



# **FLORIDA TRAIL ASSOCIATION**

## **Alliance Membership**



A partnership for  
hiking and conservation  
throughout Florida



Join us in support of more than  
2,000 miles of hiking trails in  
Florida, including Florida's  
own National Scenic Trail, a  
1,400-mile linear hiking  
corridor from the Everglades  
to Pensacola: the Florida Trail.



# A PLACE TO HIKE IN FLORIDA

The idea was that simple. In the early 1960s, Miami resident Jim Kern returned from a backpacking trip on the Appalachian Trail with a burning desire to provide the same sort of experience much closer to home. Founded in 1964, the Florida Trail Association was the rallying point for like-minded outdoors enthusiasts to start working with public land managers statewide to design a trail corridor that would link Florida’s public lands from one end of the state to the other.

By doing so, those early Florida Trail volunteers began to shape a statewide hiking trail system, building backpacking loops in major state parks while consistently working towards the goal of a trail in a protected wilderness corridor the length of the state. In 1983, the United States Congress designated the Florida Trail as one of only eight National



Scenic Trails, and assigned the USDA Forest Service as its federal manager. Members of the Florida Trail Association continue to build and maintain the trail, along with more than 400 miles of additional hiking trails on public lands, while working with the USDA Forest Service to meet mutually agreed upon goals for land acquisition, trail construction, training, education and outreach, and customer service.

The Florida Trail is one of only two National Scenic Trails entirely contained within a single state, and is more than half the length of the Appa-

lachian Trail. Eighteen local Florida Trail Association chapters work cooperatively from Miami to Pensacola to keep the trail maintained for public use, from mowing overgrown sections to constructing bridges, boardwalks, trailheads, and backcountry campsites.



Hiking in Florida is unlike hiking elsewhere in the United States. Florida’s climate enables us to have a prime hiking season flip-flopped from the rest of the country: October through April. Our extreme biodiversity means hikers experience more than 80 different habitats while exploring natural Florida.



## A BENEFIT FOR FLORIDIANS AND VISITORS ALIKE

Florida Trail volunteers provide more than \$1 million dollars of in-kind labor on public lands in Florida each year. Our partnership with the USDA Forest Service and land management agencies throughout the state enables us to build infrastructure on Florida’s public lands and to assist in land acquisition projects. Preferred routing for the Florida Trail adds value to Florida Forever applications. Our outreach and education programs encourage Floridians and visitors alike to experience their public lands and to explore Florida Trail Gateway Communities along and near the Florida Trail while learning to appreciate and conserve Florida’s natural resources.

# Join us!

Public land management agencies • Florida Trail landowners  
• Land and conservation trusts • Public and governmental agencies • County and city government • Convention & visitors bureaus • Nonprofit conservation groups • Nonprofit health organizations • Nonprofit media • Community groups • Scouting • Outdoor recreation clubs

## FLORIDA TRAIL ASSOCIATION ALLIANCE

A partnership for hiking and conservation throughout Florida



By supporting the goals and mission of the Florida Trail Association, the Alliance membership program helps support, protect, preserve, and promote the Florida Trail; the recreational and health benefits provided to local communities, land management agencies, and individual outdoor enthusiasts; and the nature-based tourism opportunities provided by this network of volunteer-maintained trails to communities and regions.

Become an Alliance member of the Florida Trail and receive benefits and opportunities to be a part of special events, activities, publications, and celebrations. Review the membership levels below and send in the application form on the reverse side to become an Alliance member now!

### Alliance Membership Annual Levels of Support

All levels include basic membership benefits plus:

#### \$1,000

Directory listing on [floridatrail.org](http://floridatrail.org) includes thumbnail logo or image and link to your website, an expanded one-time listing in the Florida Trail *Footprint*, free exhibit space at major Florida Trail special events, discounted advertising rates in the Florida Trail *Footprint*, four membership cards.

#### \$500

An expanded one-time directory listing in the Florida Trail *Footprint*, free exhibit space at major Florida Trail special events, discounted advertising rates in the Florida Trail *Footprint*.

#### \$250

An expanded one-time directory listing in the Florida Trail *Footprint*, free exhibit space at major Florida Trail special events.

#### \$150

Reduced cost for exhibit space at major Florida Trail special events.

#### \$50

Basic membership benefits, ideal for community groups, local hiking and outdoor clubs, and other smaller nonprofit and municipal partners

### BASIC MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Opportunity to receive additional copies of the Florida Trail *Footprint*, the state's premiere magazine for Florida hikers

A listing and link to your organization's website from [floridatrail.org/alliance](http://floridatrail.org/alliance)

A one-time listing in the Florida Trail *Footprint*

Exhibit space at Florida Trail special events providing an opportunity for you to display your promotional materials

Two membership cards, necessary for hiking on private property that the Florida Trail crosses

A membership kit with materials to help you spread the word about the Florida Trail, including a decal, brochures, outreach materials, framable certificate, and more.

**NOTE:** Your Alliance Membership does not entitle the use of the Florida Trail Association name or logo without prior written consent from us. Membership does not include voting privileges.

The Florida Trail Association is a registered 501(c)3 nonprofit organization in the state of Florida. Learn more about us online at

[www.floridatrail.org](http://www.floridatrail.org)



# JOIN US!

Become an **Alliance** member in the Florida Trail Association and share your story. New members are invited to submit a 250-word editorial piece suitable for publication in our magazine to introduce themselves and their goals as they relate to the Florida Trail system.



## Florida Trail Association

5415 SW 13th St  
Gainesville, FL 32608

877-HIKE-FLA  
alliance@floridatrail.org

## Alliance Membership Form

<b>ORGANIZATION</b>					
<b>CONTACT NAME / TITLE</b>					
<b>CONTACT E-MAIL</b>					
<b>ADDRESS</b>					
<b>TELEPHONE</b>			<b>FAX</b>		
<b>WEBSITE</b>					
<b>DIRECTORY INFORMATION</b>					
<b>MISSION STATEMENT OR GOALS</b>					
<b>DESCRIPTION OF YOUR LAND CONSERVATION PRACTICES, TRAIL DEVELOPMENT/MAINTENANCE WORK, NATURE-BASED TOURISM INITIATIVES, OR OTHER ACTIVITIES RELATED TO THE FLORIDA TRAIL</b>					
<b>REGION OF FLORIDA SERVED</b>					
<b>ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP LEVEL</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>	<b>\$500</b>	<b>\$250</b>	<b>\$150</b>	<b>\$50</b>
<b>PAYMENT BY</b>	<b>CHECK</b>		<b>CREDIT CARD</b>		
Make checks payable to <b>FLORIDA TRAIL ASSOCIATION</b>			<b>New</b>	<b>Renew</b>	
<b>CREDIT CARD INFORMATION</b>	<b>VISA</b>	<b>MC</b>	<b>AMEX</b>	<b>DISC</b>	
<b>CREDIT CARD #</b>	<b>EXPIRATION</b>				
<b>NAME ON CARD</b>					
<b>BILLING ADDRESS</b>					

Please fax this form to 352-378-4550 or send to the above address.