

The next Bike Ride will be on the [Withlacoochee State Trail](#).

From: Inverness

To: Floral City - and back.

..

Date: Friday, May 8th

Time: Start Bike Ride at 09:30 AM

Meet: Wallace Brooks Park Parking Area. There are Rest Rooms.

Directions:...For those heading South on Main St. (Route 41 / 44)

1. Turn Left onto N. Seminole Ave (There is a Traffic Light at this turn).
2. Go straight thru the 4 Way Stop.
3. Turn Right onto Dampier St.
4. Go to the end of Dampier St.
5. Parking is on the Left.

This is an easy ride that is approx. 14 Miles roundtrip.

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For those interested:

Lunch in Inverness

Helmets encouraged.

Bring water and bug spray..

Let us know if you plan to go.

John and Coreen Schempf - Biking Coordinators

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The next Bike Ride will be on the **Suncoast Trail** (Follows Suncoast Parkway)

Date: Friday, June 12th

Time: Start Bike Ride at 10 AM

Meet: State Route 50 Trailhead Parking Area with Restrooms.

Mileage of Bike Ride: Approx: 12 Miles roundtrip...

Terrain: Paved with a few small hills.

Directions to Suncoast Trail:

Take SR 50 towards the Suncoast Parkway.

If you are coming from the East and heading West on State Route 50:

1. Go under the Parkway Overpasses.

2. Go under the Bike Trail Overpass.

3. Go Left onto Grove Rd (Just before the left you will see a brown sign directing you to make a left for Suncoast Trail Parking).

4. Take first Left (1/4 Mi.) at the brown sign for Suncoast Trail Parking (sign is on right side of road).

OR

If you are coming from the West and heading East on State Route 50:

A little before you get to the Bike Trail Overpass, look for brown sign on right side of road for Suncoast Trail Parking.

Go Right onto Grove Rd.

Take first Left (1/4 Mi.) at the brown sign for Suncoast Trail Parking(sign is on right side of road).

Lunch - For anyone that is interested.

On the return portion of the Bike Ride there is a New Strip Mall with several Eateries.

After Lunch, back to the Trail for a 3 Mile ride to the parking lot.

Helmets encouraged.

Bring water and bug spray..

Let us know if you plan to go.

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The next Bike Ride will be on the [Withlacochee State Trail](#)

From: Northern Citrus Springs Trailhead on Magenta Drive.

To: Central Ridge District Park at the end of the new Spur.

Mileage: Approx: 13 Miles Round Trip

Date: Friday, July 3RD

Time: Start Bike Ride at 8:30 AM

Restroom: Available at the Northern Citrus Springs Trailhead.

Directions to Northern Citrus Springs Trailhead:

Take Rte 491 North to US 41 (Florida Ave) - There is a Blinking Light at this intersection.

Turn Left onto US 41

Go 4.6 Miles (North) on US 41.

Turn Left onto G. Martinelli Blvd

Go to the end of G, Martinelli Blvd, approx: 1 Mile.

Turn Left at the Stop Sign onto Magenta Dr.

Go a short distance, then take 1st right into the Withlacoche Trail parking lot.

Travel Tips:

1. There are two Trailheads in Citrus Springs this is the Northern most Trailhead (The southern trailhead is on W. Citrus Springs Blvd which is 1 Mile North of the Rte 491 intersection . Don't stop at this Trailhead.
2. Approximately 8/10th of a Mile before you make the Left Turn onto G. Martinelli Blvd there is a Traffic Light so after you go through the traffic light be prepared to make a left in 8/10th of a Mile. As you approach G. Martinelli Blvd there is a small brown sign on the right side of the road directing you to take a left for the Withlacochee State Trail.

After the Ride, everyone is welcome to join us for a Barbecue at our house.

Bring your bathing suit if you would like to take a dip in the pool.

For the Barbecue we will be providing baked beans, kielbasa, and some small cook your own steaks.

For drinks we will be providing lemonade, tea, coffee, and water or BYOB.

And we will be providing a desert.

Please bring a side dish to pass such as potato salad or a green salad or a Fruit Salad or a macaroni salad, or etc.

In case of afternoon showers, bring your favorite board or card game.

Please RSVP so that we will know how many to provide for and let us know what dish you plan to bring.

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The next Bike Ride will be on the General James A. Van Fleet State Trail

From: Mabel Trailhead
To: Plan to Ride 8 to 10 Miles and then Turn Back.
Date: Friday, September 11th
Time: Start Bike Ride at 9:30 AM
Meet: Mabel Trailhead - Has Restrooms

Directions to Mabel, FL Trailhead (General James A. Van Fleet State Trail)
Take US 41 South to Floral City Traffic Light.
Turn Left onto Rte 48.
Go approx. 22 Miles on Rte 48 until you reach the Rte 469 Intersection.
Go straight onto Rte 469 (At this intersection, Rte 48 veers left and straight ahead is the beginning of Rte 469)
Go 5.6 Miles on Rte 469 until it ends at Rte 50.
Go right onto Rte 50.
Go approx. .8 Miles (8 Tenths of a Mile) on Rte 50.
Go Left onto SE 121 Ave.
Go a short distance to intersection.
Go Left into Mabel Trailhead Parking Lot.

Travel Times - Mileage to Mabel, FL
Inverness - 55 Minutes - 36 Miles.
Beverly Hills - 1 hr 15 minutes - 59 Miles
Homosassa - 1 hr 10 Minutes - 54 Miles (Take Rte 98 to Rte 50 - Right on SE 121 Ave)

After the Bike Ride
1. Picnic at Trailhead
2. Bring something to pass.

Info on General James Van Fleet State Trail
This Paved Trail is one of Florida's most rural trails. It runs through the Green Swamp, the headwaters for the Withlacoochee, Hillsborough and Peace Rivers. The trail has excellent wildlife viewing opportunities.

Helmets encouraged.
Bring water and bug spray..
Let us know if you plan to go.
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Our October Monthly Bike Ride will be the 15th Annual Rails To Trails Bike Ride.

Date: **Sunday, October 4, 2009**

Location / Start Time: **Citrus Springs Southern Trailhead (W. Citrus Springs Blvd) at 7:00 AM**

Or

Location/Start Time: **Inverness at the N. Apopka Ave Trail Crossing - Registration/Continental Breakfast at 8:15 AM.**

Those starting out at Citrus Springs will join the Inverness group for Registration / Continental Breakfast at 8:15 AM.

Length of Ride: Open ended. Each rider is free to determine pace and round trip distance they would like.

Lunch: Provided at no charge from 11 am to 2 pm in Inverness at the N. Apopka Ave Trail Crossing.

SAG STOPS:

There are 6 stops along the way that provide free water, sports drinks and food.
There are Restrooms, of some type, at the Sag Stops.

As a club, we are hoping that there will be a lot of support for this worthwhile project sponsored by the Rails To Trails of the Withlacoochee. Wear your Rambler's Shirt!

Pre- Register REMINDER:

If you **pre-register on or before Sept. 21st**, the following applies:

- 1.Entry Fee is \$ 20.00 (\$ 25.00 after Sept 21ST).
- 2.Riders who pre-register receive a T-Shirt.
- 3.Riders who pre-register are eligible for a Door Prize.

Entry Forms are available online at:

www.railstotrailsonline.com <<http://www.railstotrailsonline.com/>>

Last year, a few of us started the ride in Citrus Springs at 7 am and another group of Ramblers met in Inverness at 8:30.

Those interested in going, please let us know if you plan to start in Citrus Springs or in Inverness.

John and Coreen

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The next Bike Ride will be on the [Nature Coast State Trail](#)

From: Trenton

To: Suwannee River and Return

Date: Friday, November 6th

Meet: Trenton Trailhead (Restrooms available) –
The Trailhead is approx: 57 Miles, 1 Hr 10 Min., from Crystal River.

Time: **Start Bike Ride at 10:00 AM**

Bike Ride Mileage: Approx: 19 Miles Round Trip

Directions

1. Take US 19 North to Chiefland until *you will see a green sign directing you right to Trenton*
2. Turn RIGHT onto Route 129.
3. Go 10.0 Miles on Route 129.
4. Turn LEFT onto Fourth Ave
5. Immediately turn LEFT into Trailhead Parking Lot.

Travel Tip:

Go straight thru the Traffic Light in Trenton which is 9 plus Miles from Chiefland.
After going thru the Traffic Light, you are 4 Avenues (4 Blocks) from taking your left onto Fourth Ave.

After the Bike Ride

Lunch at the Suwannee Rose Café

Visit Local Establishments

Quilt Shop

Stained Glass Works, Art Gallery, Antiques

Helmets encouraged.

Bring water and bug spray

Let us know if you plan to go.

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From: W. Citrus Springs Blvd – Citrus Springs

To: Inverness *for Breakfast*

Date: Sunday, December 6th

Time: Start Bike Ride at 8:00 AM

Meet:

Withlacoochee State Trail Parking Area on W. Citrus Springs Blvd in Citrus Springs. There are Rest Rooms.

Directions:

1. **Take Rte 491 North to US 41 (Florida Ave)**
2. **Turn Left onto US 41.**
3. **Go approx. 1 Mile and you will see a small brown Withlacoochee State Trail sign on right side of road that directs you to take the next left.**
4. **Turn Left onto W. Citrus Springs Blvd. (There is a left turning lane).**
5. **After you drive a very short distance on W.Citrus Springs Blvd, you will see a cross walk where the Withlacoochee Trail crosses the Blvd.**
6. **Drive over the crosswalk, and then:**
7. **Turn Left into the Withlacoochee State Trail Parking Area. There is a small brown sign that says: "Entrance Withlacoochee State Trail".**

This ride that is approx. 24 Miles roundtrip.

Breakfast:

Miss Vicki's Vittles

207 N. Apopka Ave.

Bring water and bug spray.

Please let us know if you plan to ride.

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The next Bike Ride will be on the Gainesville – Hawthorne Trail

From: Rochelle

To: Gainesville

Date: Friday, January 8

Time: Start Bike Ride at 10:00 AM

Meet: Rochelle Trailhead Parking. There is a porti-potty a short distance east of Parking Lot on the Trail.

Directions:

1. Take I-75 North
2. Take Exit 374 (Rte 234 / Micanopy)
3. Turn Right onto CR-234 – Go 1.3 Miles
4. Turn Right onto US-441 - Go 0.7 Miles (7/10th of a Mile)
5. Turn Left onto CR-234 – Go 6.9 Miles until you get to a Stop Sign.
6. Turn Left into the Rochelle Trailhead Parking Lot.

Ride is approx. 14 Miles roundtrip. This ride does have hills and grades.

Halfway thru the ride, we are planning a scenic walk in Paynes Prairie Preserve. Bring binoculars to view birds and other wild life. You may want to bring a Snack to eat while on the walk, since the walk will delay lunch time.

For those interested:

1. Lunch at the Blue Highway a Pizzeria, US-441 - Micanopy
Backtrack towards US-441. Just before US-441, turn left into a parking lot, Blue Highway will be the second building in the parking lot.

Blue Highway www.bluehighwaypizza.com

2. After, Lunch, tour Micanopy Antique Shops / Museum.

Approx: Mileage / Times:

Homosassa (Yule Dr. / Rte 19) – 74 Miles / 2 Hrs.

Inverness (Montgomery Ave / Rte 44) - 62 Miles / 1.5 Hrs

Citrus Hills (Essex Ave / Rte 486) - 60 Miles / 1.5 Hrs

Beverly Hills (Roosevelt Blvd/ Rte 491) - 60 Miles / 1.5 Hrs

Web Site:

http://www.dep.state.fl.us/gwt/guide/regions/north/trails/gainesville_hawth.htm

Helmets encouraged.

Bring water and bug spray..

Let us know if you plan to go.

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Withlacoochee State Trail.

From: Central Ridge District Park, Beverly Hills

To: Inverness for Lunch

Date: Friday, February 12th

Time: Start Bike Ride at 10:00 AM

Meet:

Central Ridge District Park – The furthest left parking lot.

The park is located at 6905 N. Lecanto Highway (Rte 491).

There are Rest Rooms.

Directions :

The Park is located 1/2 Mile West of US 41 on Rte 491.

As you approach the Park, from either direction, you will see a green sign, "Park Entrance 800 FT".

Those traveling East on Rte 491 will make a right turn into the Park and those traveling West will make a Left.

Go to the furthest left Parking Lot and park near the furthest left building.

Lunch:

We will have Lunch in Inverness, then return.

This ride is approx. 22 Miles roundtrip.

Bring water and bug spray.

Please let us know if you plan to ride.

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The next Bike Ride will be on the Pinellas Trail

From: Tarpon Springs

To: Palm Harbor

Date: Friday, March 5th

Time: Start Bike Ride at 10:00 AM This is one you will want to ride!

Ride is approx. 14 Miles roundtrip.

Meet: North Anclote River Nature Park 454 Dixie Hwy, Tarpon Springs

There are restrooms.

Directions:

1. Take Rte 19 South to Holiday, FL.

2. Turn Right onto US 19 Alternate South.

Hint: As you approach the turn you will see a sign for Tarpon Springs / Sponge Docks. There is a Tire Kingdom Store on the corner as you make the turn.

3. Go 1.6 Miles

4. Turn Left onto Dixie Hwy

5. Go 0.4 Miles (4 Tenths of a Mile).

6. Just past the 15MPH Road Sign turn right into North Anclote River Nature Park.

Note: There is no Park Sign until you get into the parking lot.

We will stop at the Conservation Park to take a look at the water reclamation project.

On the return we will stop at the Wall Springs Park to check out the Springs and climb the Observation Tower.

Next we will stop at the Tarpon Springs Historic District. There are Antique Shops and the Railroad Depot Museum.

Lunch:

Bring a snack for the Park since Lunch might be a little late. We can either have Lunch in the Historic District or at the Tarpon Springs Sponge Docks after the Ride.

Approx: Mileage / Travel Times:

Homosassa (Yule Dr. / Rte 19) - 50 Miles / 1 HR 20 Min.

Citrus Hills (Essex Ave / Rte 486) - 60 Miles / 1 HR 45 Min.

Helmets encouraged.

Bring water and bug spray.

Let us know if you plan to go.

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The next Bike Ride will be on the Withlacoochee State Trail.
From: Central Ridge District Park, Beverly Hills
To: Inverness for Lunch

Date: Friday, April 2nd
Time: Start Bike Ride at 10:00 AM

Meet:
Central Ridge District Park – The furthest left parking lot.
The park is located at 6905 N. Lecanto Highway (Rte 491).
There are Rest Rooms.

Directions :
The Park is located 1/2 Mile West of US 41 on Rte 491.
As you approach the Park, from either direction, you will see a green sign, “Park Entrance 800 FT” .
Those traveling East on Rte 491 will make a right turn into the Park and those traveling West will make a Left.
Go to the furthest left Parking Lot and park near the furthest left building.

Lunch:
We will have Lunch at the McLeod House in Inverness, then return.

This ride is approx. 22 miles roundtrip.

Bring water and bug spray.
Please let us know if you plan to ride.
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The next Bike Ride will be on the **West Orange Trail**.

See: http://www.dep.state.fl.us/gwt/guide/regions/eastcentral/trails/west_orange.htm

From: County Line Station (Killarney Station)

To: Chapin Station - and back.

Date: **Friday, May 7th**

Time: **Start Bike Ride at 10:00 AM**

Note:

Plan on spending most of the day on this trip since there are many stops and sites to see.

Meet: West Orange Trail - (Killarney Station) Parking Lot.

There are Rest Rooms.

This ride is approx. 14 Miles roundtrip. There are some small hills on this trail.

Directions from Inverness (Approx 54 Miles / 1 hr):

- 1. Take Rte 44 East - Go 14.5 Miles .**
- 2. Turn Right onto I-75 South - Move to the middle or left lane - Go ½ Mile.**
- 3. Bear Left onto the Florida Turnpike - Go 35 Miles. (Toll - \$ 2.50 X 2 = \$ 5.00).**
- 4. Take Exit 272 for FL-50 Winter Garden.**
- 5. Turn Right at end of ramp onto FL-50 - Go 0.8 Mile (second traffic light).**
- 6. Turn Right onto Deer Island Rd. - Go a few hundred feet**
- 7. Immediately Turn Left onto CR 438 - Go 0.4 Mile and move into left turning lane.**
- 8. Turn Left into the paved West Orange Trail Parking Lot (Killarney Station)**

Note: There is a brown / white sign for "West Orange Trail" on the right just before the left turn.

Note:

The Parking Lot Address for Google Maps or Map Quest is:

17924 State Road 438, Winter Garden, FL 34787

Warning: *If you use Google or Map Quest, the right turn off of FL 50 is onto Deer Island Rd*

Plan for the Day

- 1. Ride to Oakland Park - Stop and take in the small park.**
 - 2. Ride to Chapin Station and turn around.**
 - 3. Stop in Beautiful Winter Garden**
- Have Lunch.**
- Visit the Heritage and / or the Train Museum (s)**
- 4. Ride to Oakland Nature Preserve - Take Nature Trail and Boardwalk down to Lake Apopka.**
 - 5. Return to West Orange Parking Lot**

Information on the Museums - Free Admission to both Museums

The **Heritage Museum**,

A wonderful three-dimensional walk through Winter Garden's glorious past! Established in 1998 and housed in the 1918 Atlantic Coast Line Depot in downtown Winter Garden, includes a large collection of local citrus

labels, Native American artifacts, photographs, and railroad memorabilia dating from the days of pioneer settlement to the present in West Orange County. The museum is also a repository for the archives of the history and restoration of Lake Apopka, one of the largest lakes in the State of Florida.

The **Central Florida Railroad Museum,**

Opened in 1983, is located in the former Tavares and Gulf depot. One of Florida's virtually undiscovered gems, the museum has the finest collection of Florida railroading anywhere -- including a collection of dining car china.

Bring water and bug spray.

Let us know if you plan to go.

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Bike Ride on the Nature Coast State Trail.

From: Chiefland

To: Fanning Springs State Park - Go for a Swim, and then back.

Entrance Fee: \$ 1.00 to enter Fanning Springs State Park.

Date: Friday, June 4th

Time: Start Bike Ride at 9:30 AM

Meet: Nature Coast State Trailhead Parking Area on Rte 19 in Chiefland.

There are Rest Rooms.

This is an easy ride that is approx. 16 Miles roundtrip.

Mileage to Chiefland: Approx 45 Miles North of the Crystal River Mall.

Directions:

1. Take US 19 to Chiefland (As you enter Chiefland, there is a sign on the right side of the road that says "Chiefland").

2. Go straight thru the 1st Traffic Light (4TH AVE).

3. Take FIRST RIGHT onto SE 2nd AVE.. (A few feet before you take the Right, you will see a sign on the right for the Chiefland Chamber of Commerce).

4. Immediately, turn RIGHT into parking lot for "Nature Coast State Trail".

Swim at Fanning Springs.

Bring a swim suit / towel if you would like to take a dip in Fanning Springs.

After the Ride:

We can choose a restaurant in Chiefland for lunch.

Bring water and bug spray.

Let us know if you plan to go.

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