land for the purposes of recreation, conservation and alternative transportation thus far; and

**Whereas**, the Office of Greenways & Trails has received recognition from American Trails for its work in facilitating such an outstanding statewide system of trails that Florida received the inaugural award of Best Trails State in the nation; and

**WHEREAS**, Florida is home to more than 5,000 miles of trails on state-owned lands, including one of only 11 congressionally designated trails, the Florida National Scenic Trail; and

**Whereas**, more than three million visitors contribute to Florida's tourism and economy each year as they enjoy over 80,000 acres of the state managed greenways and trails, including the Marjorie Harris Carr Cross Florida Greenway and eight state trails; and

**Whereas**, the Office of Greenways & Trails coordinates the development of the Florida Circumnavigational Saltwater Paddling Trail, Florida's longest sea kayaking trail, extending 1,500 miles around the Florida peninsula and designated as a National Recreation Trail; and

**Whereas**, the Office of Greenways & Trails, in partnership with other agencies and organizations, has developed a series of maps for the Ecological Greenway, Hiking Trail, Paddling Trail, and Multi-Use Trail networks which identify corridors with optimum potential for connecting Florida's communities; and

**Whereas**, greenways and trails conserve native landscapes and ecosystems, link natural areas with communities and provide Florida residents and visitors of all ages and abilities with year-round access to a wide variety of free health and fitness opportunities and encourage use of alternative, energy-saving forms of transportation and appreciation of the state's natural, historical and cultural heritage;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Charlie Crist, Governor of the state of Florida, do hereby extend greetings and best wishes to all observing October 2009 as *Florida Greenways and Trails Month* and encourage all citizens to enjoy the health benefits and value the natural resources of Florida's greenways and trails for present as well as future generations.



**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 Capitol, this 1st day of September, in the year two thousand nine.

Handwritten signature of Charlie Crist in blue ink.

Governor